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NEXUS

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**Do Mammograms
cause breast cancer?**

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-the global agenda**

Mad Cow Mayhem

GATS - the next MAI

WingMakers hoax, spin or real?

Mystery creatures of Inner Earth



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• Expanding Earth • Hurricane Andrew cover-up •

NEXUS

NEW TIMES MAGAZINE

Volume 8, Number 3 APRIL – MAY 2001

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CONTENTS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....4	EARTH EXPANSION: THE DEFINITIVE PROOF.....53
GLOBAL NEWS.....6	<i>By James Maxlow. Information obtained from studying ocean rock strata and the distribution of ancient flora and fauna confirms that the Earth has been expanding in size throughout its history.</i>
<i>News they don't want you to read, including an alleged NSA override of an Antarctic scientific mission, and signs of a high-level cover-up surrounding the tragic Port Arthur Massacre.</i>	THE DEEP DWELLERS—Part 2.....59
MAD COW DISEASE: GLOBALISED DISASTER.....11	<i>By Wm Michael Mott. Modern-day reports of mysterious subterranean creatures and humanoids have much in common with descriptions preserved in ancient art, legends and religions the world over.</i>
<i>By Dr Lynette Dumble. Organophosphate pesticides and animal protein-enriched feeds are blamed for the BSE outbreaks which have now spread from the UK into Europe and far beyond.</i>	THE TWILIGHT ZONE.....65
THE GATS: IN WHOSE SERVICE?.....17	<i>The WingMakers story continues to intrigue, but the slow release of new data and corroborating evidence is frustrating. J. Harmon Grahn summarises the story so far, with his reasoned outsider's perspective on the machinations of the secretive Labyrinth Group.</i>
<i>By Ruth Caplan. The General Agreement on Trade in Services, if given the nod, will have devastating effects on local economies and communities, serving only the TNCs in their pursuit of profit.</i>	REVIEWS—Books.....71
HYDRODOLLARS: WATER PRIVATISATION.....25	<i>"Goodbye America!" by Michael Rowbotham</i>
<i>By Susan Bryce. The global push by UN agencies, governments and corporations to privatise water supply/distribution is already being felt by those who are most affected by water shortages and are least able to pay for a resource that was once free.</i>	<i>"Captive State: Corporate Takeover of Britain" by George Monbiot</i>
THE HURRICANE ANDREW COVER-UP.....33	<i>"Unearthly Disclosure" by Timothy Good</i>
<i>By k.t. Frankovich. The authorities' abject failure to exercise their duty of care before, during and after hurricane Andrew, the worst natural disaster in US history, beggars belief, according to the damning revelations of this blessed survivor.</i>	<i>"The Perpetual Prisoner Machine" by Joel Dyer</i>
BREAST CANCER: DETECTION OR DECEPTION?.....41	<i>"Bluebird: Creation of Multiple Personality..." by Colin A. Ross, MD</i>
<i>By Sherrill Sellman. The rise in breast cancer incidence is related to the increasing levels of toxins in our environment as well as the prolific use of X-ray mammography in tumour detection.</i>	<i>"The Secret Scroll" by Andrew Sinclair</i>
SCIENCE NEWS.....47	<i>"You Can't Tell The People" by Georgina Bruni</i>
<i>Tony Cuthbert theorises on how inertia can be overcome to achieve propulsion at the speed of light and beyond, and Robert Adams sets the record books straight on who really invented the transistor.</i>	<i>"Awakening the Healer Within" by Howard F. Batie, DM</i>
	<i>"Abductions and Aliens" by Chris Rutkowski</i>
	<i>"The Atlantis Blueprint" by Rand Flem-Ath and Colin Wilson</i>
	<i>"Snitch Culture" by Jim Redden</i>
	<i>"The Cosmos of Soul" by Patricia Cori</i>
	<i>"Jerry Garcia's Tour of the Afterlife" by Karuna</i>
	<i>"The Lost Tomb of Viracocha" by Maurice Cotterell</i>
	<i>"The Dance of the Dragon" by Paul Broadhurst and Hamish Miller</i>
	REVIEWS—Video.....78
	<i>"The Free Energy Secrets of Cold Electricity" with Peter Lindemann</i>
	REVIEWS—Music.....79
	<i>"Gypsy Caravan" by various artists</i>
	<i>"Tarantata: Dance of the Ancient Spider" by Alessandra Belloni</i>
	<i>"Journey with the Sun" by Paul Winter and The Earth Band</i>
	<i>"Gagaku and Beyond" by Tokyo Gakuso and Tadaaki Ohno</i>
	<i>"WingMakers: Chambers 11-17"</i>
	NEXUS BOOKS, VIDEOS, ADS, SUBS.....88-95

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NEXUS Magazine Pty Ltd, ABN 80 003 611 434

EDITOR

Duncan M. Roads

CO-EDITOR

Catherine Simons

ASSISTANT EDITOR/SUB-EDITOR

Ruth Parnell

EDITORS' ASSISTANT

Richard Giles

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Janine Carmichael

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE

Lynette Dumble, PhD, MSc; Ruth Caplan;

Susan Bryce; k.t. Frankovich;

Sherrill Sellman; Anthony Cuthbert;

Robert Adams, DSc; James Maxlow;

Wm Michael Mott; J. Harmon Grahn

CARTOONS

Phil Somerville

COVER GRAPHIC

John Cook, jscook@ozemail.com.au

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HEAD OFFICE – All Correspondence

PO Box 30, Mapleton, Qld 4560, Australia

Tel: (07) 5442 9280; Fax: (07) 5442 9381

E-mail: editor@nexusmagazine.com

Web page: www.nexusmagazine.com

NEW ZEALAND OFFICE

RD 2, Kaeo, Northland

Tel: +64 (0)9 405 1963; Fax: +64 (0)9 405 1964

E-mail: nexusnz@xtra.co.nz

USA OFFICE - 2940 E. Colfax, #131,

Denver CO 80206

Tel: 303 321 5006; Fax: 603 754 4744

E-mail: nexususa@earthlink.net

UK OFFICE - 55 Queens Rd, East Grinstead, West

Sussex, RH19 1BG. Tel: +44 (0)1342 322854;

Fax: +44 (0)1342 324574

E-mail: nexus@ukoffice.u-net.com

EUROPE OFFICE - PO Box 372, 8250 AJ Dronten,

The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0)321 380558;

Fax: +31 (0)321 318892

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

NEXUS recognises that humanity is undergoing a massive transformation. With this in mind, NEXUS seeks to provide 'hard-to-get' information so as to assist people through these changes. NEXUS is not linked to any religious, philosophical or political ideology or organisation.

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Editorial

Welcome to yet another jam-packed edition of NEXUS Magazine. Events seem to be stepping up around the world, as you will see reflected within the contents of this issue. First up, though, is to let you know that our annual NEXUS Conference will be held on the weekend of September 15–16 at the Gazebo Hotel, Elizabeth Bay, Sydney. We'll publish a list of confirmed speakers in the next issue. If you are interested in coming along, please drop us a line, send an e-mail (editor@nexusmagazine.com), etc. to let us know.

Several articles this edition are worthy of far more attention than the media are giving them. Foremost amongst them is the GATS, the General Agreement on Trade in Services, which in my opinion is more insidious and threatening than the MAI. It is yet another corporate-driven attempt to privatise all services ranging from health, transport, prisons and water supply. In fact, we are so concerned about what is happening regarding the privatisation of water that we commissioned an article specifically on this topic. I'm sure there are already many readers who are aware of the effects of water privatisation on their community in terms of deteriorating water quality with simultaneous price increases.

The article on the hurricane Andrew cover-up is also a must-read. You may wonder what on Earth could be covered up after a hurricane, but I guarantee you will be shocked when you read this. While we'll never know the true death toll (the "official" toll is anywhere between 15 and 59 people, but the true figure is in the many thousands), I couldn't help but wonder about the coincidental Florida link in the recent US election. You see, the uncounted thousands of dead were from South Dade County—part of the same area of Florida where the outcome of the US election was decided. Interestingly, I have seen claims on the Internet that thousands of people were trucked into the Dade County area to vote for Bush.

But there's more. It really chilled me to discover that at a time of global media attention on hurricane Andrew's aftermath, such a massive cover-up has occurred. It was stunningly simple; the authorities just roped off a huge area and would not let people in or out. The survivors inside that area were not rescued; they were left to fend for themselves in an area that had become radioactive and overrun by primates which had escaped from a nearby secret research lab. The "rescuers" simply came in and removed thousands of bodies and body parts and disposed of them. No food, water or medical attention was given to these survivors. This is an unbelievable account, told by one of the few who lived to tell of the horror and betrayal.

We are pleased to have a contribution from Sherrill Sellman once again, this time about breast cancer. At last, some experts are now saying that mammograms are a likely cause of many cases of breast cancer. Readers may recall Sherrill's groundbreaking articles on HRT, the Pill, oestrogen/progesterone imbalances, etc. North American readers take note that Sherrill is currently touring the USA to spread the word on women's health issues and promote her book, *Hormone Heresy*.

Another intriguing topic is the expanding Earth scenario, the only one to fit all the emerging scientific data. Your interest in this subject has prompted us to run a follow-up to the first article which appeared in NEXUS 7/06.

Armageddon watchers are commenting in Internet chat groups about the growing number of "plagues" affecting the world. Foremost on many minds at present are mad cow disease and its human variant, vCJD, and also foot-and-mouth disease. Lynette Dumble contacted us recently to offer an update on the BSE situation around the globe. Clearly, there are still many concerns over what we are not being told.

On the other hand, foot-and-mouth disease is relatively harmless to animals (they can recover if given the time)—about as serious as a bad cold is to humans. Are you as surprised as I was by this? I saw a London *Times* article about it and checked further. Sure enough, the foot-and-mouth disaster is a profit-driven disaster. There is no significant biological threat to animals or humans. See the item in Global News for yourselves.

Moving into the world of cosmic conspiracies, Twilight Zone this issue has an interesting review of the WingMakers story and materials—and, yes, more information has been released. Intriguing stuff!

Duncan

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Letters to the Editor ...

An Early Vatican Conspiracy

Dear Mr Roads: I have just finished reading your issue vol. 7, no. 5, and have found it as interesting and informative as others I've had the opportunity to read.

Your editorial and following article on Sai Baba should (but probably won't) cure the insanity of the useless wealthy of their seeming need to find strength and stability in nitwit "holy men" instead of in themselves!

In passing, I should like to make a comment or two on the article, "Holy Smoke and Mirrors: The Vatican Conspiracy". From other material I've read, and from numerous conversations with people I believe to be well-informed, I have some reason to believe Mr Guyatt is perfectly correct.

While many Christians will wonder how the Vatican, which pretends to leadership of world Christianity, could be so misled, it may be helpful to recall that the Roman Catholic Church is not, in fact, a Christian organisation. The Saint Peter it claims as its founder was not the Apostle Peter, named by Jesus, but the magician Simon Peter (or Pethor), mentioned by Saint Paul and who attempted to buy the ability to perform the miracles (marvels) that Christians were able to perform in imitation of Jesus.

Simon Pethor (or Simon the Interpreter) was a priest of the Babylonian religion (essentially, Satanism) and, after being rejected by St Paul, went to Rome, where he took on the claim of being Christian and a devout follower of Jesus. He succeeded in deceiving many of the very elect, and founded the false Christianity that is also mentioned in the New Testament epistles.

Satanists, however ignorantly so, would have no trouble in associating with such organisations as the Mafia and the CIA. Nor would murder and generalised duplicity pose problems for them.

I note that Mr Guyatt mentions the Order of St John of Jerusalem as a part of the conspiracy. As a Knight Commander and Baron of the American branch of that Order, which functions under a charter granted by the late King Peter II of Yugoslavia, I would like to emphasise the fact that, to my knowledge, we have nothing to do with the Vatican, being attached to the

Western Orthodox Church in North America. As an American and a member of families of over 300 years in America, I would much appreciate a mention of the difference between the American and the European branches of our Order. We are interested not in Vatican conspiracies but in private and individual charitable work.

Regards, D.J. Stevens-Allen, PhD, KCMSJ, Thessaloniki, Greece

Healing Experiences in Brazil

Dear NEXUS: Inspired by the articles you have carried about the healer João Teixeira da Faria, who works at the Casa de Dom Inácio in Abadiânia, I recently travelled to Brazil to see him.

I found João to be a genuinely talented healer. During my spiritual operation, João was not present in the room where I was seated. Still, I felt many intense sensations in the areas of my body which needed work. Nobody was touching me, yet the sensations were so strong I could not keep from making audible noises. Others in the room must have had similar experiences, since I was not the only one making noises.

On the days following my operation, I would go and sit and meditate in the "current room" with others. I could feel a lot of healing was going on there, also.

Now that I'm back from my two-week adventure in Brazil, I do notice an improvement in my condition, but it has not been resolved completely. Maybe if I had stayed longer it could have been healed completely.

I spoke with many people there in Abadiânia who had been completely healed of some very serious disorders. Some had come back to contribute to the healing of others by sitting and meditating in the current room.

Others had come to do volunteer work for the Casa. One lady had come back simply to show people the printed results of her latest medical evaluation, which showed no trace of what her doctor had previously called "incurable cancer".

However, many of the people who had been healed of serious diseases had spent months, or even years, coming to see João regularly before their healing was complete. I also met some people who didn't

feel any improvement and left after one week, uncertain if they would return. I met one lady in a wheelchair who had come to the Casa de Dom Inácio regularly for three months, even though she noticed no improvements. She was preparing to return to France, with no plans to return to Brazil in the future. I feel it is important to share these stories also, in order to paint a complete picture of the situation.

I met many wonderful people at the Casa de Dom Inácio and was generally very impressed with the warm, friendly, helpful attitude of the staff and volunteers of the Casa. I also enjoyed very much taking showers in the nearby "spirit-cleansing" waterfall.

Overall, I feel very uplifted by the whole experience, and I thank NEXUS Magazine for carrying the articles about Casa de Dom Inácio. Also, thanks to the people who created the website full of practical information on visiting the Casa: www.thestandingstones.com/library/factual/casa/casaindex.html.

Sincerely, Conan Mishler, Oregon, USA

Antigravity and Vitrified Forts

Dear Duncan: I always enjoy reading NEXUS from cover to cover, but 7/05 had two items which really caught my attention.

The first is "How I Control Gravitation", in the Science News section. It reminded me of a previous article under a very different type of heading, so I looked up my old issues. It was in 4/01 and was called "The Poltergeist Machine". It described how objects moved on their own when subjected to a particular field.

I really believe that the inventor had discovered how to overcome gravity, or antigravity if you prefer, but had not learned how to control it. After all, some unexpected and unpleasant things happened before we learned to control X-rays. Could we have a follow-up sometime on developments with "The Poltergeist Machine"?

The second item which interested me was the account of the number of vitrified forts in Scotland. Numerous theories were explored, but I would like to suggest another. In metal-melting industries, non-metallic material adhering to the cold metal becomes a liquid slag

when the metal is melted. In order to ensure that this slag rises to the surface and can be removed, fluxes are sometimes added. One of these fluxes is fluorspar, and this can considerably reduce the temperature at which the slag becomes fluid.

Perhaps the ancients crushed down fluorspar, made a paint of it and painted the outside surface of the forts. Then, when they set their fires, a glaze could form on the stonework at a much lower temperature. After all, these ancient people may have had a reason for glazing their fortifications which no longer exists. Perhaps it prevented rodents or other wild animals from climbing the walls at night. Just an idea. Is there any possibility of David Hatcher Childress checking this one out?

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely, Archie Jamieson, St Catharines, Ontario, Canada

EM Pulses Pose Risks to Aircraft

Dear Mr Roads: Your report, "Aircraft crashes blamed on military jet pulses" (Global News, 8/01) is a little garbled, probably because it is a British newspaper account of an American professor's views which appeared in the *New York Times Review of Books*. It is always better to read the original.

Details of Harvard professor Elaine Scarry's investigation into the possible effect of military-origin electromagnetic pulses on civilian aircraft electronic systems can be found at www.nybooks.com. Professor Scarry was interviewed in November 2000 on ABC Radio National's *Late Night Live*. Perhaps that interview is also on the ABC's website.

Professor Scarry refers to the possible danger of civilian aircraft entering active military exercise zones, where there is high output of pulses from a wide variety of military radars, etc.

It is interesting to note that Professor Scarry reports incidents of US military aircraft being temporarily disabled, with external electromagnetic pulses being suspected as a possible cause.

Please also note that contrary to the *Observer* report, the P3 is not a fighter; it is a multi-engined, propeller-driven, anti-submarine warfare aircraft.

Yours sincerely, Peter L. Young, Warrnambool, Victoria, Australia

... more Letters to the Editor

NB: Please keep letters to approx. 200 to 250 words in length. Ed.

Orthodox Healing Hypocrisy

Dear Duncan: The recent item in NEXUS 7/06 Global News, "Doctors, the third leading cause of death in the USA", reads like a joke or a mistake, but no doubt it is true. Then we have to assume that these figures are essentially the same in all developed countries, with millions, not thousands, killed worldwide, and all this caused by our very scientific(?) orthodox healing(?) profession.

Is there going to be a Royal Commission somewhere soon, to bring the many offenders to justice? Probably not, because, as everyone knows, the whole system is so interlinked with every other branch of medical science that it would be an endless round of each one blaming the other, and the expense would be enough to bankrupt a nation.

But let us assume that an unorthodox system of healing—naturopathy, homoeopathy, herbalism, etc.—caused perhaps up to 50 deaths per year. There would be an immediate Royal Commission, the system of healing outlawed, and the practitioners found guilty and imprisoned for long periods of time.

So, we have the classic case of the pot calling the kettle black, or, to be more specific, an extremely hypocritical system of healing, allowed by law to continue its fatal activities—a truly unbelievable state of affairs which, unfortunately, is also true.

P. O'Dwyer, Salisbury North, South Australia

Dissent in a Cashless Economy

Dear Duncan: I've always found NEXUS Magazine to be unique, and I read my first issue two years ago. I finally took the plunge and took out a one-year subscription for myself and my family.

Let me say that your editorial in NEXUS 8/02 and the article entitled "Singapore to Phase-in Cashless Economy" in the Global News section are more reasons to believe that our world is being controlled and manipulated by personages with a globalist agenda. But the question is: when will this global government come about? Will it be in 10 years, 15 years or 20 years?

Whether globalists know it or not, a cashless society on a worldwide scale will open the doors to

worldwide underground economies. The underground economies have already started in preparation for the cashless global economy. The people already involved in the underground economy are well aware that a cashless economy will mean a "Big Brother police state", because all of your purchases will be able to be traced. But how will the globalists deal with dissenters?

Do you believe that the gun confiscation from private citizens in Australia in the 1990s was part of the globalist agenda?

You have a fine magazine with eye-opening information; it is splendid. I'm looking forward to the next issue.

Sincerely yours, Michael Leon, New York, USA

The Truth of the Inner Earth?

When there are myths, there is some foundation of truth in them. "The Deep Dwellers" may have that foundation of truth (8/02). It is interesting that so many cultures around the world believe that there are people who live inside Earth.

The Sumerian accounts of the "great below" are absolutely mystifying, and I wish we could get more answers. Are there subterranean caves below with people living in them? Is the Earth hollow? These are questions that we need answers to.

Right here in California, people claim that Mt Shasta is hollow and filled with caves. Legend has it that little people have been seen to come out of the caves to purchase items on the surface world with bags of gold. The sounds of large machinery are heard from the cliff-sides, and the sounds originate from within the caves. Of course, this is all legend, but is there any foundation of truth? Only time will tell.

Most sincerely, Jose Causing, Vallejo, California, USA, PRoberts@ss.ca.gov

The Tao of Garlic

Hello Duncan: The garlic mention is very interesting and coincidental. I, too, have recently read the excerpt from the Bob Beck article. I also read the same inference in a very old book I picked up a while ago (when I finish moving house, I'll find the book again and reference it).

There's more to this... I received Tao a few years ago and the Taoists are strict vegetarians but do not eat garlic or onions! They related this typical Chinese story that goes something like this:

A novice was in an isolated monastery high in the mountains where food was frugal and conditions cold and harsh. This particular fellow was getting jacked off with always being hungry, as he had always been a meat-eater and the diet was not satisfying him; so he went to the local village, caught a local stray dog, took it back to the monastery and killed it. As he was preparing to cook it, he got an attack of the guilts and buried it. As spring came, the head poobah called him and accused him of bringing meat to eat into the monastery. When he denied it, he took him to the spot he had buried the dog and garlic had spouted where the carcass had been buried.

By the way, the Taoist saliva is incredibly alkaline. Make of it what you will.

It is also interesting in the article that mention is made that if you consume garlic it affects your reflex times and energy levels. It's interesting to note that the countries that are renowned for garlic consumption—Greece, Italy, etc.—also shut down in the afternoon for siesta!

Great magazine; keep up the good work. I love your conferences and book reviews (thanks, Ruth). I would like to see an article on paramagnetic rock dust.

Sincerely, Theo Zervos, theo@tsn.cc

Questioning Global Change

Dear Editor: I saw in your Global News the piece about Singapore going "e-commerce" (8/02). I wonder what your and your readers' responses are to this. I found it worrying. Am I alone in dreading this mix of economy and high-tech (e-economy?)?

It seems one more move to create a society modelled on the efficient, parsimonious mindset of the accountant, that I understand to be the soul of commerce-oriented, perfectly planned city-states like Singapore—where, though the economy underwrites pollution, it is a crime to litter; an Asian Switzerland.

Low Siang Kok's words remind me of remarks by Michael Roux at

the Davos conference, on the inevitability of what they are creating. Kok says "there's no point in fighting technology", while admitting that all businesses will be forced into it, emphasising that people will be expected to submit obediently. I hope people are not looking to a horrid, greedy little city-state like Singapore as a future ideal. Kok's words emphasise the typical way of instituting change. Kok also can't be aware that mobile phones have health hazards.

I hate the future that Kok and Roux envisage and which the Davos conference is already building: "You cannot stop it" but, as we see with the police crackdown at Davos, this means, "We will not let you stop it".

Brian Souter, Lyons, ACT, Australia

Child Abuse and The System

Hi! My name is Maddisson McCall and I have been reading your great magazine for a number of years. You guys are doing a terrific job, drawing the public's attention to injustice.

But, there is one area of injustice that I have not seen addressed in your magazine, and that is the area of child abuse via the Department of Human Services. There are hundreds of horror stories that have never been brought to the public's attention.

I myself have been involved in a very sad case concerning my grand-daughter. For a year and a half, my family and I have been battling The System and hitting brick walls. My story is too long to go into right now, but I would be happy to have the opportunity of discussing our case with you. There are laws that are destroying innocent children's lives and we need to take action now!

I need to find a way to contact other people who have experienced injustice at the hands of child protection workers. There are many individuals out there who feel as I do, but we need help to go about it the right way. Will you please help us? My telephone number is (03) 5460 5592 and e-mail mcn@origin.net.au.

With thanks, Maddisson McCall, Maryborough, Victoria, Australia

SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS AT ANTARCTIC LAKE OVERRIDDEN BY NSA?

The first item below is allegedly a Jet Propulsion Laboratory press release (ref. 01-24), but we are unable to confirm its authenticity. If anyone has further details, please contact us. The second item comes via www.cyberspaceorbit.com. Ed.

"In a brief announcement today [21 February], NASA and the JPL terminated all further study of Lake Vostok in S. Antarctica.

"In an apparent slip of confidentiality, spokeswoman Debra Shingteller alluded to 'national security issues' allowing the NSA [US National Security Agency] to assume full control of what had been an international effort to explore a huge under-ice lake near the Russian Vostok research station.

"Ms Shingteller was immediately led away from the podium, and an aide responded to the many further questions with the same answer—"the project has been halted due to environmental issues" and no further releases were pending.

"The large crowd of press corps were left clamoring as the officials left the stage. Ms Shingteller has not responded to repeated attempts at contact."

The above is a report from an official JPL PR rep who attended the announcement. The following is part of a



letter written to an editor of *Scientific American* (who has requested anonymity). The linked photo [see cyberspaceorbit.com website] was released by NASA in January 2001, seemingly by mistake. It is no longer available from the official archive.

"Approximately 300 miles from the South Pole there is a lake, a very large lake. It is Lake Vostok. It is also located over ¼ mile beneath the continental ice sheet. The best photos of Lake Vostok are from space, where the outline is clearly visible. Current ice-penetrating radar studies indicate that the water is up to 2,000 feet deep in places, and has an over-arching dome up to ½ mile high.

"Estimates for filtered light at the lake surface indicate something like 'continuous first morning light' during Antarctica's summer months. Thermograph imaging proposes an amazing 50-degree average water temperature with 'hot spots' near 65 degrees. This can only be attributed to subsurface geothermal heat sources. At 300 miles long and 50 miles wide, the encapsulated atmosphere should have the ability to cleanse itself through interaction with the lake and possibly plant life.

"Also proposed as a possible route for atmospheric interaction with the lake's environment are what are being labeled 'geothermal boils'. These are thousands of bubbles in the ice sheet, located in the some 200 sq. miles of 'ice dunes' discovered by

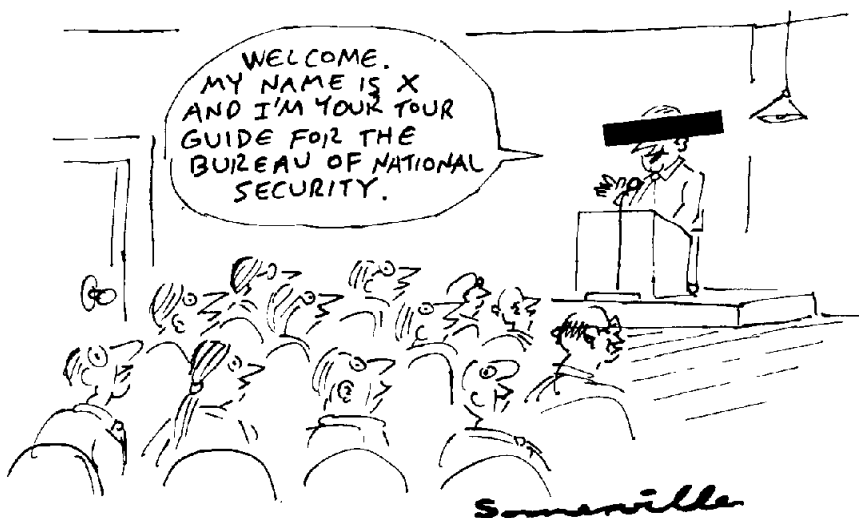
the late Russian scientist Ivan Toskovoi, who was stationed at Vostok research base until his disappearance in March 2000. The surveyed bubbles range from a few to several hundred feet in diameter.

"Quite possibly just as exciting as all of the data related so far, is the discovery through magnetic imaging that there is an extremely powerful source of magnetic energy located at the north end of the lake's shoreline. As of this writing, no one has suggested an explanation for the magnetic 'anomaly'.

"As recently as February 2000, at least two international teams were planning separate probes of the lake. Both consisted of fairly similar robotic sensors that would have been lowered through shafts (to be drilled). The teams, based at Cambridge University, London [*sic.*], were sponsored by the UK and US governments and backed by NASA technology.

"For reasons not clear, both programs have been shelved indefinitely, with NASA going so far as to deny any involvement, and both governments citing 'environmental concerns'. An independent source that visited Norway's research base some 150 miles to the East stated that a large amount of new equipment and personnel have been arriving at Russia's Vostok station over the last six months. This is interesting, considering Russia's current financial situation.

"A final note is a verified dispatch out of Casey Station (AU). The pair of women adventurers who were attempting to ski across the continent last month and were



extracted by plane during the last leg of their trip, did *not* request the intervention.

"Over the protests of the Australian crew at Casey, the two were airlifted via an extraordinary 48-hour flight by a USN Special Forces team out of American Samoa.

"According to the dispatch, the women were insistent on reporting something unusual they had seen. The latest news reports have the pair resting in 'seclusion'." (Sources: Various websites, including www.cyberspaceorbit.com/antmag.html and NASANews@hq.nasa.gov)

MOBILE PHONE RADIATION LINKED TO EYE CANCER

Mobile phones have been linked to human cancer in a scientific study for the first time. The research, which suggests there is a threefold increase in eye cancers among people who regularly use the device, was carried out by a team from the University of Essen, in Germany.

The team investigated a form of eye cancer called uveal melanoma, in which tumours form in the layer that makes up the iris and base of the retina. The results were published in the journal *Epidemiology*.

Dr Andreas Stang, who led the research, said he had examined 118 people with uveal melanoma and obtained details about their use of digital mobile phones. This was compared with a control group of 475 people without the disease.

The mechanism by which the radiation might cause cancer is uncertain, but it is known that the watery content of the eye assists the absorption of radiation.

(Source: *The Times, London, 14 Jan 2001*)

PAEDIATRICIANS TEST ADULT DRUGS ON CHILDREN

Mary Robinson, a Philadelphia X-ray technologist, received US\$300 and a \$50 Toys 'R' Us gift certificate as an incentive to enrol her seven-month-old daughter in a drug trial to treat a form of indigestion babies can get. Merck & Co., the maker of the medicine, also received an incentive: about US\$290 million. That's the estimated revenue Merck will pocket from the six months of additional marketing exclusivity it has won.

Merck's drug, Pepcid, was slated to lose its patent protection last October, opening the way to low-priced generic competition. But, as a reward for conducting the first

formal studies of Pepcid in infants, the US Federal Government has given Merck a half-year of extra protection from generics.

And the gains are even greater for some of the other companies rushing to take advantage of a 1997 law meant to encourage paediatric trials of adult medicines.

That law, by giving drug makers an incentive to test on children, is producing important new prescribing information for paediatricians, the Food and Drug Administration says. Labels have been changed on 14 drugs to reflect new data. Some paediatricians are delighted with the results and are lobbying to extend the law past its scheduled expiration at year's end.

But a close look at the law shows that it is also producing an unintended consequence: a drug-industry financial bonanza. (Source: *Wall Street Journal, NY, 5 Feb 2001, <http://interactive.wsj.com/articles/>*)

PHONE TOWERS ARE NOW A HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE

In the UK, two landmark decisions by the Planning Inspectorate have endorsed decisions by planning authorities to refuse the installation of phone masts on the grounds of public fears about health hazards. The Inspectorate has thrown out two separate appeals by phone companies against refusals based on public concern about health risks. It is the first time inspectors have ruled that anxiety about the possible adverse health effects of masts is a material consideration.

An inspector, upholding the London

Borough of Harrow's refusal to permit an Orange phone mast in a residential area in Stanmore, said: "There is justification for the council's view that residents' anxiety about the health effects of the appeal installations materially contributes to the general loss of amenity."

Planning Minister Nick Raynsford wrote to councils last summer, advising them to ignore health issues when determining mast applications if they met international radiation guidelines.

But Alan Meyer, legal advocate to lobby group Mast Action UK, said the decisions would give authorities a reason to ignore Raynsford's advice, which he believes violates the Human Rights Act.

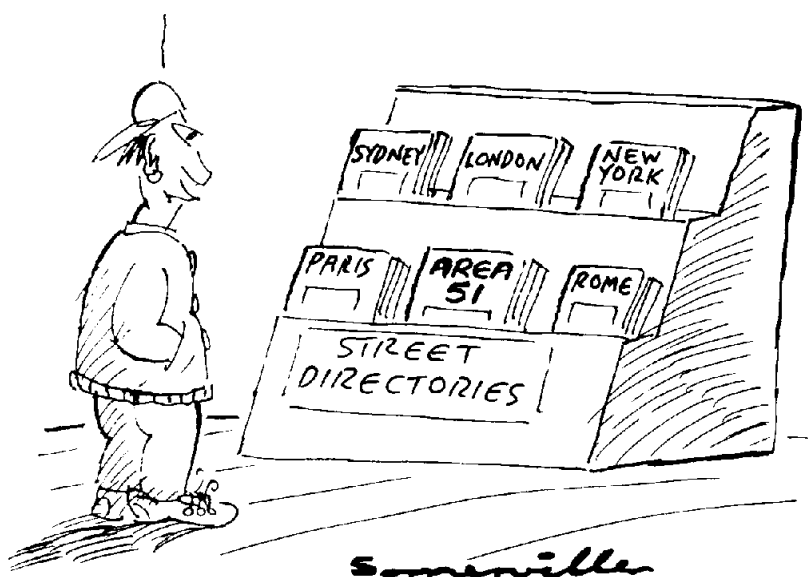
"The Inspectorate, unlike Raynsford, is doing what the law requires. It is respecting the European Convention on Human Rights article 8, right to respect for family life, and article 6, right to a fair and proper hearing," Meyer said.

RTPI spokesman David Rose said: "These decisions will put new pressure on authorities to refuse masts. But it's barmy to leave them to judge the safety of each individual mast. The government needs to assess if they are safe."

(Source: *The Journal of the Royal Town Planning Institute, UK, 16 February 2001*)

DRUG TRIALS IN AUSTRALIA LACK PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

Thousands of Australian patients are being used as guinea pigs in drug trials for global pharmaceutical companies



without explicit laws to protect their rights.

Intellectually disabled men and women, incapable of giving consent on their own behalf, are being included in the trials which are largely aimed at getting new drugs to the US and European markets.

Pharmaceutical companies are paying private doctors up to A\$6,000 for every patient they recruit, but patients don't have to be told of the financial arrangement.

The number of drug trials being conducted in Australia has risen 20-fold since 1990, and many never result in approval for the drug being trialled. Some trials are abandoned after reports of side-effects and deaths, either here or overseas, or because the drug simply does not work.

A *Sydney Morning Herald* investigation found that the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) was obliged to review directly only two of the 1,712 clinical trials done in Australia last year.

Trials have included experiments on dementia patients, the testing of hormone creams on menopausal women, and the administration of new vaccines in children.

Professor John Simes, director of the National Health and Medical Research Council's clinical trial centre, says the lack of a publicly accessible central trials register in Australia means that there is no accurate way of knowing what trials are being done and by whom.

Global pharmaceutical companies have rushed to Australia at a time when debates

have arisen over similar trials in Europe and the USA, and because of the relative cheapness and ease of getting approval.

(Source: The Sydney Morning Herald, 13 February 2001, www.smh.com.au)

TRACK AND CONTROL YOUR CAR WITH GPS & THE INTERNET

Houston-based Immobiliser Inc. is introducing the world's first over-the-counter wireless vehicle tracking and control system using both the Internet and Global Positioning System (GPS) technology.

The new product, called GPS Vision, will allow vehicle owners from anywhere in the world to be able to track and control their vehicle over the Internet. It has the power to track and control a vehicle with just the click of a mouse. Car owners receive the vehicle's street address location, digital mapping, car speed and direction in seconds via the Internet.

Doors can be remotely unlocked or locked, the engine can be turned on or off, and you can even be notified via pager/cellphone if your car alarm is activated—all from anywhere in the world. The next time your car is stolen, you can dial it up on your cellphone, obtain its location, relay this info to the police, then turn off the car engine, lock the doors and wait.

(Source: *Wireless Developer Network*, 5 February 2001, www.wirelessdevnet.com/news/2001/35/news5.html)

THE ECONOMIC RATIONALISM OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

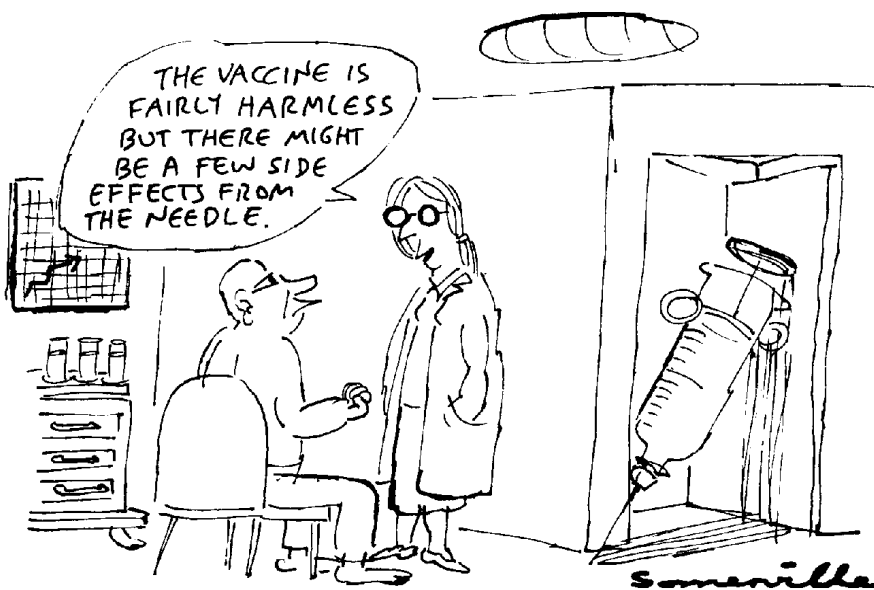
Abigail Wood, a vet and researcher for the Wellcome Trust at the University of Manchester, says that foot-and-mouth disease "is as serious to animals as a bad cold is to human beings" and asks, "So why the concern?"

"Foot-and-mouth has gained a grip on this nation—and fear of the disease seems as powerful as the disease itself. We recognise foot-and-mouth not by its symptoms, but by what we do to control it: the restrictions on movement, the slaughter of animals, the burning of carcasses. From the panic and the headlines, you would imagine that this is a most dreadful disease. Yet foot-and-mouth very rarely kills the animals that catch it. They almost always recover, and in a couple of weeks at that. It almost never gets passed on to humans, and when it does it is a mild infection only. The meat from animals that have had it is fit to eat. In clinical terms, foot-and-mouth is about as serious, to animals or to people, as a bad cold.

"Why, then, the concern? And why the policy of wholesale slaughter? The concern, of course, is economic. This is a financial issue, not an animal welfare issue nor a human health one. No one abroad will take our meat if it might be infected with foot-and-mouth. And that worldwide exclusion zone stems from British policies of the past. It was we who, in the late 19th century, decided that foot-and-mouth should not be lived with, but should be eliminated, shut out through the *cordon sanitaire*; it was we, in the 1950s, who encouraged first the Continent, then the rest of the world, into following suit. Now it is we who must live with the results of that policy.

"Foot-and-mouth disease does reduce the productivity of an animal: its milk yield, its rate of putting on of flesh. There are no figures for how much it reduces these things; part of the reason for that is that no one since the 1920s in Britain has seen the disease take its full course. Any animal infected with it has been immediately slaughtered. That reduction in productivity, that fear of small economic loss, is what lies behind the elimination policy—and the huge economic costs that are now being incurred.

"It need not have been like that. The animal control policy was the result of economics rather than biology. Under



conditions of world trade now, it is a decision almost impossible to reverse." (Source: The Times, London, 1 March 2001. The author, Abigail Woods, is currently a Wellcome Trust-funded MSc student at the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine at Manchester University, UK. She qualified as a vet in 1996.)

SPIDER SILK FROM GOAT MILK: A GENETIC NIGHTMARE

In a concrete bunker on a mothballed Air Force base in Plattsburgh, New York, two Nigerian dwarf goats named Mille and Muscade joyfully munch grass and slurp water. Oddly, they are protected from intruders by security guards and razor wire.

Only 20 weeks old, these sister beasts warrant tight security because their milk is highly prized by the US military. Their 70,000-gene chromosomes have been manipulated to include a gene from the orb weaver, a small spider that spins the world's toughest natural material. Researchers are "growing" the spider's silk inside Mille and Muscade's mammary glands.

These strands of silk, just three microns thick, are three times as tough as DuPont's bulletproof Kevlar. A woven cable as thick as your thumb can bear the weight of a jumbo jet. Once perfected, the silk will be used for featherweight ballistic vests, medical sutures and artificial ligaments.

The goats represent a new avenue in the controversial field of transgenics, the science of splicing one species' genes onto the genome of another. By injecting the orb weaver gene into the father of Mille and Muscade, Nexia Biotechnologies bred she-goats whose mammary glands are able to produce the complex proteins that make up spider silk. Their milk looks and tastes like the real thing, but once its proteins are filtered and purified into a fine white powder, they can be spun into tough thread.

Jeffrey Turner, the molecular geneticist behind the goat gambit and CEO of the publicly held Nexia Biotechnologies, got the idea while teaching at McGill University in Montreal in 1992, after learning that scientists had isolated three spider genes that code for silk proteins.

"It was a purely serendipitous find. The silk gland of spiders and the milk gland of goats are almost identical. Teats equal spinnerets."

(Source: Forbes Global, 19 February 2001, www.forbes.com/global/2001/0219/061.html)

THE PORT ARTHUR MASSACRE: SIGNS OF A CONSPIRACY?

The debate over whether the tragic Port Arthur Massacre was part of a conspiracy to usher-in Federal gun laws in Australia has taken a dramatic turn. Prior to going to print with this issue in early March, we made contact with Andrew MacGregor, researcher and collator of information scheduled for public release in late March. It is important to note that this entire information release effort has been instigated by several survivors—in particular, Wendy Scurr, who was working at the Information Centre that day. It was Wendy Scurr who phoned the police and ambulance emergency numbers and held the phone out the door so that the disbelieving police officer could hear for himself the gunfire and chaos. It is clear from examining MacGregor's research (a sampling of which follows) that many unanswered questions remain regarding the actual events at Port Arthur, Tasmania, on Sunday 28 April 1996. Ed.

Most Australians are only vaguely aware of the events that occurred at Port Arthur that fateful Sunday. We have been told that a gunman armed with a Colt AR15 semi-automatic rifle fired 29 rounds inside the Broad Arrow Café at Port Arthur, killing 20 and wounding another 12 of the approximately 60 people inside the café. It is also stated that the killer fired 17 shots, killing 12 and wounding another five victims in the first 15 seconds. The gunman then changed magazines and left the café, still firing the Colt AR15 until he changed firearms to a Belgian FN assault rifle and continued his assault, killing four and wounding five at the Port Arthur Historic Site carpark area.

The gunman then drove towards the tollbooth, where he murdered Mrs Mikac and her two children, and then, at the tollbooth, stole a BMW after murdering the four occupants and shooting at other cars and their occupants who came upon the scene.

The gunman then drove a short distance to the Port Arthur Service Station/General Store and kidnapped Glen Pears and murdered his companion, Zoe Hall. The gunman then drove north along the Arthur Highway and parked the BMW just off the highway, outside the entrance to Seascope Cottage.

The BMW was next reportedly seen by John Rooke, who saw the vehicle diverge across the Arthur Highway and park outside the Seascope Cottage, and then saw the gunman start shooting at passing traffic. The gunman shot at six different vehicles as they passed the Seascope driveway, seriously wounding two persons, Linda White and Carol Williams (the wife of a Canadian Embassy official), with others receiving lesser injuries, mainly from broken glass, before withdrawing to the Seascope Cottage to prepare for the coming police siege.

The following morning, Martin Bryant was arrested naked, after he had fled from a fiery Seascope Cottage unarmed, dressed in black and with his clothes alight. After he had fled the burning building, he vanished from view for a time while he removed his burning clothing. This supposed gunman had left his armoury behind.

A total of 35 died and 22 were injured during the entire incident, including at Seascope Cottage. However, Wendy Scurr and some of the survivors tell a very different story and raise other questions:

- Who lured the only two local policemen on duty to a remote location on the pretext of finding a heroin cache? It was not Martin Bryant.
- Why was the shootout considered a terrorist attack? It was at 1715 hours that the Tasmania Police phoned the Victoria Police, requesting immediate assistance for a terrorist attack. On the basis that the Tasmania Police had established that there was more than one shooter, the National Crisis Centre was notified at 1719 hours.
- Why was ASIO present in a State jurisdiction for a "crazed gunman"? ASIO showed no presence at the Hoddle Street and Queen Street massacres in Melbourne.
- Why was the Tasmania Police held back from attending the site for six hours? All this, while local volunteers there were assisting the wounded and stricken.
- Above all, why does the official version continually differ significantly from the statements, the video evidence and eyewitness testimony?

(Source: Extracted/edited from Andrew MacGregor's CD-ROM research compilation, Deceit and Terrorism: The Massacre at Port Arthur. Andrew MacGregor served in the Victoria Police for 17 years and was awarded the National Service Medal in 1985. He has no involvement with firearms or firearms organisations. The CD-ROM is available from 2012 Unlimited, PO Box 157, North Hobart, Tasmania 7002, Australia, telephone 041 988 2012 [Aust. only], website www.2012.com.au.)

MAD COW DISEASE A GLOBALISED DISASTER

Britain's deception and delayed action over the BSE/CJD infection path have created animal and human health crises which are affecting much of Europe and are now spreading to the rest of the world.

by Lynette J. Dumble, PhD, MSc
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International Co-ordinator
Global Sisterhood Network
E-mail: ljdumble@connexus.net.au
Website:
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~globalsn>

BACKGROUND TO THE CRISIS

Since the 1996 admission¹ that British cattle suffering from bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE or "mad cow disease") had introduced the agent of an invariably fatal brain illness (a variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, referred to as vCJD) into the human food chain, BSE has subsequently spread to cattle in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and perhaps Sweden.

The report from the government-convened Lord Phillips Inquiry² into BSE in Britain claims that contaminated animal feed the size of a peppercorn can transmit BSE to cattle. To date, almost 200,000 cattle are known to have contracted BSE. Most cases have been in Britain, where the number exceeds 180,000. Another five million cattle, aged less than 30 months and without physical signs of BSE, have been slaughtered in preemptive measures to safeguard public health.

Since the initial 10 cases of vCJD were linked to BSE-infected beef in 1996, the disease claimed a further 90 human lives by February 2001, the vast majority of victims being permanent or temporary residents of Britain. Estimates of the anticipated number of human deaths as a result of BSE in cattle vary considerably, but, since the Lord Phillips Inquiry, the Blair Administration has warned that, over time, the figure could reach 250,000³—a big jump from the previous estimate of 136,000 vCJD deaths. The November 2000 announcement gave notice that UK authorities are working with the "worst case scenario" of one in every 250 people in Britain dying from the disease.

When questioned, microbiologist Dr Stephen Dealler explained that the revised figure was based on a "guesstimate" that the average Briton had probably eaten BSE-infected meat on 50 occasions, but he also admitted this: "At the moment, the number of cases of CJD we are seeing are doubling every year. If they double for a long time, then the numbers are in millions; if they double for just a few years, then the numbers are in thousands. At the moment, it is very difficult to know."

Unlike scrapie—the sheep equivalent of brain illnesses like BSE in cattle and CJD in humans which has been around for more than two centuries—BSE was unheard of until 1986, a decade after British cattle began to be fed the protein-rich remains of scrapie-infected sheep to accelerate their growth, and, coincidentally, four years after Britain commenced to expose cattle to organophosphate pesticides.

Human spongiform encephalopathy, or CJD, is also a disease of the 20th century, unknown until two German physicians, Creutzfeldt and Jakob, independently reported the first cases in the 1920s.

The agent of spongiform encephalopathies incubates in animals and humans for a prolonged period of time before outward signs of the infection become obvious: in cattle, after five years, on average; and in human cases of CJD resulting from human pituitary growth and infertility hormone injections or contaminated surgical materials, after as few as two to as many as 40 years.

By the time symptoms appear, the agent of BSE/CJD has already turned the brain into the sponge-like mass which led this group of diseases to be classified as spongiform slow virus disorders in the first instance. BSE-symptomatic cattle are left confused and trembling, deprived of their own feet to stand on, a furnace their tragic fate. CJD-symptomatic humans also suffer gait problems, and over varying periods of time—in some cases, weeks; in others, months and sometimes years—are progressively robbed of their every means communication, the ability to hear, see and speak. Gone, too, is their

understanding of written and spoken native language and, with this, every scrap of dignity.

In contrast to sporadic CJD, which has a natural incidence of less than one per million and generally claims victims who are in their sixties and seventies, BSE-related CJD was initially anticipated to be a disease which claimed the lives of much younger victims: teenagers and those in their 20s and 30s. Like the many other postulates responsible for clouding the BSE catastrophe with uncertainty, this theory fell apart in late 1999 with the vCJD death of a 74-year-old man, and led to questions of whether the CJD-like symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, which account for misdiagnosis in 10 per cent of sporadic CJD sufferers, might also lead, or have already lead, to vCJD escaping recognition in the elderly.

A BSE-infected food chain amounts to far more than the T-bone and rump steak, roast sirloin and hamburger which frequent the menus of today's predominantly meat-eating society. Taken together, these are the tip of an iceberg that has laid bare the vast array of bovine-based products which have come to be part and parcel of everyday lives. Coming quickly to mind are milk, cream, cheese, medical vaccines, health supplements and confectionery containing gelatin.

Equally, the public health implications of BSE extend much further than the consumption of infected bovine materials. Laboratory experiments since the 1970s have shown that, compared with the blood route, the oral pathway is a relatively inefficient means of transmitting these types of diseases from one animal to another. Extrapolating from that data, vCJD may ultimately claim fewer men than women, since tradition in every world region places more women than men in the kitchen to risk knife injuries with BSE-suspect meat.

Additionally, it is not unreasonable to conclude that a BSE-infected beef consumer is henceforth a living incubator of vCJD. Like asymptomatic carriers of blood-borne infections such as hepatitis and syphilis, asymptomatic carriers of the vCJD agent have the potential to transmit vCJD to recipients of blood transfusions and organ transplants.

Overall, in the context of a BSE-infected food chain and the likelihood of BSE-contaminated blood and organ transplant supplies, it is fair to say that BSE now looms as a pandemic that may put HIV/AIDS in the shade.

ROOTS OF THE ORIGINAL BSE OUTBREAK

A number of theories have been put forward to explain the 1985 outbreak of BSE in British cattle. A small but respectable body of opinion argues that both cattle and humans have been poisoned by the widespread use of organophosphate pesticides; but an even larger body of opinion considers that Britain's BSE resulted from 1980s changes to the manufacture of animal protein-enriched cattle feed.

From 1985, when a mysterious disease now known as BSE appeared in Daisy, a dairy cow from Kent, the annual number of BSE-infected cattle rose to 731 within the space of three years. By 1989, 400 new cases appeared each week, and, by 1992, 100 new cases appeared each day. Also in the 1990s, animal species other than cattle, fed on cattle-containing rendered or raw meat and bones, began to die of BSE and CJD-like brain illnesses.

Among them were African antelopes and domesticated and captive wild cats.

• Organophosphate Pesticides

But first, the "organophosphate theory" of how it might have all began. Three years before the first case of BSE was reported in Kent, British authorities ordered the compulsory spraying of cattle with the organophosphate pesticide phosmet, in order to combat a plague of warble fly. Manufactured by Zeneca, a subdivision of the British chemical giant ICI, and originally developed by the Nazis, phosmet is a neurological toxin. Related to the infamous birth-defect drug thalidomide, phosmet was used exclusively in Britain between 1982 and 1990.

In 1996, Mark Purdey, an organic farmer from Somerset in England, suggested that organophosphate pesticides such as phosmet might be behind Britain's BSE and vCJD crises.⁴ His largely neglected, but nonetheless plausible, theory argues that the exposure of the bovine embryo to high doses of lipophilic formulations of organophosphates might have acted to trigger the deformation of cattle prion protein and hence the onset of the BSE. Certainly the timing, distribution and dynamics of phosmet usage in Britain tie in with the outbreak of BSE.

In Europe, the agrichemical division of Switzerland's Sandoz leaked tonnes of another organophosphate pesticide into the Rhine in 1986, killing all aquatic life in the river from Basel to the North Sea. It took seven years to revive the river, but it can also be argued that the organophosphate spill has played a role in the BSE which subsequently afflicted cattle in Switzerland, France and Germany in the late 1990s.

Purdey had investigated the clusters of BSE in cattle, clusters of traditional or sporadic human CJD in Britain, as well as clusters of a similar illness, chronic wasting disease, in deer and elk in the United States. He discovered that high levels of manganese—the metal sprayed in high doses on cattle via organophosphate pest deterrents—was a common factor. He suggested that, in addition to activating a prion mutation in cattle, excess manganese might also intensify traditional forms of CJD, which could thereby explain vCJD appearing in humans several decades younger than sporadic CJD victims. According to Purdey,⁵ funding for BSE-organophosphate research may never eventuate. "No one's prepared to admit it, because it would involve massive compensation. By keeping the causal agent as something mystified, no one's to blame." He could be right.

The transnational companies behind the pesticide trade exert enormous political influence, with the giant Syngenta AG now heading the distribution of organophosphate pesticides. Syngenta's rise to become the world number one in agrichemicals (herbicides, fungicides and insecticides), number two in seed treatment and number three in seed supplies has been nothing short of astronomical, and can be traced to the 1996 merger between the agrichemical divisions of two Basel-based companies, Sandoz and Ciba.⁶ April 1999 saw the agrichemical divisions of the Swedish Astra AB and the British Zeneca Group PLC merge to give birth to AstraZeneca, but by December 1999 both AstraZeneca and the Basel-based duo, by then known as Novartis, had also merged to form Syngenta. Boasting to be "the world's

... it is fair to say that BSE now looms as a pandemic that may put HIV/AIDS in the shade.

first global, dedicated agribusiness company", the Novartis–AstraZeneca empire notched up combined sales in 1998 of close to US\$8 billion, and with its new Syngenta identity has effectively removed the organophosphate faces of Zeneca and Sandoz from public view.

• Animal Protein–Enriched Feed

And now to the more popular "infected animal feed" theory, one which claims that BSE emerged from the post–World War II British strategy adopted to increase the milk yield of dairy herds. In brief, cows were fed on protein-enriched pellets made from the meat and bones extracted from the animal carcasses that littered abattoir and boning plants and from the animal leftovers discarded by butchers, restaurants and knackeries. The carcasses of scrapie-infected sheep, and, between the years 1985 and 1988, those of BSE-infected cattle, found their way into the protein-enriched animal feed which initially turned cattle into carnivores and ultimately into cannibals.

During the rendering process, the carcasses were milled and then decomposed in large vats by boiling at atmospheric pressure or higher pressure to produce a liquid protein layer under a layer of fat (tallow). Once the fat was separated, the protein solution was dried into a meat and bone meal product. Overall, Britain's rendering plants are part of a huge industry that supplied animal protein–enriched animal feed to livestock farmers, to pet owners, and to zoos for a number of animal species held in captivity.

The rendering process was deregulated in the late 1970s when, as a cost-saving measure, fat-removing solvents were dropped from the decomposition menu and the "cooking" temperature was lowered. During the same era, rendering procedures in other countries also underwent similar changes.

Numerous other countries exposed cattle to organophosphate pesticides, but only British cattle were afflicted with BSE by the mid-1980s—a phenomenon put down to the large proportion of scrapie-infected sheep within the mix of rendered animal carcasses in Britain. Nonetheless, it took until 20 March 1996—the day on which the British Prime Minister John Major publicly admitted that BSE apparently had jumped the species barrier from cows to humans—for Britain finally to ban the export of animal meat-and-bone-meal feed.

FROM CATTLE TO HUMANS

As the BSE epidemic escalated from the initial case in Daisy the dairy cow, so too did concerns about human safety.⁷ By and large, measures to eradicate BSE and prevent potentially infected tissues from reaching the human food chain were slow to commence. It was not until July 1988 that Britain banned the practice of feeding cattle with meal containing the ground-up remains of cows, but, for the best part of the next eight years, authorities persisted with assurances that it was absolutely safe to eat British beef. Few will forget the then Minister for Agriculture, John Gummer, stuffing a hamburger into his five-year-old daughter's mouth to demonstrate his confidence!

But, from the time BSE-like illnesses began to emerge in zoo ungulates and domestic and wild cats, it became impossible to ignore the possibility that BSE might also cross the species barrier

to humans from the consumption of beef or dairy products or from the occupational contact of farmers and dairy and slaughterhouse workers with cattle.

Additionally, although BSE was presumed to have originated from scrapie, and scrapie was not a human pathogen, mouse-adapted strains of scrapie were known to adopt an altered host range after passage through hamsters, to become transmissible thereafter to rodents.⁸ Similarly, human strains of kuru or CJD did not transmit to ferrets or goats until passaged through primates or cats,⁹ as, too, a bovine strain of BSE was converted in the laboratory from nontransmissible to transmissible to hamsters by passage through mice.¹⁰

By May 1990, the CJD Surveillance Unit was established, a move extended three years later to Europe, to detect possible changes in British and European CJD epidemiology. In 1995, the unit in Edinburgh was notified of CJD in three victims, aged 16, 19 and 29 years. The British cases may not have been the first BSE-related deaths in humans; five years earlier, three cases of CJD in young patients had been reported in Poland.¹¹ The neuropathology of all three British cases revealed amyloid plaques, a feature which occurs in only five to 10 per cent of sporadic cases of CJD. By December 1995, the CJD Surveillance Unit had been informed of 10 suspected cases of CJD in persons under 50 years of age. Some turned out to have suffered sporadic or familial CJD, others a non-CJD illness, but one case was that of a 29-year-old and the other a 30-year-old.

Neuropathology subsequently confirmed that both had suffered CJD and, like the three unusually youthful 1995 cases, had extensive deposition of amyloid plaques.

In the first months of 1996, two further cases of CJD emerged in youthful victims, and both with amyloid plaque neuropathology. By then, a distinctive clinical syndrome had begun to emerge to assist in diagnosing vCJD: young age at onset, early psychiatric symptoms, prominent ataxia, absence of periodic electroencephalographic activity, and a comparatively prolonged illness.

Two additional vCJD cases were confirmed by the end of February 1996, and a report¹² on a total of 10 cases concluded that an unrecognised variant of CJD, unique at that time to residents of Britain aged less than 45 years, was probably due to exposure to BSE infection in cattle.

The link between vCJD and BSE was subsequently proved by laboratory studies¹³ which demonstrated the identical characteristics of the pathological agents isolated from BSE-infected cattle and human cases of vCJD.

Laboratory evidence has also indicated that, rather than being present within beef muscle, the agent of BSE finds its way into the human food chain via beef products which are contaminated by nervous system tissue. This could have happened as a result of the cranium-stunning instruments which are used to immobilise cattle before they are killed by exsanguination; or from the inclusion of paraspinal ganglia in cuts of meat, e.g., in T-bone steak; or from the presence of residual spinal cord and paraspinal ganglia tissue in the paste of mechanically recovered meat which, in the pre–mad cow disease era, was added to cooked meat products like meat pies, beef sausages and a number of canned meat products.

Up until December 2000, all vCJD victims, with the exception of three cases in France, had lived in or visited the UK, indicating

Britain's rendering plants are part of a huge industry that supplied animal protein–enriched animal feed to livestock farmers, to pet owners, and to zoos for a number of animal species held in captivity.

that their infection was derived from British beef or beef products. British beef could well be the source of vCJD in the French cases, too, since approximately 10 per cent of France's beef for human consumption is imported from the UK. A smaller but significant proportion of British beef is consumed in most European countries. Given the vast number exposed to Britain's BSE-suspect meat and the distinct possibility that significant numbers are silently incubating the disease, the potential for human-to-human transmission looms large, notably with respect to blood and organ donation.

Two neuroscientists from Yale University in the United States, Laura Manuelides and the late Eli Manuelides, illustrated way back in 1975 that injections of human blood taken from CJD victims had the capacity to transmit CJD across the species barrier to laboratory animals. The implications of the Manuelides's experiment evaded authorities for the better part of the 1990s, though Canadian authorities spent C\$15 million in 1995 to withdraw pooled plasma, already in the process of being transfused to thousands across the country, on the grounds that it contained a donation from a man who had subsequently died of CJD.¹⁴ Similarly, in 1996, New Zealand authorities bit the bullet under weight of public pressure and quarantined blood products which had been contaminated by a donation from a CJD-infected donor.¹⁵

The years-long incubation time preceding CJD symptoms increases the difficulty to link a blood transfusion recipient's CJD with a donor source, and it falls within the realms of possibility that secondary CJD in a transfusion recipient may appear months or even years in advance of the primary CJD in a blood donor, as happened in the case of CJD in a liver transplant recipient which was eventually traced to a CJD-like illness in one of the blood donors.¹⁶

In the UK, whole blood or blood products from donors who have later died of vCJD has already been administered to a large but incalculable number of recipients. As a consequence, Britain now imports all plasma for transfusion purposes, and all blood from UK donors is filtered to remove the white blood cells which are the most likely carriers of vCJD infectivity. A number of other countries, including Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United States now exclude blood donations from anyone who has resided in Britain for six months or more during 1980 to 1996. Similar policies are pending with respect to organ donation, and in Britain regarding the reuse of surgical instruments, especially those used in neurologic and ophthalmic procedures.

FROM BRITAIN TO EUROPE AND BEYOND

Britain's first move to halt the spread of BSE came in 1988 when a ban was placed on the 50-year-old practice of feeding protein-enriched cattle, sheep and other animal remains to cattle. A year later, UK authorities reassured both national and international audiences that mad cow disease was under control, and at the same time gathered scientists from the world's major laboratories engaged in human and animal spongiform disease research and a number of respected neurovirologists in order to seek advice.

Unwittingly, the solutions put forward by the experts shaped the events which have effectively spread mad cow disease across the globe. All were sworn to secrecy, notably regarding the

export of cows and contaminated feed worldwide. One of them, Dr Laura Manuelides, physician and Professor of Neuroscience at Yale University, proposed that the epidemic could swiftly be brought to a close with the immediate culling of infected herds. Britain's attitude to the Manuelides solution was, in her words, "penny-wise and pound-foolish", and her idea was dismissed on the grounds that compensation for the owners of the herds was financially out of the question.

From then onwards, the global spread of mad cow disease went into full swing. Britons were placed at further risk of vCJD when an estimated 700,000 BSE-infected cattle entered their food chain, chiefly because the animals' slaughter age, usually three years, was below the age at which they would show signs of BSE infection.¹⁷

Next, the duplicity of the British Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, known as MAFF, exposed mainland Europeans to an unknown quantity of BSE-contaminated veal among the two million calves transported to European saleyards between 1990 and 1995.¹⁸ MAFF also sabotaged a 1990 Brussels ruling designed to prevent the spread of BSE outside Britain, when it issued civil servants with secret orders to skip the computer vetting of calves designed to exclude BSE-infected animals.

Britain was not entirely alone in the processes which effectively globalised mad cow disease. In September 1996, the French newspaper *Libération* revealed that a memorandum from French official Gilbert Castille had suggested back in 1990 that Britain ought to be asked not to publish its research results, saying "it would be better to

French official Gilbert Castille had suggested back in 1990 that Britain ought to be asked *not* to publish its research results, saying "it would be better to minimise BSE by practising disinformation".

minimise BSE by practising disinformation". In fact, rather than ganging up on Britain, Brussels, via Guy Legras, head of the European Commission's agricultural directorate, warned of the financial repercussions from a beef panic and hushed news of the BSE situation.¹⁹

In a moral sense, the globalisation of mad cow disease then worsened. As Britain's market for the animal protein-enriched cattle feed dried up in Europe between 1988 and 1992, debt-burdened Third World countries became the replacement marketplace for attractively low-priced BSE-suspect meat and the same animal protein-enriched pellets believed responsible for Britain's BSE problems. Some European countries—Belgium, The Netherlands, France—which had imported the British meal, routinely shipped some of it to the Middle East and North Africa in concentrated form, where, before being fed to cows, the meat-and-bone meal is mixed with other locally produced animal feed. It wasn't until 1996 that Britain finally banned the export of meat-and-bone meal.

Britain's defence today is that her agricultural and public health authorities had debated the propriety of allowing the country's feed industry to continue exporting meat-and-bone meal after banning the practice at home. In the end, the decision was left to veterinary authorities in the importing countries, the argument being that those officials had been adequately informed of the risks!

The globalisation story did not stop with European and Third World countries. Between 1988 and 1996, Britain, in its thirst for greater and greater market profits through hybrid strains, also exported 3.2 million live cattle to 36 countries, representing every

world region. It was claimed that the cattle were BSE-free, but over the years mad cow disease in imported British cattle has been reported not only in Europe but also in Canada, Oman and the Falkland Islands. EU members on the Continent also have exported millions of live cattle all over the world. In December 2000, Kuwait reported a suspected BSE case in a three-year-old dairy cow imported from an undisclosed European country.

Ultimately, the dumping of BSE-implicated produce, considered unfit for sale in Britain, will be recorded as another shameful chapter of British imperialism.

The French Minister for Agriculture, Jean Glavany, sees it exactly in those terms, and recently commented that "...morally, they should be judged for that one day. They even allowed themselves the luxury of banning the use of such feed [in Britain], while allowing it to be exported."

Mainland Europe takes the high moral ground on the globalisation of BSE, yet, even as Britain ceased exporting animal protein-enriched cattle feed, other European countries were shipping tonnes of their own and did not implement total export bans until January 2000.²⁰

Already there are reports of vCJD-like illnesses in India, Korea, Pakistan, South Africa and Thailand. One thing is certain, as the World Health Organization and Dr Manuelides have recently underlined: the social and environmental costs of a BSE-contaminated food chain in developing regions will far outweigh the multibillion-dollar estimates of Europe's present BSE-related crises.

Authorities in Australia, like those in the United States, claim to have imported little or no live cattle, beef products or livestock nutritional supplements from the UK, and boast about not being at risk of BSE. History may well tell otherwise.

As a wartime mentality of panic buying has taken over in the face of Britain's current meat shortage, there are lessons aplenty stemming from the man-made BSE pandemic, not the least of these being the price for placing profit ahead of public welfare and animal integrity.

By and large, it may prove somewhat immaterial whether organophosphate pesticides or scrapie/BSE-infected animal feed triggered the BSE pandemic in cattle, because both have been spread to the four corners of the globe with gay abandon. Should organophosphates be the culprit, it remains a matter of time before BSE outbreaks resembling those in Britain occur worldwide. Should the protein-enriched animal feed be the culprit, Britain's rendering economy has practically made certain that no region will escape.

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**There are lessons aplenty
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About the Author:

Dr Lynette J. Dumble, PhD, MSc, is a medical and environmental scientist and the international co-ordinator of the Global Sisterhood Network. She is a former professor of surgery at the University of Texas in Houston, and senior research fellow in history and philosophy of science at the University of Melbourne. Her article, "From Mad Cows to Humans: The Next Global Plague" was published in NEXUS 5/01 (Dec 1997-Jan 1998). Dr Dumble can be contacted by e-mail at ljdumble@connexus.net.au.

— GATS —

IN WHOSE SERVICE?

The MAI was only a rehearsal for what the transnational corporations have in mind under the GATS, which is why individuals, communities and nations must stand up for their rights.

by Ruth Caplan © 2001

Author, *GATS Handbook*
Alliance for Democracy and
Co-chair, Campaign on Corporate
Globalization/Positive Alternatives
3407 34th Place NW
Washington, DC 20016, USA
Telephone: +1 (202) 244 0561
Fax: +1 (202) 537 6045
E-mail: rcaplan@igc.org

THE SPECTRE OF GLOBAL FREE TRADE IN SERVICES

The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) at the World Trade Organization (WTO) is seen as the next MAI (Multilateral Agreement on Investment). It has a wider impact on a broad range of "services" than many (undemocratic) international trade and investment agreements. Strong business lobby groups have helped make the US and European Union (EU) push the GATS hard to developing countries.

If given the go-ahead, it will have "devastating effects on the ability of governments to meet the needs of the poorest and most powerless of their citizens", according to the World Development Movement's report, "In Whose Service?" The report goes on to show that there are concerns on a number of fronts, including the following:

1. GATS covers basic services like water, health and education. These are basic necessities, not things that can be left to the market. It should be the duty of governments to ensure that even the poorest have access to such services, whether or not they can afford to pay. Yet, water supply in developing countries appears to be a major target for European companies in the current negotiations.

2. GATS rules are not just limited to the cross-border trade in services. They also prevent some forms of government regulation of foreign investors, that is, of multinational companies setting up shop in their country. The GATS therefore extends beyond other trade agreements, preventing governments from following their own national development strategies and ensuring that local people actually benefit from the presence of multinational corporations.

3. Commitments made by governments under GATS are effectively irreversible. The privatisation and deregulation of service provision is highly controversial, yet governments are not only signing away their own right to regulate but the right of future generations to implement different policies.

Negotiations are scheduled to start in March 2001, with a view to having an agreement by the end of 2002.

(Source: <http://www.globalissues.org/TradeRelated/FreeTrade/GATS.asp>)

GATS HANDBOOK

What is GATS?

The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) is one of 15 agreements adopted as part of the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, concluded in 1994, which greatly expanded the 1947 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The Uruguay Round also created the World Trade Organization to enforce the agreements. Today, 139 countries are in the WTO. Every country in the WTO is part of the GATS.

Services cover everything from McDonald's hamburger flippers to international bankers. Health care, education, legal, accountancy, advertising, media, travel, even municipal services like sewerage and water are all services which today make up about 70 per cent of the US economy.

The goal of bringing services into the WTO is to make sure they are "liberalised". This means promoting privatisation of public services like education. It also means deregulation of services at the local, state and national levels and subjecting them to the WTO's global rules for the benefit of transnational corporations (TNCs).

The US pushed very hard to have services included in the Uruguay Round negotiations, but did not succeed in requiring the inclusion of all services. Countries resisted the threat

to privatisation of their public services and would only agree to GATS if they could choose which services to include in the agreement. So GATS has country-specific schedules of commitments which detail which services are covered. Nonetheless, GATS creates legally enforceable obligations backed up by trade sanctions.

The WTO says that GATS is the first multilateral agreement to provide legally enforceable rights to trade in all services. It has built-in commitment to continuous liberalisation through periodic negotiations. And it is the world's first multinational agreement on investment, since it covers not just cross-boundary trade but every possible means of supplying a service, including the right to set up a commercial presence in the export market.

This sets out rights without responsibilities for corporations, including the right of US corporations to set up operations in other countries immune from US laws.

The "Built-in" Agenda

Now big changes are being proposed. GATS is part of the "built-in agenda". Negotiations are going forward, even though the "Millennium Round" of new WTO negotiations came to a screeching halt in Seattle in December 1999. This is because the original GATS requires negotiations to recommence at the beginning of 2000 in order to pursue "progressive liberalisation".

The service industry corporations see a real opportunity here. To quote J. Robert Vastine, President of the US Coalition of Service Industries, speaking in Tokyo on May 13, 1999: "The overarching objective of the global business community in the coming negotiations should be both to broaden and deepen countries' GATS liberalisation commitments. A contestable, competi-

tive market in every sector and in every WTO member country is the ultimate goal." The end result of this scenario would be government *of* the corporations, *for* the corporations and *by* the corporations. What public services remained would be forced into constant competition with the corporations, leading to slashing of labour costs and services to the poor.

How does GATS operate?

The trade ministers of WTO member countries meet in regular session and, when negotiating, in special session. Countries also appoint representatives to the Council on Trade in Services which meets more frequently to do the legwork for the ministers. The WTO provides staffing through its Secretariat located in Geneva. The US Trade Representative's office (USTR) is the lead US agency and also maintains staff in Geneva.

If a member country believes another member country has violated GATS and they cannot resolve their disagreement, the aggrieved country can bring its claim to the WTO's dispute settlement body, which has not been receptive to environmental,

health and other public concerns. This panel meets in closed session, acting like a secret tribunal. Decisions are enforced by the winning country imposing economic sanctions on the losing country until it comes into compliance.

How will GATS affect our lives?

Privatisation of services has impacts on how children are educated, how the elderly are cared for, how workers are treated, even how we obtain water to drink. GATS rules will accelerate a trend towards privatisation of human services which is already underway in the United States.

In a democracy, people should be able to decide what human services they want the government to provide. Under GATS, once a country agrees to put a service into its "schedule of specific commitments", it is very difficult to change course. A country has a three-year window in which to withdraw a commitment and must agree on "any necessary compensatory adjustment" for the withdrawal. Also, at the time the US makes a commitment, it can exempt existing state laws; but once the commitment is made, no states can pass similar laws without violating GATS.

• Education

Already, corporations have made major inroads into our educational system. High schools are contracting with private businesses for guidance counsellors; textbooks are using corporate logos in their exercises; Zap Me! is offering schools free computer equipment in return for displaying a constant stream of advertisements on the screens; and Coca-Cola has made a deal with Colorado Springs schools to provide US\$8.4 million in funding over 10 years in exchange for the schools' contracting to sell 70,000 cases of Coke products to students every year.

According to David Kearns, the US Chair of

GATS is the first multilateral agreement to provide legally enforceable rights to trade in all services.



Xerox: "Business will have to set the agenda...a complete restructuring driven by competition and market discipline, unfamiliar grounds for educators."

When knowledge becomes privatised, it is no longer a common heritage to be used for the common good. Maude Barlow writes in *The Ecologist*: "The intellectual property provisions of NAFTA and GATT treat knowledge as a commodity and as the exclusive property of the company that takes a patent or holds a copyright on it." The inclusion of education under GATS would accelerate this process and make it harder for citizens to turn it around.

• Health Care

Agnes Bertrand, writing in *The Ecologist*, states "it is not health which makes money, but ill health". The WTO staff says countries should reconsider the "depth and breadth of their commitments" on health and social services, which are "trailing behind other sectors". This means more privatisation, deregulation and competition by foreign suppliers.

Privatisation of public health services increases inequity. The WTO acknowledges that "private health insurers competing for members may engage in some form of 'cream-skimming'...private clinics may well be able to attract qualified staff from public hospitals without...offering the same range of services to the same population groups..."

According to Public Services International (PSI): "The elite will be able to access private TNC-controlled care; the rest will have to make do with the shrinking public system." US-managed care corporations are doing just this in Latin America.

As mobility of health care professionals is encouraged, there will be pressure for a downward levelling of standards for medical training and qualification, resulting in a reduction in health quality standards. Further, health service providers may encourage rich foreign clients while ignoring poorer clients in their own area, as is already happening in northern Mexico. Finally, notes the PSI report, "privatisation brings with it a view of labour as a cost, rather than an investment in skills", leading to use of less skilled labour to replace more skilled labour performing the same tasks.

• Water

With water scarcity becoming widespread, partly due to the pollution and misuse of water by corporations, companies like Bechtel and Enron want to profit from this scarcity by supplying water in bulk to those who can afford it. While water itself is a commodity, the operation of water pipelines and ships to supply bulk water is a service.

The local distribution of drinking water is also a service. In the US, this is primarily a municipal function. But today, TNCs want to privatise these systems, as has already been done in countries such as France and Great Britain.

Rebecca Mark, speaking as CEO of Enron's water subsidiary Azurix, said she will not rest until all the world's water has been

privatised. Contrast this with the words of Vandana Shiva: "Privatisation and commodification of water are a threat to the right to life."

The threat is at our doorstep. In California, the state Constitution guarantees that the people have the right of ownership of the water; but tragically, the people are losing control of this right to agribusiness, private land companies and water speculators like Azurix. Since 1992, some companies operating as federal contractors have been given the right to sell some of California's water on the open market. In 1995, the state also gave its contractors the right to sell water.

The European GATS negotiators want to be sure that drinking-water is included in the GATS agreement because they have large TNCs like Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux and Générale des Eaux, a division of Vivendi SA, which are involved in privatising municipal water services around the world, including in the city of Indianapolis.

Now the US negotiators are figuring out how to respond. They know there is controversy in the US about having GATS cover water. US corporations would like limited coverage in areas where they are competitive with the European corporations. Advocates for environment and justice don't want water covered in GATS at all. The US is looking for a compromise position, and its negotiators are willing to propose that GATS "carve out", i.e., exclude, transportation of bulk water across international borders by private companies. This would be good from the perspective of citizens and organisations who believe water is a *right*, not a need to be supplied by the market for profit.

But the US is considering a more compromised position on water services such as water treatment, distribution and sewage treatment within a country. It has suggested limiting the application of GATS in the US to commercial applications. Unfortunately, this approach does not deal with the

fact that other countries might have a harder time resisting the pressure from TNCs to put public water systems on their schedule of commitments. If a country does this and later realises it made a mistake, it could be too late to change course.

Encouraging the private sector to supply water for commercial uses could lead to less water being available for purposes like public drinking water and wildlife protection. Also, if big commercial users get water from private sources, public water supplies will have to carry more of the public infrastructure costs, leading to higher rates. This is another form of cream-skimming.

Finally, GATS fits in nicely with the IMF and World Bank agenda to promote privatisation. In Bolivia, under pressure from these institutions, the government passed a law which led to the privatisation of water in its major city of Cochabamba. The city signed a contract with a private consortium in which Bechtel had a majority interest. Water bills quickly became unaffordable. Cooperative distribution systems were dismantled. People first refused to pay, then took to the streets to protest. In the end, after police violence, the people won and the contract was terminated.

"The intellectual property provisions of NAFTA and GATT treat knowledge as a commodity and as the exclusive property of the company that takes a patent or holds a copyright on it."

• Prisons

The trend in the United States towards privatisation of prisons has been quite dramatic over the last decade. According to AFSCME, there are now 193 for-profit prisons in operation or under construction in 30 states, with 43 in Texas and 24 in California. Altogether they account for seven per cent of the prison population. Profits passed the US\$1 billion mark in 1998.

The two largest private prison corporations in the US are Wackenhut and Corrections Corporation of America. These corporations have already become transnationals. CCA alone manages 82 prisons with 73,000 beds in 26 states, Puerto Rico, Great Britain and Australia. Wackenhut extends its reach to South Africa and Canada.

Not only are prisons being privatised, but 36 states allow corporations to set up factory production in prisons where wages are low and workers forced to be compliant. The *New York Times* (March 19, 2000, p. 22) reports: "Private sector programs, which exist in 36 states and employ 3,500, have doubled in size since 1995 after years of almost no growth."

Recent studies report that minorities are being targeted by the judicial system: black men are sent to state prisons on drug charges at 13 times the rate of white men, even though five times as many whites use cocaine; minorities are given longer sentences and treated more harshly than whites. These three trends—private prisons, private sector production in prisons, and a judicial system which targets minorities—are creating a system tantamount to slave labour.

• Workers and Unions

GATS is likely to accelerate the use of cheaper labour abroad, facilitated by use of the Internet in providing many services. Privatisation of government services will allow for replacement of public sector unions with non-unionised workers. This loss of worker power will further accelerate the race to the bottom in wages.

There cannot be justice at home or abroad when human services are taken out of the public sector and given over to profit-driven corporations. This trend is being promoted by the overall goal of privatisation of all services through GATS. How much will be achieved in this round of negotiations remains to be seen.

Aren't Government Services Excepted?

The United States Trade Representative's office and the WTO Secretariat say not to worry. All government services are excepted under GATS Article I, section 3 (b) and (c). But is this really true? It is important to understand just what these sections say.

Section (b) says "'services' includes any service in any sector except services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority". Sounds fine, right? Read on. Section (c) says "'a service supplied in the exercise of governmental authority' means any service which is supplied neither on a commercial basis, nor in competition with one or more service suppliers".

Now it just so happens that "commercial basis" is not defined in GATS. The USTR staff say they cannot provide a definition, nor can the WTO staff. Member countries would have to agree on the definition. Meanwhile, if a dispute arises over whether a government service is covered, it will be left up to the dispute settlement procedures to decide the meaning.

"Competition" is also used without any further explanation. If there is one private school in a community, does that mean there is competition and the public system is not exempted? If one community is totally public, but the next has a private school which will accept students from both communities, is there competition? Again, the USTR and WTO staff cannot provide the definition.

In sum, this exception is so full of holes that it is almost impossible to say with certainty which local, state or federal government services are covered. One thing is for sure: the police and military are exempted from GATS under the "public safety" general exception.

• Government Procurement

GATS Article XIII calls for "multilateral negotiations on government procurement in services under this Agreement within two years from the date of entry into force of the WTO agreement". Six years after GATS was signed, these negotiations are still ongoing. There is, however, a government procurement agreement under GATT which only covers goods.

What are the GATS provisions?

Some of the GATS provisions will be familiar to anyone involved in the fight against the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI). Under GATS, some of these apply to all sectors, whether or not they are included in a country's schedule of commitments. Others apply only to those sectors included on the schedule.

• Most Favoured Nation Treatment

According to Article II, all WTO countries must treat services and service suppliers from any member

country no less favourably than service suppliers in any other member country. This applies to *all* services, whether or not they are on a country's list of commitments. The only exception is government procurement of services (see above). However, at the time the agreement was signed, countries were allowed to take one-time-only temporary exceptions which are now up for review.

• National Treatment

Under Article XVII, services and service suppliers of member countries must receive treatment no less favourable than that given to domestic services and service suppliers. This provision only applies to the sectors included in a country's schedule of commitments.

As with the MAI, a country could treat foreign corporations more favourably than domestic ones. Take prisons, for example. Once the US puts this sector on its schedule, it would be illegal

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under WTO rules for communities to pass an ordinance which restricts the building of private prisons to domestic corporations.

- **Transparency**

Article III requires all member countries to publish all "measures" relevant to GATS. Measures include those by "central, regional or local governments and authorities; and non-governmental bodies in the exercise of powers delegated by central, regional or local governments or authorities". The full implementation of this provision is a top priority for the US, which wants to go even further and require proposed regulations to be published (see below).

Even in your local community, every law or regulation relating to services is subject to scrutiny under GATS. However, corporations are protected from the government disclosing confidential information "which would prejudice legitimate commercial interests of particular enterprises".

- **Domestic Regulation**

Article VI requires that domestic regulations "do not constitute unnecessary barriers to trade in services". The disciplines developed under this section can be used to overturn local, state or federal regulations, even if there is no discrimination based on National Treatment or Most Favoured Nation Treatment.

- **General Obligations**

Article VI could also become a vehicle for setting "general obligations" which would not be limited to country-specific commitments, a position already taken by the WTO Secretariat. This could be a major intrusion on national, state and local sovereignty.

- **More Transparency**

The US negotiators want all member countries and their political subdivisions to publish their *proposed* regulations to allow for public comment from other member countries. This could be a very significant burden on local communities, who would have to consider such comments from around the world before adopting a change to their regulations for recycling or water treatment, for instance. And who would comment? Most likely the TNCs, as they have the resources to keep track of how such proposed regulations would affect their business interests. This *unfunded mandate* is not really about democracy; it is about corporate power.

- **Necessity**

The Council for Trade in Services is given the authority to "develop any necessary disciplines" to ensure that such regulations are "not more burdensome than necessary to ensure the quality of the service" and are "based on objective and transparent criteria, such as competence and the ability to supply the service". Currently, countries are interpreting this to mean they have to demonstrate the necessity of their regulations. This potentially gives the Council much leeway to create international regulations which can trump domestic regulations.

The Working Party on Domestic Regulation, established by the Council, is looking at legitimate objectives which do not have to meet the necessity test. The European Community (EC) has submitted a paper covering "necessity", which lists proposed

legitimate objectives which has some appealing entries such as "protection of consumers", "protection of the environment", "promotion of welfare, including public policy objectives", and "ensuring pluralism and a media system based on free and democratic principles and including a public service broadcast system".

The WTO Secretariat has responded with its own list: "economic efficiency", "promoting competition", "administrative efficiency" and "economic development". If these were to be adopted, it would be a major assault on domestic environments, consumer protection and human health

regulations. Think about how this might affect health care, education, treatment of prisoners and provision of drinking water. Fortunately, the US negotiators are opposed to adopting a list of "legitimate objectives", since there is a significant risk that we will end up with the WTO's list.

- **Tribunals**

To top it off, Article VI has a domestic version of the investor-to-state provision which has caused such folly in NAFTA and was slated to be part of the MAI. GATS calls for

each country to set up its own tribunals, where service suppliers can take their grievances and expect appropriate remedies.

It is no surprise that powerful corporate lobbies like the US-based Coalition of Service Industries and the European Services Forum have put expanding the GATS domestic regulation provisions on the top of their agendas.

**Even in your local community,
every law or regulation
relating to services is subject
to scrutiny under GATS.**



• General Exceptions

Here, in Article XIV, at least measures "necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health" are excepted from GATS altogether—except that the preamble has a caveat large enough to drive a truck through. Such measures cannot be "a disguised restriction on trade in services". It is just this language which has led the WTO tribunals to come down against environmental regulations in cases brought before them.

While Article XIV is generally parallel to Article XX of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, it omits any mention of natural resources included in the GATT general exceptions. But, as we have seen in the case of water, natural resources can come under GATS. If the operation of a pipeline is a service, then is not the operation of a coal train or a lumber truck a service? By not exempting such services, could not GATS undercut the exemption contained in GATT?

• Schedules of Specific Commitments

The member countries' schedules of specific commitment were annexed to the GATS agreement at the time of its adoption. Now the pressure is on countries to "liberalise" their service sector further by increasing their commitments.

Under Article XX, if a country fails to state a limitation on national treatment or market access when their schedule is committed, they are just out of luck. This includes conditions and qualifications on national treatment for states or provinces and communities as well as for the whole country.

Conclusion: It's Time for Action

By promoting the privatisation and deregulation of all services, GATS represents a major restructuring of the global economy and a loss of sovereignty at local, state and federal levels. When Renato Ruggiero boasted "We are writing the constitution of a single global economy"—the "we" he was referring to being the trade ministers in bed with the corporations, not us.

It is essential that citizens in the US and around the world come together in a massive movement to stop further deregulation and privatisation of these services. There is much that can be done locally to build this movement. Here are a few ideas:

- Let the US Trade Representative negotiators know that you don't want water included in GATS at all. Write to US Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky with a copy to Chris Rosetti, Director, Multilateral Services and Investment Affairs. Send your letter to : USTR, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20508.

- Get your city/town council to pass a resolution on GATS. A model resolution will be available shortly from the Alliance. Contact Ruth Caplan in the Washington, DC, office on (202) 244 0561 or e-mail rcaplan@igc.org.

- Sign the WTO "Shrink It or Sink It" letter which calls for gutting GATS, saying "areas such as health, education, energy and other basic human services must not be subject to international free trade rules". Contact Margrete Strand at mstrand@citizen.org for a copy.

- Join Alliance for Democracy list-serves on GATS topics—education, health, water, prisons—for information and action alerts; e-mail rcaplan@igc.org. The Alliance also has Action Packets on each of these topics. These are available from the national office, 681 Main Street, Waltham, MA 02451, USA, tel 1-888 466 8233 (toll-free in North America), website www.thealliancefordemocracy.org.

- Read and discuss reports on privatisation. For starters, we recommend the following sources on these subjects:

- § Education: *The Nation*, September 27 1999;

- § Health: "The WTO and the GATS: What is at stake for public health?", Public Services International, www.world-psi.org;

- § Water: *Blue Gold* by Maude Barlow (available from IFG, tel (415) 229 9350);

- § Prisons: *Mother Jones* May/June 2000;

- Study the pattern of corporatisation of services in your community. What changes have taken place in the ownership and management of water, school, health and prison facilities? What have been proposed? Are any of the corporations headquartered outside the US?

- After you identify the hot issues in your community, hold a community forum to look at the problems from both a local and global perspective, including the added threat which further "liberalisation" under GATS poses. Select materials from the Alliance Action Packets to use as handouts.

- Join with other organisations in your community to develop a campaign around your local issues, linking them with the expansion of GATS.

Editor's Note :

For more information on GATS, check the following references (sourced from the WDM website, www.globalissues.org):

1) From the World Development Movement

- "Stop the GATSastrophe campaign": www.globalissues.org/TradeRelated/FreeTrade/GATS.asp

- "In Whose Service?", a report on GATS issues and concerns: www.oneworld.org/wdm/cambriefs/WTO/Inwhoseservice.htm

- The WTO Campaign provides articles and reports on issues related to GATS at the WTO: www.oneworld.org/wdm/campaign/WTO.htm

2) From Third World Network

- "New GATS talks threaten democracy": www.oneworld.org/wdm/campaign/WTO.htm

- "Not so foolproof GATS safeguards and prudential rights": www.twinside.org.sg/title/gats-cn.htm

- "Clear North-South divide on services negotiations": www.twinside.org.sg/title/serv-cn.htm

3) From Consumers International

- "Consumers and the Liberalisation of Services": www.consumersinternational.org/trade/trade_brief/services.html

Now the pressure is on countries to "liberalise" their service sector further by increasing their commitments.

Under Article XX, if a country fails to state a limitation on national treatment or market access...they are just out of luck.

HYDRODOLLARS

THE PRIVATISATION OF WATER

The trend towards privatising the world's water supplies and applying full-cost pricing policies means that millions of people are losing access to an already scarce resource.

by Susan Bryce © 2000–2001

Publisher/Editor
Australian Freedom & Survival Guide
PO Box 66
Kenilworth, Qld 4574, Australia
E-mail: sbryce@squirrel.com.au
Website: www.squirrel.com.au/~sbryce/

There once was a time when water fell freely from the clouds in the sky and bubbled from the springs in the hills...when the rivers, streams and lakes were full to the brim...when ancient underground aquifers flowed like great veins beneath the continents...when water nurtured our people, like babes sustained by their mother's milk.

Today, water has become a scarce resource. Climate change has wreaked havoc with the weather, and the clouds no longer pour their tears of life upon our great forests. Vast agricultural lands suck rivers and streams dry. Our lakes are choked with dead fish which have been suffocated by industrial pollutants. The bowels of the Earth are constantly relieved of their waters, millions of years old.

Experts predict that by the year 2025 our world will be suffering from the dramatic effects of hydrological poverty. There will be great disputes and even wars over water. "Failure to act could damage the planet irreversibly, unleashing a spiral of increased hunger, deprivation, disease and squalor."¹

Thankfully, action has been taken—at the highest level—to avert this apocalyptic nightmare. By declaring water a commodity—an economic good, to be measured, apportioned and regulated by corporations—the tide of disaster will be stemmed. This momentous decision has been made for us by a handful of transnational corporations and members of the United Nations system of organisations. This self-appointed group have mandated themselves the custodians of the world's water resources. They concede that the full-cost pricing of water, for domestic, agricultural and industrial use, will be a painful adjustment for humanity. But they argue that this is a small price to pay for water security, for their guardianship of our most precious resource.

With the blessing of national governments, a vigorous and dynamic agenda to privatise the world's water supplies is being pursued. Traditional and indigenous rights are acknowledged, then cast aside. National sovereignty is affirmed, then eroded. Access to water—a God-given or a human right—is recognised, then suspended.

The old economy has been fuelled by oil. The new economy will be fuelled by hydrodollars. A globalised trade in water is being created² and we, the people, are to become the consumers in this multitrillion-dollar market.

This article examines the unbelievable reductionist thinking, social ruthlessness, arrogant ignorance and alienating mindset of a group of elite planners and transnational corporations spearheading the drive to commodify our water.

THE ZERO HOUR FOR WATER

Academics, scientists, politicians and hydrological experts are today in agreement that the world faces a grave water crisis. Using mathematical modelling,³ they have been able to predict that by 2025 at least 40 per cent of the projected world population of 7.2 billion may face serious problems with agriculture, industry or human health if they rely solely on natural endowments of fresh water. Severe water shortages could strike particular regions of water-rich countries such as the USA and China.⁴

Already, 26 countries have more people than their water supplies can adequately support. Tensions are mounting over scarce water in the Middle East and could ignite during this decade. Competition for water is intensifying between city dwellers and farmers around Beijing, New Delhi, Phoenix and other water-short areas.⁵

All the evidence points to the first quarter of the 21st century being the "zero hour" for water in some parts of the world. The possibility of a water scarcity has been raised

before, but only in the last few years has the language of crisis become all-pervading.⁶

International discussions about the world's water supplies began in 1977 when the United Nations held the first World Water Conference in Mar del Plata, Argentina. The Conference declared the 1980s to be the "UN International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade". The altruistic goal was to ensure all people in the world had access to adequate water supplies and sanitation within a decade.

Ten years later, the Brundtland Commission told the world that our approach to development was unsustainable—but it had little to say about water.

Then, in 1992, the Rio Conference on Environment and Development, in its "Agenda for the 21st Century" (known as "Agenda 21"), addressed fresh water in chapter 18 of its report.

In 1996, the World Water Council, a private think-tank, was formed. The founding members were Egypt's Ministry of Public Works and Water Resources, the Canadian International Development Agency and the French transnational water corporation Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux. Other organisations supporting the start-up of the World Water Council were:

- International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)
- International Water Resources Association (IWRA)
- Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo (CIHEAM-Bari)
- International Water Association (IWA)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)
- World Bank (WB)
- World Conservation Union (IUCN)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Meteorological Association (WMA)

The World Water Council set about developing its vision for our future: a comprehensive document, *The Long Term Vision for Water, Life and Environment*,⁷ better known by its subtitle, *World Water Vision, Making Water Everybody's Business*.

At a 1998 meeting held in Washington, DC, the World Water Council appointed a group of commissioners to turn the *World Water Vision* into reality. The membership of the World Water Commission, as it became known, reads like a who's who of the ruling elite. The high profile commissioners include:

- Dr Ismail Serageldin (Commission Chair), Vice President, World Bank, and Chair of Global Water Partnership
- Margaret Catley-Carlson, President, Population Council
- Gordon Conway, President, The Rockefeller Foundation
- Mohamed T. El-Ashry, Chair and CEO of the Global Environment Facility

- Howard Hjort, former Deputy Director, FAO
- Enrique Iglesias, President, Inter-American Development Bank
- Yolanda Kababadse, President, World Conservation Union
- Jessica Mathews, President, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, USA
- Robert S. McNamara, Co-Chair, Global Coalition for Africa
- Maurice Strong, Chair, Earth Council, member of Commission on Global Governance, and a chief adviser in charge of the UN reform process
- Wilfred Thalwitz, former Senior VP, World Bank
- Jerome Mondo, Chair of the Supervisory Board, Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux

CRISIS OR BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY?

Awareness of the impending water crisis has been heightened due to the international World Water Forums, the triennial public meetings of the World Water Council. A number of agreements and principles from the Forums have become the basis upon which corporate control of water is being effected.

More than 4,000 luminaries from around the world attended the

World Water Forum at The Hague in March 2000. Scientists, water experts, government and business leaders and greenwash⁸ organisations were on hand. The *World Water Vision* was formally presented to the Forum by Mikhail Gorbachev's organisation, Green Cross International.⁹

The six-day meeting concluded with 130 government representatives issuing "The Ministerial Declaration of the Hague", a four-page document calling for all relevant organisations to get involved in "integrated water resources management" to ensure "that every person has access to enough safe water at an affordable cost". Hidden among the warm,

fuzzy, double-speak of the Declaration was the real agenda:

*Valuing water: to manage water in a way that reflects its economic, social, environmental and cultural values for all its uses, and to move towards pricing water services to reflect the cost of their provision.*¹⁰

The March 2000 Forum was presented to the world as part of a democratic participative process for water management, when in fact the process was designed by powerful multinationals and elites without taking into account the basic needs of the people. The world's top transnational corporations were well represented, and they released a three-page special joint CEO Statement during the Forum. Nestlé and Unilever (the world's first and third largest food corporations respectively) joined forces with Heineken, ITT and the global water companies DVH, Azurix, CH2M Hill and Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux to declare:

*Water is an economic good and its economic value should be recognised in the allocation of scarce water resources to competing uses. While this should not prevent people from meeting their basic needs for water services at affordable prices, the price for water must be set at a level that encourages conservation and wise use.*¹¹

The membership of the World Water Commission, as it became known, reads like a who's who of the ruling elite.

Water is already a US\$400-billion global business, yet privatised water so far only accounts for 10 per cent of the world's water utilities. The World Water Commission argues that only private firms can provide the enormous capital, which it estimates at US\$180 billion a year, needed to fix the world's water problems. This entails eliminating generalised subsidies for water and replacing them with prices which offer an attractive return on investment.

WORLD WATER VISION—OR NIGHTMARE?

If we proceed with our "business as usual" approach to water, then the limits of natural and socioeconomic systems will be reached by 2025, the World Water Council warns in *World Water Vision*. At best, we will experience chronic problems, and catastrophes may trigger regional and even global crises. The *Vision* does not elaborate upon exactly what these crises may be, suffice to say that they can be staved off by moving to full-cost pricing for all water services.

Chapter four of *World Water Vision* takes a futuristic look at what the world will be like in the year 2025. Life under the *Vision* will be much different from now:

By 2010, public and private utilities were generally applying full cost recovery...because some low-income households could not afford water, measures were introduced to subsidise these households so that they could pay for water to meet their basic needs. These households also contributed to the cost of their services in kind through their labour for installation and operation.

Exactly how the labour of billions of poor people could be used "in kind" for "installation and operation" is not addressed. One can only assume that the *Vision* would see a return to the days of feudal overlords, when the poor served as slaves who worked for their daily bread—or, in this case, their daily water.

Further along in the *Vision*, water subsidies for the poor (and possibly even the poor themselves) are wiped out, along with subsidies for agricultural water:

A new round of negotiations of the World Trade Organization in 2010 agreed to add water subsidies to the list of unacceptable subsidies to inputs for agriculture. As this policy was implemented in the years that followed, food prices from exporting countries rose slightly, improving farm incomes in developing countries. Prices eventually stabilised around their previous level, but low-income urban dwellers felt the pinch of higher food prices while they lasted.

Commenting on the full-cost pricing of water for agriculture, the *Vision* says:

As a first step, governments had begun decentralising responsibility for operation and maintenance to cooperatives or to private owners—a trend accelerated in the first years of the new century. Because farmers depended on the proper functioning of these systems for their livelihoods, they

ensured operation and maintenance. Again, many farmers and especially lower-income users contributed their services as in-kind contributions to the cost. Appropriate low-cost technology such as treadle pumping of shallow groundwater was widely adopted for holders of small plots. All operation and maintenance subsidies were eliminated. Indirect subsidies to operating costs, such as energy, were also eliminated. This had a major impact on water management in India, which in 2005–15 discouraged groundwater overpumping by gradually eliminating subsidies for the energy to pump water from wells.

The most important point about having a vision is also have a framework for action to implement the vision. Apart from the appointment of the high-profile World Water Commission, the World Water Council spawned a sister entity, the Global Water Partnership, to develop and guide a "Framework for Action".

The Framework document, like all of the documents presented by the World Water Council and its offshoots, uses rhetoric and coloured language in an attempt to make recommendations sound more palatable. References to gender, community empowerment and land reform help paint what are far-reaching proposals to expand and reinforce corporate power over the world's water supplies.

The document contains actions that governments should take to implement the vision. Specifically, it calls for: full liberalisation and deregulation of the water sector (national treatment), whereby transnational corporations are given the same treatment as local enterprises and/or public authorities; transparency in government procurement of water contracts; trade facilitation, where governments should be more service-oriented to the private sector; and privatisation as much as feasible, with mixed public-private partnership agreements being the next best thing. Other recommendations include: the removal

of all price and trade distorting subsidies; dispute settlement over water issues; promotion of agricultural biotechnologies; protection of property rights over water resources; and the demand for a stable and predictable investment climate, which would reinforce investor rights.¹²

THE WORLD BANK: "A world full of poverty"¹³

Several years ago, Dr Ismail Serageldin, Vice-President of the World Bank, said that the wars of the 21st century will be about water.¹⁴ To respond to the escalating crisis, the World Bank has adopted a policy of water privatisation and full-cost water pricing. The basis of the Bank's policies are outlined in the 1992 paper "Improving Water Resources Management", which discusses the importance of pricing and other incentives which encourage consumers to adopt efficient water use practices based upon the relative value of the water:

Charging fees for domestic and industrial water supplies is generally straightforward. In most cases, use can be metered and fees can be charged according to the volume and

The World Water Commission argues that only private firms can provide the enormous capital, which it estimates at US\$180 billion a year, needed to fix the world's water problems.

reliability of water used. Economic efficiency would be obtained by setting water charges equal to the opportunity cost of water. However, immediate adoption of such prices often proves to be politically difficult. Thus, given the low level of cost recovery at present and the extent of underpricing, fees that establish the water entity's financial autonomy would be a good starting point to ensure the entity's independence and the sustainability of operations. Both public and private entities should pay for the costs of the water and sanitation services they receive.

The World Bank believes that making water available at no cost, or low cost, does not provide the right incentive to consumers. Its research and experience indicate that:

...when water services are reliable, the poor are willing to pay for them, and that when service is not reliable, the poor pay more for less, typically from street vendors. As pointed out in the 'World Development Report 1992', the poor need to be provided with a wider range of options so they can choose the level of water services for which they are willing to pay, thereby giving suppliers a financial stake in meeting the needs of the poor. Fee schedules can be structured so that consumers receive a limited amount of water at a low cost and pay a higher fee for additional water. Fees set in this manner can correspond to efficiency prices for incremental consumption, even as they provide low base rates that benefit the poor. However, the schedule in aggregate should provide for full-cost recovery; otherwise, the financial viability of the water entity is endangered. Another form of subsidy to the poor, which may be handled through one-time budgetary transactions, is a subsidy for connecting house - holds to the water supply and sani - tation network.

The World Bank's matter-of-fact approach to the full-cost pricing of water is a testament to its grandiose illusions, bloated budget and quest for control of people and their resources. Apart from its funding to support water privatisation, the Bank is the world's greatest single source of funds for large dam construction, having provided more than US\$50 billion (1992 dollars) for construction of more than 500 large dams in 92 countries. The importance of the World Bank in major dam schemes is illustrated by the fact that it has directly funded four of the five most significant dam projects in developing countries outside China, three of the five largest reservoirs in these countries, and three of the five largest hydro-electric plants.¹⁵

ENGINEERING CROPS TO BE LESS THIRSTY

In the early 1970s, there was a global surge in irrigation development. Irrigation was the lead factor in the Green Revolution, which resulted in the high-yield rice, wheat and maize varieties which are dependent upon the liberal use of inorganic fertilisers. The new crops of the Green Revolution displaced local foods, and the diets of many people in the world

became dangerously low in iron, zinc, vitamin A and other micronutrients.¹⁶ Transnational chemical companies which supplied the petrochemical-based fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides that fuelled the Green Revolution expanded their control and influence in the agricultural sector.

Today, 70 per cent of the world's water is used for crop irrigation. As the population grows, irrigated land is expected to become increasingly significant in feeding people. But the impending water crisis will push many croplands to the brink of disaster, as there will be insufficient water to irrigate our food crops. Compounding the problem is the fact that further expansion of agricultural lands cannot be sustained due to the effects of agrichemicals (soil erosion, salinity, poisoning of water, etc.).

Over the last 10 years, agrichemical companies have been shifting their interests from chemicals to the life sciences, where the future profits lie. The revolution in biotechnology has been dubbed the "Double Green Revolution" by its advocates, who claim that it will not only provide more food for more people (the same argument that fuelled the original Green Revolution), but that seeds can be genetically engineered to be less thirsty.

This is a critical development which will see corporations turn the crisis of pollution and depletion of water resources (which they helped create in the first place) into a business opportunity, as control of the world's seed stock and water resources becomes the new frontier for private investors.

The chemical giant Monsanto has already positioned itself as a major player in the life sciences via its control over seed, the first link in the food chain. In a report for the organisation Corporate Watch, Dr Vandana Shiva describes Monsanto's new interest: water.¹⁷ She cites a Monsanto strategy paper which outlines the company's plan for corporate control of water:

First, we believe that discontinuities (either major policy changes or major trendline breaks in resource quality or quantity) are likely, particularly in the area of water, and we will be well positioned via these businesses to profit even more significantly when these discontinuities occur. Second, we are exploring the potential of non-conventional financing (NGOs, World Bank,

USDA, etc.) that may lower our investment or provide local country business-building resources.

For Monsanto, "sustainable development" means the conversion of an ecological crisis into a market of scarce resources:

The business logic of sustainable development is that population growth and economic development will apply increasing pressure on natural resource markets. These pressures and the world's desire to prevent the consequences of these pressures if unabated will create vast economic opportunity. When we look at the world through the lens of sustainability, we are in a position to see current and foresee impending resource market trends and imbalances that create market needs. We have further focussed this lens on the resource market of water and land.

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Monsanto projects revenues of \$420 million and net income of \$63 million by 2008 from water resource developments in India and Mexico alone. The Monsanto paper states:

We are particularly enthusiastic about the potential of partnering with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the World Bank to joint-venture projects in developing markets. The IFC is eager to work with Monsanto to commercialize sustainability opportunities and would bring both investment capital and on the ground capabilities to our efforts.

THE PERILS OF PRIVATISATION

According to Maude Barlow,¹⁸ author of *Blue Gold: The Global Water Crisis and the Commodification of the World's Water Supply*: "The privatisation of municipal water services has a terrible record that is well documented. Customer rates are doubled or tripled; corporate profits rise as much as 700 per cent; corruption and bribery are rampant; water quality standards drop, sometimes dramatically; overuse is promoted to make money; and customers who can't pay are cut off... When privatisation hits the Third World, those who can't pay will die."

This brief summary demonstrates the extent of commodification so far, and highlights some of the failures.

Developing World

Programs which transfer existing government-managed water systems to private firms, financially autonomous utilities and water user associations are being implemented in Latin America (Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico); Asia (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, The Philippines and Sri Lanka); Africa (Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Senegal and Tunisia); and Eastern Europe (Hungary).

In some countries, such as Indonesia, Nepal, The Netherlands and Sri Lanka, the tradition of farmer-managed water service systems is centuries old.

• Argentina

The state-run water company Obras Sanitarias de la Nación was sold to Aguas Argentinas, a private company owned by Suez-Lyonnaise des Eaux of France. Aguas Argentinas expanded the water network to 600,000 new residents. Aguas Argentinas has promised to cut prices by 27 per cent and to invest US\$4 billion in improving services over a 30-year period. The International Finance Corporation (a subsidiary of the World Bank) provided a \$172.5 million loan to Aguas Argentinas in 1994.

Some people in the centre of Buenos Aires have benefited from the privatisation, but those outside the capital say water is more expensive and the service has not improved.

"On many days there is no water," says Marcelo Paoletti, an activist from an Argentine group called the Ecologist Workshop. He lives in Rosario, the country's second largest city. Paoletti's bills add up to 24 pesos (US\$24) a month, more than when the water supply was publicly managed.

Aguas Argentinas has also been criticised a number of times by the state regulatory authorities for corporate misconduct and failure to provide acceptable service standards.¹⁹

• Bolivia

As Maude Barlow explains,²⁰ in 1998 the World Bank:

"...refused to guarantee a US\$25-million loan to refinance water services in Cochabamba, Bolivia's third-largest city, unless the government sold the public water system to the private sector and passed on the costs to consumers. Only one bid was considered, and the utility was turned over to a subsidiary of a conglomerate led by Bechtel—the giant engineering company implicated in the infamous Three Gorges Dam in China, which has caused the forced relocation of 1.3 million people.

"In January 1999, before it had even hung up its shingle, the company announced the doubling of water prices. For most Bolivians, this meant that water would now cost more than food; for those on a minimum wage or unemployed, water bills suddenly accounted for close to half their monthly budgets. To add insult, the World Bank granted monopolies to private water concessionaires, announced its support for full-cost water pricing, pegged the cost of water to the US dollar, and declared that none of its loan could be used to subsidize the poor for water services. All water, even from community wells, required permits to access, and peasants and small farmers even had to buy permits to gather rainwater on their property."

On 10 April 2000, hundreds of thousands marched to Cochabamba in an anti-government protest. The government backed down, ordered Bechtel out of Bolivia, and revoked its water privatisation legislation.

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Developed Nations

• Australia

A report, *A Vision for Australia's Water Resources 2025*, was prepared for the World Water Forum 2000 by Integrated Resource Management Ltd under contract from UNESCO. The Australian report recommends water pricing related to volume and timing, as well as the elimination of

subsidies.²¹

Australia has already undertaken a program of far-reaching changes in the way the water sector is organised and managed, with an increasing role for the private sector. In 1994, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) declared that "business as usual" in the rural water industry was not a viable option for irrigators—or the environment.²² They are now implementing changes which will affect pricing, water allocations, institutional arrangements and environmental management. These reforms are to be implemented together, as a package, this year.

The reform package includes a COAG agreement to introduce full-cost recovery pricing in rural areas by 2001. This means current prices paid for water are likely to rise. In some cases, prices have escalated already. Many local governments in Australia have made rainwater tanks and recycling of grey water illegal.²³

• Britain

Since the privatisation of water services in Britain during the Thatcher Government, prices skyrocketed by up to 450 per cent, averaging an increase of 67 per cent. Thousands of people, unable to pay their bill, had their water service cut. As a result, dysentery increased sixfold, leading the British Medical Association to condemn privatisation because of the related health risks. While the companies are hugely profitable and executive

incomes soar, no effort has been spared in maximising revenues. In one instance, a water company began billing a rural resident who was serviced by a well. The company argued that the rain falling on the resident's property was making its way into the storm drainage system and therefore the resident should pay a fee.²⁴

• Canada

Water is becoming a commodity to be traded and sold. Pressures within Canada to privatise control of municipal water services and treat water resources as an export commodity are increasing. French and British companies are vying with American firms to control Canada's water services.

Many municipalities have entered into "partnerships" with private organisations. Moncton, for example, has entered into a 20-year agreement that will see the city's water filtration plant maintained and operated privately. The company, US Filter, will build the plant and sell it to the city upon completion, in exchange for a guarantee that it will have exclusive rights to sell Moncton its drinking water. The company has sought status as a municipality for tax purposes, arguing that it should be exempt from GST.²⁵

• France

In France, private companies have been prosecuted for providing water that's polluted and unfit to drink. A French Government report revealed more than 5.2 million citizens received "bacterially unacceptable" water. Corruption is also rampant, with water-related bribery schemes resulting in convictions of municipal officials and water company board members under investigation. French cities with private water charge 30 per cent more than cities with public water. In France as well as Germany and the Czech Republic, municipalities guarantee payments to companies if consumption or prices are not sufficient to ensure a profit.²⁶

• USA

In the past five years, privatisation of water utilities in the US has expanded. The major utilities, Consumers Water Co., Dominguez Services, Southwest Water, Connecticut Water and E'Town Corp have seen returns of more than 20 per cent for investors.

In February 2001, US Water News Online²⁷ reported a move towards the concept of "zero depletion" for water in the state of Kansas. Governor Bill Graves's proposal entails having a "zero depletion" policy in place for Kansas aquifers by 2020. It would mandate that the water taken from an aquifer over a certain period of time not exceed the rate at which the water is recharged. A task force on water issues that Graves appointed as part of his "Vision 21st Century Initiative" advocated a zero depletion policy.

California will receive surplus water from states in the Colorado River basin under a deal signed recently that commits the state to improving its water conservation efforts. The accord commits California to reducing its reliance on Colorado River water over the next 15 years, with the goal of reaching its

allotment of 4.4 million acre feet per year. Without the deal, California would have faced potentially costly litigation by the other six states in the river basin: Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada.

To increase water availability in the next 15 years, regional authorities will consider steps such as desalinating seawater and transferring water from elsewhere in California and out of the state.

WORLD WATER NIGHTMARE, 2001–2025

In the year 2025, we look back to see what happened after water became a commodity and to study the effect of hydrodollars on the new economy. Instead of a world of prosperity and plenty, we see a World Water Nightmare.

By 2025, the global trade in illegal water has become rife. The number of deaths from polluted and black market water is on the increase. Another class of water pollutants is running rife: residues of pharmaceutical drugs given to people and domestic animals. They are being measured in increasing quantities in surface water, in groundwater and in drinking water at the tap.

In the developing world, millions have died from thirst and starvation. Water wars have decimated the Middle East, China and parts of the USA. Vast tracts of farmland have become wasteland, handed over to the corporations which control the expansive allotments where our food is grown.

The commodification of water did not create "sustainable agriculture" or help the environment. The world has almost collapsed from soil acidity. Biotechnology, the science that promised food, health and hope for the world, has betrayed its proponents. In 2025, we see the results of genetically engineering crops to be less thirsty and more productive. The great famines which the world

is currently experiencing are a direct result of monoculture based upon genetically engineered seed stocks. The price of food is out of reach of many urban dwellers. At first, they turned to home gardening—before it was declared illegal. Now they have no choice but to contribute to the cost of their food and water in kind through their toil. Or die. The life sciences have become the death sciences.

If only we had taken action when these plans were first revealed. If only our protests had not fallen on deaf ears. If only our governments had challenged the statements made at the World Water Forum 2000. Instead, they acquiesced to the plans, sending their ministers, advisers, bureaucrats and scientists to take part. The very future of humanity on Earth has been gravely imperilled by greedy, dishonest, power-hungry politicians and corporations. They have succeeded in reducing every component of Nature to an economic commodity. They have abrogated the ethics and spirit of life preservation and replaced them with the values of corporate consumerism.

The commodification of water... Genetic engineering and patenting of traditional seed stock... Control water, control food, control people... A truly dark age is upon us.

In France, private companies have been prosecuted for providing water that's polluted and unfit to drink.

French cities with private water charge 30 per cent more than cities with public water.

Continued on page 81

DEADLY SILENCES

THE HURRICANE ANDREW COVER-UP

The authorities grossly understated the death toll from hurricane Andrew, the worst natural disaster in US history, and left thousands of survivors to die in a zone contaminated by radiation.

THE EMERGENCY ALERT THAT CAME TOO LATE

The largest natural disaster ever recorded in the history of the United States was hurricane Andrew, which struck South Dade County, Florida, as midnight turned the clock into August 24, 1992. Contrary to what the American news media broadcast across the United States and throughout Europe, the first outer wall of the hurricane unexpectedly slammed into South Dade, packing 214+ mph winds which quickly escalated to 350+ mph. Most of the 414,151 residents living in the danger zone were asleep when the outer wall struck. Thousands of them lost their lives, for no one in South Dade had been evacuated or even advised to evacuate. Instead, residents had been repeatedly informed by local news media that South Dade should expect to experience "50 mph winds".

By 11.00 am the following morning, 8,230 mobile homes along with 9,140 apartments had vanished off the face of the Earth. The Hiroshima-like horror was beyond catastrophic. Entire families perished in ways too horrifying to describe. The stench of death had already begun to saturate miles and miles of the massive devastation; the hot humid air was reeking with foul, rotting flesh.

How do I know? Because I was in the midst of it all.

Never will I forget the frantic, last-minute "emergency alert" broadcast that was aired on television just before all hell broke loose. My son and I had the TV on, hoping to catch an updated report on the hurricane, when the screen suddenly went blank with a loud warning signal. Before we knew it, a panic-stricken voice began the announcement:

We interrupt this program to bring you an emergency alert from the National Broadcast Emergency Center. This is an emergency alert! I repeat, this is an emergency alert! The outer winds of hurricane Andrew have just reached the Florida coast. Hurricane Andrew has unexpectedly shifted five degrees south. I repeat, Hurricane Andrew has shifted five degrees south. Andrew is expected to strike South Dade within minutes. I repeat, Andrew is expected to strike South Dade within minutes. All South Dade residents should take immediate cover! I repeat, all South Dade residents should take immediate cover! This is an emergency alert!

Our tiny pre-fab apartment, which was nothing more than a glorified mobile home, had been constructed to withstand maximum wind speeds of 90 mph. The blood-curdling announcement gripped us both. Paralysed by sheer terror, our bulging eyes stayed glued to the television as the voice continued.

All South Dade residents are advised to stay put! Do not attempt to leave the area!

Within seconds, we actually heard hurricane Andrew bearing down on us, slamming into us with all the force of a speeding locomotive. The horrendous wall of winds crashed against our tiny apartment like an exploding bomb! Glasses flew off the kitchen counter, shattering onto the quaking floor. Hanging pictures plunged straight down the walls towards the ground. The huge hanging mirror crashed on top of the television set, spraying the living room with shattered glass. The entire apartment resembled a rickety old train, shaking fiercely out of control while rumbling down a railroad track. The screeching winds quickly transformed into the piercing, monotone hum of a jet engine, sounding as if it had sucked us inside! It was so deafening, all other noises ceased to exist. It felt

by k.t. Frankovich © 2000/01

PO Box 703
Umatilla, Florida 32784
USA
E-mail: Kfrnkovich@aol.com
Website: <http://kt.cjb.net>

like a monstrous earthquake-and-tornado hitting at the same time!

Before either one of us could react, the metal front door of our apartment began to peel steadily downward towards the floor, like a piece of wet, limp paper. Then the voracious jaws of Andrew attacked for the final kill. A mega-giant, two-storey-tall, solid concrete transformer pole with electrical cables attached, torpedoed right through our living room wall and roof, exploding the entire building on impact! And that was just the beginning...

ATROCITIES IN THE AFTERMATH

There isn't a person on the face of this Earth who will ever convince me that hurricane Andrew was a "hurricane" by any sense of the definition. Just ask any survivor of Andrew what the six-and-a-half-hour siege was like and the answer will always be the same. "We didn't have any prior warning. We heard hurricane Andrew suddenly bearing down on us like a speeding locomotive." This is the same description given by survivors of monstrous F-5 tornadoes (packing winds of 350+ mph)—the only difference being that tornadoes strike for just seconds, whereas hurricane Andrew struck and stayed for hours on end.

The injuries of those who survived were mind-boggling. I had a broken jaw with eight teeth knocked out. Huge shards of glass impaled my body so deeply, they were impossible to remove without the aid of a scalpel. My head injuries were so severe that they permanently affected my eyesight.

But I was only one amongst thousands of severely injured victims who struggled to survive the aftermath. For ten long days we were roped off from the outside world by United States military forces, leaving us stranded with no food, no water, no medical supplies, no shelter. Suffering from severe shell-shock, we waited and waited for rescue teams to arrive, but that just never happened. None of the injured in the roped-off areas was ever rescued from the devastation. It was the worst gut-wrenching betrayal I have ever experienced. I saw grown men lying on the ground in the foetal position, moaning and groaning pathetically as they tried to hug and rock themselves. My son was amongst them.

Don't get me wrong. United States military forces were indeed present in the roped-off areas within hours of Andrew ending. But they were not there to help survivors. The National Guard along with the Coast Guard, the Army, FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency), Metro Dade Police, state police and local police removed dead bodies and body parts as quickly as possible during those first ten days of the aftermath. Horrified survivors watched as both uniformed and civilian-clothed men searched the rubble and filled body bags, which they then stacked in military vehicles or huge refrigerator trucks normally used to transport food, only to drive off and leave the stranded injured to fend for themselves.

Not until I managed to escape the aftermath did I discover that the "thermo-king" sections of these same refrigerator trucks, jam-packed with wall-to-wall body bags, ended up being stored at Card Sound Navy Base, located in an isolated area just above the

Florida Keys. The inside temperature was kept cool by portable generators until the bodies were either incinerated or just plain dumped into huge open grave pits.

Those working on the body pick-up operation were forced to take what is known as the Oath of Sworn Secrecy, which is strictly enforced by the government. Many of them plunged into shock, once exposed to the ghastly devastation and countless mutilated bodies.

The horrors were way beyond human comprehension. I can vouch for this, as I accidentally stepped on the severed hand of a young child when I initially crawled out of the debris, only to witness shortly thereafter two dead teenagers and the decapitated body of a baby girl.

Fighting mental shock became such a big problem for the body pick-up teams that a special group of psychiatrists had to be brought in to help them cope with it. I believe this in itself is the reason why many who worked on the body collection didn't comprehend the tragic consequences this would inevitably lead to in the future.

The survivors of hurricane Andrew and the rest of the American people were betrayed by their own government. But the betrayal also extended to foreign nationals. At the time Andrew struck, South Dade was inhabited by a large population of Mexican illegal immigrants. The United States Department of Immigration was fully aware of their presence but quietly turned its back on the situation, knowing full well that

South Dade farmers couldn't afford to harvest their crops without the help of the Mexican illegals. The heavily populated migrant camps were situated at the edge of the Florida Everglades. The people who lived there vanished without a trace during that fated night. Many bodies were found way out in the Everglades.

When I lectured at the Clearwater Convention in Florida in 1999, a man in the audience stood up and introduced himself as Chief Petty Officer Roy Howard. He proceeded to address the audience with this exact

statement, which is now a matter of public record:

Just for your information, I was called up to active duty after hurricane Andrew went through South Dade County. I spent nine weeks down there. Now I will certify for the benefit of our audience here that the death figures that were officially published are totally inaccurate. According to the information which I received from my own sources within the National Guard, the figure I was quoted when I was down there was 5,280-something. And they were quietly disposed of in incinerators that were hurriedly put together by both the National Guard and FEMA...

As the Chief Petty Officer stated, "5,280-something" bodies were confiscated by the United States National Guard. In addition to this, the Coast Guard independently confiscated "1,500 bodies" from the lakes and surrounding waters. Neither one of these figures embraces the number of dead bodies confiscated by

Those working on the body pick-up operation were forced to take what is known as the Oath of Sworn Secrecy, which is strictly enforced by the government.

Many of them plunged into shock, once exposed to the ghastly devastation and countless mutilated bodies.

other branches of federal and state government directly involved in the body pick-up operation. This leaves the number of dead confiscated by various US authorities in South Dade still unknown.

The total number who died during hurricane Andrew is obviously staggering, yet whenever the "official death toll" is mentioned in the media, a figure of anywhere between 15 and 59 is quoted. The population of the 21 communities annihilated by Andrew's eye-wall had been officially recorded by the Dade County Census Bureau as 415,151 before Andrew struck.

Bodies of human beings confiscated and disposed-of like rubbish, as if their lives had no more worth or meaning than a piece of discarded litter—it's horrifying to be suddenly confronted by the same kind of atrocities as perpetrated by the Nazis. Once again repeating history, a master-minded cover-up was dutifully carried out by armed military forces, right smack in the midst of horrendous human suffering.

To complete this historical comparison, in the same way that many residents who lived near Nazi concentration camps were unaware or in denial of the atrocities close by, so too were many residents who were located just outside the catastrophic devastation left behind by Andrew's eye-wall.

GOVERNMENT BETRAYAL

So what actually did take place when Andrew survivors tried to get help from those collecting dead bodies in the aftermath? Well, I for one can give a first-hand account.

About the third day into the aftermath, a long line of police cars cautiously drove into my area during the late afternoon. We had not had contact with any other people from outside the devastation up until this point. There were approximately 12 to 15 police cars comprising this caravan, each marked from different locations throughout the state. Each car was driven by a man dressed in a dark police uniform and had three other plain-clothed men riding as passengers, making a total of four men in each vehicle.

Someone from our group spotted the caravan and ran to get me, knowing that I had been badly injured and urgently needed emergency medical help. My twenty-five-year-old son and one other adult male survivor helped escort me to the caravan. We hurried towards the lead car. It stopped moving when we approached the driver's side. The officer sitting behind the wheel rolled down the window. For a few moments he rudely ignored us, at one point giving us an impatient look of disgust.

This is the exact conversation and course of events that took place.

"Please, sir, I need medical help," I begged, barely able to speak.

The officer sitting behind the wheel sighed heavily. He turned his head away from me and gazed out his windshield. The other three men in the car quietly looked at me.

"Sir, please, I need to get to a hospital...," I begged frantically.

The officer took his time about reaching over to turn off the engine. With another sigh, he slowly opened the door and

climbed out. He then proceeded to close the door and stood there with his legs spread astride.

"Lady, do me a favour," he answered. "Find yourself a piece of paper and a pencil. Write down your name and social security number next to the telephone number of your nearest living relative. Tuck the piece of paper in your pocket so tomorrow, when I find your body, I'll know who to contact."

"No! No!" I cried out. "You don't understand. I need to get to a hospital. I've been badly injured."

"No! *You're* the one who doesn't understand," he hissed back.

With that, he reached over to his holster and took out his gun. He grabbed me, forcing me up against the side of the car, and proceeded to put the barrel of the gun against my temple. I heard the hammer cock.

From the position he had pushed me into, I could see directly into the car. The man sitting in the front passenger seat looked away from me immediately, glancing down at the floor. The two passengers in the back seat turned their heads quickly, staring out the window on the opposite side of the car.

My son and the other survivor watched as the officer had pulled back the hammer on the gun. So shocked out of their minds by what they were witnessing, neither one could move!

"You don't belong here!" the officer growled, pressing the barrel into the side of my head. "Now you get the hell outta here before I blow away your ass!"

He shoved my face into the car window and then released me. Someone grabbed me from behind and whirled me around so fast, I didn't have time to think! Before I knew it, I was being thrown over a shoulder. My rescuer took off running as fast as he could! I caught a brief glimpse of my son running next to me. With one gigantic leap, he and the survivor who carried me, dove behind a pile of debris. All three of us crashed on top of each other in one tangled-up heap.

"I'll shoot your damn asses!" the officer's voice rang out.

**"You don't belong here!"
the officer growled,
pressing the barrel
into the side of
my head.**

**"Now you get the
hell outta here
before I blow away
your ass!"**

When hurricane Andrew slammed into South Dade, the State Attorney of Florida was none other than Janet Reno. Her office was located at the Dade County Court House in the City of Miami. The President of the United States was President George H.W. Bush, and the Vice-President was Dan Quayle. Bill Clinton was running for President, and Al Gore for Vice-President. Senator Bob Graham held office, and the late Lawton Chiles was Governor of Florida. His successor turned out to be Jeb Bush, still the Governor of Florida and, ironically enough, the son of former President Bush whose other son, George W. Bush, the then Governor of Texas, has since become the "self-selected" President of the United States...

Curious how the United States Government evacuated Homestead Air Force Base just before hurricane Andrew struck, yet never released the information to the civilians of South Dade.

"This is worse than anything we saw in Saudi," said Master Sgt Lester Richardson (who had spent six months in the Middle East during Operation *Desert Storm*) one week into the aftermath.

"These people need a miracle..."

The survivors did need "a miracle", but what we got instead didn't resemble anything near it.

MEDIA UNDERSTATEMENT

While we remained roped off from the outside world by Metro Dade Police and the military, the news media reported grossly understated information from the first day onward.

On August 24, 1992, the morning hurricane Andrew ended, the *Miami Herald* broke with:

Andrew Hits Hardest in South Dade. Five thousand people were left homeless by the storm, Metro Dade Police Director announced. They'll be moved into shelters in North Dade.

Over subsequent days, the *Miami Herald* read as follows:

August 25, 1992:

Destruction at Dawn. Among worst hit in the Country Walk area of South Dade, few homes escaped at least minor damage and many were utterly destroyed. 10 killed in Dade.

August 27, 1992:

The Toll Rises. 22 dead as the search continues. 63,000 homes destroyed. 175,000 homeless. 1 million without power.

August 28, 1992:

WE NEED HELP. Relief effort collapsing due to United States inaction, Metro charges. Aid us now or more will die, Feds told. As Dade County's hurricane relief effort neared collapse Thursday, more than 1,500 airborne US soldiers were ordered into the county to cope with what is now being called the worst natural disaster in United States history. The move came after a day of bitter sniping among agencies that share responsibility for the relief effort.

United States aid official Wallace Stickler stated: "Andrew has caused more destruction and affected more people than any disaster America has ever had."

Dade County's Emergency Director pleaded for federal help, one angry voice among many that spoke in dire terms of needs unmet. Frustrated to the point of tears, Kate Hale said that the relief project was on the brink of collapse, a victim of incompetence and political games:

"Where the hell is the cavalry on this one? We need food! We need water! We need people! If we do not get more food into the south end [South Dade] in a very short period of time, we are going to have more casualties!

"We have a catastrophic disaster. We are hours away from more casualties. We are essentially the walking wounded. We have appealed through the State to the Federal Government. We've had a lot of people down here for press conferences. But Dade County is on its own. Dade County is being caught in the middle of something and we are being victimized.

"Quit playing like a bunch of kids and get us aid! Sort out your political games afterward!"

On the same day Hale made the desperate plea, *Miami Herald* staff writers Martin Merzer and Tom Fiedler wrote:

The question echoed through the debris Thursday: If we can do it for Bangladesh, for the Philippines, for the Kurds of northern Iraq, why in God's name can't we deliver basic necessities of life to the ravaged population of our own Gold Coast?"

The short answer: because no single person or agency is in charge.

The result: a planeload of food and equipment is still a rarity. Instead of delivering goods, helicopter pilots shuttle government officials who just sit idle. Metro police turn away individuals trying to bring in food or water to a barren South Dade.

While we remained roped off from the outside world by Metro Dade Police and the military, the news media reported grossly understated information from the first day onward.

On August 29, 1992, six days into the aftermath, the *Miami Herald* reported:

Problems Plague Red Cross. The man on the phone wanted to donate 100 electric generators, extension cords and enough tools to build a small subdivision. But the operator who took his call at the Red Cross Command Center in Miami had no idea what to do with the offer.

"We get a call, we take a message, we give it to somebody who signs it to somebody else," said the operator, Melitta de Liefd. "We have no idea what happens to it. The whole place is being run by senior citizens and college kids."

Welcome to Red Cross headquarters—where the brains of Dade County rescue effort have been knocked almost unconscious most of the week.

Callers offering services and supplies are put on hold. Others can't get through at all. The hurt and suffering plead for help over ham radio.

On August 29, 1992, one week after hurricane Andrew struck, the Fort Lauderdale *Sun Sentinel* reported 250,000 people homeless in South Dade.

A NUCLEAR INCIDENT

Of course, the rather "insignificant" incident resulting from Andrew's winds bombarding the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant was not aired by the news media either nationally or abroad.

Tom Dubocq reported in the *Miami Herald* of September 5, 1992:

Demolition crews toppled a 400-foot smokestack at Turkey Point [Nuclear] Power Plant [owned by Florida Power and Light Company], Friday [September 4]. The stack, which had a gaping 200-foot crack, was dropped without a hitch, a Florida Power and Light [FPL] spokesman said. The other smokestack at the plant will be salvaged. Turkey Point will be shut down for several months while repairs are made. The

cost will exceed \$90 million, according to an initial damage report...

When Turkey Point was built in the 1960s, its main structures were designed to withstand 235 mph winds. Hurricane Andrew was clocked at 164 mph at the plant. FPL officials don't know why the smokestack didn't hold up...

One hundred million dollars worth of damage resulted from the nuclear power plant's smokestack having been cracked wide open.

The plant is situated approximately 15 miles northeast of where I lived. How well I recall the leaflets circulated several months before Andrew struck, advising all residents within a "thirty-five mile radius" of Turkey Point nuclear plant to be aware of the potential hazards involved if an event such as a natural disaster or unexpected catastrophe happened. Such a grim reminder of the Chernobyl tragedy.

Could it be more than coincidence that within 24 hours of hurricane Andrew ending, all 12 survivors in my little group, including our animals, broke out in big, raw, oozing sores which itched and burned at the same time? We suffered horrible headaches which made us so nauseous we had the dry heaves, and our stomachs cramped badly from sudden onsets of diarrhoea. These symptoms lasted well over three months. Within a relatively short period of time, each one of our surviving animals died from cancer.

HURRICANE BUREAU'S FAILURE TO WARN

Speaking of coincidence, I often wonder what kind of a coincidence it is that the National Hurricane Bureau is responsible for reporting to the US Department of Commerce—especially considering that during 1992 South Florida did \$31 billion worth of trade in tourism.

Hurricane Andrew had barely left Florida, heading for Louisiana, when the Division of Tourism placed a \$47,000 advertisement in *USA Today*, reading "Florida, we're still open".

"Most people have very short memories. We're all sort of banking on that," said Donal Dermody, Director of the Nova University Center for Hospitality Management.

Kind of puts a big damper on belief in the human race: hide the truth, ignore the suffering, do it for a dollar!

What upsets me most is the incident that happened during the late afternoon hours just prior to Andrew striking. I had just walked out to the garbage dumpsters, located by the parking lot, to throw away some garbage. I turned to head back to the apartment when the horn of an oncoming car began blasting away. I looked up to see a familiar resident, whom I had spoken to on many different occasions, heading directly towards me. This particular individual worked at Metrozoo.

Being affiliated with wild animals, he frequently stopped by to ask me questions about the behaviour of certain species. He sped right up to me and then slammed on the brakes.

"Come here!" he whispered excitedly.

I leaned down close to him. "What's the matter?"

"Listen!" he paused to look around nervously. "You've got to get the hell outta here now!"

"Why?" I asked, puzzled by his behaviour.

"I haven't got time to explain," he whispered. "But I just came from the National Hurricane Bureau in the Gables. Gotta friend of mine who works over there; bigwig—know what I mean?"

"Yeah..." I nodded.

"Well, this isn't for public information, if you get my drift," he went on rapidly. "But the National Hurricane Bureau has known all along that hurricane Andrew is going to slam into South Dade! They're telling the public it's going to come in at Palm Beach because they want Miami Beach evacuated, and there aren't enough shelters for South Dade residents to evacuate to. They

"Well, this isn't for public information, if you get my drift," he went on rapidly. "But the National Hurricane Bureau has known all along that hurricane Andrew is going to slam into South Dade!"



don't wanna cause panic. So they're keeping quiet. We're all a bunch of god-damn sitting ducks! You got to get the hell outta here! This is a killer hurricane! Nobody's ever seen anything like this before!"

"Holy shit!" I exclaimed, shocked out of my mind. "You mean Andrew's coming over South Dade?"

"Damn straight! That's exactly what I mean! They figure the eye of the storm is coming right in over us! Those fellas at the National Hurricane Bureau have known it all along! I'm gettin' the hell outta here now! Shit, man, this thing is a killer hurricane! Listen, I gotta run! Get your son and get the hell out now! You ain't gonna have a shot in hell once it hits!"

I ran into the apartment and called my son at work, begging him to come home so we could get out. I had no reason to disbelieve anything I had just heard. I knew my neighbour well enough to know he wouldn't fabricate anything like this. So I related the entire conversation to my son, Eric. He was stunned! Eric said he would leave work within a few minutes, but as the minutes ticked on they dragged into hours.

Another immediate course of action I took after hearing the terrifying warning from my neighbour was to phone the local CBS television station located in Miami. I called three separate times. Each time, my call went directly into the local news broadcast room of meteorologist Bryan Norcross. Although I never spoke to Norcross directly, I did manage to speak to three separate individuals working in the broadcast room.

I specifically stated: "I live in South Dade, adjacent to Metrozoo and within walking distance of Country Walk, in a pre-fab apartment that is constructed to withstand up to 90 mph winds. Should I evacuate?"

All three individuals advised and reassured me that I was situated in a safe area. There definitely wasn't need for me to take any evacuation measures.

Meanwhile, one work catastrophe after another seemed to crash down on my son, until finally it was just too late for us to evacuate. By the time he got home it was almost midnight. Within minutes of his arrival, Andrew slammed into us with full force.

ONGOING TRAGEDIES FROM THE COVER-UPS

It's not easy dealing with the anguish I feel because of all the perpetrated lies. So much suffering resulted. It took three-and-a-half weeks before my son and I managed to escape the devastation on our own. Homeless and penniless, with no insurance to cover our losses, we slowly made our way north towards Broward County, our only possessions being the clothes on our backs and a demolished van. The long, agonising journey turned out to be another nightmare from hell.

Over 4,000 people were officially listed as "Missing" in Andrew when we parted South Dade. I had lost 23 pounds during those wretched weeks of being trapped in the devastation and still had not received any medical attention. Little did I realise it would take another three weeks before a doctor would even agree to see me without any money or identification. By then, six

weeks had passed since I had been injured. Most of my teeth had turned a putrid grey colour because the nerves had died as a result of fierce blows to my head, complicated by my broken jaw. The final heartbreak came when doctors discovered the optic nerve in both my eyes had begun to die off—which meant, because of the head injuries, I was going blind.

This may sound strange but, regardless, it is the truth. Today, in the year 2001, there still remain three ongoing tragedies created by hurricane Andrew cover-ups—tragedies which remain unbearable for the survivors to live with.

The first tragedy is the horrifying fact that the bodies of our loved ones were intentionally confiscated from us by our own government and then so inhumanely disposed of. Without graves, or some kind of memorial erected in their memory, we have no hope of reaching closure.

The second tragedy is the impact the cover-ups had in downplaying, dismissing and ignoring our horrendous suffering.

And the third tragedy is the great number of Andrew survivors who were inevitably forced to join the ranks of approximately 10 million other homeless Americans struggling to stay alive on the streets. With 10 million Americans homeless, and another 32 million Americans going to sleep hungry each night, the United States Government can't truthfully claim to be a government for *all* the people.

Maybe it's just me, but I honestly thought the world learned a lesson from the Nuremberg trials in Germany: "Evil can only be defined as absence of empathy..."

SIMILARITIES IN TURKEY

On June 20, 2000, I flew to Istanbul, Turkey, where I lectured at a major international conference. While visiting there, I was asked if there was anything I specifically wished to do or see. My simple answer came very naturally.

"Yes, I would like to visit the areas that were devastated by the earthquakes last August and November and

spend time with the survivors."

The following day my simple wish was granted. I was graciously escorted by a medical doctor who had unselfishly devoted many hours of practice in the devastated regions. When he informed me that 20,000+ died in August 1999 during the Izmit earthquake and that another 20,000+ died in November during the Bolu earthquake, I was stunned. This was not what the news media had reported.

"Are you saying that between the two earthquakes last year, over 40,000 people died?" I asked.

His eyes filled with tears. "Yes," he nodded sadly. "Over 40,000 people perished, between the two disasters."

The horrendous destruction I saw matched every word he stated. I walked over areas where the earth had opened up, swallowing entire buildings before closing back up again, like a giant white shark gulping down its prey. I understood when weeping

I lost 23 pounds during those wretched weeks of being trapped in the devastation and still had not received any medical attention.

Little did I realise it would take another three weeks before a doctor would even agree to see me without any money or identification.

Continued on page 83

— BREAST CANCER —

Detection or Deception?

Breast cancer rates are on the rise around the world, and X-ray mammography and environmental toxins are partly to blame for the increase.

by Sherrill Sellman © 2000-01

Get Well International
PO Box 690416
Tulsa, OK 74169-0416, USA
E-mail: info@ssellman.com
Website: www.ssellman.com

When it comes to finding solutions to the many problems facing our lives, the message of His Holiness the Dalai Lama—"Change only takes place through action"—might be our rallying call, and might very well have been the rallying call which galvanised millions of women throughout the world to support the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Every October since 1985, the recognisable symbol of Breast Cancer Awareness Month—the pink ribbon bow—is prominently displayed all over TV, on posters and in magazine advertisements and proudly adorns women's lapels. The multitude of fundraising runs, hikes, walks and various other events raise hundred of millions of dollars to conquer that dreaded scourge of the modern woman: breast cancer. High-profile companies like Avon, Lee Denim and Revlon have joined ranks, along with the Susan G. Komen Foundation's "Race for the Cure" and the LA City of Hope Hospital's "Walk for Hope". Popular celebrities have been enlisted to lead the charge.

Each year, 180,000 women in the United States are diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 44,000 die of the disease. The US has one of the highest breast cancer rates of any country in the world. Fifty years ago, the incidence for a woman's lifetime risk was one in twenty. Now it has skyrocketed to one in eight. Clearly, the so-called "war on cancer" has not even made a dent into the breast cancer epidemic, as the rate continues to climb by one per cent a year.

The motto of Breast Cancer Awareness Month is "Early detection is your best protection", since the National Cancer Institute stated in 1995 that "Breast cancer is simply not a preventable disease". The American Cancer Society iterated a similar message in 1997 with its announcement that "there are no practical ways to prevent breast cancer—only early detection".¹ Therefore mammograms have become the front line of defence. And celebrities like Rosie O'Donnell offer free T-shirts—bearing the honourable words, "I've been squished"—if you'll just make a date with your local X-ray department.

So let's all join in and wave our pink ribbons and don those running shoes and take to the roads, right? Before you get swept up by the emotional frenzy of this call to arms, there is something you must know.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Breast Cancer Awareness Month's primary sponsor and the mastermind of the event in 1985 was Zeneca Pharmaceuticals, now known as AstraZeneca. AstraZeneca is the company which manufactures the controversial and widely prescribed breast cancer drug, tamoxifen. All TV, radio and print media advertising is paid for and must be approved by AstraZeneca.

It is less well known that AstraZeneca also makes herbicides and fungicides. One of its products, the organochlorine pesticide acetochlor, is implicated as a causal factor in breast cancer. Zeneca's Perry, Ohio, chemical plant is a major source of potential cancer-causing pollution in the US, spewing 53,000 pounds of recognised carcinogens into the air in 1996.²

When it comes to the environmental carcinogens found in pesticides, herbicides, other toxic chemicals and plastics, there is booming silence by all Breast Cancer Awareness Month programs. Did the alarming increase in breast cancer rates just mysteriously happen? Or perhaps the focus on the cure has conveniently ignored the cause? After all, if it became general knowledge that Zeneca's chemical products and factories directly contribute to the breast cancer epidemic, this would certainly sully their PR campaign.

Many experts predicted as far back as 40 years ago that cancer rates would increase, citing an explosion in the use of synthetic chemicals. From 1940 through the early 1980s, production of synthetic chemicals increased by a factor of 350-fold. Billions of tons of substances which had never existed before were released into the environment. Yet only 3% of the 75,000 chemicals in use have been tested for safety. These toxic time bombs are everywhere—in our water, air and food. They are also found in the workplace, in schools and in household cleaners, cosmetics and personal care products. Women who live near toxic waste dumps have 6.5 times the incidence of breast cancer.³

A survey conducted by Dr Mary Wolff of Mt Sinai Hospital, New York, found that women with breast cancer had four times the levels of DDE (a breakdown product of the pesticide DDT) than that found in non-carcinogenic tumours.⁴

Another study investigated why women of higher socio-economic status in the community of Newton, Massachusetts, had a higher incidence of breast cancer than women in the lower socio-economic group.⁵ The researchers attributed the increase to greater use of professional lawn care and dry cleaning services which use known carcinogenic chemicals.

The pesticides/breast cancer link was stunningly highlighted in research from Israel which linked three organochlorine pesticides detected in dairy products to an increase in 12 types of cancer in 10 different strains of mice. After public outcry in 1978 forced the Israeli government to ban the pesticides—benzene hexachloride, DDT and lindane—breast cancer mortality rates, which had increased every year for 25 years, dropped nearly 8% for all age groups and more than one-third for women aged 25 to 34 in 1986.⁶

The American Cancer Society (ACS) was founded with the support of the Rockefeller family in 1913. Members of the chemical and pharmaceutical industry have long had a place on its board.

According to Dr Samuel Epstein, MD, Professor of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the University of Illinois School of Public Health: "The ACS also has close connections to the mammography industry. Five radiologists have served as ACS presidents, and in its every move the ACS reflects the interests of major manufacturers of mammography machines and film, including Siemens, DuPont, General Electric, Eastman Kodak, and Piker."⁷

Could this have something to do with the fact that the American Cancer Society's latest report on cancer prevention makes no mention of environmental factors or safer screening protocols?

Dr Epstein scathingly attacks the cancer establishment. "Over recent decades, the incidence of cancer has escalated to epidemic proportions while our ability to treat and cure most cancers remains virtually unchanged. Apart from the important role of tobacco, there is substantial and long-standing evidence relating this epidemic to involuntary and avoidable exposure to industrial carcinogens in air, water, the workplace and consumer products. Nevertheless, the priorities of the cancer establishment, the National Cancer Institute and the American Cancer Society remain narrowly fixated on damage control—diagnosis and treatment—and on basic molecular research, with relative indifference to, if not always benign neglect of, prevention. Concerns over this

imbalance are further compounded by serious questions of conflicts of interest, particularly with the multibillion-dollar cancer drug industry."⁸

TOXIC TAMOXIFEN

Perhaps we can forgive Zeneca's involvement with carcinogenic chemicals, since it researched and patented the most popular breast cancer treatment, tamoxifen, manufactured under the name of Nolvadex. Or perhaps not. This highly profitable drug grosses US\$500 million annually.

On May 16, 2000, the *New York Times* reported that the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences had added 14 substances to its list of known carcinogens.⁹ Tamoxifen was included in that list! However, the government's announcement confirmed what had already been known.

In May 1995, California's expert committee, established from Proposition 65, decided to let the public know that tamoxifen use is likely to cause endometrial cancer.¹⁰ Zeneca Pharmaceuticals did not challenge these findings.

It is known that tamoxifen causes uterine cancer, liver cancer, stomach cancer and colorectal cancer. After just 2 to 3 years of use, tamoxifen increases the incidence of uterine cancer by two to three times. The treatment for uterine cancer is hysterectomy. In addition, tamoxifen increases the risk of stroke, blood clot, eye

damage, menopausal symptoms and depression. The biggest shock of all is the fact that tamoxifen increases the risk of breast cancer! The journal *Science* published a study from Duke University Medical Center in 1999, which showed that after 2 to 5 years of use tamoxifen actually initiated the growth of breast cancer!

So Zeneca, the originator of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, is the manufacturer of carcinogenic petrochemicals, carcinogenic pollutants and a breast cancer drug that causes at least four different types of cancer in women, including breast cancer.

Is something wrong with this picture?

MAMMOGRAPHY DANGERS

Since the Breast Cancer Awareness Month spin doctors claim that breast cancer is "simply not a preventable disease", the focus has shifted to the theme of early detection. Women are now encouraged to start having mammograms earlier than ever before. At one time, only women 50 years or older were told to have this screening. Now the campaign is targeting 40-year-olds and even women as young as twenty-five. However, detection of breast cancer with mammography is not the same as protection from breast cancer.

Questions are being raised about the validity of mammograms. A mammogram is an X-ray. The only acknowledged cause of cancer, according to the American Cancer Society, is from radiation. When it comes to radiation, there is no safe level of exposure.

For 20 years or more, Dr John Gofman, a scientist with degrees in both chemistry and medicine, has been publishing studies of the hazards of low-level radiation. His hypothesis is that "Medical radiation is a highly important cause (probably the principal cause) of cancer mortality in the United States during the twentieth century". Dr Gofman believes that medical X-rays are

Dr John Gofman believes that medical X-rays are the major cause of cancer, including breast cancer, as well as heart disease in the USA.

the major cause of cancer, including breast cancer, as well as heart disease in the US.¹¹

Dr Samuel Epstein warns: "There is clear evidence that the breast, particularly in premenopausal women, is highly sensitive to radiation, with estimates of increased risk of up to 1% for every rad (radiation absorbed dose) unit of X-ray exposure. This projects up to a 20% increased cancer risk for a woman who, in the 1970s, received 10 annual mammograms of an average two rads each. In spite of this, up to 40% of women over 40 have had mammograms since the mid-1960s, some annually and some with exposures of 5–10 rads in a single screening from older, high-dose equipment. Even for low-dosage exposure of two rads or less, this exposure can add up quickly for women having an annual mammography. More recent concern comes from evidence that 1% of women or over one million women in the United States alone carry a gene that increases their breast cancer risk from radiation fourfold."¹²

According to Sharon Batt, author of *Patient No More: The Politics of Breast Cancer*, in her keynote address at the Second World Conference on Breast Cancer in 1999:¹³ "The depths of the mammography deceit began in the early 1970s. It was concocted by insiders at the American Cancer Society and their friends at the National Cancer Institute. The number of women who were put 'at risk' or who died as a result of this nefarious scheme is not known but estimated to be huge. In 1978, Irwin J.D. Bross, Director of Biostatistics at Roswell Park Memorial Institute for Cancer Research, commented about the cancer screening program:

"The women should have been given the information about the hazards of radiation at the same time they were given the sales talk for mammography. Doctors were gung-ho to use it on a large scale. They went right ahead and X-rayed not just a few women but a quarter of a million women. A jump in exposure of a quarter of a million persons to something which could do more harm than good was criminal and it was supported by money from the federal government and the American Cancer Society.

"The National Cancer Institute was warned in 1974 by Professor Malcolm C. Pike, at the University of Southern California School of Medicine, that a number of specialists had concluded that "giving a woman under age 50 a mammogram on a routine basis is close to unethical". Repeat... The experts in the government were told not to do this to healthy women in the year 1974!"

The *Lancet* reported in 1995 that, since mammographic screening was introduced in 1983, the incidence of ductal carcinoma *in situ* (DCIS), which represents 12% of all breast cancer cases, has increased by 328%, and 200% of this increase is due to the use of mammography. This increase is for all women. Since the inception of widespread mammographic screening, the increase for women under the age of 40 has gone up over 3,000%.¹⁴

In addition, mammography provides false tumour reports between 5% and 15% of the time. False positive results mean

more testing, requiring women to be exposed to additional X-rays, creating a more stressful environment and possibly even leading to unneeded surgery.

A large-sample, long-term Canadian study, published in September 2000, proved that an annual mammogram was no more effective in preventing deaths from breast cancer than periodic physical examinations for women in their 50s. In the study of almost 40,000 women aged 50 to 59, half received periodic breast examinations alone and half received breast examinations plus mammograms. All learned to examine their own breasts as well. By 1993, 13 years after the study began, there were 610 cases of invasive breast cancer and 105 deaths in the women who received only breast examinations, compared with 622 invasive breast cancers and 107 deaths in those who received breast examinations and mammograms.¹⁵

"They found smaller cancers, but ultimately the mortality rate was the same," said Suzanne Fletcher, Professor of Preventive Medicine at Harvard Medical School. She added that cancer screening programs are built on the assumption that "finding it earlier is finding it better", but this study "questions that assumption".¹⁶

"The bottom line," said Cornelia Baines, co-author of the study and Professor of Public Health Sciences at the University of Toronto, "is that the addition of annual mammography screening to physical examination has no impact on breast cancer survival."¹⁷

To add to the mammography controversy, a study published in the prestigious *Journal of the American Medical Association* stated that mammography screening for breast cancer offers only minimal gains in life expectancy for women beyond the age of 69—a factor which should be taken into consideration when elderly women are deciding about breast cancer screening. Mammography offers the greatest potential benefit for women between 50 and 69 years old; beyond that, the benefits are pretty small, according to the study.¹⁸

Another problem with mammograms is that interpretation is often wrong. In 1996, the journal *Archives of Internal Medicine* published results of a test of

108 radiologists throughout the United States. The test used a set of 79 mammograms where the diagnosis had been verified by subsequent biopsies, surgeries or other follow-up. The radiologists missed cancer in 21% of the films, thought 10% of the women with no breast disease had cancer and thought 42% of benign lesions were cancerous.¹⁹

Another study looked at the records of 8,779 postmenopausal women who had undergone mammography, and found that women taking oestrogen had 33% more false positives (mammograms showed an abnormality but none could be found) and 423% more false negatives (mammograms which missed an abnormality that showed up later) than women not taking oestrogen.²⁰

Further, mammograms are not diagnostic and too frequently lead to unnecessary breast biopsies—an expensive, invasive surgical procedure which causes extreme anxiety, some pain and often physical harm to many women who do not have cancer. According to the 1998 edition of the Merck Manual, for every

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case of breast cancer diagnosed each year, 5 to 10 women will needlessly undergo a painful breast biopsy.

"While there is a general consensus that mammography improves early cancer detection and survival in postmenopausal women, no such benefit is demonstrable for younger women," says Dr Epstein.²¹

In the face of all this evidence, why does the American Cancer Society recommend annual or biannual mammography for all women over the age of 40 (or even younger)? Do the mathematics: a \$100 mammogram for all 62 million US women over 40 and a \$1,000+ biopsy for 1 to 2 million women is an \$8 billion-year industry.

However, there is a superior alternative: digital infrared thermal imaging, which does not use mechanical pressure or ionising radiation. It can also detect signs of breast cancer years earlier than either mammography or a physical exam. Mammography cannot detect a tumour until after it has been growing for years and reaches a certain size. Thermography is able to detect the possibility of breast cancer much earlier, because it can image the early stages of angiogenesis. Angiogenesis is the formation of a direct supply of blood to cancer cells, which is a necessary step before they can grow into larger tumours.²²

It is no surprise, then, that the safer and even more effective diagnostic techniques like infrared thermography have been vigorously attacked by the breast cancer awareness organisations.²³

NATURAL STEPS TO CANCER PREVENTION

So all the hullabaloo that comes each October, enlisting women's support and hard-earned cash, actually does nothing to eliminate the cause of this devastating disease. Instead, women's heartfelt desires and good intentions to find the cause and cure are usurped by the hidden agendas of major transnational corporations which are pushing their toxic drug treatments and diagnostic tools which actually create even more breast cancer. After all, is it really profitable to find safe, non-toxic cures and screening methods?

Women can make the difference in eliminating breast cancer. The breast cancer epidemic is not some great mystery. The causes of cancer are already known. Toxic diets, toxic lifestyles, toxic emotions, toxic environments, toxic drug treatments and toxic

diagnostic techniques cause cancer. Corporations are only interested in increasing their profits and ensuring their tentacles of control; they are not interested in actual solutions.

When it comes to Breast Cancer Awareness Month, women must invest their time and money in other projects, initiatives and treatments which will truly create change.

There are some immediate steps which women can take towards creating a cancer prevention program:

- Eat organic foods as much as possible; not only are they free from harmful chemicals, but they also have much greater nutritional value.
- Eliminate all commercial personal care products as well as commercial household cleaning products and toxic garden pesticides and replace them with safe, organic and biodegradable brands.
- Drink pure, filtered water.
- Refuse steroid hormone treatments such as HRT and the Pill, as these are known to initiate and promote breast cancer.
- Seek out the many natural approaches to regain hormonal balance.
- Detoxify the body and reduce stress.
- Investigate safe screening techniques such as thermography, especially if you are premenopausal.

Instead of allowing major corporations or other vested interests to define the agenda, Breast Cancer Awareness Month can indeed be a powerful time to educate, awaken and empower women to the real causes, preventive measures and truly effective cures for breast cancer.

About the Author:

Sherrill Sellman is a psychotherapist, lecturer, women's health advocate and author of the best-selling book *Hormone Heresy: What Women Must Know About Their Hormones*. She is a contributing writer to many international magazines on women's health issues, and has written a number of feature articles for NEXUS (see 3/04-5, 4/04-5, 4/06, 5/04, 5/06, 6/02).

Sherrill can be contacted by e-mail at info@ssellman.com or via her website, www.ssellman.com. To order her book and other educational products, telephone (918) 437 0731, 1-877-215-1721 (toll free in North America), fax (918) 437 0781.

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Thermography Resources

- www.breastthermography.org
- www.pacificchiro.com
- www.meditherm.com/breasthealth/

Educational Resources

- www.alternativemedicine.com
- www.healthybreastprogram.com
- www.drSusanLove.com
- www.ratical.com/radiation/CNR
- www.ralphmoss.com

OVERCOMING INERTIA FOR FASTER-THAN-LIGHT PROPULSION

by Tony Cuthbert © February 2001

This subject is controversial, as it entails additions to the laws of physics as we understand them. However, I stress that they are additions. I am not challenging current understanding.

I have spoken to a number of high-level people, some of them highly sceptical of this hypothesis. However, following close inspection of the data, these same academics and engineers have now become supportive—or at least to the point that they consider the project has merit.

I am grateful to BAE Systems, DERA (the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency) and a number of universities for their assistance in my work. Indeed, BAE Systems has provided some cash support and technical help, and DERA has provided a research aircraft (a BAC 111).

To summarise this project:

1. A device has been built and has performed well on a pendulum, water, wheels and an air table.
2. Strain gauge graphs have been plotted.
3. A zero-gravity aircraft has been scheduled for in-flight testing.
4. A high-level, solid-state experiment has been devised and discussed, involving lasers and high-speed circuitry.

The device as it now stands may be capable of propelling a satellite or enabling on-orbit station-keeping to be performed without the use of fuel. Taken to its more

advanced stage, the concept may be applicable to spacecraft propulsion.

However, despite all the experimental models and circumstantial evidence at this point, the concept is still just an hypothesis. The object of this paper is to start a debate as to whether it is correct or not.

I have completed many hundreds of tests of many different models including, on one occasion, a solid-state experiment. At the very least, I believe I have a device that is ready to be attached to a satellite and which will prolong its life by four or five years, thus representing a value of some £200,000 per satellite. As there are hundreds of such, and many more to be launched, this alone demonstrates the value of pursuing this project. Surely DERA would not lend aircraft nor would BAE Systems provide support unless they thought there was a reasonable chance of success.

The Inertia Principle

All matter creates its own inertia. To explain the principle of inertia, it is useful to imagine a system where a single electron orbits a single hydrogen nucleus, and, using a classical model for the atom, imagine that the electron orbits in a circular motion at a constant angular velocity when in equilibrium, i.e., at a constant energy state (figure 1a).

Suppose an impulse is applied to the above system (figure 1b), lasting the same time as one complete electron orbit. During this time interval, for one half of the period the force is in the same direction as the moving electron, and for the other

half of the period the force is opposite

to the direction of the moving electron. Therefore, for one half of the period, work is done against the centrifugal force of the electron's orbit, as it is moving in the opposite direction to the applied force. It is the opposing half-orbit which causes inertia.

Models and Analogies

For the following explanations, it is useful to use a very simple analogy of the electron as a small ball-bearing connected to a much larger sphere, the nucleus, via an imaginary elastic band of certain length and stiffness. As any two interacting particles (for example, a stripped ion with no electrons, protons and neutrons, sub-atomic particles, etc.) produce the effect we call inertia, the principle is still valid for more advanced models, such as quantum physics, etc.

The following explanation shows that inertia, gravity and magnetic forces are all one and the same—just different aspects of the same phenomenon. Figure 2 shows a free hydrogen atom with an electron in a symmetrical orbit. The electron orbits the atom at a given energy level and angular velocity (radius and speed). In this analogy, the large sphere represents the nucleus, the elastic band represents the forces that keep the electron in position, and the small ball-bearing represents the electron. For this explanation, let us assume that conditions are in free space.

Imagine a solid mass of hydrogen called "Mass 1". Suppose a magnetic resonance field is applied to Mass 1 in order to cause all the electrons to become synchronised with each other. If Mass 1 is accelerated from stationary to 10 m/s, then the inertia

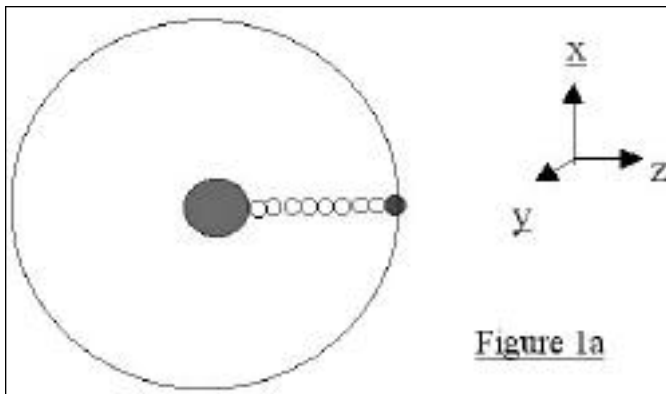


Figure 1a

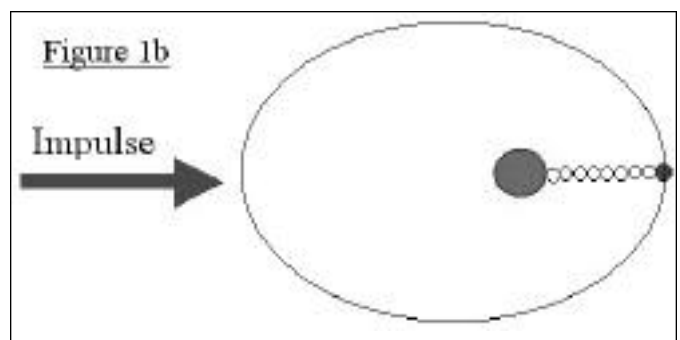


Figure 1b

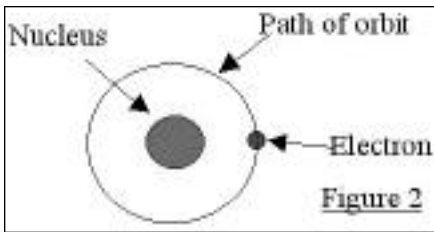


Figure 2

effect can be observed. Once the velocity reaches 10 m/s, it is held constant. There will be no inertia effect until the velocity is increased from 10 m/s to 20m/s, i.e., the mass accelerates. Thus, the inertia effects are only observed during acceleration.

Elliptical Distortion and Electron Lag

Now, observe the effects on the extracted single atom and electron analogous to figure 3. The large sphere, representing the nucleus, accelerates in the real world. Consequently, as the sphere moves, the elastic band stretches and the ball-bearing is displaced a further distance from the nucleus. The band continues to be stretched until the acceleration is cancelled, caused by the elastic band pulling the ball-bearing back into a stable position.

On the electron level, when the acceleration occurs the electron's orbit becomes distorted into an elliptical plane. The orbit becomes "lop-sided", creating an out-of-balance force in one direction (figure 4). For the duration of the applied acceleration, the biased direction is opposite to that of the applied force. Once the acceleration stops, the electron catches up with the atom and the system returns to equilibrium.

The elliptical distortion created in this manner is the force we call *inertia*. It is the out-of-balance force which tries to take the atom in the opposite direction to the applied force. This could be labelled as *electron lag*.

The Gravity Limit

This principle can also be extended to

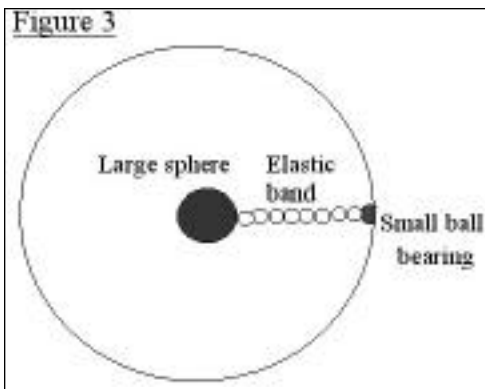


Figure 3

the theory of gravity. The electrons in a gravity field are defined as any other particle. Referring to figure 5, imagine that the electrons are rotating around the x-axis and that gravity is acting along the y-axis. The force of gravity acting on the electron causes it to increase infinitesimally in velocity when swinging down towards Earth, and to decrease infinitesimally in velocity when rotating up past the nucleus. This causes the bias of momentum in the downward direction and hence causes objects to move towards the larger mass, i.e., the Earth. This effect could be labelled as the *gravity limit*.

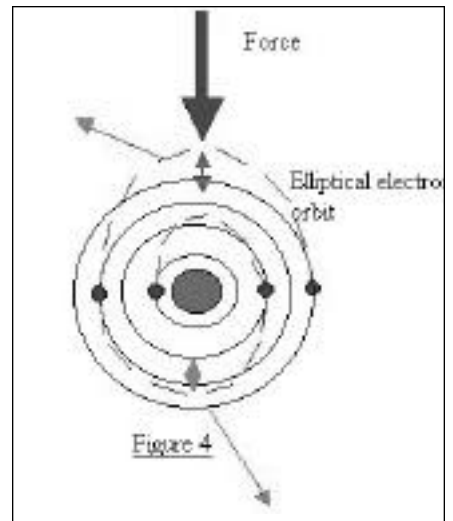
Therefore, in the gravity field the elliptical orbit of the electron is being distorted by two components. If the system accelerates, the electrons can be distorted horizontally with respect to adjacent particles (electron lag). Also due to the force of gravity, electrons are distorted downwards (gravity limit). The electron orbit therefore resides as a component of the two distortions.

Electron Lead Time

What would happen if it were possible to create an elliptical out-of-balance force opposite to that above? Not only would inertia be cancelled, but also a bias, opposite to the sign of inertia, would exist. This could be called *electron lead time*.

Take a high-energy system such as in figure 2, where initially the angular velocity is constant and the electron orbit is circular. Now imagine the system is suddenly removed from a state of equilibrium, not by accelerating the nucleus but by exciting the electron. This causes the electron to speed up and, providing it doesn't leave orbit, the path of the electron becomes much more elliptical (figure 6). If the electron has enough momentum, it can slightly displace the nucleus.

This can be imagined as the ball-bearing originally swinging around the large sphere on the end of the elastic band. Suddenly the ball-bearing is hit in the direction it is going, effectively giving it a boost. If the ball-bearing can swing out at such a high velocity past the large sphere without the band snapping, it pulls the sphere along in the same direction it is going. As the ball-bearing swings back the other way, the sphere moves back towards its original position but does not have enough momentum to reach it. Consequently, the nucleus is displaced

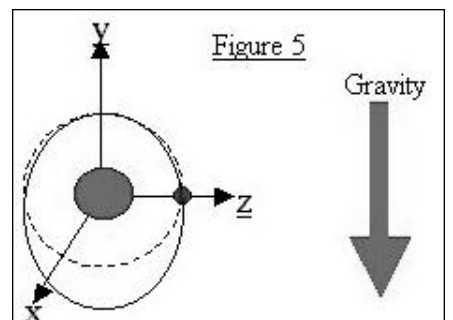


from its original position.

As the electron is in this "biased" orbit, it takes time for the system to return to equilibrium. It can take the electron a number of revolutions before reaching stability, and this increases the chance of having an overshoot in the opposite direction. However, the following overshoot is always less severe than the previous overshoot, as the system is uniformly becoming more stable. However, if this applied force is pulsed in phase with the direction of the electron travel, then this electron lead time can be sustained over a longer period of time, producing an amplified effect of the momentum biasing.

Consider that this electron lead-time is then applied to an accelerating system. When the nucleus starts to accelerate, the electron is left behind and its orbit ellipses in the direction opposite to the forward motion. Then simultaneously apply this pulsed boost to the electron, and the electron can at least accelerate at the same rate as the nucleus. This alone cancels the effects of inertia. However, if this pulse biases the electron ellipse in the same direction as travel, then the object moves much more easily.

As an electron moves near to the speed



NEWSCIENCE NEWSCIENCE NEWSCIENCE

of light, any force generated in the opposite sign to inertia then implies the following: during the time interval when the pulse is influencing the electron orbit, the speed is that of light or above. (See high-level experiment in appendix on website.)

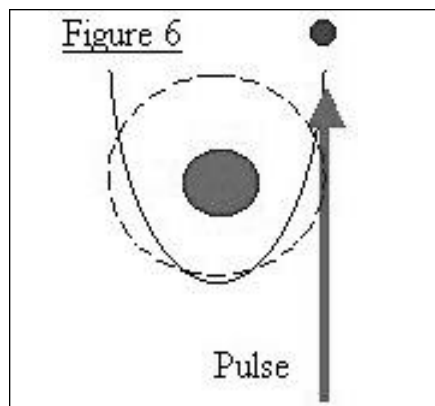
Application of Principles

In conclusion, it is proposed that the effect of inertia is a direct result of the electron orbit lagging behind the atomic nucleus when accelerating in a certain direction. By overcoming this electron lag, the effect of inertia can be eradicated, thus allowing acceleration at exceptionally high velocities with minimal power requirements.

It is proposed that this bias of electron orbits can be exploited to promote motion in any direction, and that gravity uses this same mechanism to attract masses, thus suggesting that the force of gravity is nothing other than an out-of-balance "centrifugal force" acting on the atomic level.

It is also suggested that the field of a magnet, although affecting different materials to different degrees, is similar to that of a very localised gravity field. The power of a magnet is derived from the characteristics of the electron's orbits them-

selves, and molecular structure within a magnet allows it to retain its magnetic capability indefinitely. Magnets appear to have no effect on non-ferrous materials, but in fact they do react, albeit in some cases to



a very limited degree. If a strong enough field is applied to any material, it can be made to levitate.

A fundamental question remains: is it possible to increase and control this effect to exploit the system from a technical point of view? By stimulating the particles when they are in phase with the direction of travel, it is possible to levitate or propel any

material and, incidentally, get rid of acceleration effects. As the propulsion is driven from the atomic level in any individual atom on board the vehicle, the force affects each and every atom so no acceleration effects will be experienced.

Einstein formulated his famous $E = mc^2$ theory based on an *inertia constant*. Put simply, his equation says that to accelerate a 1-ton mass to light speed, infinite energy would be required. Considering the principles above, it could be possible to accelerate the 1-ton mass to light speed on a power source as small as a flashlight battery.

In closing, if this article raises your interest, please contact me so I may brief you in greater depth or provide a more detailed file. If you require references from academics who support further investigation into my work, I am happy to provide these.

Editor's Note:

Tony Cuthbert and his inventions were featured in an article by Tony Edwards in NEXUS 7/03. Tony can be contacted by telephone on +44 (0)1686 670756, by e-mail on tony@cuthbert-physics.com, or via his website, <http://www.cuthbert-physics.com/sussex.html>.

THE TRANSISTOR ENIGMA

by Robert Adams, DSc
© December 2000

Who Really "Invented" the Transistor?

Having searched all the encyclopaedias and authoritative scientific and technical texts in relation to the history of the transistor, I was struck by the inconsistencies of the different historical records. Every record casts doubt by omission of salient data and credits as to who actually invented the transistor. The history is ambiguous and contradictory.

The story surrounds the mighty crystal, and, while it has its roots in the early 1920s, most of the narrative centres around 1947–48 and the claim that a group of scientists at Bell Laboratories "invented" the "transistor". (Never mind that the word "transistor" had not then been coined!)

In my search, I referred to the *Dictionary of Radio and Television Terms* (UK, 1941) by Ralph Stranger, an international authority on electronic terminology, and also *The Outline of Wireless* (UK, 1932–37). I also referred to *Practical Radio Communication* by Nilson and Hornung (UK, 1943); *Receiver Circuitry and Operation* by

Alfred A. Ghiradi (USA, 1951–56); and *The Modern Electrical Engineer* by Caxton (UK, 1927–1951). The term "transistor" does not exist in any of the authoritative references published in the few years after 1947–48—evidence that it was slow to enter the technical language, and calling into question the entire recorded history of the device and its development.

The *D. Van Nostrand Scientific Encyclopedia* (Canada, 1947, 1958) has an extensive section on transistors, including many descriptive drawings of physical structures and circuits, but no mention of the history or any credits.

Charles Susskind of the University of California in *Encyclopedia of Electronics* (USA, 1962, p. 881), who *does* use the term "transistor", states: "The junction transistor was invented in 1948 by Shockley from a theoretical consideration of the electronic process taking place at a PN junction in semiconductors." There's no mention of the 1956 Nobel Prize.

Colliers Encyclopedia (USA, 1972, vol. 22, p. 408) notes: "This development is built on the work of Bell Telephone Laboratories' scientists, such as John Bardeen and Walter H. Brattain, who

invented the transistor, and William Shockley, who both directed the Laboratories' research program in semiconductors and outlined many of the physical theories that led to a basic understanding of semiconductor materials and their behaviour. Their assault on the semiconductor problem was launched from a base of contributions made by the Laboratories' scientists and engineers, especially Russell S. Ohl, Jack H. Scaff and Henry C. Theuerer, whose pioneering work on silicon made a new class of semiconductors available to physicists. Bardeen, Shockley and Brattain were jointly awarded the 1956 Nobel Prize in Physics for their pioneering work on the transistor."

According to *Funk and Wagnalls Encyclopedia* (USA, 1973, book 23, p. 8617): "The transistor was developed at Bell Laboratories by the American physicists William Shockley, Walter Brattain, John Bardeen. Shockley is noted as the initiator and director of the research program in semi-conducting materials which led to the discovery of this group of devices; his associates Brattain and Bardeen are credited with the invention of an important type of transistor." Note the word "developed",

not "invented". There's no mention of their 1956 Nobel Prize in Physics.

Encyclopaedia Britannica (UK, 1973) notes that the Nobel Prize was awarded to William Shockley, Dr Bardeen and Dr Brattain collectively in 1956, but gives no other comment or credits.

The reference to transistors in the *Macmillan Encyclopedia* (USA, 1983–1996) reads: "They were first developed in 1948 by Shockley and his co-workers at Bell Telephone Laboratories, USA." Again, note the word "developed", not "invented". There are no further credits, nor mention of the Nobel Prize.

Controversial Claims

Enter Jack Shulman, President of American Computer Company (ACC), who has claimed in a talk published in NEXUS that the transistor came from a US Government project [see "Reverse Engineering Roswell UFO Technology" in 6/04, and *Twilight Zone* 5/02]. Yet supposedly it was the culmination of the combined effort of at least six people: Shockley, Bardeen, Brattain, Ohl, Scaff and Theuerer.

Shulman mentioned AT&T's claim that Shockley suddenly noticed the rectifier had "unusual propensities"—but these "propensities" have been known since the days of crystal sets, well over 100 years ago. Shockley discovered nothing, for the very reason that the "unusual propensities" referred to are intrinsic to the nature of a crystal—and it is because of this fact that crystals are rectifiers! (Refer also to the Peltier effect, so named after Jean Peltier, 1785–1845.) Since when did the propensities of a single crystal rectifier become an invention or represent a transistor?

As for AT&T's claim that Drs Bardeen and Brattain both referred to a man named Case who was talking about transistors in 1931, how can this be when the word "transistor" hadn't yet entered the lexicon?

However, Jack Shulman seems to have sided with Jack Morton, the administrative head of the transistor project at AT&T at the time, in calling Shockley a "witless buffoon" and claiming "There's no way he could have invented the transistor".

Shulman mentioned in his talk that ACC had speculated on its website: "Did AT&T receive stolen alien technologies from the US Government in 1947 and thereby invent the transistor, the laser, the integrated circuit...different technologies?"

So all this begs the question: who (on

planet Earth) is/are the rightful and original inventor(s) of the transistor? And, for that matter, who is/are the rightful recipient(s) of the Nobel Prize?

Crystal Circuitry Experiments

Over many years, I have thoroughly researched the early experimental and theoretical work carried out on crystals and those people involved in the study of the electrical science of crystallography during the years 1920 to 1950. In fact, I have searched back over 100 years in various encyclopaedias and scientific texts for anybody having recorded any similar development or invention pertaining to the birth of the transistor, and can only find just one other person: the Russian scientist O. Lossev, of Nijni, Novgorod.

Lossev made the monumental announcement that "a crystal rectifier/detector can also be used for generating and amplifying purposes (are we not coming fast to an all-crystal multi-stage receiver?)". This is quoted in the UK journal *Wireless World*, no. 271, 22 October 1924.

However, having carried out experimental tests with crystals before publishing his findings, Lossev did not in any way make any claim as to having invented anything. Also, there is no evidence in his theoretical intuitive announcement that pertains to his having duplicated any crystal circuitry—such as I had perceived and accomplished in the later year of 1933.

The Adams Solid-State Amplifier

In my youth, I was profoundly interested in the wonders of natural crystals and permanent magnets. My earliest days of interest surrounded crystals at first. I was so fascinated with them that my interest very quickly reached into the realm of the aether and, in turn, into broadcasting, general communications and ferromagnetics.

It was in late December 1929 that I started experimental work with natural crystals in various tuning and selectivity circuit combinations in the many crystal sets I developed. I spent much time over the design and construction of vacuum tube amplifiers, and discovered experimentally the similarity between crystallography and vacuum tube technology. I conceived the application of crystal compatibility in relation to crystal amplification of radiofrequency signals, and achieved considerable experimental success. All this, and more, before the time of the Bell boys. (Speaking of crystallography and vacuum tubes,

Henry Moray did pioneering work in the early 1930s on the use of crystal plates in vacuum tubes for his Tesla radiant energy device.)

In 1933, I came up with a method for amplifying the remarkable properties of crystals. Connecting two similar crystals together physically and utilising the junction as the base of the module (as would apply to the grid of a vacuum tube amplifier), I applied a low battery bias voltage to each crystal in their required polarity direction. (Incidentally, by this time I had built a number of class-A triode vacuum tube amplifiers.) Connections were achieved with cat's whiskers supported by the then available vertical cantilever-style supports.

The result was a spectacular solid-state amplifying module with immense amplification properties. The output was fed into an old, inefficient, balanced armature speaker.

In 1933, at thirteen years of age, I had no idea of the enormity of what I had achieved. There before me was a solid-state power amplifier module capable of massive power gain—something which is now known as a "transistor". It did not take me thousands and thousands of man-hours. I did not need a team of adult assistants. It took just five days.

It was my curiosity, not a "chance discovery", which led me into the realm of invention. Little did I know it then, but this little module was the forerunner of what I set out to achieve at a later date for reducing the gross mass of the then current-receiving apparatus.

About the Author:

Robert Adams, DSc, FNZEI, MS & MN (UK), built his first crystal set at the age of nine, in 1929, the solid-state amplifier in 1933, a loudspeaker intercom phone system in 1963, and a plug-in, solid-state printed circuit board that same year. Dr Adams has had an illustrious engineering career, designing systems for radio and television broadcasting and aircraft communications in New Zealand. His theories on the aether led to his invention of the Adams Pulsed Electric Motor Generator (see NEXUS 2/11, 8/01) and a number of other advanced developments since.

The enigma of the "true history" of the transistor is discussed in Dr Adams's *Applied Modern 20th Century Aether Science, Special Update 2001* (second edition). An expanded article (from which this one is extracted) is to be posted on Dr Adams's website, www.aethmogen.com.

Dr Adams can be contacted at: Aethmogen Technologies, 91 Domain Road, Whakatane, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand, tel/fax +64 (0)7 308 8484.

— EARTH EXPANSION —

THE DEFINITIVE PROOF

Studies of oceanic geology and the distribution of ancient fauna and flora indicate that our planet has been expanding throughout its vast history.

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Terrella Consultants
Western Australia
E-mail: jmaxlow@enternet.com.au
Website: [www.geocities.com/
CapeCanaveral/Launchpad/6520/](http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Launchpad/6520/)

MODERN DATA QUANTIFIES EARTH EXPANSION

From my introduction to Global Expansion Tectonics in NEXUS 7/06, it should be realised that the 200 million years of Triassic-to-present Earth expansion modelling studies presented represent only 4% of the known Earth history. This 4% of Earth history is highlighted by the development and opening of all the present ocean basins, expanding from a Pangaeian Earth at approximately 50% of the present radius. What should be realised from my article is that Earth expansion has also been active throughout the remaining 4,300 million years, or 96% of Earth history.

This realisation is poorly understood and generally overlooked by most. The 96% of Archaean to Triassic Earth expansion history is made up of highly contentious continental crustal extension, and to my knowledge has never before been investigated or considered from an expanding Earth perspective. It is contentious because few people realise the flexibility of our continents over the 4,300-million-year time span involved, and most still consider that continents have retained a constant surface area throughout time, with new crust added at the margins by accretion of oceanic debris.

While the key to understanding Earth expansion is illustrated by development of the oceans from the Triassic period to the present, to quantify Earth expansion we must use the geological and geophysical data preserved in 100% of Archaean to present Earth history. This modern data is routinely collected; however, it is singularly applied to plate tectonics without consideration of alternative concepts such as Earth expansion. All of this new data provides a means to quantify Earth expansion and, depending on your willingness to accept change, provides definitive proof of Earth expansion.

EXPANDING EARTH MODELS

A set of 24 spherical models has now been constructed, 23 covering the Archaean aeon to recent and one projected to five million years into the future (figure 1). The primary base map used during construction of each model is the *Geological Map of the World* (CGMW & UNESCO, 1990; figure 1 in NEXUS 7/06 article), which provides a comprehensive global coverage of continental and oceanic geology.

As noted in NEXUS 7/06, the completion of oceanic magnetic mapping and age dating of crust beneath all the Earth's major oceans has provided an important geophysical contribution to the quantification of Earth expansion. This oceanic mapping has placed finite time constraints on the plate motion history shown in all the ocean basins back to the Early Jurassic period, and is used to quantify both plate reconstruction and rate of crustal generation on expanding Earth models.

To construct the models, moving backwards in time from the present, successively older geological periods which parallel the mid-ocean spreading ridges are removed. Each crustal plate is then restored to a pre-spreading, or pre-extension, configuration at a reduced Earth radius along their common plate or continental margins respectively. By successively removing oceanic crust and reuniting the continental and oceanic plates, each post-Triassic model demonstrates a better than 99% plate fit-together.

During the Triassic period, continental crust plus sediments deposited in basins along the continental margins envelop the Earth with a complete continental shell at about 52% of the present Earth radius. These sedimentary basins then form a global network, representing shallow seas surrounding and lapping onto ancient continental lands.

This unique fit-together of lands and seas during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras

demonstrates that Earth expansion is a viable process and gives justification to extending modelling studies back to the Archaean aeon.

Extending models to the Archaean involves recognising that continents are made up of ancient granite–greenstone crustal fragments called *cratons*, ancient eroded mountains or fold belts called *orogens*, and ancient sedimentary basins of various ages. Earth expansion occurs within the continents as crustal extension in the network of continental sedimentary basins and rift zones. Moving backwards in time, sediments deposited within extensional basins and rift zones are progressively removed and crust is restored to a pre-extension configuration. By removing all basin and rift sediments, a primordial Earth is reconstructed for the Mesoproterozoic era (1,600 million years ago), comprising assembled Archaean cratons and Proterozoic basement rocks at about 1,700 kilometres radius.

Expanding Earth models reveal that the distribution of continental sedimentary basins and shallow seas, continental magmatism and concentration of crustal movements form a global network surrounding assembled Precambrian crust. The Precambrian global network forms the loci for ongoing continental crustal extension, basin sedimentation and crustal mobility during the Proterozoic and Palaeozoic eras and represents the primary loci for continental break-up and opening of the modern oceans during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras.

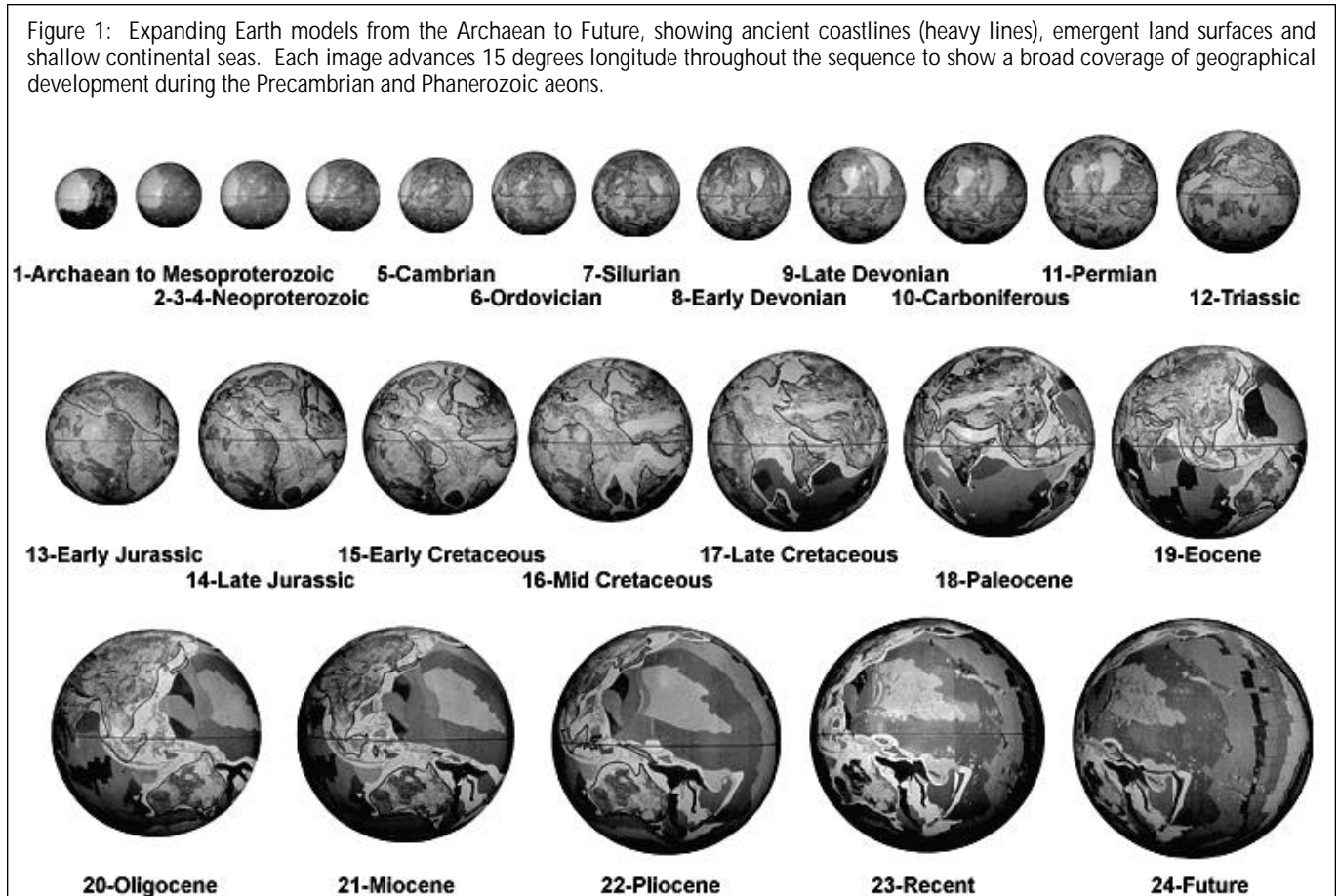
This process of progressive continental crustal extension during Earth expansion demonstrates a simplified development of continents and oceans throughout Earth history, as continental crust progressively extends prior to continental rupture, break-up and dispersal of continents to the present.

THE EARTH IS A GEOLOGICAL ENTITY

All rocks contain an immense amount of geological and geophysical information which, to the trained eye, has a complex but variable history of formation, metamorphic change, chemical and erosive weathering, climatic influence, biotic activity and metallic worth to tell us. On a global scale, we can piece together geological and geophysical information about locations of ancient poles and equators (palaeomagnetism), ancient distributions of exposed land, mountains, ice-caps, seas and shorelines (palaeogeography), ancient distribution, dispersal patterns, climatic requirements and extinctions of flora and fauna (palaeobiogeography), distribution of ancient climatic zones distinguished by latitude-dependent rocks located from polar ice-caps to equatorial zones (palaeoclimatology), and formation and distribution of metallic and hydrocarbon resources (metallogeny).

On an expanding Earth, the information available from each of these geological and geophysical disciplines can be visualised as they happen and where they happen, and we can see what has subsequently happened. Biotic species and climatic zones established before continental break-up, for instance, are fragmented and dispersed in sympathy with dispersal of continents. New biotic species will either displace or interact with existing species, and climatic change will superimpose on established climatic patterns.

A good example is Antarctica, which straddled the equator throughout most of Earth history and has preserved an essentially tropical-to-temperate range of fossilised plant and animal species and rock types. Since the Permian period (260 million years ago), Antarctica migrated south to its present location straddling the present south pole, with extreme changes to climatic patterns and



biotic species.

This geological and geophysical information is traditionally used in plate tectonic reconstructions of continents to limit plate-fit options imposed by palaeomagnetism on a constant-radius Earth. In many instances, the information is contradictory; in particular, climate-critical floral and faunal information from biogeography and distribution of climate-dependent rocks such as limestone, coal and glacial debris. On an expanding Earth, there is only one plate-fit option. If the geological and geophysical information is not supported or substantiated by the reconstruction, then the reconstruction is wrong; there are no alternative fit-options available.

Published palaeomagnetic information can be plotted on expanding Earth models to locate the magnetic poles and derive an equator. The information demonstrates the pole data plot as diametrically opposed north and south poles for every era and period from the Archaean to Recent. Locations of the equators agree in principle with conventional locations based on climate indicators. The clustering of north and south poles is impossible, however, on conventional plate tectonic models and demonstrates that palaeomagnetic data can be more effectively used to quantify the location of ancient poles on an expanding Earth.

PALAEOGEOGRAPHY

The ancient geography of our Earth forms the basis for defining the interrelationships of exposed continental areas, intervening seaways, mountains and crustal movements, and enables the conventional ancient continents of Pangaea, Gondwana, Laurentia, Baltica, Laurussia and Rodinia to be quantified on an expanding Earth.

On plate tectonic reconstructions of continents, large ancient oceans—Panthallassa, Tethys and Iapetus—are

required during times when continents were assembled into supercontinents. However, outlines of ancient coastal geography plotted on expanding Earth models (figure 1) show that large Panthallassa, Tethys and Iapetus oceans are not required because all modern oceans are removed and continents are assembled as a single continental crust at a reduced Earth radius. Instead, these inferred oceans are replaced by smaller Panthallassa, Tethys and Iapetus seas, located on or between the ancient continents.

On an expanding Earth, the early Panthallassa and Iapetus seas developed during the Early Permian to Early Jurassic periods (260 to 160 million years ago) as shallow sedimentary basins within the present northwest Pacific Ocean and north Atlantic Ocean regions respectively. These then progressively opened and extended throughout the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras as the modern Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

In contrast, the Tethys Sea had its origins during the Early Proterozoic era as a continental sea located within Europe and Asia, progressively enlarging and extending in area during the Proterozoic, Palaeozoic and Mesozoic eras. It is now represented by continental Europe and Asia and the Mediterranean Sea.

Changes in sea-level on an expanding Earth occur in response to climatic change, to a shift in the distribution of continental seas, to crustal movements, mountain building, erosion, opening of post-Permian modern oceans, and the production of new water at the mid-ocean ridges.

These changes all modify the ancient coastal outlines and result

in a change in exposed continental land, in the distribution of climate-dependent sedimentary rocks such as limestone, and in the distribution of certain marine and terrestrial species which depend on specific climate zones to survive.

Reconstructions of the conventional Rodinia, Gondwana and Pangaea supercontinents and smaller sub-continents on an expanding Earth demonstrate that, instead of being a random dispersion-amalgamation or collisional event, each continental assemblage is progressive and represents an evolutionary process over time. The distinguishing feature of continents constructed on each expanding Earth model is the interrelationship of continental sedimentary basins, the network of continental seas and the network of crustal movements. The variation of each of these in time results in a change in exposed continental land.

Supercontinent configuration is then defined by the progressive change in continental sedimentary basins, by crustal movements, and by the changing sea-level as modern oceans open and rapidly expand to the present.

Instead of mountains forming by continental collision, on an expanding Earth—they form by vertical uplift, creating plateaus. Changes in surface curvature during Earth expansion cause conti-

neral interiors to remain elevated or arched relative to the surrounding downwarped sedimentary basins. Periodic gravitational collapse of the interiors of each continent results in uplift and faulting along the continental margins, forming escarpments. This process is cyclical during ongoing expansion, resulting in multiple and overlapping phases of mountain building, erosion, planation, sedimentation, uplift and further erosion.

PALAEOBIOGEOGRAPHY

Palaeobiogeography is a study of the distribution of ancient flora and fauna. On an expanding Earth, ancient fauna and flora can be used to illustrate their distribution in relation to ancient geography and in relation to established poles and equators.

The distribution of various marine fauna—such as the Cambrian and Ordovician (560 to 440 million years ago) trilobites (segmented cockroach-like marine creatures)—on an expanding Earth demonstrates the ease and simplification of migration and development of these creatures during the Palaeozoic era, without the need for complex conventional continental assemblage-dispersal requirements. Barriers to migration of trilobites and other marine species on an expanding Earth are then limited to deep-marine restrictions and, to a limited extent, latitude and climate extremes.

Triassic to Cretaceous dinosaurs plotted on expanding Earth models demonstrate that dinosaur distributions are clustered within three distinct provinces, coinciding with the distribution of ancestral Permian reptiles. These include distributions clustered in Europe and the Mediterranean region, in central and eastern North America, and in the adjacent South African and southern South American regions, with links to India. Isolated distributions also occur in eastern Australia, southern China and western South America.

The distribution of dinosaurs and ancestral Permian reptiles on an expanding Earth demonstrates the close links between Permian, Triassic and Jurassic species. This link was then disrupted in the

Instead of mountains forming by continental collision, on an expanding Earth they form by vertical uplift, creating plateaus.

Early Permian during continental break-up, and during the Cretaceous when seas began to rise and the established climate zones, feeding habitats and migration routes were disrupted.

The extinction of the dinosaurs is a contentious issue. The Cretaceous period coincided with a period of enlargement of continental seas, accompanied by a rise in sea-level, an increase in size of the modern oceans and progressive climatic disruption. Sea levels peaked on the continents during the Late Cretaceous, but this was followed by a rapid draining of continental seas to the present as the modern oceans continued to open.

Expanding Earth models suggest there may have been two or more separate oceans existing during the Mesozoic era, with the possibility of separate sea levels. Rifting and merging of these oceans coincides with faunal and floral extinction events at the end of both the Triassic and Cretaceous periods.

This suggests that the cause of the dinosaur extinction—which, incidentally, occurred over a period of 8 to 10 million years—may be linked with periods of rapid sea-level change rather than an inferred asteroidal impact event.

The ancient Permian fern *Glossopteris* is a common fossil in coals throughout the southern hemisphere and has traditionally been used to define the ancient Gondwana continent. The

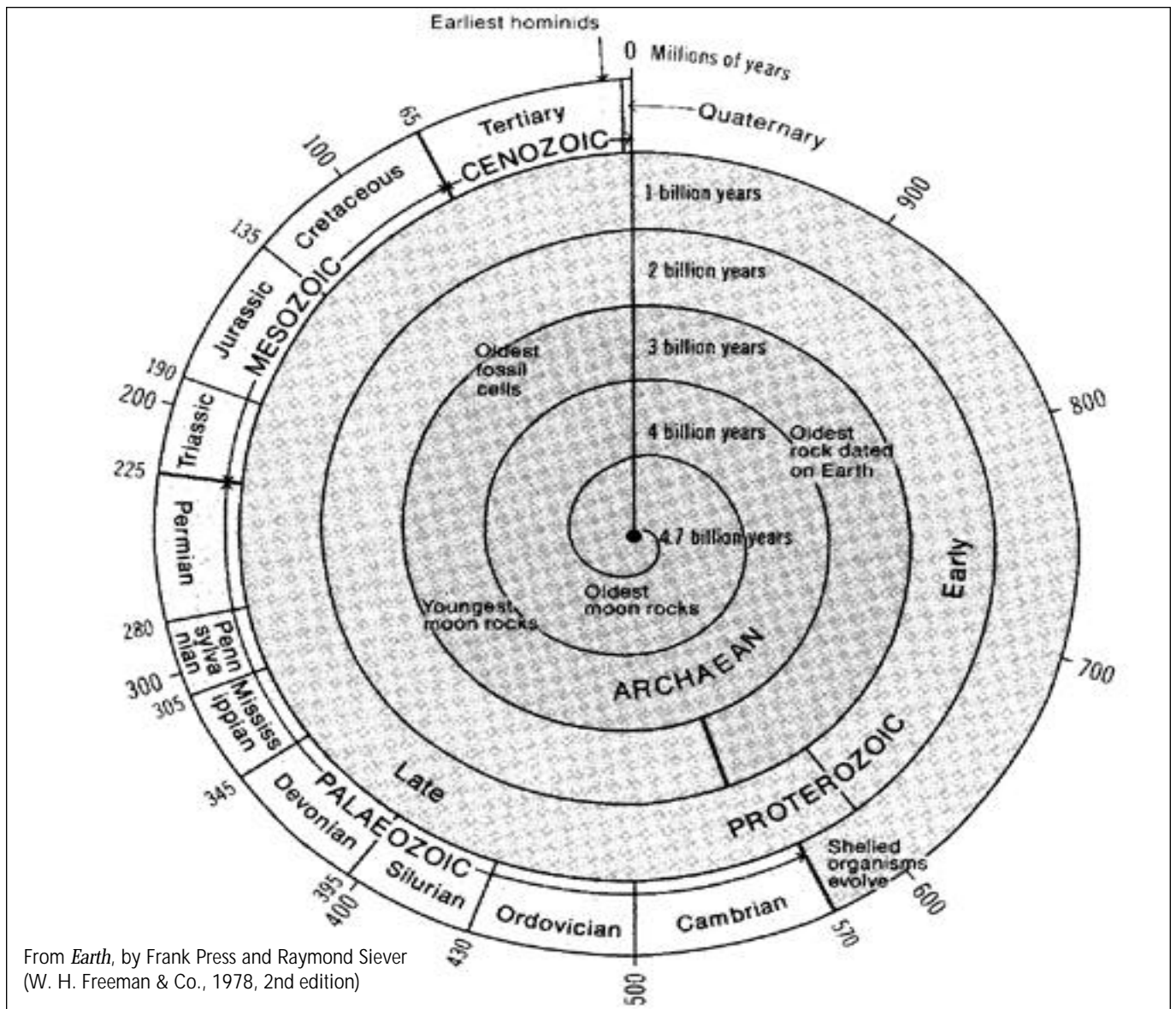
distribution of glossopteris ferns is centred on localities in South Africa and adjacent India.

During the Permian period, East Antarctica straddled the equator and was located adjacent to South Africa. East Antarctica was surrounded by occurrences of glossopteris in Australia, West Antarctica and India. This suggests that glossopteris flora may have been extensive beneath the present East Antarctic ice-cap.

The Permian glossopteris flora plotted on expanding Earth models straddle the palaeo-equator and range from high-northern to high-southern latitudes on the Gondwana supercontinent. This suggests that glossopteris flora were tropical to cool-temperate species, confirming the fossil evidence which shows a Gondwana climate commencing with an ice age and passing through a cold but wet temperate to warm temperate climate during the Late Palaeozoic.

The palaeobiogeographic examples used illustrate the ease and simplification of migration, development of faunal and floral species and influence of climatic and geographic change on an expanding Earth. These interrelationships between global and provincial distributions are maintained without the need for complex conventional continental assemblage-dispersal requirements.

During continental break-up and opening of the modern oceans,



From *Earth*, by Frank Press and Raymond Siever (W. H. Freeman & Co., 1978, 2nd edition)

traditional distributions and migration routes were often disrupted, enabling species endemic to the various regions to interact, extend their boundaries, fragment or become extinct with time.

The timing of ocean development in many of these areas is reflected in changes in sea level, facilitating faunal migration by extending and expanding migration routes and moderating climatic differences.

PALAEOCLIMATOLOGY

The ancient climate on an expanding Earth is determined by plotting the distribution of climate-dependent rocks and comparing the distribution patterns with the location of ancient poles and equators. Coal swamps, thick sandstone sequences and glacial rocks are excellent indicators of wet climates, while dry climates are indicated by evaporites such as salt deposits and equatorial regions by coal and limestone rocks.

The glacial record shows four major glacial eras, including the Early Proterozoic, the Late Proterozoic, the Early and Late Palaeozoic and the Late Cenozoic (recent ice age). The distribution of glacial deposits on an expanding Earth is coincident in all cases with the location of magnetic poles established from palaeomagnetic data.

The distribution of many Precambrian marine glacial deposits occurs in conjunction with limestone and iron-rich rocks located at the equator. This is an enigma for plate tectonic reconstructions. On an expanding Earth, the relatively short pole-to-equator distances existing during this time allow sea-ice to float easily to equatorial regions within the network of shallow seas, depositing rock debris on the seafloor as the ice melts.

The distribution of Early and Late Palaeozoic glacial deposits coincides with a south pole located in western central Africa, with isolated mountainous ice-centres in Europe, Australia and South America. A northward shift in climate zonation and absence of a distinct north polar ice-cap is a prominent feature of glacial, limestone and coal distributions during this era. The northward shift in climatic zonation suggests that an inclined Earth rotational axis was well established by the beginning of the Palaeozoic era and has remained at a similar inclination to the present.

The distribution of oil and gas resources during the Palaeozoic, Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras coincides with the development of major sedimentary basins located within the continents and along continental margins. A broad zonation of deposits is evident on an expanding Earth, straddling the established palaeoequator and extending from low-southern to mid-northern latitudes. This broad zonation suggests a northward shift in climatic zonation and coincides with observations from glacial distributions.

When viewed in context with global and continental sea-level changes, oil and gas development coincides with periods where sea-level was rising and encroaching onto the continents. The early Cretaceous period in particular coincides with a period of post-Permian glacial melting, a rapid opening of the modern oceans, warming climatic conditions and a rapid diversification of fauna and flora.

Coal distribution during the Early to Late Cretaceous period shows two broad temperate belts located north and south of the established palaeoequator, with a predominance of deposits located in the northern hemisphere. On an expanding Earth, this shift in coal deposition is reflected in the rapid opening of each of the modern oceans and a northward migration of continents during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras. The predominance of coal deposits in the northern hemisphere is attributed to the greater extent of landmass influencing rainfall and to the extent of continental basins suitable for coal formation.

FACT OR MERE COINCIDENCE?

Expanding Earth models created with the use of oceanic geology data demonstrate that crustal plates fit together at a reduced Earth radius with a better than 99% fit. So, during the Triassic period each of the continents is reassembled like a

spherical jig-saw puzzle, and continental sedimentary basins form a global network representing shallow continental seas. By progressively removing sediments from the sedimentary basins and restoring to a pre-extension configuration, each of the ancient continental crustal fragments can be assembled on a primordial Earth at an ancient radius of 1,700 kilometres.

When palaeomagnetic data is plotted on expanding Earth models, diametrically opposed north and south poles can be established. This is impossible to achieve with plate tectonics. The ancient equators established from the poles coincide with climatic indicators such as distribution of glacial rocks, limestone and coal and latitude-dependant faunal and floral species. Each climatic distribution shows a consistent northward shift in climate zones, suggesting an inclined rotational axis.

Fauna and flora demonstrate a simplified distribution pattern consistent with climate zoning and distribution of continental seas. Disruption of species and extinction events coincide with break-up of continents, opening of

modern oceans, change in climate and rapid change in sea level. Distribution and preservation of oil, gas and coal resources coincides with rapid floral development, changes in sea level and dispersal of continents. All of these cannot be mere coincidence. Each in itself is definitive proof that the Earth is expanding, and, collectively they quantify a simple process of progressive crustal extension prior to continental rupture, break-up and dispersal to the present.

About the Author:

James Maxlow is a geologist with over 25 years' field exploration/mining experience. He has a Master's degree in geology and is currently completing a PhD in geology. He is principal researcher with Terrella Consultants, a Western Australian-based geological consultancy dedicated to research into and promotion of Global Expansion Tectonics. The consultancy values and encourages professional input from a worldwide network of Earth expansion researchers. For further information and/or input, e-mail the author at jmaxlow@enternet.com.au or visit his website, www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Launchpad/6520/.

When palaeomagnetic data is plotted on expanding Earth models, diametrically opposed north and south poles can be established. This is impossible to achieve with plate tectonics.

THE DEEP DWELLERS

The subterranean dwellers of various ancient religious and mythical traditions have parallels with the underworld beings of modern-day accounts.

Part 2 of 3

by Wm Michael Mott © 2000

E-mail: mottimorph@earthlink.net
Website:
<http://www.hiddenmysteries.com/cartwebtv/item111.html>

MODERN FORTEAN AND CRYPTOZOOLOGICAL CONNECTIONS

With the advent of the "scientific century", i.e., the 20th, occurrences which in earlier times would have been deemed "magical", demonic or the work of faeries, gods or witches were given descriptions or names which downplayed their inexplicable nature and sought to fit them somehow into a comprehensible, "modern" world view.

The problem then was, and continues to be, that such anomalous phenomena have defied the most rational, sceptical and "scientific" explanations. Also termed "Fortean" events, after anomaly researcher and writer Charles Fort, these occurrences have continually thrown a philosophical monkey-wrench into the cherished machinery of scientific dogma. In other words, science has no explanation for these events or discoveries, so it largely ignores, ridicules or dismisses them out of hand.

There is no doubt that many of these phenomena are genuine, and for now are beyond the ability of the currently dominant science belief system to explain. This brings to the fore the first category of research (outlined in part one), which may tie in very closely with "what has gone before".

CRYPTIDS AND MYSTERY CREATURES

"Cryptozoology" is a term which was coined by Belgian biologist Bernard Heuvelmans to designate a field of study concerned with unknown creatures or animals, also referred to as "cryptids" ("hidden" animals). For the purposes of this study, the term "cryptid" will *not* be used to designate known or suspected known animals which are simply "out of place" or out of their customary environment; it will be reserved for those creatures which are truly "unknown".

The comings and goings of such creatures, their sudden appearances in remote, rural or densely populated areas and their equally sudden disappearances with scarcely a trace left behind have long befuddled researchers in the field of cryptozoology. With a careful examination of specific unknown animals or entities and their habitats, interesting connections to the ancient traditions are revealed.

1. Lake Monsters and Sea Serpents

Many freshwater lakes around the world have longstanding traditions of "lake monsters" of various types, ranging from humped or sinuous, scaled or plated, to sporting "elephant-like" hide and "horselike" manes of hair. Most such creatures appear sporadically, often in high mountain lakes or large isolated lakes of great depth with little or no access to the sea. Questions which have yet to be answered include:

1. How do such creatures maintain a breeding population of sufficient numbers to provide genetic diversity in relatively closed environments?
2. How do these populations, their bodies being of immense size, manage both to feed themselves and maintain a high core temperature, usually in cold waters with limited food resources?
3. What is the relationship of "lake monsters" to "sea serpents"?
4. If migratory, how do large populations of such creatures travel from lake to lake or from lake to ocean and ocean to lake?

Without a doubt, the most well known of such beasts is the "monster" of Loch Ness, a large deep lake in the Highlands of Scotland. Loch Ness is connected to the sea by the River Ness, yet sightings have only very rarely taken place in or at the river. The loch

itself, like many in Scotland, Ireland, Scandinavia and North America, has a longstanding tradition and reputation for being haunted by "kelpies", or shapeshifting, horse-headed, serpentine entities. These creatures are often described as having horselike heads and manes, long serpentine necks and huge humped bodies with four flippers.

Given the frigid water conditions at the loch (42°F or 5.5°C] on average) and the mammalian characteristics of the creatures, it stands to reason that they are either mammals or some sort of endothermic (warm-blooded) plesiosaur descendants, or dinosaur descendants (many of the theropod dinosaurs were endothermic, as are their descendants, the birds). Given the additional fact that they sometimes sport horns or "ossicorns" like those of a giraffe, the mammalian hypothesis (descendants of zeuglodon, primitive whales) may be the best bet.

The questions of where they originate, where they go when they vanish and how they maintain a stable diet still remain. A look at the structure of Loch Ness provides some clues.

It has been determined that at some point in the distant past, Loch Ness was an arm of the sea. Now it is seldom less than 300 feet (91.4 m) deep and routinely surpasses 400 feet (121.9 m) in depth. The bottom of the lake runs up in many instances to meet underwater cliffs and the submerged sides of the mountains which surround the loch. Sonar has indicated that the bases of these cliffs are honey-combed in places with very large caverns of undetermined depth and extent. Could these lead to even more vast underground caverns under the mountains, some containing air and eventually linking to other lakes and to the sea? This would certainly provide a feasible explanation for the mysterious movements and disappearances of these creatures, and perhaps to the question of their diet, which may be also that of an ocean-going animal or "sea serpent".

Perhaps the lakes and lochs around the world which boast of such creatures are simply places to breed and spawn in relative safety from the large predators of the oceans.

When it is taken into account that many other "vortex-haunted" lakes around the world have been found to have deep caverns which account for their "vortices" (created by the suction of even larger water-filled caverns and the movement of huge volumes of water), the whole matter shifts into perspective.

Such vortex-sporting, cavern-hiding lakes include Lake St Jean and Blue Sea Lake in Canada (the latter home to Misiganebic, a "horse-headed" dragon), as well as Pohenegamook, Massawippa, Memphremagog, and on and on. Loch Ness and the Walchensee in Bavaria, among others, are said to connect to the sea in similar fashion.

Given the distance of some of these bodies of water from the ocean, it is not unreasonable to assume that many deep aquifers are actually tributaries or parts of vast subterranean oceans of fresh water which may now be in danger of depletion by human usage from the surface.

Is there a connection between the reptilian yet mammalian "dragons" of large cold lakes and the vast cavern systems that may lie beneath them? The evidence would seem to indicate that this is the case. The cryptid dragon, with his underground lairs and underwater entrances to them, is apparently as active and secretive as the Chinese and Japanese versions ever were.

2. Hairy Humanoids

Many eyewitness accounts of hair-covered humanoids have been reported and documented over the years by people from a wide range of backgrounds and professions. While Bigfoot or Sasquatch is the type whose description is known to most people, perhaps equalled by the Yeti of the Himalayas (the "Abominable Snowman"), the literature would indicate that not only are these living flesh-and-blood creatures, but they come in a wide variety of physical configurations. Yet, like the lake monsters, they seem to "pop in and out" of our surface world reality and are amazingly difficult to track for creatures so large.

In addition to the towering, hirsute Bigfoot form, witnesses have reported: stunted, clawed versions with savage dispositions; black "winged" varieties (the Ixals of Mexico); screeching horrors with shaggy, hair-covered faces; gigantic varieties which would dwarf Sasquatch (like the Yeren of China); and more. In addition to the "rotten egg" or "skunk-like" odour which often accompanies most of these forms (as it does with Bigfoot, the Shampe of the Choctaw Indians and the Florida "skunk ape"), many sightings and encounters have taken place in or near caves or cavernous regions as well as abandoned mines and other man-made tunnels or potential entrances to unknown, underground areas.

Consider the underworld-exploring Enkidu, the hell-plumbing Chinese monkey, the hairy Scandinavian trolls and the fanged, baboon- or dog-headed monsters of Sumer, Egypt and other cultures, and a connection again becomes clear. These creatures come out into our world, usually by night, and then retreat into an "invisible" cavern or subterranean world about which only they know, vanishing "without a trace". This does not have a connotation of the supernatural but the connotation of a natural phenomenon and is a logical conclusion.

Not only does this indicate an underworld connection, but it also indicates an intelligent "covering" of tracks and evidence which is beyond the abilities of ordinary animals and can only be equated to the premeditated and well-planned actions of human beings—or of something at least as clever. It also begs the question of, at some level, possible human involvement of a covert nature in not only "hairy humanoid" matters but in other, more bizarre, cryptid accounts.

And disinformation—in the form of ridicule, evidence-tampering or intentional hoaxing—may also come into play at times. If this does occur, it does not automatically disqualify the phenomenon as a genuine one. It only complicates matters by introducing what may be the intended element into the equation, that element being obfuscation.

3. "El Chupacabras" and Other "Hybrid" Beings

Puerto Rico is a small island, only about 150 miles long by 45 miles wide (241.4 by 72.4 km), yet it has experienced enough paranormal and cryptid activity in its history to be a continent.

The native Taino, an Arawak tribe of the West Indies, feared creatures like the Araidai, a jungle goblin, and Konokokuyuha, a type of evil dwarf. The island has long been a haunt of hairy humanoids, mysterious winged creatures (some described as "pterodactyls") and unidentified flying objects (UFOs), with the entire human population in some areas at times living in terror.

Is there a connection between the reptilian yet mammalian "dragons" of large cold lakes and the vast cavern systems that may lie beneath them?

During 1975, Puerto Rico was stricken by a mysterious wave of livestock mutilations accompanied by UFO sightings. Many times, animals were drained of blood and left like emptied wine-skins for investigators to puzzle over. Twenty years later, in 1995, things turned really weird.

The mutilations and blood-drainings returned with a vengeance, and over a two-year period the "culprit" was seen or encountered first-hand by dozens of witnesses. Termed "El Chupacabras", or "The Goat-sucker", the creature seemed like something out of a cartoonist's nightmare. It was described as four to five feet tall, generally reptilian in appearance, with a kangaroo-like hip or haunch structure, spines along a back-ridge and a humanoid head with protruding, incandescent eyes reminiscent of descriptions of the "grey aliens" of ufology. Sometimes the creatures would be grey-green and hairless; sometimes they would have flat black or grey fur. With folding flaps of skin under their arms which connected to their rib cages, they could purportedly glide like flying squirrels or fly outright, and they had three-pronged retractable mouth-organs used for slicing, dicing and sucking blood and fluids.

At first it was thought that the sightings were surely an elaborate hoax, or simply hysteria, until the sheer number of incidents and reports reached overwhelming proportions. Hair was obtained from one mutilation site and analysed by a Japanese lab; while deemed to be "similar to the hair of a wolf", it was labelled as coming from an animal which was "unknown".

The creature was a typical cryptid in some respects, seemingly popping in and out of existence at a moment's notice and generating fear and confusion all over the island. From Puerto Rico, the Chupacabras events quickly spread to the rest of Latin America, including Mexico, South Florida and the desert southwest of the United States. This marked it as a distinctly cultural phenomenon (Hispanic), but that by no means indicates that it was not genuinely taking place.

A connection was soon suspected in Puerto Rico between El Chupacabras and the mountainous rainforested region of El Yunque, which is honeycombed with mostly unexplored cavern systems. In fact, caverns underlie much of the island.

Several witnesses reported seeing the creature or creatures fleeing to the El Yunque region when discovered or pursued. Soon, other parts of the Spanish-speaking world were reaching similar conclusions. And, like the demons of old, an acrid, debilitating, foul odour often accompanied the visits of the beast.

One brave soul, Jesus Sanchez, was victimised repeatedly, his rabbits being drained of blood. Finally, one morning at 4.00 am he surprised the invader by blinding it with a bright light. When it rushed to escape, he struck it with a machete—only to discover that "the blow sounded as if it had hit a drum". The creature, unscathed, made its disappearance as usual.

What is to be made of a report like this? How can a creature both "have hair" yet "sound like a drum" when struck (or shot, for that matter) and escape unharmed?

And why the almost methodical and indeed selective nature of the animal mutilations? Sometimes only blood would be taken;

other times, specific organs like livers would be missing. It should be noted that blood and the "meaty organs" were the very items offered to the dark gods of antiquity in the ancient Middle East and even in pre-Columbian America. The description of El Chupacabras is very reminiscent of that of the Sumerian Utukku or even the Gala and the Egyptian Ushabtiu—created as "artificial" life-forms (yet no less alive) to do the bidding of the Lords of the Underworld. Maybe times are tough in the subterranean realms and the "gods" have taken to stealing the substances which are no longer offered to them—or could it be that the Nagas are coming out to play?

The Utukku are reptilian in aspect, vaguely humanoid and slightly "winged", just like El Chupacabras. Again we are reminded of the chimerical, genetic hybrids mentioned in the Book of Enoch, which were created by the Nefilim (the Sumerian Annunaki and Igigi) before the Deluge when they "sinned against birds, wild animals, reptiles and fish", creating hybrid creatures to serve them. These monstrosities also terrorised mankind—as the people of Puerto Rico might verify!

Perhaps, instead of "looking skyward" for "alien invaders", we should start looking downward for ancient parasites which are more or less native to our planet.

4. Other Forms

Creatures similar in description to El Chupacabras have been seen around the world, ranging from reptilian humanoids (the "Loveland Frog", "Lizard Man", etc.); "little people" of a wide variety of descriptions; bulbous-headed and bug-eyed, stick-thin grey humanoids; and winged anthropomorphic forms. Such appearances, or periods of intense "cryptid" or "alien" activity, are often hallmarked by animal mutilations, which involve precise (even surgically precise), selective organ removal and blood-draining, or else by mass disappearances of pets and livestock.

These sightings cannot all be dismissed as hallucinations or hoaxes, particularly the sighting reports which consist of several witnesses' testimony. The sheer number of sightings is too great for them to be so easily dis-

missed, and the number of unexplained animal mutilations and disappearances which correspond with these "flaps" would seem to support this.

Sometimes these creatures are confronted with violent force, yet almost always they resound "as if hollow" and are otherwise impervious to human weaponry—as in the case of the "Hopkinsville Goblins" of Kentucky, which were shot by the witnesses. "Mothman" of West Virginia, a tall, winged humanoid who haunted the region of Point Pleasant—particularly an old military storage area which had "underground bunkers"—made mechanical whirring sounds as it flew and did not flap its wings at all. The now ubiquitous "grey aliens" have been described as "mechanical" in their motions, moving "stiffly" or "jerkily". This will be examined again shortly, but all of these beg an obvious question.

Are all of these "creatures" simply different makes and models

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of Utukku or Galatur? Are they the Golems and the Ushabtiu of old, and are they completely mechanical and artificially intelligent—or are they a melding of living genetics and non-living technology? Human beings are only now starting to create such technologies, but they do exist. What technology might be amassed through a simple cumulative process by an earlier, prehuman civilised species with hundreds of thousands or even millions of years of history behind it?

The entity known as Mothman, whose reign of terror lasted for thirteen months during 1967 and 1968 (as chronicled so well by John A. Keel in *The Mothman Prophecies*), made his visits to West Virginia, which it should be noted is one of the most densely cavernous areas of North America. So is Kentucky, for that matter, where the Hopkinsville "UFO" entities were encountered.

The same can be said of many areas of New England, which as a region has been the haunt of "the Dover Demon" (a term coined by cryptozoologist Loren Coleman), "lizard men", hairy humanoids, "mad gassers" of reptilian aspect, and a host of other creepy visitors.

The New England region is also the location of the "Morehedmoodus" area near East Haddam, Connecticut; in this area, the ground shakes and roars within, as if with "underground tempests" or as if titanic subterranean machinery is at work. This noisy and disconcerting phenomenon is known as "the Moodus Noises", and it has yet to be explained by mainstream science, government or anyone else with a room full of PhDs.

And of course, neither West Virginia nor New England is excessively far removed from another region which is famed for a distinctive "cryptid", "demon" or "creature": between both is the Pine Barrens region of New Jersey, home of the infamous "Jersey Devil". This creature not only shares some of the physical characteristics of El Chupacabras and Mothman, but in many accounts resembles the winged reptilian forms of the Sumerian Utukku, a dragon, or a mediaeval cockatrice or basilisk.

With their elusive dispositions, similar characteristics (among their "group" as well as with ancient forms) and nasty habit of collecting organs, blood or genetic material—not to mention a

general aversion to bright daylight or other bright lights, more often than not—the cryptid and "monster" scenario is brought into sharper focus. This multitude of beings is not from "elsewhere"; the odds for that are simply too great, given the variety of forms encountered and taking into account the already considerable genetic diversity that we know about which has sprung from the biosphere of the Earth. The scientific principle known as "Occam's Razor" would indicate that, given the choice between a staggering variety of beings from a staggering variety of worlds lost in interstellar space, or a naturally (or even artificially) diverse varieties of life-form which have sprung from one ecological system (hence, for instance, the mostly bipedal, two-handed, two-legged, two-winged, four-flippered configurations, all variations on the earthly vertebrate template), the latter would have to be the most rational and logical choice for a theory of origin. No, they are coming and going at will from some place very near at hand, and the circumstantial evidence would seem to indicate that place to be the hidden bowels of our own planet.

An unknown welder named Richard S. Shaver told the world a story which sounded like a blend of paranoid-schizophrenic delusions, hallucinations and bad science fiction.

RE-INVENTION, PARANOIA AND DECEPTION

1. The Degenerates Below

In December 1943, the pulp magazine *Amazing Stories* opened a can of worms which would eventually grow into a controversial storm of accusa-

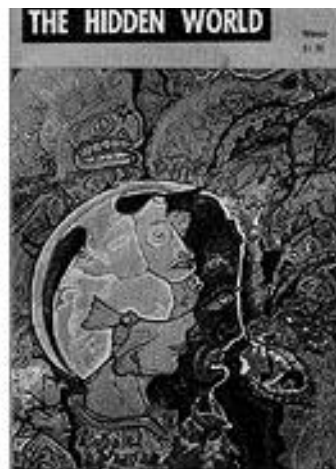
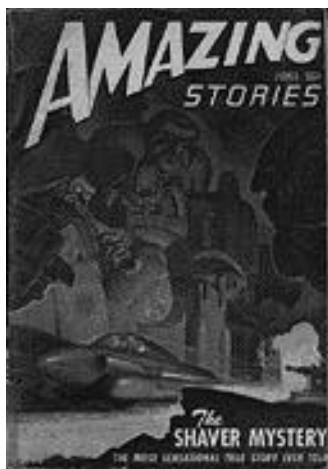
tions, ridicule, denial and resentment.

An unknown welder named Richard S. Shaver told the world a story which sounded like a blend of paranoid-schizophrenic delusions, hallucinations and bad science fiction. Working with the "assistance" of Ray Palmer, editor of *Amazing Stories*, Shaver began to tell his allegedly "true" tales of deep-cavern civilisations, genetically degenerated, technologically advanced troglodytes, and an ancient high technology which gave these beings amazing powers over the unsuspecting inhabitants of the surface world.

Strangely, in addition to their "death ray" (laser or electromagnetic weapon), "thought ray" (telepathy) and illusion (holographic) "mech" or machines, these new incarnations of the "deep dweller" concept had silent, flying ships which Shaver described as "discs", which were kept hangared beneath the Earth's surface and were used regularly. This was five years before Kenneth Arnold's famous "first" sighting of nine objects over Mt Rainier in Washington state—objects which he referred to as "saucer-like", hence inadvertently helping to coin the modern term "flying saucer".

Additionally, the troglodytes could produce "solid illusions" of creatures or objects, even their disc-like craft, which were temporarily physical then dissipated or were "turned off". How many times have UFOs just "disappeared" from radar screens around the world?

Shaver's underworld was



Selected covers of magazines which featured the "true" stories and commentaries of Richard S. Shaver.

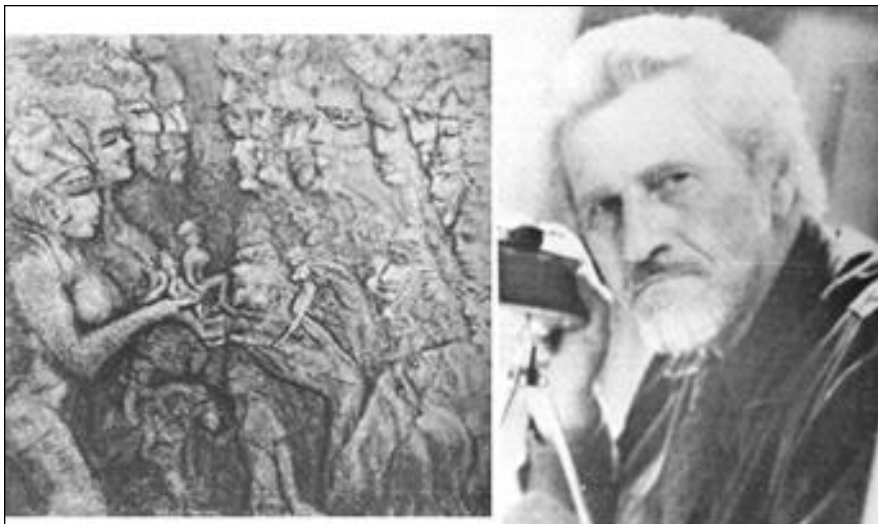
inhabited by two ancient races which had originally been one, which he termed "dero", for "detrimental robot" ("degenerate" would have been more accurate), and "tero", for "integrative energy robot" (the "good guys"). According to the welder-turned-writer, he had not only been contacted and tormented by the beams of these beings but he had been "helped" by the tero in defeating the assaults of the dero and had actually been in the cavern-world himself.

Readers responded to Shaver's accounts in two ways: they either reviled and ridiculed him and his "underworld", which was often depicted as sexually and violently brutal; or they wrote in with letters of support and accounts of their own, in an effort to corroborate his stories! Ultimately, "the Shaver Mystery", as it was called, drove Ray Palmer from *Amazing Stories* and into business for himself, and generated an uproar (and an income) for both Palmer and Shaver that would last, to some degree, until both of their deaths in the 1970s.

Was Richard Shaver unbalanced and delusional, or was he simply a talented and outrageous storyteller? Or was he telling stories which were half truth, half confabulation? In his youth he had spent some time in a mental hospital, a fact which generated contempt and ridicule from others throughout his life, but wouldn't actual, repeated contact by such beings as his "dero" push even a strong mind over the edge and into partial delusion? "Confabulation" is one common reaction which the human mind uses as a defence mechanism when it is hiding a traumatic event from full recollection.

Regardless of the proportion of truth to fantasy in his accounts, Shaver's choice of words to describe his tormentors—"robots"—is interesting. While "fleshly" and possessed of animalistic lusts, the dero and tero are nevertheless "programmed" victims, to a greater or lesser degree, of "harmful" or "de" (destructive, degenerate, etc., according to Shaver) thinking. He attributed the degeneration of the subterraneans to damaging solar and cosmic radiation (from which they still hide underground) and to the destructive radiations of their own "stim" (sexual and other stimulation) machines. They kidnap surface humans, particularly women, for sexual pleasure (or procreation?), eat human beings and take great delight in causing mayhem, destruction, confusion and terrifying apparitions (holograms) in the surface world.

As an aside and interjection, Shaver's claims of the abilities of dero machinery would explain many additional mysteries which have not been examined here so far. To touch on just one example would be to examine the case of "the Bell Witch" of Robertson County, Tennessee, a malevolent and violent entity which terrorised a family in the early 1800s. The Bell Witch, so-called because "she" haunted the Bell family, went to great lengths to create the illusion that she was omnipresent and omniscient, although she was fooled and eluded upon several occasions by her victims. Beginning with standard "poltergeist" activities, the "spirit" worked its way up to invisibly dealt physical blows



A curious "picture rock", one of many images "brought out" by Richard S. Shaver.

and attacks, and throughout the ordeal, which spanned many years, spoke to, sang for and reviled the Bell family. The activities of this entity were witnesses by hundreds of people, including Andrew Jackson, the seventh President of the United States.

Only now, in our "modern" age, is it noticed that at first the "voice" of the "witch" was booming, hollow and metallic, only later and after considerable practice taking on a regular, well-modulated tone; and the origin of the thing was said to be in the "Bell Witch Cave", a deep and mostly uncharted cavern system that was at that time on the Bell family property. The "witch"

itself claimed that the cave was its home, and forbade anyone to enter there. Local Native Americans had shunned the cave and surrounding land as haunted or cursed, long before the first white settlers arrived. To this day, witnesses swear that the still-unplumbed cavern system is haunted and even guarded by the same evil being.

A terrible story, indeed, and sure to engender fear and foreboding; perhaps the perfect type of story to make certain that a short and direct route to some

underworld lair, loaded with "special effects" equipment or "mech", is not tried or violated... Spelunkers and other brave souls have yet to seriously attempt to explore the "Bell Witch Cave" deep cavern system. It looks like the project may have achieved its desired goal of keeping people out, after all.

As evidence of his obsession with proving the veracity of his stories, Richard S. Shaver was one of the few "contactees" by "alien" or nonhuman forces to make an effort to produce physical evidence. He claimed that many rocks and boulders in specific regions around the world are actually great shattered libraries of ancient crystals, containing three-dimensional images or hologram records.

To prove this point, in later years he took to finding such "picture rocks" and cutting them open with a rock-saw to reveal what he said were glimpses of the ancient records. He would use paint to accentuate or "bring out" these images, but only worked along

Shaver claimed that many rocks and boulders in specific regions around the world are actually great shattered libraries of ancient crystals, containing three-dimensional images or hologram records.

Continued on page 84



THE WINGMAKERS, REVISITED

by J. Harmon Grahn © 2001

Often we're asked if there have been any recent developments in the WingMakers story, first featured in NEXUS 6/03 and updated in 7/05. Here is an interesting perspective on the WingMakers website materials and book, part of which is now available for downloading. — Ed.

The additional WingMakers information recently disclosed on Kerry Knight's website (see www.wmresearch.cjb.net/) either further confuses an already confusing issue or fleshes it out in significant detail.

The allegation that the WingMakers site is a hoax has not been proved or disproved, to my knowledge. The nature of the story is such that this controversy may *never* be settled to everyone's satisfaction; yet here we have some highly stimulating (and challenging) information from an unknown source or sources.¹ What do we do with it? That, of course, is up to you. My inclination is to look at it, evaluate it as best I can, and *think* about it. Here I share some of my thoughts, for whatever they may be worth to you.

The "new information" of most compelling interest to me at the moment is the WingMakers book, *WingMakers: The*

Ancient Arrow Project, which Mark Hempel claims to be the first 250 pages of a 1,050-page manuscript—all of which is in his possession, though he has been given permission to publish only the first part. On 3 July 2000, he wrote that he would be publishing it on the WingMakers website "in about two weeks", although at this time it has not yet appeared there.² However, it may be freely downloaded in .pdf format from Kerry Knight's website.

Hempel's story is that he was contacted by an anonymous group and asked to host a web domain for materials supplied to him. He says he does not know the identity or location of the group, is paid for his services, and follows directions as regards what materials to publish on the website and when. There is evidently a timetable for gradual disclosure of more of the WingMakers materials, and whoever/whatever is behind them is now interested in making the WingMakers book available (in part) to as wide an audience as possible without going through conventional publishing channels.

According to Hempel, there are supposedly two versions of the book: an accurate version; and a "fictional" version which, in places, uses fictional names and locations but otherwise allegedly tells the story behind the discovery and investigation of the *Ancient Arrow* site in northern New

Mexico by the Advanced Contact Intelligence Organization (ACIO) and by the super-secret sub-group of the ACIO, known (internally) as the Labyrinth Group. It is this second version which Hempel has in his possession, the first eight chapters of which are now available to anyone who wishes to read them.

There are some minor differences between the account given by the book and that originally published on the WingMakers website. The main difference, however, is that the book is vastly more detailed. It is written in the style of a novel and would make a magnificent basis for a high-tech thriller screenplay. It is an absorbing read, excellently crafted, well knitted together, and sure to be gripping entertainment, if nothing else, for anyone attracted to such productions as *The Hunt for Red October* or *The X-Files*.

Additionally, there is the zest of an implicit possibility that the story may not be "fictional", except in minor detail, but a substantially accurate rendition of actual events. The "fictional" aspect of the story may be there simply to provide an "escape hatch" for those not inclined to believe such an "over-the-edge" yarn.

The main protagonist of the story, whom we met in the original WingMakers version on the web as "Dr Anderson", is here identified as Dr Jamisson Neruda, son of a

THE TWILIGHT ZONE

highly placed electrical engineer from Sorata, Bolivia. In 1956 while on a hunting trip, Neruda's father discovered a crashed UFO; and with his electronics expertise and government clout, he successfully finessed his find into a berth with the ACIO in America. He was a widower, and Jamisson, aged four, was his only son, so the boy grew up under the wing of the super-secret agency.³

Jamisson Neruda is gifted with languages and became a language and cryptography specialist in the ACIO, graduating into its highest ranks of leadership. At the time the story opens, he was being quietly groomed, unbeknownst to himself, for its top position, occupied at present by an individual identified only as "Fifteen".

There are 15 levels of security within the ACIO, higher security levels (SLs) having access to information not available to lower SLs. Fifteen, the sole SL-15 in the organisation, has access to every part of it. At SL-12, Neruda was among the Directors, Labyrinth Group members all, and headed up the project code-named *Ancient Arrow*.

An important peculiarity of the ACIO is its collaborative relationship with a race of extraterrestrials known as "the Corteum". What they collaborate on is "exotic technology" of ET origin, with significant military, intelligence or possibly commercial applicability. The ACIO preserves the "pure technology" for its own use, and by extremely subtle and devious means it filters "dilute versions" of these exotic technologies into circulation among other government and industrial agencies. It is by means of these pure technologies, available exclusively to the Labyrinth Group and no one else, that they are so successful in securing their position of invulnerability in

relation to all other agencies and entities on Earth.

The dramatic tension of much of the story orbits around the awareness—derived in part, I gather, from the Corteum and in part from mythological sources—that the Earth is predicted to be overtaken in the year 2011 by a race of synthetic and highly predatory ETs who will conquer and enslave the entire planet and probably do much mischief besides.

Fifteen, whom Neruda respects as the most intelligent and powerful man on Earth, has long been convinced that the only technology powerful enough to defeat this predicted invasion is so-called "Blank Slate Technology" (BST), or interactive time travel, the wielder of which has the power to alter events selectively in times other than "the present".

To Fifteen, BST is the "Holy Grail", the apex of all technologies, and securing it is the core agenda of the Labyrinth Group. The master of BST is truly "free" of all threats and dangers—and Fifteen sees the mission of perfecting this technology prior to the predicted invasion as vital, for it provides the means whereby the invading race can be diverted and never even become aware of the Earth's existence.

As the story develops, it becomes evident to Neruda and Fifteen that the WingMakers, the unseen and unknown entities who created the *Ancient Arrow* site, may be representatives of the "Central Race", the "gods" who are the prototypical source and creators of all human races in the universe including, naturally, ourselves.

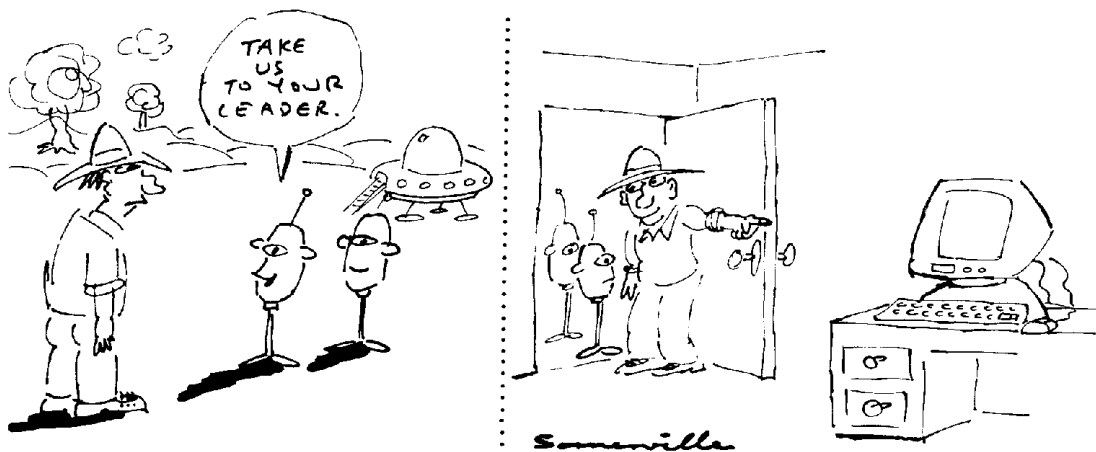
The philosophy of the WingMakers, incidentally, is very much in harmony with the writings in "The New Paradigm", and their expressed interest is in the evolution—

spiritual and otherwise—of humanity on Earth as well as that of the entire planet and all life-forms on it. Read "Life Principles of the Sovereign Integral" and "The Shifting Models of Existence" to get a thorough sense of the "flavour" of the WingMakers' stated philosophy and purpose.⁴

I think it important here to underline the sense conveyed by the story that Fifteen and the Labyrinth Group are not cast as "bad guys", for all their exclusive power and carefully guarded secrets. They are, in their way, highly developed visionaries of high purpose and high ideals. Although the story is primarily about them and how they marshal their technological, analytical and intuitive resources to solve the inscrutable, multifold mysteries of the WingMakers, and although very little is said directly about the WingMakers themselves, nevertheless an almost subliminal "stark contrast" emerges between their mentality and that of the WingMakers.

There is a plot twist in the midst of the story in which it develops that the University of New Mexico students—who originally discovered the mysterious artifact in the desert canyon, which got the whole episode going in the first place—represent a "potential" significant breach of security that could "possibly" compromise the secrecy of the project and draw the attention of rival government agencies to the clandestine activities of the Labyrinth Group. The only solution to this dilemma, which these highly developed visionaries of grand purpose and ideals are able to come up with, is to "rub the students out". "There are days when I think our mission objectives collide with morality so violently that every atom in my body recoils from the impact," moans Fifteen. "This is one of those days."⁵ He signs the order nevertheless, and it is executed; the students are murdered in their apartment.

Then there is the sub-plot of Samantha, the most gifted remote viewer (RV) the ACIO has ever had in the organisation. She is young, innocent, honest, loyal and profoundly adept at psychic projection and observation of remote locations in time and



space. She does not have the high SL of the Directors, but she is an invaluable asset to their team. It is she who pilots the other team members into the *Ancient Arrow* excavation in the canyon wall, and later on makes observational contact with the beings who are speculatively believed to be the WingMakers, and who Fifteen believes to be representatives of the Central Race.

Fifteen is very insistent that Samantha, during her remote viewing excursions, *not* make contact with the beings she encounters nor draw their attention to her presence, but only observe and report. Under "normal" circumstances this should be no problem, because usually an RV is invisible in the environment she is viewing. However, the beings Samantha encounters sense her presence immediately and attempt to contact her. Probably "attempt" is entirely the wrong word, for the Central Race evidently need not "attempt" anything. Among other things, they create worlds and solar systems.

Anyway, this development greatly alarms Fifteen for he is convinced that if the Central Race learns of his plans to develop BST, they will take whatever measures are necessary to prevent it because they will evaluate it as too powerful a technology to be entrusted to such as the human inhabitants of Earth. And this, he fears, will leave Earth vulnerable to the pending invasion, for Fifteen does not trust that whatever measures the Central Race may have lined up to defend Earth against the invaders will be strong enough to withstand them.

Solution: Samantha's mind must be wiped clean of her encounters with the Central Race. Ultimately, she is taken off the project altogether and forced to submit to a complete erasure of her memory that such a project had ever existed in her life experience.

Now I do not know how the story turns out because there are only eight chapters available at present. However, the feature of the story that strikes me most profoundly is that Fifteen and the Labyrinth Group come out looking indistinguishable in character, albeit on a smaller scale, from the predatory invaders of Earth anticipated in the year 2011. Fifteen may be the smartest, most astute and most powerful man on Earth, but he is clearly filled with fear and anxiety and he is intransigently intolerant of any situation in which someone else knows something to which he is not privy. This is

most emphatically *not* "a two-way street". For instance, everyone in the Labyrinth Group is wired with a subcutaneous computer chip, by means of which their exact location anywhere on Earth can be ascertained at the press of a switch and their softest whisper recorded. And guess who

... everyone in the Labyrinth Group is wired with a subcutaneous computer chip, by means of which their exact location anywhere on Earth can be ascertained ...

has his hands on the levers of control of all this invasive technology? Who has the power—and uses it decisively, without hesitation, and with only momentary "moral collisions"—to wipe out the memory of selected experiences in the minds of other humans, and even to wipe out other humans entirely, at the slightest "threat" that they may compromise his overarching agenda? Fifteen.

Nevertheless, Neruda, now aware himself of his position as designated "their apparent", as we already know, defects; which is the only reason, presumably, allegedly, we have this story to contemplate. The eight available chapters take us only to the point at which Neruda reaches the irrevocable decision to defect, but does not describe his defection or subsequent developments.

Whether the story is "literally true" or not is practically irrelevant, it seems to me. It succeeds in what I perceive to be its most probable intent: it holds a mirror up to ourselves and discloses a clear choice between what we have been and what we can become. Fifteen, notwithstanding all his power and brilliance and all the exotic technologies at his exclusive command, is nevertheless surrounded by *fear*. So had Neruda been—how could it have been otherwise? He was raised practically from infancy in the shadow of the ACIO and had always looked up to Fifteen as a second father. Yet even at that, when he really "sees" the alternatives, he "walks away". He makes a different "choice", which is the prerogative of *everyone*, every moment of every day. It is the way of the "Sovereign Integral".

The "old paradigm"/"new paradigm" contrast between Fifteen's mentality and that of the WingMakers is clearly pointed up for me when he reads a passage to



BAD HAIR DAY

THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Neruda out of a book written by the Corteum. He thumbed to a specific page and his eyes smiled like a leprechaun as he began to read aloud: "The Central Race is blessed with the identity of God instilled in them just as strong as man is endowed with the identity of an animal, humbled by an ego, so compelling as to render him incapable of understanding his creator."⁶

He turned a few pages. "There is no race so advanced as the race of human archetypes known as the Central Race. While there are none who know this race in our galaxy, their presence is universal, and all life within our galaxy is interpenetrated by their culture and vision."

That is the Corteum view, and Fifteen's view, of humanity: "endowed with the identity of an animal, humbled by an ego, so compelling as to render him *incapable of understanding his creator*".

However, this is what the WingMakers have to say, in part, about humanity: "First Source is the ancestor of all beings and life forms, and in this truth is the ground of unity upon which we all stand. The journey of unification—of creature finding its creator—is the very heart of the human soul, and in this journey the unalterable feeling of wholeness is the reward. Every impulse of every electron is correlated to the whole of the universe in its eternal ascent Godward. There is no other direction we can go."⁷

Not only every human, say the WingMakers (and says Harmon), but every creature and even every electron is embarked upon an "eternal ascent Godward". It cannot *possibly* be otherwise,

for there is no other Source from which we could have sprung; consequently, "There is no other direction we can go". Fifteen, his colleagues, the Corteum and countless others gripped by fear and uncertainty may doubt it, deny it or fail utterly to comprehend it; nevertheless, this is *true*. (If not, then I, for one, am hopelessly confused.)

As for the threat of the pending invasion of Earth, it is only natural that Fifteen, with his determination of mind, should become aware of such a threat and attract it to himself and to his world.

Here's something else the WingMakers have to say: "All beliefs have energy systems that act like birthing rooms for the manifestation of belief. Within these energy systems are currents that direct your life experience. You are aware of these currents, either consciously or subconsciously, and you allow them to carry you into the realm of experience that best exemplifies your true belief system. When you believe 'I am a fragment of First Source imbued with *its capabilities*', you are engaging the energy inherent within the feeling of connectedness. You are pulling into your reality a sense of connection to your Source and all of the attributes therein. The belief is inseparable from you because its energy system is assimilated within your own energy system and is woven into your spirit like a thread of light."⁸

Therefore, by far the most effective "defence" against the invaders expected in 2011 would be *not to expect them*. Expect instead that "I am a fragment of First Source imbued with *its capabilities*". Frankly, I feel a whole lot more comfort-

able with that than with placing reliance upon the hope that some brilliant cosmic strategist will figure out BST in time to divert the invaders and save the Earth—and, incidentally, rub out the memory or the life of anyone who might presume to thwart his (highly secret) agenda. How about you?

I hope I have not revealed so much of the story as to ruin it for you, but, rather, have spurred you to read it yourself. I wrote the above primarily because something Mark Hempel wrote gave me the vague impression that the sources of the WingMakers materials are observing our responses to them. I just wanted to be sure and express my take on these materials for whatever it's worth to whoever reads it.

There are rather large stakes in the decisions the human race makes within the span of the next very few years. No one can make these decisions for the human race as a whole; yet each of us can make them for ourselves, no matter who we are or what our particular situations may be; for ultimately, whether we realise it or not, each of us is *sovereign*. I suspect that the WingMakers are anxious to encourage each of us to arrive at exactly this realisation.

Endnotes

1. WingMakers website, "Ancient Arrow", Part I, no. 10, April 12, 1999, Part II, no. 11, April 22, 1999, Part III, no. 12, April 26, 1999, www.wingmakers.com.
2. NEXUS, vol. 7, no. 5, www.nexusmagazine.com/WingMakers.html.
3. "Third Interview with Dr Jamisson Neruda", pp. 35-37.
4. WingMakers website, www.wingmakers.com/arrow/indexr.html. Click on "Indexes to Artifacts", then "Philosophy".
5. *WingMakers™: The Ancient Arrow Project*, WingMakers LLC, 1999, p. 112.
6. *ibid.*, p. 210. Quotation from the Corteum's book, *Liminal Cosmogony*.
7. *ibid.*, p. 121. Excerpt from "Habitat of Soul", Chamber 21, preamble to chapter five, "Disclosures".
8. *ibid.*, p. 26. Excerpt from "Beliefs and their Energy Systems", Chamber 4, preamble to chapter two, "Homebase".

(Source: By J. Harmon Grahn, 11 January 2001, e-mail harmon@olypen.com, website www.olypen.com/harmon/np405.htm; forwarded by Mark Hempel, e-mail mhempel@southbaygroup.com)



REVIEWS



BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

GOODBYE AMERICA!

by Michael Rowbotham

Jon Carpenter Publishing, UK, and Envirobook, Australia, 2000
ISBN 1-897766-56-4 (UK ed.),
0-85881-177-4 (Aust. ed.) (209pp tpb)
Price: A\$21.95; NZ\$44.95; £11.00; C\$/n/a
Available: **Australia**—Envirobook, tel (02) 9518 6154; **NZ**—Addenda, tel (09) 834 5511; **UK**—Jon Carpenter Publishing, tel +44 (0)1689 870437; **Canada**—Paul and Co., tel (978) 369 3049

The "G-word", globalisation, is frequently bandied about, but there has been little public debate about whether or not we want it, despite the recent scaling-up of protests against free trade over fair trade.

In *Goodbye America!*, Michael Rowbotham explains how globalisation goes hand in hand with the international debt crisis. The new economic imperialism he sees as having its roots in Bretton Woods in 1944, when the US forced a trade ideology on the rest of the world which favoured its own economic and political aspirations—an ideology that the economist J.M. Keynes warned would lead to vicious cycles of debt. This is exactly what has happened over the last four decades or so, as two-thirds of the planet finds itself subject to some sort of corporate control, aided and abetted by the World Bank, IMF, GATT and the WTO. It is now common for nations to have to submit to the demands of free market, deregulatory policies which destroy their cultural traditions and local economies, forcing cuts in

education and social programs, sell-offs of local assets and cutbacks in food supplies for local consumption, which make life even more difficult during famine and war.

The very legality of inherently unrepayable Third World debt is called into question here, and Rowbotham suggests how an alliance of debtor nations could band together to fight for economic justice. Our political masters and media overlords may try to tell us that globalisation is inevitable—but do we have to have it that way?

Rowbotham urges people of the world to rise up to assert their right to their own identity, culture, economic independence and destiny, and suggests how this can be achieved. Either that, or we're doomed!

CAPTIVE STATE: The Corporate Takeover of Britain

by George Monbiot

Macmillan, UK, 2000
ISBN 0-333-90164-9 (430pp hc)
Price: £12.99; £19.00 to Aust/NZ, inc. p&h; NLGf49,90

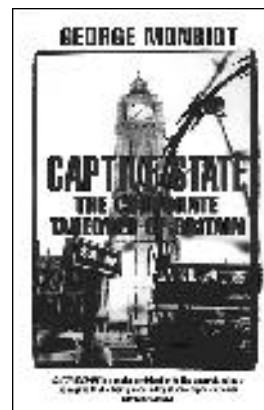
Available: **UK**—Macmillan; NEXUS Office (for orders to Australia & NZ); **Europe**—NEXUS, tel +31 (0)321 380558

There's a certain irony that Britain, one of the world's great colonisers, is now captive to an all-encompassing form of imperialism: transnational corporate takeover. Her colonies have already succumbed. In *Captive State*, George Monbiot makes us wonder what's going on when long-cherished traditions now depend on corporate sponsorship for their survival, and when the London Millennium Dome's "Our Town" exhibit, designed to celebrate "the diversity of local culture", is allowed to be sponsored

by McDonald's. It's all symptomatic.

In the last few years, George Monbiot, an academic, author and journalist who writes a regular column for the London *Guardian*, has been at the vanguard of concern over various GE/biotech issues. He airs these issues here, too, warning how TNCs have a disproportionate say in political and scientific arenas at the expense of local social and economic concerns; indeed, some of them even want to control the food chain.

Monbiot gives the lowdown on how corporations have taken over hospitals, schools, universities, prisons and even the local corner shop, exerting influence over government ministries and interpreting laws to suit themselves. None of this augurs well. As most representatives of the people have been "co-opted or crushed", Monbiot suggests that the only antidote against corporate takeover is legitimate protest, lobbying and campaigning by individuals and citizens groups. But, with all communications now tapped in the new British surveillance state, this will be an uphill battle.





REVIEWS

UNEARTHLY DISCLOSURE

by Timothy Good

Century, UK, 2000

ISBN 0-7126-8465-4 (287pp hc),

0-0994-0602-0 (pb)

Price: A\$19.95 (pb), available Nov 2001;

NZ\$65.00 (hc), NZ\$29.00 (pb); £16.99;

NLGf64,90

Available: **Aust/NZ/UK**— Random House;

NZ/Europe— NEXUS offices

In *Unearthly Disclosure*, UFO researcher Timothy Good continues his "above and beyond Top Secret" themes by presenting some astounding examples of alien and UFO encounters, as told by the eyewitnesses.

Many of these incidents have occurred in the non-English-speaking world, e.g., in Italy, Brazil and Puerto Rico, and have not received the exposure they've had in the foreign-language media. They have often been witnessed by scientific and military personnel, some of whom do summon the courage to speak out about what's really going on.

There are revelations about alien bases in the South Pacific, the Andes, Antarctica and Puerto Rico, about abductions to bases and teleportations from civilian aircraft, and about animal mutilations, genetic mutations and close encounters with alien beings. The Varginha, Brazil, ET incidents are analysed, and an Air Force intelligence officer speaks of his investigations into 300 encounters, including eyewitnesses who suffered paralysis and burns from beams of light.

The case of Filiberto Caponi of the village of Pretare in Italy is especially compelling, as he encountered an alien humanoid near his home on several occasions in 1993 and managed to snap Polaroid shots, some of which are printed here. The reports which were prolific through Puerto Rico in the

1990s are particularly unearthly, as many of them involve weird creatures like the infamous *El Chupacabras* and may be linked in some way with US military bases and even the Arecibo radiotelescope set up there.

It is Good's belief that "our planet is being used as a centre of clandestine operations by several alien species". The evidence he presents leads one to this alarming conclusion.

THE PERPETUAL PRISONER MACHINE

by Joel Dyer

Westview Press/Perseus, USA & UK, 2000

ISBN 0-8133-3870-0 (318pp tpb)

Price: £12.99; NLGf50,90; US\$18.00;

C\$27.50

Available: **UK**—Plimbridge Distribution,

tel 01752 202300; **Europe**—NEXUS

Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558; **USA**—

Westview Press, www.westviewpress.com;

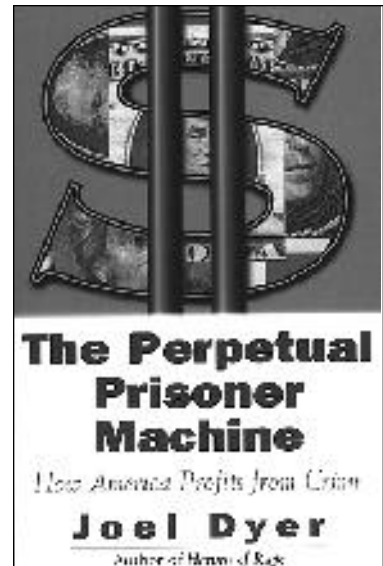
HarperCollins, tel (212) 207 7541

On any given day in the USA, close to two million people are incarcerated and another five million are under some form of supervision by the Justice Department—more than in any other country in the world. The crime rate per head has been flat or declining for the last three decades, yet the US has more than tripled its prison population since 1980, Joel Dyer reveals in *The Perpetual Prisoner Machine*, and it's largely to do with the profit motive.

The prison industry is a growth industry, and prisoners, especially from minority groups, are now a commodity to be exploited by corporations, their shareholders and even pension fund investors, and paid a pittance a day labouring to keep this billion-dollar industry self-perpetuating. Dyer sees

a political and economic chain reaction as responsible for the majority of the growth in the prison population, and harks back to the days when non-violent law-breakers were not given excessively long sentences but were dealt with via community service programs, rehab or well-supervised paroles. He is particularly damning of the role of the media and PR machine in overinflating perceptions about crime in the community over the years, and of politicians and political consultants in capitalising on this. And rural communities that welcome this private prison expansion into their backyards to reap the economic spin-offs are only exacerbating the vicious cycle of injustices.

This is a savage indictment of a criminal justice/prison system time-bomb set to self-implode. Shareholders, people: wake up!



REVIEWS



BLUEBIRD: Deliberate Creation of Multiple Personality by Psychiatrists by Colin A. Ross, MD

Manitou Communications, USA, 2000
ISBN 0-9704525-1-9 (406pp tpb)
Price: US\$35.95 + \$5 s&h in USA; else-
where, contact publisher: NLGf78,90
Available: **USA**—Manitou Comms, 1701
Gateway #349, Richardson, TX 75080, tel
1-800 572 9588 (toll-free in North
America), e-mail rossinst@rossinst.com,
website www.rossinst.com; **Europe**—
NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558

Psychiatrist Colin Ross's latest book, *Bluebird*, is a distillation of 15,000 pages of documents obtained from the US Central Intelligence Agency through the Freedom of Information Act. *Bluebird*, of course, is the code-name of one of the CIA's infamous *MKULTRA* mind control sub-projects. But Ross's intention is to focus public scrutiny not on the CIA but on psychiatrists and medical schools, without whom the CIA would not be in the mind control business.

From his research, Ross concludes that the so-called Manchurian candidate is alive and well, first created in the 1950s under the CIA's *Bluebird* and *Artichoke* projects. Indeed, much psychiatric research at that time was directed towards proving that dissociative symptoms and disorders could be induced and controlled. Some famous case histories are covered, including Mark Chapman, Patty Hearst and Sirhan Sirhan, as are the literally shocking experimental techniques and exploits of some of the key "names" of Cold War mind control experiments—such as Dr Louis Jolyon West, Dr Martin Orne and Dr Ewen Cameron, whose legacies live on longer than they have.

Without any particular qualms, Ross views the Manchurian candidate experience as relevant to clinical psychiatry, for it sheds light on brain pathway differentiation. The only conflict he sees with physicians working with intelligence agencies is between the National Security Act and the Hippocratic oath. Guess which one tends to win out.

THE SECRET SCROLL

by Andrew Sinclair

Sinclair-Stevenson, UK, 2001
ISBN 0-9537398-6-4 (214pp hc)
Price: £24.99 + p&h (on application);
NLGf94,90; US\$/n/a

Available: **UK**—Clan Sinclair Study Centre, tel +44 (0)1955 606700, e-mail ian@clansinclair.co.uk, www.clansinclair.co.uk.; **Europe**—NEXUS, tel +31 (0)321 380558; **USA**—New Leaf; Bookpeople

This work is as much about esoteric mysteries as about the history of the Knights Templars, the Grail and the St Clairs. Its author, Andrew Sinclair, is an historian, novelist and film maker as well as a Sinclair clan member descended from a long line of St Clairs who lived for seven centuries at Rosslyn Castle, Scotland—site of the famed Rosslyn Chapel, said to have been based on the design of the First Temple of Solomon.

Sinclair's interest in the Templars' architecture led him to Orkney, where, at a Sinclair Symposium at the Kirkwall Lodge, he first sighted the Secret Scroll. It is an 18.5 x 5.5 foot (5.6 x 1.7 m) linen cloth upon which are depicted Templar symbols, a Garden of Eden scene which merges masculine with feminine principles, and, among other coded images and alchemical signs, the symbolic groundplan of the Temple of Solomon.

A laboratory tested the artefact and finally

narrowed down the date to between 1400 and 1530. Interestingly, this period coincides with the St Clair earls' control of Orkney and also with the building of Rosslyn Chapel by the mystic third Earl of Orkney, Henry St Clair. This same St Clair led a voyage to the New World in 1398 and, Sinclair writes, was responsible for passing on the Eastern, Gnostic and Hermetic knowledge of the Knights Templars to the Ancient Scottish Masonic Rite. Much of this arcane knowledge is coded into the Secret Scroll as well as the architecture and sculpture of the enigmatic Rosslyn Chapel.

Sinclair reveals an intriguing hidden history (alas, an index is not included), and supports it with a rich selection of photos of art and architecture plus illustrations and maps.





REVIEWS

**YOU CAN'T TELL THE PEOPLE:
The Definitive Account of the
Rendlesham Forest UFO Mystery
by Georgina Bruni**

Sidgwick & Jackson, UK, 2000
ISBN 0-283-06358-0 (449pp hc),
0-283-07298-9 (tpb)
Price: A\$30.00 (tpb); NZ\$39.00 (tpb);
£17.99 (hc); NLGf68,90 (hc)
Available: **Australia/UK**—Macmillan,
www.macmillan.co.uk; **New Zealand/
Europe**—NEXUS offices

More light is shed on the so-called Rendlesham Forest UFO mystery in Georgina Bruni's treatment, *You Can't Tell The People*—so named after a comment Baroness Thatcher made to her during a conversation about UFOs at a charity dinner in 1997. The alleged incidents of late December 1980 involved UFO encounters near the RAF/USAF NATO Bentwaters and Woodbridge bases in Suffolk, England.

London-based Bruni, an Internet magazine publisher and an investigator of UFOs and the unexplained, found her research path pointing her towards the Rendlesham Forest mystery a few years ago. Since then, she has been on a guided tour of the bases and has interviewed many new and previously contacted eyewitnesses as well as others with knowledge of the events. The list includes retired US military and security personnel stationed at the bases, the US Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) special agent involved in debriefing in the aftermath, local police and fire officers, military wives and civilians—all with their different perspectives but stories in common which seem to confirm that an unidentified craft (and perhaps its occupants,

according to some testimony) was seen that night at close range and left physical traces.

However, key witnesses in the know are either not talking or are only saying so much, being bound by secrecy oaths. So the truth is still to be revealed, but by whom—the DoD or the MoD? A well-documented book which grabs the attention, even though it has to leave question marks.

**AWAKENING THE HEALER WITHIN:
An Introduction to Energy-Based
Techniques**

by Howard F. Batie, DM
Llewellyn Publications, USA, 2000
ISBN 1-56718-055-8 (167pp tpb)
Price: A\$28.95; NZ\$41.95; £10.99;
NLGf36,90; US\$12.95; C\$19.95
Available: **Aust**—Banyan Tree Book
Distributors, tel (08) 8363 4244; **NZ/
Europe**—NEXUS offices; **UK**—Airlift Book
Co., tel 020 8804 0400; **USA**—Llewellyn,
tel (651) 291 1970, www.llewellyn.com

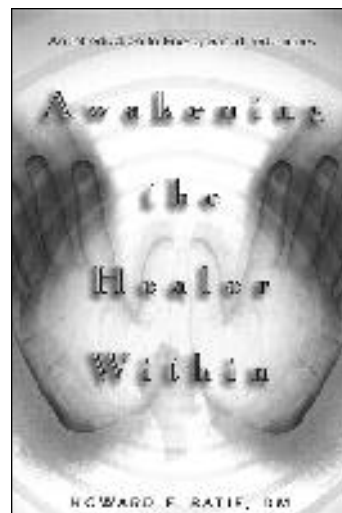
Energy-based healing, in all its forms, is the medicine of the 21st century, and this book is a good introduction to the subject for both potential healers and clients. The author of *Awakening the Healer Within*, Howard Batie, is a retired naval officer and satcomms engineer who found a new calling in life to learn about healing—and heal himself in the process. He has since set up an holistic healing practice (the Evergreen Healing Arts Center in Washington state) and teaches energy-based healing techniques to professionals and laypersons.

Batie takes us through the fundamentals, covering the human energy field with its chakra system, energy bodies and meridians, and explains how to sense fields using a

pendulum and use the hands for scanning. He looks at preliminaries and safeguards from the healer's perspective and urges us to take responsibility for our own healing. He also discusses the origin of disease on physical, emotional, mental and karmic levels, and how different holistic healing techniques can be tailor-made to deal with disease even before it manifests physically.

From personal experience, Batie regards Reiki and Healing Touch techniques as useful for clearing physical blockages; spiritual surgery and reflective healing for assisting the etheric body; hypnotherapy and regression as well as transformational therapies like Ro-Hun to clear the emotional and mental bodies; and light energisation techniques to awaken the spiritual body.

Anyone can be a healer and a self-healer if they choose, and Batie gives some sound advice to help those on this path.



REVIEWS



ABDUCTIONS AND ALIENS:

The Psychology Behind Extra-Terrestrial Experience

by Chris Rutkowski

Fusion Press, UK, 2000

ISBN 1-901250-65-2 (240pp tpb)

Price: A\$29.95; NZ\$44.95; £9.99; C\$/n/a

Available: **Australia**—Wakefield Press, tel

(08) 8362 8800; **NZ**—Addenda, tel (09)

834 5511; **UK**—Satin Publications, tel +44

(0)20 7928 5599; TBS Ltd, tel 01206

255637; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31

(0)321 380558; **Canada**—University of

Toronto Press, tel 800 565 9523

Chris Rutkowski's interest in the UFO phenomenon was sparked when he took calls from the public while working as an astronomer at an observatory in Canada in the 1970s. But 25 years of investigation later, with a science writing/teaching career under his belt and the last decade or so working on a one-to-one basis with abductees, he concludes that "we still don't have any incontrovertible evidence that aliens are indeed visiting Earth".

In *Abductions and Aliens*, Rutkowski gives a sympathetic summary of all sorts of reported abductee experiences and concedes that it's inappropriate to dismiss all abduction accounts as "products of disturbed minds". But he's still unimpressed by the majority of cases as evidence for the UFO/alien phenomenon, though he feels compassion for the plight of abductees, coming at this from the angle of understanding human psychology. For all their similarities, these ET encounter stories have so many variables and vagaries as to at least dismiss any "alien agenda" claims, Rutkowski insists. Even Michael Persinger's experiments in trying to

ing simulate the abduction experience can't get close, in his view, and the number of well-documented cases for which there are no explanations are "few and far between and represent a very small minority".

Rutkowski still can't explain the inexplicable, but should we expect him to? His analysis says more about the human psyche than about aliens—but in the end may speak reams about the limitations of psychology.

THE ATLANTIS BLUEPRINT

by Rand Flem-Ath and Colin Wilson

Little, Brown & Company, UK, 2000

ISBN 0-316-85313-5 (415pp hc);

0-316-85379-8 (tpb)

Price: A\$50.00 (hc), A\$28.00 (tpb);

NZ\$39.00 (tpb); £18.99; NLGf72,90 (hc);

Available: **Australia**—Penguin Books;

NZ/Europe—NEXUS offices; **UK**—Little, Brown, tel 020 7911 8000; **Canada**—H.B. Fenn & Co., tel (905) 951 6600

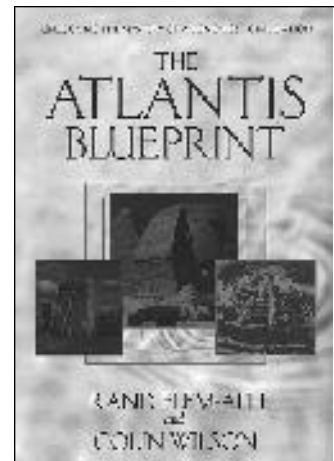
Central to the theme of *The Atlantis Blueprint* is the notion that an advanced global civilisation existed before the Great Flood, and constructed monuments at specific sites in order to preserve a geodesic, geological and geometric knowledge which could be rediscovered at a later date. But why did they position their monuments where they did? Were they tapping into an Earth energy system? What does it mean?

Rand Flem-Ath (*When the Sky Fell*) collaborated with Colin Wilson (*The Occult; Atlantis and the Sphinx*) to find answers, and they have followed some interesting leads and a who's who of key thinkers in the field. For instance, Professor Charles Piazzi Smyth suggested in 1884 that the prime meridian should run through the Great Pyramid at Giza, Egypt. If treated this way,

dozens of sacred sites fit into a vast global pattern, the common link between them and key geographical points being *phi*, the so-called Golden Section. The White Pyramid in Xian, China, is sited at a golden section division of the distance between the North Pole and equator, as is Rosslyn Chapel—further confirming that the Knights Templars inherited much ancient knowledge about global geometry and geography.

The ancients also knew their astronomy and mathematics, and the authors look at the late Maurice Chatelain's analysis of the Nineveh number (70 x 60 to the power of 7), believed to refer to the exact length of the precessional cycle—a number which has counterparts in other civilisations including the Maya. But while accurate to 64,800 years ago, does this actually mean it was calculated way back then?

The authors leave many questions, but prove their point that there's a vast reservoir of ancient knowledge still to be tapped.





REVIEWS

SNITCH CULTURE

by Jim Redden

Feral House, USA, 2000

ISBN 0-922915-63-6 (233pp tpb)

Price: £10.99; NLGf37.90; US\$14.95 + \$4.50 s&h in USA, + \$9.00 to Canada, + \$5.00 elsewhere

Available: **UK**—Turnaround, tel 0181 829

3000; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31

(0)321 380558; **USA**—Feral House, tel

(213) 689 4502, www.feralhouse.com;

Publishers Group West, tel 800 788 3123



Subtitled "How citizens are turned into the eyes and ears of the state", *Snitch Culture* analyses the environment that's become pervasive in the US where people are encouraged to spy and tattle on neighbours, schoolmates, parents, co-workers and whistleblowers. Asset forfeiture laws are abused, with "informants" getting a cut of the proceeds from dobbing in someone they suspect of wrongdoing or just dislike—and adding to the burgeoning prison population in the process. The "snitching" mindset is encouraged via TV shows like *America's Most Wanted* and other "reality-based" programs which turn viewers into round-the-clock voyeurs for their amusement.

Author Jim Redden, an Oregon-based alternative news journalist, in this, his first book, accuses politicians, both Democrat and Republican, of working hand-in-glove with law enforcement agencies to build a nationwide intelligence-gathering database and to make laws across all states for DNA samples to be taken from convicted criminals and sent to a National Offender Database. This is just the tip of the iceberg in the modern surveillance society, but much of what is now possible due to advances in technology is far worse than is implied by the word "snitch", in my view.

Redden sees today's trend in informing as stemming from early 19th century US corporate culture and boosted during mid-20th century McCarthyism. It has reached new heights in the last decade or so, with US

transnationals having access to the NSA's *Echelon* network and using it to spy on foreign competitors for commercial gain.

Stopping the spread of "snitch culture" may be impossible, Redden laments, but he points to some progress by privacy and human rights groups and suggests how the status of paid informants can be undermined. His book is a dire warning to us all.

THE COSMOS OF SOUL

by Patricia Cori

Gateway/Gill & Macmillan, Ireland, 2000

(first pub. by Hushion House, Canada)

ISBN 0-7171-3056-8 (188pp tpb)

Price: A\$37.25; NZ\$39.00; £10.99

Available: **Australia**—Banyan Tree Book

Distributors, tel (08) 8363 4244; **NZ**—

NEXUS Office, tel (09) 405 1963;

Ireland/UK—Gill & Macmillan, tel 353 1

500 9500, website www.gillmacmillan.ie

Author Patricia Cori is a clairvoyant and healer who utilises crystals, sound and colour. In 1995 she founded a healing centre, the Lightworks Association, in Rome, and in 1997 found herself channelling communications of entities who identified themselves as the Speakers of the Sirian High Council. She says she's not had a night of uninterrupted sleep since!

With this, as with all channelled material, there's something to be gained by absorbing the information rather than by shooting the messenger; but that's certainly not to say it should be taken as absolute truth. Some of this material does seem a little simplistic and ill-informed. However, these Sirians do seem to care for the plight of humans as both physical and evolving spiritual beings, and via *The Cosmos of Soul* they remind us that we are truly galactic beings with a part to play in the cosmic scheme of things.

They warn that forces in denial of the true light are grasping to keep humanity enslaved. The planet's secret government is utilising mass mood manipulation and communications control systems, but the Sirians urge us to get active if we really want to save our planet and ourselves.

They lash out at manipulation by religions which regard the sacred act of sexual union as a sin. They warn that EM radiation (especially from microwave ovens) affects the integrity of our subtle energy fields, and they caution against cloning and organ transplants. The Sirians would like us to consider our very own DNA as the Hall of Records we're so intent on finding at Giza. We need to change our understanding of time and space and attune ourselves to the sacred geometry of the Universe before we can become light-bodied cosmic participants in the multidimensional universe.

REVIEWS



JERRY GARCIA'S TOUR OF THE AFTERLIFE

by Karuna

Morningstar Communications, USA, 2000
ISBN 1-880047-88-8 (202pp tpb)
Price: US\$14.95 + \$3.50 s&h in USA;
elsewhere, contact publisher
Available: **USA**—Morningstar Comms
Group, PO Box 5740, Pagosa Springs, CO
81147, tel (970) 731 9055, 800 869 8520
(toll-free in Nth America), fax (970) 731
9944, e-mail info@jerrystour.com, website
www.jerrystour.com



Jerry Garcia, of the famed rock band The Grateful Dead, died on 9 August 1995, but his soul lives on and continues to progress, according to Karuna, the two-woman team who has channelled his soul emanations. Their conversations, from 11 August 1995 to at least July 1996 (the later epilogue is undated), are presented in *Jerry Garcia's Tour of the Afterlife*.

Whether or not you believe in the validity of channelling or that this is actually Jerry's soul communicating, the messages are exhilarating and corroborate what many out-of-body travellers have reported. Because these conversations commence so soon after Jerry's departure from this life, they chart his progress from reorienting after his death to dealing with emotions such as regret and fear and reviewing his life before his soul could proceed any further on the path.

Some of Jerry's learning to appreciate the vastness of the universe and the vibrational changes between dimensions on his hyper-space travels was overseen by radiant protective beings who answered his calls for help. Having overcome emotional hindrances, he was ready to undergo teachings on the mental plane and explore the seven "temples of learning" wherein one learns the processes of achieving mental equilibrium. Interestingly, these temples are also accessible to out-of-body travellers. Within a few months, Jerry was fulfilling his spiritual

quest, working on higher mental planes with highly developed souls to promote the evolution of human consciousness on Earth—a mission akin to that of his former life!

However you regard channelling, these experiences demystify the death process, confirm the reality of the afterlife and continuity of the soul, and convey a heart energy that reaches out and touches—as Jerry did for so many in his last Earth-plane lifetime.

THE LOST TOMB OF VIRACOCOA

by Maurice Cotterell

Headline Book Publishing, UK, 2001
ISBN 0-7472-2165-0 (214pp hc);
0-7472-7131-3 (tpb)
Price: A\$55.00 (hc), A\$34.95 (tpb);
NZ\$69.95 (hc), NZ\$39.95 (tpb); £18.99;
NLGf72,90

Available: **Australia**—Hodder Headline, tel (02) 8248 0800; **NZ**—Hodder Moa Beckett, tel (09) 478 1000; **UK**—Headline, tel +44 (0)20 7873 6000, website www.madaboutbooks.com; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558

Legends tell of two tall, white, bearded men who entered and influenced Peruvian culture at two different times during its history. Two tombs, uncovered a decade ago in a weathered pyramid at Sipan, on the northwest coast of Peru, are believed by author/engineer Maurice Cotterell to be the tombs of the "Sun gods" Viracocha Pachacamac ("God of the World"), who died around AD 290, and Viracocha ("Foam of the Sea"), who lived around AD 500–550.

Both of these legendary beings started out in Tiahuanaco, near Lake Titicaca on the Bolivian border, and performed miracles during their travels along the Andes and down to the coast, thus the Tiahuanaco Viracocha is also one of the Lords of Sipan. They both taught the locals about sunspot cycles and catastrophes, the Sun's effect on fertility and civilisations, and the nature of spirituality and reincarnation. Cotterell speculates that one of them created the Nazca lines on the Peruvian altiplano.

Knowledge of the "super-science" was also encoded into monuments, statues and tombs, and Cotterell has uncovered commonalities not only been the Tiahuanacos, Mochicas and Incas but also the Maya, suggesting a similar ancestry. He has already written of links between Quetzalcoatl of the Olmecs, Lord Pacal of the Maya, Jesus Christ and Tutankhamun of Egypt.

Cotterell, in another milestone, has decoded the Peruvian "Viracocha transformer" by overlaying a transparent facsimile onto the carving's image and moving it about (as he did with the Mayan Popul Vuh images). The ultimate secret it reveals is the reality of reincarnation and rebirth.



REVIEWS

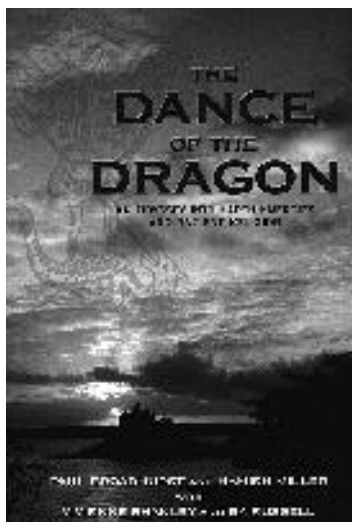
BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

THE DANCE OF THE DRAGON: An Odyssey into Earth Energies and Ancient Religion

by Paul Broadhurst and Hamish Miller
with Vivienne Shanley and Ba Russell

Pendragon Press, Cornwall, UK, 2000
ISBN 0-9515183-5-6 (375pp tpb)
Price: A\$56.95; £16.95; US\$/n/a
Available: **Aust**—Banyan Tree Book
Distributors, tel (08) 8363 4244; **UK**—
Pendragon Press, PO Box 11, Hayle,
Cornwall TR27 6YF, tel 01736 740401;
USA—New Leaf; Bookpeople



In their previous work, *The Sun and the Serpent*, Paul Broadhurst and Hamish Miller plotted the path of the St Michael Line through southern Britain (see review, 2/17). Their new book, *The Dance of the Dragon*, is the result of a pilgrimage conducted over 10 years, during which they dowsed a much larger energy axis: the Apollo/St Michael Line which runs through Skellig Michael off southwest Ireland, St Michael's Mount in Cornwall, Mont St Michel in France, and on through Italy, Greece and into Israel.

For their quest, they drew inspiration from the 1967 sacred geometry treatise by French scholar Jean Richer, who noticed that the significant Greek sacred sites of Delphi, Athens and Delos formed a straight line at an angle of 60 degrees west of north. A line drawn at the same angle plots sacred sites and spiritual sanctuaries, temples and cathedrals dedicated to the Greek Sun god Apollo and/or the Christian archangel St Michael over a 2,500-mile length from Ireland to Israel—the same axis that the authors trekked.

On their travels, they also dowsed two entwining positive and negative currents,

called Apollo and Athena, which have distinctive male and female traits. The types of structures and their dedications reflect the energies and information encoded in these places. What they have uncovered is the root of an ancient Pagan religious science based in the "dragon line" landscape, where the life force within the Earth could be felt and used for personal transformation.

This dragon-line energy is now waking up, the authors believe, and it is enticing us on the sacred path to enlightenment in this new millennium. An odyssey of a book!

VIDEO

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

THE FREE ENERGY SECRETS OF COLD ELECTRICITY

A Technical Lecture

by Peter Lindemann, DSc

Produced by Clear Tech, Inc., USA, 2000
(170mins, NTSC/VHS & PAL/VHS)
Price: US\$29.95 (NTSC), US\$34.95 (PAL)
+ \$4.50 s&h in USA, + \$12.00 global priority to Canada; elsewhere, add \$12.00
Available: **USA**—Clear Tech, Inc., PO Box 37, Metaline Falls, WA 99153, tel +1 (509) 446 2353, fax +1 (509) 446 2354, website www.free-energy.cc

Finally, long-time free energy researcher Dr Peter Lindemann steps up and tells all. This three-part lecture explains exactly how Edwin V. Gray, Sr. produced what he called "cold electricity" (see Science News, NEXUS 7/03).

Gray discovered that the discharge of a high-voltage capacitor could be shocked into releasing a huge, radiant, electrostatic burst. This energy spike was produced and captured in a special device that Gray called a "conversion element switching tube".

This non-shocking form of energy which emerged from the tube powered all his demonstrations, appliances and motors and also recharged his batteries. Edwin Gray referred to this process as "splitting the positive". Dr Lindemann reveals that Dr Nikola Tesla discovered the same effect way back in 1889.

This video presentation allows anyone with basic electrical and mechanical engineering skills to construct a working model for themselves. Gray successfully demonstrated free, inexhaustible, non-polluting electrical energy, and was hailed by local newspapers as having made the discovery of the century.

Using articles, patents, diagrams and photographs, Dr Lindemann pieces the story together until the whole method is revealed.

This is definitely the video that all free-energy enthusiasts have been waiting for!

REVIEWS



AUDIO

Reviewed by Richard Giles

GYPSY CARAVAN

by various artists

Putumayo, USA, 2001 (48 mins)

Distributors: **Australia**—MRA

Entertainment, tel (07) 3849 6020;

USA—Putumayo World Music, tel (212)

625 1400, www.putumayo.com

Gypsies began entering Europe in the 15th century, originally from India.

Their music is known around the world for its magical and fun-inspired celebration of life, despite the centuries of injustice done to these people. *Gypsy Caravan* contains some of the musical legends—Saban Bajramovic, Coco Briaval, Thierry Robin—and features the groups Andro Dromo and Amaro Suno and others from Hungary, Spain, France and Serbia. A wonderfully romantic, nostalgic and exciting sound of Gypsy culture.

TARANTATA:

Dance of the Ancient Spider

by Alessandra Belloni

Sounds True, USA, 2000 (68 mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—Banyan Tree, tel

(08) 8363 4244; **USA**—Sounds True, tel

800 333 9185 (toll free in North

America), [website www.soundstrue.com](http://www.soundstrue.com)

Alessandra Belloni is a percussionist, dancer and actress whose cause is to promote traditional southern Italian music. This CD arose from her performances at the Lincoln Center, New York, where she staged the ancient Greek myth which is the origin of the famous *tarantella* dance, "the dance of the ancient spider". Today it is known as a wedding dance, but Alessandra discovered its origins as a wild, erotic, trance dance of purification, called the *tarantata*, performed by women to cure "the bite of love". Extensive sleeve notes give the story. Extraordinarily powerful music.

JOURNEY WITH THE SUN

by Paul Winter and The Earth Band

Living Music, USA, 2000 (62 mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—BMG, tel (07) 3236

0022; **USA**—Living Music, tel (860) 567

8796, [website www.livingmusic.com](http://www.livingmusic.com)

Here is the recording of last year's solstice celebration concert held in New York's St John the Divine cathedral.

Saxophonist Paul Winter, three times Grammy winner, joins up with Uilleann piper Davy Spillane, RAMU (Random Access Music Universe) exponent Mickey Hart, keyboardist Paul Halley, cellist Eugene Friesen, vocalist Arto Tunçboyacıyan and

nine other world musicians on zurna, pan flute, guitars, keyboards and pipe organ. This is vibrant, amazingly ambient music, mixed with the contemplative sound of cellos and pipes. Certainly among the albums of the year.

GAGAKU AND BEYOND

by Tokyo Gakuso & Tadaaki Ohno

Celestial Harmonies, 2000 (68 mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—Arts Distribution, tel

(02) 9905 9435; **USA**—Celestial

Harmonies, tel (520) 326 4400, [website](http://www.harmonies.com)

www.harmonies.com

The oldest of the Japanese performing arts is *gagaku*, its history going back over a thousand years. Tokyo Gakuso was founded in 1978 with a group of expert *gagaku* musicians. Its leader, Tadaaki Ohno, has spent most of his life studying the Japanese imperial musical heritage and has a long family line in the arts. The first half of the CD comprises set pieces; the second, performance pieces with new compositions. This traditional court music is very gentle yet powerful, with its strong connection to the spiritual traditions of Japan.

WINGMAKERS: Chambers 11-17

Soulfood Media, USA, 2000 (52 mins)

Distributor: **USA**—Soulfood Media, tel

+1 (877) 209 3415,

[website www.soulfoodmedia.com](http://www.soulfoodmedia.com)

This is the music found in seven of the "Ancient Arrow" underground chambers in New Mexico in mysterious and still suppressed circumstances (see 6/03, 7/05 and this issue). Soulfood Media has the rights to reproduce the music from the digital information the WingMakers time-travellers left, and has given it a contemporary treatment with samples of chant, ambient, electronica, pop and sounds from nature, with drums, didgeridoo and flute. An amazing experience, listening to what could be music from the future! The CD has an enhanced portion for video, MP3 files and web links.



Continued from page 30

Endnotes

1. UN Press Release GA/9259 ENV/DEV/424, 23 June 1997. In 1997, a special session of the UN was called to review and appraise the implementation of "Agenda 21", the program of action adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. These remarks were made by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in a media release discussing the consequences if Agenda 21 is not implemented.
2. Water is now traded on the Internet. At water2water.com, you can buy, sell, trade or auction water 24 hours a day.
3. Readers will recall that mathematical modelling was also used by the Club of Rome in its 1972 report, *The Limits To Growth*, which predicted disaster unless the world's population was capped.
4. Gleick, Peter H., "Making Every Drop Count", *Scientific American*, February 2001, pp. 29-33. Also see *Journal of the American Water Resources Association*, vol. 25, no. 6, December 1999, which examines the metadata for almost 900 bibliographic references on the effects of climate change and variability on US water resources.
5. For more details, see "The Last Oasis: Facing Water Scarcity" by Sandra Postel. Her study, funded by the Ford Foundation, was published in 1992 and re-released in 1997 as part of the Worldwatch Environmental Alert Series. Postel's warnings were reiterated by UN Secretary-General

Kofi Annan on the occasion of the World Water Forum in March 2000. Annan's media release was titled "UN committed to ensuring world water security and 'Blue Revolution'", says Secretary-General in message to World Water Forum"; see UN Press Release SG/SM/7334 ENV/DEV/534.

6. For example, in UN Press Release SG/SM/5931 of 1996, "International community must act to avert impending water supply catastrophe", the then UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali described the impending water crisis as "one worse than the oil crisis of the 1970s". He was speaking on the occasion of World Water Day in March 1996.
7. The first draft of *World Water Vision* was available in 1997. A second draft came in 1999. The completed *Vision* document was presented at the World Water Forum in March 2000.
8. A "greenwash" is where transnational corporations preserve and expand their markets by posing as friends of the environment and enemies of poverty. Greenwash takes many forms: from a pious concern for the environment, expressed in expensive advertising campaigns, to the "continuous improvement" ballyhooed in voluntary codes of conduct; from the creation of benign-sounding corporate front groups, to the participation of TNCs in environmental conferences and events. All these efforts share the goal of avoiding national and international sanctions on dirty TNC operations, which are at the root of many global environmental crises. See Kenny Bruno and Jed Greer's book, *Greenwash: The Reality Behind Corporate*

Environmentalism, published by Third World Network and APEX Press, 1996.

9. The mission of Green Cross International is to help create the conditions for a sustainable future by cultivating a more harmonious relationship between humans and the environment. Green Cross International's President, Mikhail Gorbachev, was invited to guest-edit a special edition of *Civilization*, the magazine of the US Library of Congress, on the global water crisis. The edition was launched at a special event in Washington, DC, on 10 October 2000. Green Cross International has been granted General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc) of the United Nations. Its honorary board members include Dr David Suzuki, Shimon Perez, Javier Perez de Cuellar, Rudolph Lubbers and Dr Thor Heyerdahl. Green Cross International has played a critical role in the development of the Earth Charter.
10. Ministerial Declaration of The Hague, agreed to on Wednesday 22 March 2000 at the World Water Forum.
11. Companies participating in the World Water Forum CEO Panel on business and industry and endorsing this statement were: Azurix (USA); CH2M Hill Companies Ltd (USA); DHV (The Netherlands); Heineken NV (The Netherlands); ITT Industries (USA); Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux (France); Nestlé SA (Switzerland); Nuon (The Netherlands); Severn Trent PLC (UK); Unilever

Continued on page 82

Continued from page 81

NV (The Netherlands); Vivendi Water (France).

12. Corporate Europe Observer, "And Not A Drop to Drink! World Water Forum promotes privatisation and deregulation of the world's water", issue 7, www.xs4all.nl/~ceo/.

13. The World Bank's mission statement is "A world free of poverty".

14. The *Jerusalem Morning Post* of 1 February 2001 warned that Israel's current water crisis was the "worst in history". Water Commissioner Shimon Tal declared that, for the first time since the establishment of the state, more water is expected to be supplied for domestic use this year than for agriculture due to plans to cut fresh water quotas for farming by an average of 50 per cent. The issue of Water for Peace in the Middle East was raised at the World Water Forum 2000. Mikhail Gorbachev (representing Green Cross), Minister Mahadin of Jordan (in Jordan, the water shortage is becoming permanent and water may very well become a reason for conflicts), John Frydman of Israel, and Ambassador Yousef Habbab of the Palestinian Authority deliberated upon the issue of water and peace in the Middle East.

15. Since 1948, the World Bank has financed large dam projects which have forcibly displaced in the order of 10 million people from their homes and lands. The Bank's own 1994 "Resettlement and Development" review admits that the vast majority of women, men and children evicted by World

Bank-funded projects never regained their former incomes nor received any direct benefits from the dams for which they were forced to sacrifice their homes and lands.

16. Monsanto has addressed this problem by creating a new genetically engineered "Golden Rice" containing beta-carotene (a source of vitamin A). Golden Rice is now being promoted as the solution to vitamin A deficiency in the developing world.

17. "Monsanto expanding monopolies from seed to water", Corporate Watch, August 1999, www.corpwatch.org/trac/corner/worldnews.

18. Barlow, Maude, "Water Is A Basic Human Right – Or Is It?", *Toronto Globe and Mail*, Canada, 11 May 2000, www.theglobeandmail.com/hubs/national.html [also quoted in NEXUS 7/05 Global News].

19. For further details, see www.whirledbank.org/development/private.html.

20. Barlow, *ibid.*

21. *A Vision for Australia's Water Resources 2025*, Final Report, November 1999, prepared for the World Water Council by Integrated Resource Management Research Pty Ltd, Brisbane, Australia (UNESCO Contract BL 21-05), www.catchment.com.

22. Council of Australian Governments Communiqué, Hobart, 25 February 1994, www.dist.gov.au/science/pmsec/14meet/inwater/ap3form.html.

23. National Competition Council, Second Tranche Assessment of Progress on Water Reform in NSW and Queensland,

<http://nccnsw.org.au/member/wetlands/projects/campaigns/nccass1.html>.

24. Extracted from Alberni Environmental Coalition On-Line Library, CUPE's Annual Report on Privatization, 1999,

www.portaec.net/library/ocean/water/profitting_from_water.html.

25. *ibid.*

26. *ibid.*

27. See www.uswaternews.com/homepage.html.

About the Author:

Susan Bryce is an Australian journalist and author of more than 70 published research articles. Susan publishes the *Australian Freedom & Survival Guide*, which aims to undermine the pervading myths surrounding the corporate consumer culture, globalisation and the New World Order.

AF&SG encourages public debate and questioning of issues which are fundamental to our future freedom and survival. These issues include genetic engineering, food irradiation and related issues, Big Brother and the international surveillance regime, corporate power and global governance, and self-sufficiency in the 21st century.

AF&SG is available by subscription (6 issues per year, A\$45.00, US\$37.00, £25.00). Send cheque, payable to Susan Bryce, to: PO Box 66, Kenilworth, QLD 4574, Australia. For more details, visit Susan's website at www.squirrel.com.au/~sbryce/.

Deadly Silences: The Hurricane Andrew Cover-up

Continued from page 38

survivors squeezed my hand tightly, too overcome by grief to explain how they never found the bodies of their loved ones. Long pauses of silence took over when tears replaced words.

The poverty I witnessed was too startling to escape my poorly sighted eyes. Pathetic cardboard-type huts, covered by plastic sheets, greeted me everywhere I went. Then there were the bleak rows of government-funded temporary housing which lacked simple basic needs like indoor private showers.

I often wonder, now that I've returned back home, how those Turkish survivors weathered the 115° temperatures of July, since their temporary housing lacked proper insulation and air-conditioning. As the month of August began to unfold, torrential rains bombarded the country, bringing a new kind of disaster: flash flooding. How many lives were lost to *this* disaster?

The most pathetic survivors of all are children. Like many of the children who survived hurricane Andrew, many Turkish children whom I saw who could no longer smile or play. Shell-shock has very pro-

nounced effects on the young; often, they stop communicating altogether.

One little girl in particular caught my attention. Her arm had been badly injured, twisted into a permanent position of deformity. She stood very still, holding her hair in her good hand, never moving or showing any signs of emotion.

"She needs medical attention," I said to the doctor.

"Yes," he agreed, "a lot of the young survivors desperately need medical attention."

His answer puzzled me. "But I thought financial aid was donated from foreign countries."

"Yes," he nodded, "but most of the money ended up in the pockets of government officials. It never reached the survivors."

How well I knew what that meant. How well indeed.

After pausing, he added, "When the earthquakes struck, one foreign country offered to construct a hospital at the devastated site. But because of political differences, our government refused the offer."

I left the Turkish people, wondering: what kind of future is man creating for himself? Only one thought came to mind:

"Evil can only be defined as absence of empathy..."

Editor's Note:

This article is based on excerpts reprinted in *The Unopened Files*, issues 17 & 18, 2000, originally published in k.t. Frankovich's book, *Where Heavens Meet* (Language of Souls Publications, Inc., USA). To obtain a copy, order via Amazon.com or send payment to: k.t. Frankovich, PO Box 703, Umatilla FL 32784, USA (US\$24.95 + \$3.20 s&h in US; £14.99 + £3.50 p&h to UK; elsewhere, US\$24.95 + US\$8.00 p&h). For further information, visit www.kt.cjb.net or e-mail kfrnkovich@aol.com or Ukpoet@aol.com.

About the Author:

k.t. Frankovich has had a distinguished career as a writer in film and television, winning the 1975 Gold Venus award for documentary film writing. She has devoted her personal life to rescuing abandoned, lost and abused animals. k.t. is a poet and an author of short stories and several books. She is a frequent guest on radio talk shows across the US, and is passionate about exposing the tragedies surrounding the hurricane Andrew disaster.

The Deep Dwellers

Continued from page 63

the edges or strata of shapes which were pre-existing. Some of his "picture rocks" were in fact quite startling, depicting humans or human-like beings, human-animal hybrids, giants, and humans battling with creatures which look suspiciously like the Nagas, El Chupacabras or something similar. In 1975, Ray Palmer featured many of these pictures, along with Shaver's commentaries, in *The Secret World*.

The forms described by Shaver should be familiar by now. The dero—dark elves, or trolls, or Nagas, or Utukku/Ushabtiu—and the tero—the "noble faeries", Tuatha de Danaan, or "Aryan/Nordic Masters"—have simply manifested in a more contemporary, pseudo-scientific form. The Naga *vimana* disc-craft are present, and the abduction and genetic rape motif of all underworld Nagas/goblins/faeries is present as well. The "treasure of the Nibelungs", or the hoarded wealth of dragons, has been replaced by ancient and super-scientific "mech", a technology which bestows godlike powers upon its owners. And like the trolls, goblins, vampires and the rest of the ages-old under-

world crew, these subterranean beings are in hiding from the Sun, living in mole-like terror of its direct rays.

A relationship between Shaver's underworld inhabitants and those of the past is hopefully not so much literal and based in some terrible reality as it is archetypal and obvious.

Continued next issue...

About the Author:

Wm Michael Mott is the Creative Director for a high-performance US software company. He is also a freelance artist and writer of both fiction and non-fiction. He has worked as an artist/designer for *Fortune 500* companies and for a variety of book and magazine publishers. His artwork has appeared in publications such as *Computer Graphics World Magazine*, *Computer Artist*, *IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications*, *Dragon Magazine*, *UFO Magazine* and others. He's created award-winning artwork and graphic design for mass-market book covers, posters, brochures, packaging, CD-ROM covers and art collections as well as for digital/web-based media. Mott's artwork has been featured in the exhibition *In Dreams Awake: Art of*

Fantasy at the Olympia and York Gallery in 1988, at the 1987 World Fantasy Con and in other exhibits.

Mott's satirical fantasy novels, *Pulsifer: A Fable* and *Land of Ice, A Velvet Knife*, are published electronically by SoftBook Press/Gemstar (www.softbook.com), and will soon also be available from the author in a deluxe illustrated version on CD-ROM. The first of a series of illustrated short stories appeared in September 2000 as a chapbook from Undaunted Press (www.undauntedpress.com).

Mott has been researching Fortean and paranormal topics for over 20 years and has only recently decided to put the results of this research into written form, the result being the graphically rich book and CD-ROM, *Caverns, Cauldrons, and Concealed Creatures* (available from <http://www.hiddenmysteries.com>). Wm Michael Mott can be contacted by e-mail at mottmorph@earthlink.net.

Editor's Note:

The bibliography accompanying this article will be published next issue.