

#91

January / February 2012

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## Cataclysm: Very Ancient & Not

FRANK JOSEPH

*Were the Dinosaurs the Last to See Destruction from Above?*

## The Strange Truth about Lightning

WILLIAM B. STOECKER

*Just Because We See It, Doesn't Mean We Understand it*

## The Mystery of the Newport Tower

STEVEN SORA

*Is It a Work of Advanced Ancient Engineering?*

## Mary Magdalene and the Oranges

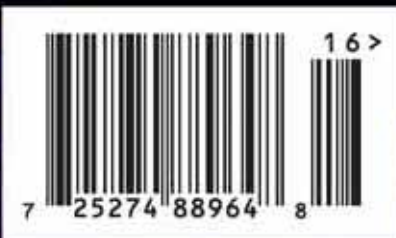
RALPH ELLIS

*European History Wouldn't Be the Same Without Her*

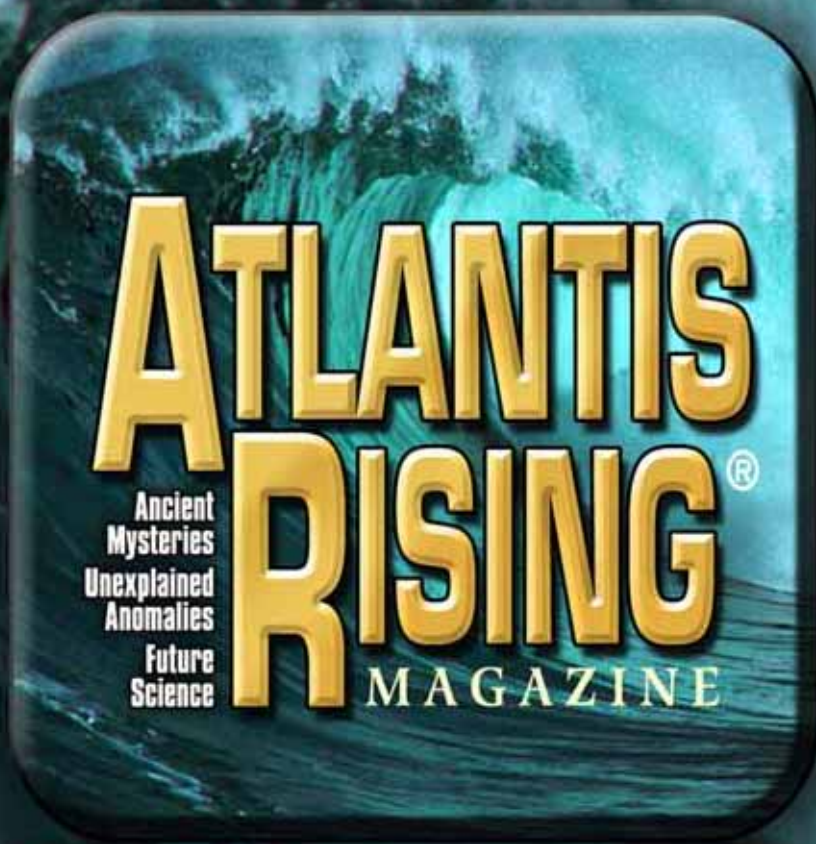
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# CONTENTS

#91

January / February 2012



**6 Letters**

**10 Early Rays**

**17 Jeane Manning**

New Energy  
Breakthrough  
from Italy?

**18 Michael Cremo**

Ancient Copper  
from Michigan

**23 Cataclysm:  
Ancient & Not**  
Were the Dinosaurs  
the Last to See  
Destruction Rain  
from the Sky?

**24 The Newport  
Tower Mystery**  
Who Really Built It  
and Why?

**29 Whence Went  
Thomas  
Aquinas?**

Did the Medieval  
Theologian Travel  
Out of His Body?

**32 The Karmic  
Challenge**

Have We Forgotten  
What We Once  
Understood?

**34 The Truth  
About Lightning**

**38 Magdalene &  
the Oranges**

**40 Technology &  
the Hieroglyphs**

**42 Giza's Cosmic  
Blueprint**

Andrew Collins  
on the Cygnus  
Connection

**45 Nabta Playa's  
Astronomers**

New Research  
on the Origins of  
Egypt's Star Lore

**46 Vindication  
for Colonel  
Churchward  
or Not?**

Tracking the  
Secrets of the  
Temple Tablets

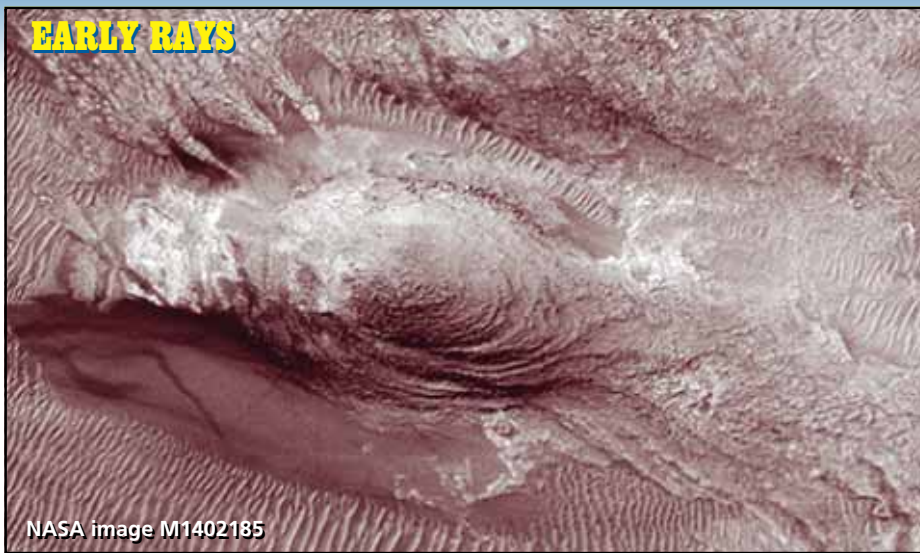
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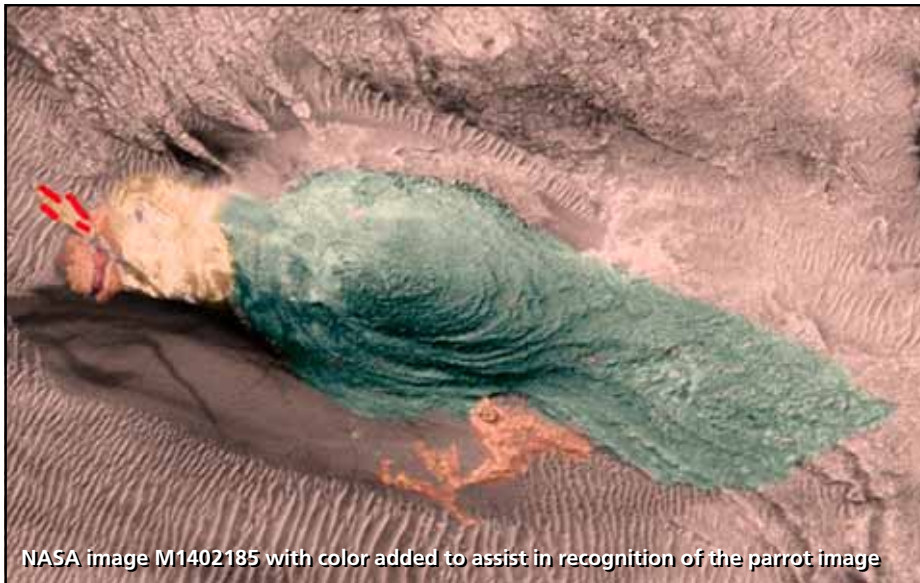
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## EARLY RAYS



NASA image M1402185



NASA image M1402185 with color added to assist in recognition of the parrot image

## The Curious Case of the Martian Parrot

While the so-called Face on Mars, gazing enigmatically upward from the Cydonia plain, has remained the most famous example of what some believe to be evidence for human-like civilization on the red planet, it is, by no means, the only one. Now, the possible

sighting of an enormous Martian “geoglyph” closely resembling a parrot is getting some new scientific scrutiny.

According to researcher George Haas and his colleagues at the Cydonia Institute, which studies anomalous material from Mars, the

photographic evidence is unmistakable. A giant avian formation, first identified by the late independent researcher Wilmer Faust in 2002, cannot, Haas believes, be satisfactorily explained as anything created by chance. In a new peer-reviewed paper, published in September, 2011, by the *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, he offers testimony by geologists, veterinarians, and other experts to support the thesis that a mile-and-half-long feature in the Argyre Basin of the Southern Highlands of Mars is an anatomically accurate representation of a parrot-like bird which could not have appeared naturally. The clear implication is that it was the product of intelligent engineering and on a massive scale.

On Earth, geoglyphs are huge pictures, sometimes thousands of feet on a side, created in the landscape, apparently by indigenous peoples even though they themselves would not have been able to view their handiwork from sufficient altitude to appreciate it. Probably the best known examples are found on the Plain of Nazca in Peru, where immense images of spiders, monkeys, and other creatures literally cover the vast high desert floor.

The newly studied Martian “geoglyph” can be found in NASA image M1402185 taken by the Mars Global Surveyor. Wilmer Faust, who died in 2005, was initially startled by what he saw as the remains of a fully formed parrot complete with a correctly proportioned oval-shaped body, a beaked head, and a three-toed foot. The feature has been re-imaged twice since, seemingly ruling out any notion that it is a trick of light and shadow.

For years, a small but vocal group of researchers has challenged conventional wisdom regarding not only the possibility of life on Mars but, civilization, as well. The late Astronomer Tom Van Flandern was among those who thought that there was plenty of photographic evidence for such a thing. Haas and his colleagues are hopeful that their new study will encourage other scientists to take a serious new look at the “growing archive of anomalous formations on the red planet.” ■

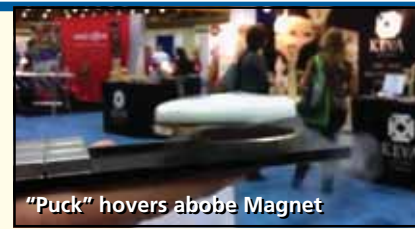
## Quantum Levitation Goes Viral on Internet

Video of a levitating “puck” from *Wired* news went viral on the Internet in October. Viewers were fascinated to watch an object resembling a hockey puck remain floating and locked in placed next to a board mounted with a magnet which could be moved freely and rotated without changing the relative position of the puck.

The demonstration by researchers from Tel Aviv University showed off something called “Quantum Levitation,” also known as the Meissner effect, where an object composed of yttrium barium copper oxide, cooled by liquid nitrogen to near absolute zero, becomes superconducting and diamagnetic, thus generating a field which opposes that

of another nearby magnetic field. The principle is used with MagLev trains.

The technically literate shrugged off the significance of the demonstration, but for many it dramatically revealed working levitation for the first time and opened eyes to exciting and *cool* new possibilities. ■

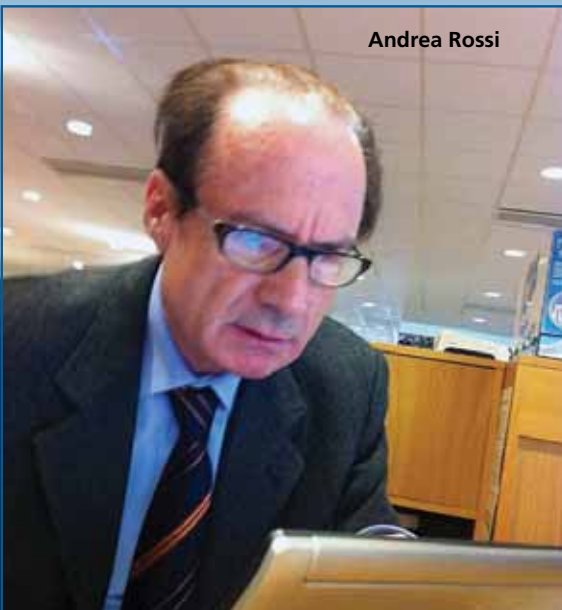


“Puck” hovers above Magnet



and beneath

Andrea Rossi



## Cold Fusion's Quiet Resurrection

The cold fusion news from Italy continues to be hot, though you wouldn't know it from the mainstream American media. The so-called E-Cat technology of inventor Andrea Rossi passed another major milestone on October 28, 2011. Though some complained that the test was flawed, it still demonstrated that the technology was valid.

In Bologna the new test was, by all accounts, successful in demonstrating that the E-Cat works, though not in producing as much power as some would want. According to Hank Mills, reporting for *Pure Energy Systems News*, the system may not have done more because Rossi simply isn't interested in showing more right now. Rossi *is* interested in introducing a one-megawatt E-Cat plant in the U.S. in the next few months.

The E-Cat is said to produce a safe and clean low energy nuclear reaction which consumes only a tiny amount of nickel and hydrogen. It does use a secret catalyst which Rossi says is also inexpensive.

*Wired News* reports that many top scientists have already been convinced that E-Cat works. Among them are Nobel prize winner, Brian Josephson, and Dennis Bushnell, chief scientist at NASA Langley Research Center. The Pentagon is also reportedly involved. Ex-Darpa chief Tony Tether told *News Energy Times* that "If it is a hoax, it's a damned good one."

If E-Cat does work, it will provide a lightweight source of cheap energy, without any CO2 emissions; and unlike nuclear fission, it produces no radioactive waste. It may change the world. Maybe then the American press will notice, but don't count on it.

For more see Jeane Manning's column on page 17 of this issue. ■

## End of the World Said Narrowly Escaped in 1883

Could the end of the world as we know it have happened in 1883? According to scientists at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, a comet eight times the size of Haley's came within 120 miles of Earth. If it had actually struck the planet, the destruction, it is estimated, could have been as great as the event said to have killed the dinosaurs millions of years ago.

Javier Durand Manterolo, lead author of the report, says the new conclusion is based on a photo and research by Mexican astronomer José Bonilla which was published in the magazine *L'Astronomie* in 1886. At the time, the picture was called the first photo of a UFO. It showed an array of 447 misty-looking objects followed by a misty trail. According to Manterolo's team, Bonilla had observed a highly fragmented comet which new calculations show was in an approach almost parallel with Earth's surface. The objects are estimated to be between 300 and 5,000 miles away and to be between 40 and 700 yards in diameter.



Bonilla's photo

Some scientists question the findings, pointing out that such a comet breakup would have filled the sky with meteors and that such an event was never reported. In fact, the regular Perseid meteor shower which followed shortly after the sighting was in no way unusual.

NASA has recently reported that the risk to Earth from planet-killing asteroids or comets is less than originally thought. It only takes one, though, to ruin your entire day. ■

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## ALTERNATIVE SCIENCE

• BY FRANK JOSEPH

The official “discovery” of America in 1492 was preceded just one year earlier by another calamitous event that took place on the other side of the world. Unlike the historic voyage undertaken by Christopher Columbus, however, a momentous occurrence in the South Pacific would go unrecognized for more than five centuries.

In 2003 scientists identified the location of a peculiar feature on the seafloor at the southern edge of New Zealand’s continental shelf. Just south of the Snares Islands, 75 miles southwest of Stewart Island, at more than 500 feet beneath the ocean surface, they found an immense crater 13 miles across. Australian geomorphologist Edward Bryant, with assistance from other professors at Wollongong University, determined that it was not the remains of a sunken volcano but had been excavated by the impact of a celestial object on February 13, 1491. Ascertaining this exact date was made possible by telltale ash layers preserved in an icecore drilled from Siple Dome, so-called because of the 75-mile-wide, 60-mile-long ice-dome’s proximity to the Siple Coast, along the east side of Antarctica’s Ross Ice Shelf.

Named Mahuika after the Maori god of fire, the New Zealand depression’s astronomical identity was confirmed by elemental anomalies diagnostic of an extraterrestrial impact, plus the existence of characteristically affected fossil and mineral remains in the area. Among the most reliable and widespread evidence was a profusion of tektites within a 137-mile radius of the strike. Tektites are pieces of natural glass formed when a massive, extremely hot impact liquefies rock and minerals together in the immediate vicinity, combining with sand, and shot into the atmosphere. Mahuika tektites are orange, light green, and clear in visible light.

These and related geological proofs enabled investigators to determine that the comet, asteroid, or large meteor that struck the southwest Pacific in the late fifteenth century triggered widespread seismic upheaval, including numerous volcanic eruptions, throughout the already geologically unstable region. A 57-acre landmass, 3.5 miles wide and 850 feet high, was heaved up from the bottom of Hauraki Gulf, near Auckland, to become Rangitoto Island. These geologic incidents wiped out many animal species, including the moa, predatory Adzebills, and 11 species of flightless birds.

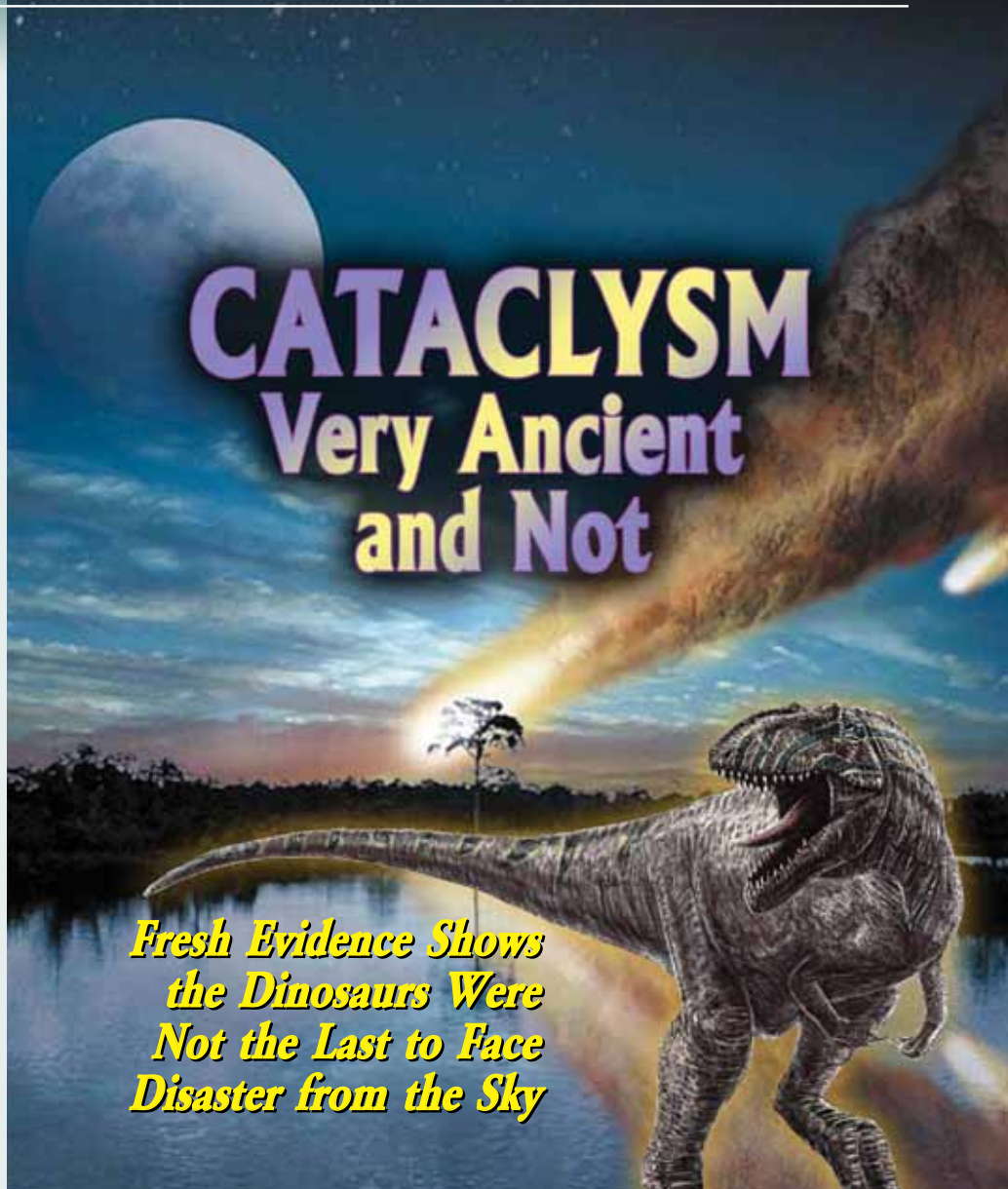
Also driven to extinction was the giant Haast’s Eagle, named after the late nineteenth-century German geologist, Julius von Haast, who first classified the Pouakai, as it was called by the Maori. This, the largest eagle ever known to have existed, was also the biggest known true raptor, slightly larger even than

today’s largest living vultures. It weighed as much as 33 pounds and spread its wings at 9 feet, 10 inches. Even though the largest extant eagles are about 40 percent smaller in body size than Haast’s Eagle, it achieved speeds of 50 miles per hour or more in attack, with “a bodily striking force equivalent to a cinder block falling from the top of an eight-story building” (Kennedy Warne. “Hotspot: New Zealand,” *National Geographic Magazine*, October 2002). Given its monstrous size, strength and speed, biologists believe the Pouakai was capable of living up to its reputation in Maori legend as a man-killer. But it could not survive the onslaught unleashed by the massive bolide that crashed into the Pacific Ocean more than 500 years ago.

Native New Zealanders were no less threatened. They abruptly abandoned their coastal settlements, but many must have been overcome by mega-tsunamis that rampaged across the Pacific. The towering waves left signs of

their widespread devastation in ocean-bottom sediment for early twenty-first century investigators to find throughout eastern Australia at 426 feet above sea level. Comparable deposits dated to the same period occur on the eastern side of Lord Howe Island, in the middle of the Tasman Sea. Even higher levels reaching 492 feet above sea level were found at Australia’s Mason Bay, off the southeast coast of Victoria. But the highest bands occur at Rakiura, New Zealand’s third-largest island, at 721 feet above sea level.

These depositions mean that immense quantities of beach sand were lofted inland by waves ranging from 426 to 721 feet high. Bryant found evidence of 426-foot-high waves generated by Mahuika as far from the impact center as the coast of New South Wales, 300 miles away. By means of comparison, the largest historical earthquakes on record have



# CATACLYSM Very Ancient and Not

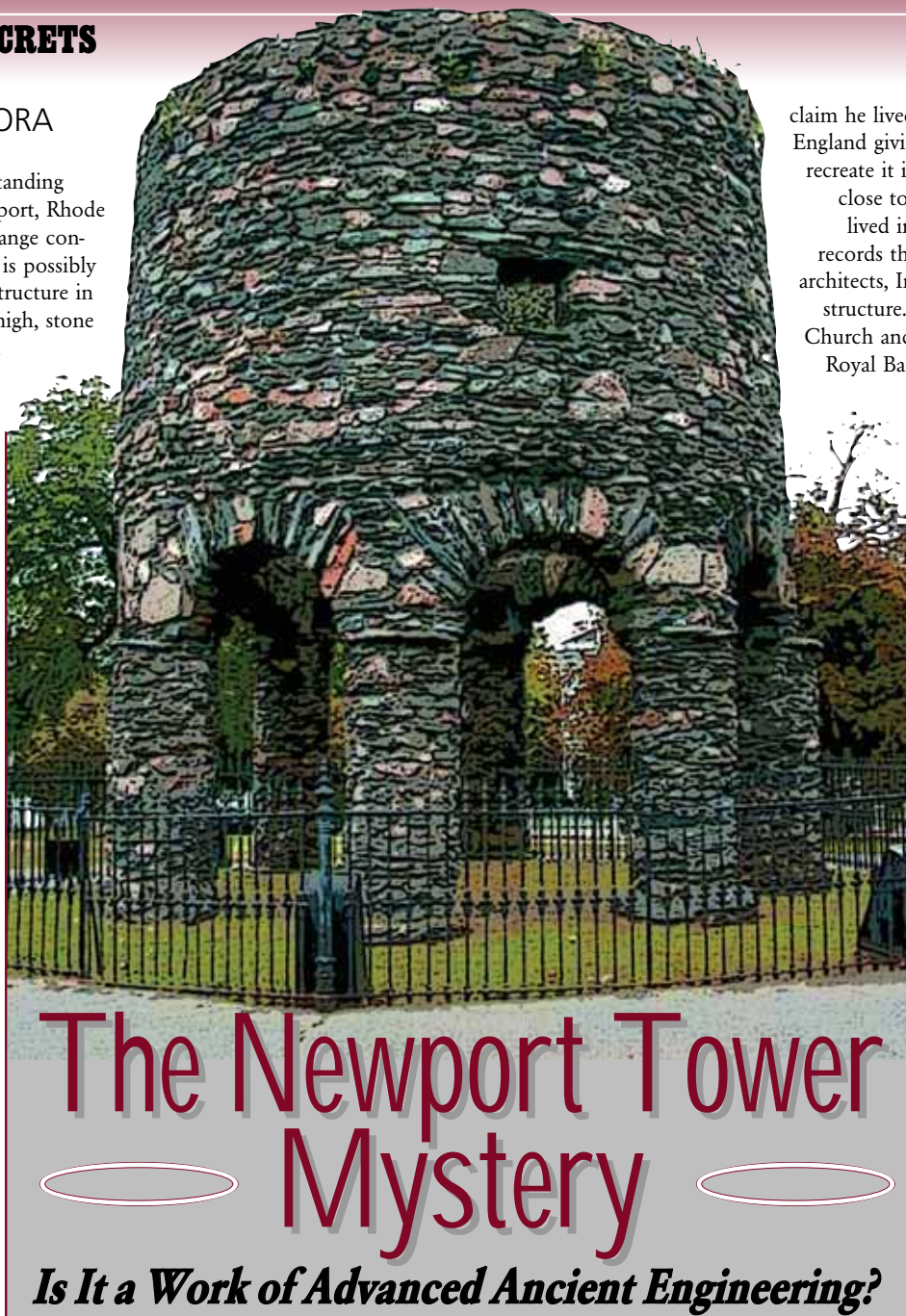
*Fresh Evidence Shows  
the Dinosaurs Were  
Not the Last to Face  
Disaster from the Sky*

Continued on Page 59

● BY STEVEN SORA

**T**he Mystery: Standing guard in Newport, Rhode Island, is a strange construction that is possibly the most controversial structure in America. It is a 28-foot-high, stone and mortar tower with a twenty-four-foot, outside diameter. It contains more than 5000 cubic feet of stone, sand, and lime. With each cubic foot of such material weighing 200-some pounds, it amounts to a million pounds being assembled—quite a project for early colonists. It has been called a windmill or stone mill, a twelfth century Viking monument, a fourteenth century Templar baptistry, a fifteenth century Chinese-built lighthouse, a sixteenth century Portuguese construction and, recently, a Renaissance horologium. It has eight columns, two stories, a “fireplace” and a handful of oddly placed windows. It once had a roof, possibly conical, but this may have been blown off during the evacuation of the British during the American Revolution.

No one has done more research to determine the origin of the tower than the New England Antiquities Research Association. In recent years several NEARA members including James Egan and Bill Penhallow have studied the tower and discovered the windows actually serve as astronomical alignments. Summer and winter, there are different light patterns, such as light hitting a keystone and the so-called fireplace, on the solstice dates. Solstice sunset and sunrise projections are now interfered with by buildings and trees, as is the view from the tower to the harbor. Egan’s evidence shows the tower was constructed by someone with advanced knowledge and ability. This would narrow the list of suspects.



# The Newport Tower Mystery

*Is It a Work of Advanced Ancient Engineering?*

### A Colonial Windmill?

Until 1837 the tower was believed to be the work of the first Benedict Arnold in Rhode Island. This man was not the Revolutionary War traitor; that Arnold was separated from this one by a 100 years and four generations. The man given credit for the construction was one of the first Englishmen in Rhode Island. He referred to it in his will as his “stone-built windmill” although there is no evidence that it was ever used as a windmill, and it is not tapered like a windmill. While many assume this early colonist built it himself, he does not say that in his will; he claimed only that it was his, on one of his vast tracts of land.

Those who insist it was his construction

claim he lived near such a windmill in England giving him the inspiration to recreate it in America. Although not close to where the Arnold family lived in England, there did exist records that one of England’s great architects, Inigo Jones, built a similar structure. Jones designed St. Paul’s Church and the Covent Garden, the Royal Banquet Hall in Greenwich, and the Queen’s House.

Would he have interrupted such work to build a simple windmill? Actually he may have when he built Sir Edward Peyto’s Manor House in 1632 in Chesterton. The Chesterton Tower served a greater purpose, though, than mere windmill, as Peyto was an astrologer and mathematician.

Did the Chesterton Tower, as it became known, have a connection to the Newport Tower? That is a possibility. The problem is the small size of the colony did not lend itself to such major construction either for a mill or an advanced observatory. The jury is still out.

Roger Williams and Benedict Arnold were among the first to lay claim to Newport in 1639, although there is evidence that Arnold had traded with the Narragansett peoples since 1636. An earlier document from 1630, sent to King Charles I, signed by Sir Edwin Plowden, asked to possess certain lands in Long Island as well as Rhode Island. He specifically mentioned a “round stone tower capable of holding thirty men.” The document pointed out that it was not for the purpose of holding a garrison of soldiers but was instead to serve as a secure trading post. The petition was granted on July 24, 1632, seven years before the first white settlers officially arrived, and four years before Roger Williams arrived in Providence.

It should be noted that “official” may not

**Continued on Page 60**

# The Strange TRUTH About Lightning

*Just Because We Can See It  
Happening, Doesn't Mean  
We Can Explain It...*

• BY WILLIAM B. STOECKER

**M**odern physics rests uneasily on the twin pillars of relativity theory and quantum mechanics, and repeated attempts to combine the two into a GUT, or Grand Unified Theory—reconciling relativistic gravity and quantum gravity—have not been notably successful. The most popular current notion has been string theory, now modified into membrane theory, but there seems to be no way to test the hypothesis, either to prove or disprove it. Some people (including a few physicists) suspect that a good deal of modern physics, particularly much of relativity theory, may be just plain wrong. Maybe we need to back up a bit and approach the whole problem from a different angle. Some suspect that with James Clerk Maxwell's equations, we were on the road to a final understanding of every physical phenomenon; but Oliver Heaviside and others, attempting to simplify the equations, led everyone astray. Then there is a recurrent suspicion that the Michelson-Morley experiment, which failed to detect evidence for a luminiferous ether, led us further



James Clerk  
Maxwell

astray and that there may be a kind of ether after all—a dynamic one. This might be identical with the chi, or kundalini force, postulated by mystics and might be the key to “free” energy, gravity control, and much more.

Certainly a valid theory should be able to explain common, everyday phenomena like the earth's magnetic field. We are told that it is somehow produced by convection currents in our planet's nickel-iron core, but how does that explain the fact that the magnetic poles are offset from the axis of rotation, are less than 180 degrees apart, and wander about? How does that explain the recurrent reversals of our magnetic field, apparently preceded by its gradual weakening (like we are experiencing right now)? If Earth's field is produced by a nickel-iron core, what of the Sun with a hydrogen plasma core and a powerful field, or Jupiter whose core is probably metallic hydrogen, or neutron stars, or black holes? What all of these magnetic bodies have in common is angular momentum. Isn't it logical to expect a common source for all the fields, having something to do with their mass and spin?

And while we are on the subject of electro-

magnetism, what about lightning? This is a very common phenomenon, indeed, but to say that it is imperfectly understood is an understatement. There is no doubt that lightning is electricity but how that electricity is produced is a bit of a mystery, and it is not clear that physicists truly understand electricity to begin with. Ben Franklin, with his famous kite experiment which he and his son were lucky to survive, essentially repeated Thomas-Francois Dalibard's experiment conducted in France in 1752, more or less proving that lightning was an electrical discharge. One Georg Richmann in St. Petersburg, Russia, later tried to duplicate Franklin's and Dalibard's experiment but was killed—reportedly by ball lightning which struck his head.

Lightning is an electrostatic discharge which occurs in rainstorms, volcanic eruptions, and dust storms. Even some large forest fires, which can be started by lightning, also produce lightning. Lightning has been observed on Jupiter and Saturn and is suspected to occur on Venus. Meteorologists theorize that water droplets and ice, falling through the clouds, somehow separate the charges within the clouds or between the clouds and the ground. Lightning can flash within a cloud, between clouds, or between a cloud and the ground. Of course, this doesn't completely explain charge

**Continued on Page 36**



Mary Magdalene, in her ubiquitous orange robes, lands in Septimania.

the threads given to us by the Talmud and the research of Professor Robert Eisenman, we find that Jesus (of Gamala) was also married to Mary of Bethany, a lady who turns out to be one and the same as Mary Magdalene.

So far, so interesting. But here is where we begin to diverge from biblical history.

**Royal Prince**

If we continue to follow these records of real first century history, we eventually find a family history for Jesus (of Gamala) that is rather different from the one we have been taught by the religious authorities. We begin to discover that Jesus was actually rather wealthy: he owned a castle near Tiberias, and he controlled a 600-strong army (of so-called fishermen). In addition, Mary Magdalene was called Mary Boethus, in the historical record, and she was said to have been the richest woman in Judaea. And it was Mary Magdalene who supported Jesus and the disciples financially, out of her great wealth, just as it says in Luke 8:2-3. This might seem like a radical departure from biblical history, but it actually makes sense. King Herod would never have been afraid of a pauper carpenter, but he might well have been afraid of the strategic ambitions of a popular aristocrat and royal prince.

And there is more. If you begin to link the various threads of this new history together, we begin to discover that Jesus (of Gamala) was actually a royal prince called Izates, the son of Queen Helena of Adiabene (Queen Thea Muse

# MARY MAGDALENE and the House of Orange

*European History Would Not Be the Same Without Her*

• BY RALPH ELLIS

**M**ary Magdalene founded the royal Dutch house of Orange? Is this an all-fool’s-day joke? Actually, no. And one of the primary reasons for thinking that this may be so is that the House of Orange is not Dutch, nor was it French. In fact, the House of Orange was originally from Septimania—the small province in the south of France in which the fabled City of Orange is situated, the province where Mary Magdalene is supposed to have been exiled in the first century AD.

In my previous works *Cleopatra to Christ* and *King Jesus I* followed the new historical evidence for the biblical family, provided in the works of first century historian, Josephus

Flavius. It is commonly said that there is no historical evidence whatsoever for the biblical Jesus, but this is not true; if readers only understand that the biblical Jesus was called Jesus of Gamala, then we suddenly find that there is a whole host of contemporary historical information about the biblical Jesus. And, not surprisingly, this new evidence concurs very well with the biblical accounts.

Thus we find that Jesus (of Gamala) was the leader of a new and radical sect of Judaism, called the Fourth Sect, or the Galileans; and he was said to be the leader of 600 rebel fishermen. This is why the New Testament calls its hero “Jesus of Galilee” and the “Fisher of Men.” It is also said that Jesus (of Gamala) became high priest of Jerusalem, just as *Hebrews Chapter 7* affirms. In addition, if you follow



Jesus titled INRI, which stands for “Jesus the Nazarene and King of the Jews”

Ourania). And we know that these two characters are closely linked, because Josephus Flavius specifically blames the leaders of the Fourth Sect (including Jesus of Gamala) for the Jewish Revolt. But later on, Josephus says that the leaders of the Revolt surrendered to the Roman army commander, Titus, and the foremost leader was called King Izates, the King of the Jews. But Josephus also mentions the fact that Izates had a nickname, and that was Izas. If you have an open mind to these matters, it is quite clear that King Izas was the biblical Jesus, who was also called the King of the Jews. Remember that Jesus was only being hailed as a

**Continued on Page 66**

# GIZA'S COSMIC

*The Author of The Cygnus Mystery Discovers Evidence in the Cygnus Star*

• BY ANDREW COLLINS

In 1994 Robert Bauval and Adrian Gilbert's ground-breaking book *The Orion Mystery* theorized that the Pyramids of Giza reflected the astronomical positions of the three "belt" stars of Orion, a constellation linked with the destination of the king's spirit in his role as Osiris, the ancient Egyptian god of death and resurrection. It was this unique concept that opened the way to visualizing Giza's famous pyramid field as constructed as part of some grand cosmological scheme.

The OCT (Orion correlation), as it became known, was widely accepted. However, British chartered engineer Rodney Hale was not convinced. He found that when the Orion belt stars were overlaid on their respective pyramids, there was a noticeable mismatch. If the stars Alnitak and Alnitam were lined up with the peaks of the Great Pyramid and Second Pyramid, then the third star, Mintaka, fell beyond the limits of the Third Pyramid. He concluded that when attempting to match the geographical positions of their monuments against the astronomical relationship of key stars, the pyramid builders might have been more accurate, especially since they aligned the pyramids so precisely to the cardinal directions.

Then, in January 2005, having been alerted to the work of the current author regarding the apparent significance of the Cygnus constellation in mythologies and creation myths world-

wide, Hale began looking at whether the stars of Cygnus could be matched against the geographical positions of the Giza Pyramids—would they line up better than those of Orion's belt?

Hale synched the apexes of the Giza Pyramids with the three principal "wing" stars of the Cygnus constellation, which, along with the bright star Deneb, were known in Arabic star lore as "the Triangles," and found that the match was almost perfect. The star Delta Cygni matched with the Great Pyramid, built c. 2600-2575 BC, while Sadr (Gamma Cygni) lined up with the Second Pyramid, built c. 2575-2550 BC, and Gienah (Epsilon Cygni) synched with the Third Pyramid, built c. 2550-2525 BC. Were the plots of all three pyramids chosen to reflect the astronomical positions of key stars in the constellation of Cygnus, the celestial bird of universal star lore, which, as the Northern Cross, has been venerated by Christians as a symbol of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for over 1500 years?

## Cygnus in Context

On paper a Cygnus-Giza overlay looked impressive, but it would only be valid if the Cygnus stars were shown to have been important to the pyramid builders of around 2600 BC, when the Giza pyramid field was first conceived. Well, these stars *were* important to the ancient Egyptians. American astronomer Dr. Ronald Wells has proposed that even before the dawn of the Pyramid Age, the ancient

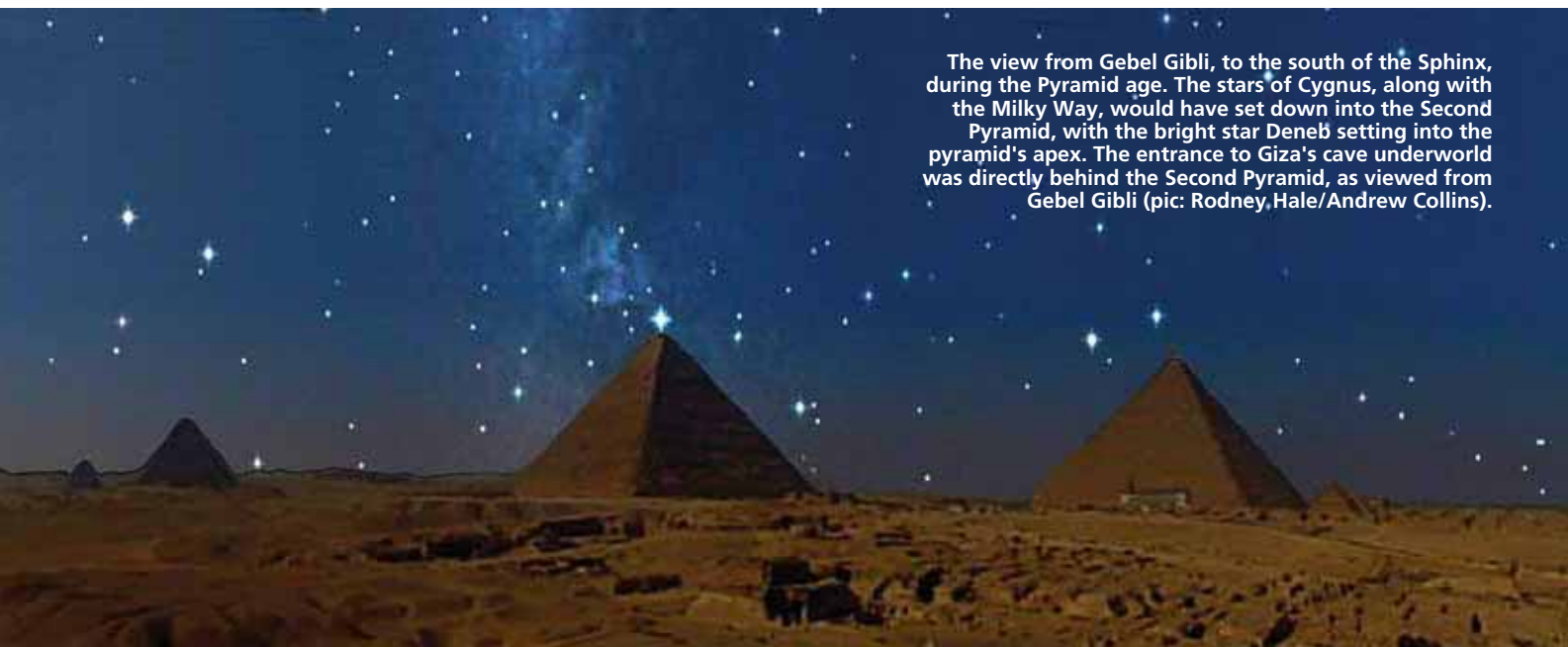
Egyptian sky-goddess Nuit was personified in the heavens as the Milky Way with her thighs and legs formed by the twin streams created by the Cygnus Rift. This is a dark region of stellar debris that runs down the center of the Milky Way from Cygnus to the region of Sagittarius, where the sun's path, the ecliptic, crosses the Milky Way in one of two places (the other being in the vicinity of Gemini and the Orion constellation).

If all this was right, then Nuit's womb and birth canal corresponded with the part of the Milky Way marked by not only the commencement of the Cygnus Rift but also the Cygnus stars themselves. It was within this conceptualized cosmic womb that the deceased king, in his role as Osiris, Nuit's own son, was considered to achieve rebirth via the placement of his mummy inside the pyramid tomb.

During Egypt's Old Kingdom, various pyramids were given names that reflected either their astral connections or the idea that they were places of transformation or ascension. From around 2350 BC onwards, the burial chambers of pyramids started to be adorned with hieroglyphic inscriptions that affirmed the relationship between the rebirth of the deceased king as an Osiris and Nuit's womb. For instance, the opening lines of these so-called Pyramid Texts read as follows:

*Recitation by Nuit, the great beneficent: The (returned) king is my eldest son (i.e. Osiris) who split open my womb; He is my beloved, with whom I am well pleased. (PT 1)*

The view from Gebel Gibli, to the south of the Sphinx, during the Pyramid age. The stars of Cygnus, along with the Milky Way, would have set down into the Second Pyramid, with the bright star Deneb setting into the pyramid's apex. The entrance to Giza's cave underworld was directly behind the Second Pyramid, as viewed from Gebel Gibli (pic: Rodney Hale/Andrew Collins).



# BLUEPRINT

## System for the Pyramid's Grand Design

The Cygnus "Swan" Constellation



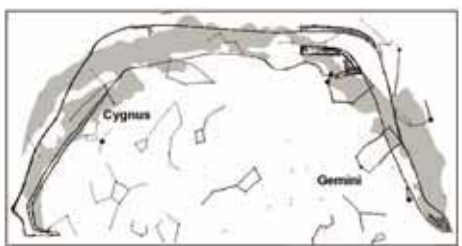
The arc of a circle made by the peaks of the Giza Pyramids. When the center of this circle is plotted, it is found to fall around 2800 meters (1.73 miles) southeast of the apex of the Second Pyramid, from which the Cygnus "wing" stars were seen to set into their corresponding pyramids in the Cygnus-Giza correlation, circa 2600–2500 BC.

This is to be taken as Nuit being pleased not only with the king's achievements in life, but also that he has now returned to her womb, a surmise confirmed later on in the text when the deceased is addressed as follows:

*As you are given (i.e. returned) to your mother Nuit in her name of sarcophagi;*

*She has drawn you together in her name of "burial chambers,"*

*As you are made to rise up to her (body or womb) in her name of "tomb." (PT 364)*



The sky-goddess Nuit seen in her perceived role as the Milky Way. Her womb and birth canal fall in the vicinity of the Cygnus constellation, which marks the commencement of the Cygnus Rift (pic: Rodney Hale/Andrew Collins, after Dr. Ronald Wells).

### The Body of Nuit

Nuit's body was additionally equated with the Duat, a tunnel-like underworld and waterway, through which the sun and stars were

considered to journey during the hours of darkness. Each night the dying sun, after setting on the western horizon, was thought to be swallowed by Nuit who then passed the solar orb through her body in its role as the Duat. Here the mid-night sun, identified as the sun-god Re (or Amun-Re), received rebirth prior to its reemergence at dawn on the eastern horizon. The transformation of the deceased king into an *akh*, or "glorious spirit," was imagined as reflected in this process of the rebirth of the sun within the Duat, or body of Nuit, during the hours of darkness.

### Duat of Memphis

Ancient Egyptian funerary texts, such as the "Book of That Which is in the Duat," which dates to the New Kingdom, c. 1550-1087 BC, make it clear that a section of the Duat, known as the Duat of Memphis, was thought to exist as a cave-like tunnel beneath the vast necropolis that served the Old Kingdom capital of Memphis in Lower Egypt. This necropolis included the cemeteries of Saqqara, Dahshur, Abusir, Zawiyet el-Aryan, and, crucially, Giza. Indeed, the section of the Duat of Memphis where the sun-god Re was thought to achieve rebirth is preceded by "the road to the secret things of Rostau," with Rostau being the ancient name of Giza. Located on the west side of the Nile, on the edge of the Libyan hills beyond which stretched an unending savannah plain (now the Libyan desert), Giza's famous plateau was probably seen as a kind of dead zone, or no-man's land. The entire area, in its role as Rostau, acted like a place of transition between the world of the living, which thrived on the east bank of the Nile, and Amenti, the land of the dead, associated with the direction of the setting sun.

Literally translated "Rostau" means the "mouth of the passages," an allusion most likely to a perceived entrance to the cave-like Duat of Memphis. So the perceived rebirth and transformation of the deceased king, as both an Osiris and the sun-god Re, within both the pyramid tomb and Nuit's celestial womb, marked out by the stars of Cygnus,

made sense of why the Giza Pyramids might have been positioned to reflect the influence of this all important constellation.

### Cygnus-Giza Correlation on both a Vertical and Horizontal Plane

Yet, there is more, much more, for in addition to the vertical correlation demonstrating the importance of Cygnus to the positioning of the Giza Pyramids, we find that the correlation works also in the Horizontal plane. The apexes of the three pyramids form a perfect arc of a circle; and when its center is plotted, we find that it falls approximately 2800 m (1.73 miles) southeast of the Second Pyramid. Geographically this center point, situated in the vicinity of a disused factory about 1 km (2/3rd of a mile) south of the village of Kafr el-Gebel, the former Upper Rostau of various inscriptions, corresponds with a natural rise, the highest in the area, which I argue elsewhere could once have been a symbolic Mound of Creation associated with a primordial Tomb of Osiris (see "The Search for Egypt's Mound of Creation" at [andrewcollins.com](http://andrewcollins.com)).

The importance of this realization is that if someone were to have stood on this natural mound during the Pyramid Age, they could have seen the three Cygnus wing stars setting, one by one, into the peaks of their corresponding pyramids in the Cygnus-Giza correlation, which works in both the horizontal and vertical plane.

### The Setting Stars of Cygnus

Of even more interest is that falling on the sighting line between the center of the arc circle beyond Kafr el-Gebel and the apex of the Second Pyramid is Gebel Gibli, a prominent rocky eminence located several hundred meters due south of the Sphinx monument. It seems likely that this elevated site, which provides a perfect view of the plateau's key features, served as an original datum point for the evolution of the pyramid field. The Dream Stela of Thutmose IV, erected between the paws of the Sphinx around 1450 BC, alludes to a location beneath the noon-day sun, i.e. due south, called "the Splendid Place of the First Time (*zep tepi*)."

A good argument can be made to demonstrate that this is a reference to Gebel Gibli, which also bears the name Tarfiye,

**Continued on Page 68**

MU

# New Vindication for Colonel Churchward?

## OR MAYBE NOT...

*Are New Reports Confirming a Secret Library to Be Credited?*

• BY PHILIP COPPENS

**N**ew evidence suggests that James Churchward, who claimed to have seen evidence of the lost civilization of Mu, was indeed shown a secret library. German tour operator Thomas Ritter says he has been able to enter it, but are his claims too good to be true?

Churchward was a patented inventor, engineer—and a man who claimed that he had found evidence of a lost civilization: Mu. Said to have been the Pacific equivalent of Atlantis, Mu was, Churchward believed, the original colonizer of the later Atlantic empire.

The first modern researcher to write about Mu was Augustus LePlongeon, best known in archaeological circles as the first to make a photographic record of the ruins of Chichen Itza. In his books *Sacred Mysteries Among the Mayans and Quiches* (1886) and *Queen Moo and the Egyptian Sphinx* (1896), LePlongeon claimed his decipherment of the so-called “Troano Codex” showed that the Maya were the ancestors of the Ancient Egyptians. The Mayans had originated, he said, from a lost civilization, Mu, which was on par with Atlantis and which had been destroyed by a volcanic eruption. He added that Queen Moo—clearly



Augustus LePlongeon

linked with Mu—had traveled from the lost continent to Egypt, where she had gone down into the history books under her new name of Isis. Unfortunately, when the Mayan language was deciphered several decades later, it turned out that LePlongeon’s interpretation was completely erroneous, sometimes even using letters that were, in fact, no such thing. Jack Churchward, a descendent of James Churchward, states that LePlongeon relied on the translation of Basseur de Bourbourg. Jack Churchward received an email from one of de Bourbourg’s descendants who stated that the translation was done by channeling a spirit. That may explain why LePlongeon erred so much in his interpretation.

LePlongeon, however, did put the lost civilization of Mu on the map, but it was left to Theosophist Helena Blavatsky to popularize it, claiming it was the mystical birthplace of occult traditions. The man, though, who may fairly claim to have brought Mu from theory and speculation to purported history was James Churchward, a friend of LePlongeon’s, who said he had been shown physical evidence for Mu’s existence in a secret library in India.

Born in Britain, Churchward eventually settled in the United States. But it was during earlier

years, while living in Sri Lanka where he owned a tea plantation with his wife, that he traveled to India. During this journey, he later claimed, he discovered a lost epoch of mankind’s history. In India, he had befriended a priest who taught him to read an ancient dead language. Allegedly, only the priest and two others in the entire world were able to read it. The language was written down on numerous tablets, which the priest allowed Churchward to see and read. Churchward intimates in his books that he tricked the priest into showing him the tablets as well as teaching him the meaning of the language. As he did so, Churchward claimed, he realized that the tablets he saw were not the complete library. Nevertheless, by consulting other sources and people, he was able to piece together a coherent picture of the lost civilization of Mu. Years later he would claim that he received further corroborating material in the form of tablets found by archaeologist William Niven in Mexico.

The earlier events happened in the late nineteenth century, even though Churchward did not go public with his Mu material until 1924. That he had remained silent for such a long time about such a momentous discovery was seen by many skeptics as just too good to be true. It is known, however, that Churchward’s interest in ancient civilizations was of very long standing. In the 1890s, he had personally discussed the subject of Mu with Le-



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