

#84

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The Mitchell-Hedges Is No Longer Unique

## Hall of Records Covered Up?

DR. GREGORY LITTLE

A Fatal Tragedy Spurs Dubious Conspiracy Talk

## Is There Chess After Death?

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When the Heart Stops Does the Game Go On?

## Psychic Warfare in Romania

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# ATLANTIS RISING

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MYSTERIES  
FUTURE SCIENCE  
UNEXPLAINED  
ANOMALIES**

**PUBLISHER & EDITOR**  
J. Douglas Kenyon

**CONTRIBUTORS**

John Chambers  
Philip Coppens  
Michael Cremo  
Frank Joseph  
Greg Little  
Julie Loar  
Casey Luskin  
Jeane Manning  
Patrick Marsolek  
Marsha Oaks  
Robert M. Schoch  
Steven Sora  
William B. Stoecker  
Carly Svamvour  
Michael E. Tynn

**COVER PHOTO**

Ryan Hammer  
(Tibetan Prayer Wheel)

**GRAPHICS**

Teena Brugh  
Ryan Hammer  
Randy Haragan  
Denis Ouellette

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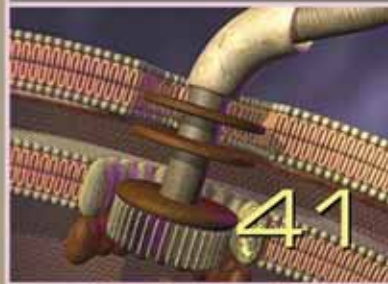
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## EARLY RAYS

# New Robot to Explore Strange Passages in the Great Pyramid

**T**he days of robotically exploring the interior chambers of the Great Pyramid at Giza are not over. In fact, a team from Leeds University in England, under the supervision of Egyptian Antiquities Director Zahi Hawass, will attempt to go where no one has gone before, at least since the days the ancient structure was built.

At issue are so-called shafts sloping upward from the north and south walls of the Queens chamber which appear to terminate after 60 meters at mysterious doors. In 1992, engineer Rudolf Gantenbrink was the first to send a small robot up the south shaft and to photograph what appeared to be a door equipped with copper handles. Gantenbrink had been operating without the blessing of Hawass and soon was given his walking papers. No further effort was made to follow up on Gantenbrink's discovery until 2002 when another robot—this time with Hawass approval and a worldwide television audience—climbed the passage leading from the chamber's south wall, approached the "door," and then proceeded to drill through it. On the other side of the barrier, though, was yet another barrier. Subsequent exploration of the north passage from the chamber produced a similar result. That was the way things were left until this year when Hawass announced the new robot project.

According to Dr. Robert Richardson of Leeds University School of Mechanical Engineering, the new robot is prepared to keep going until it reaches the end of the shaft, to drill through whatever is there, and to find whatever lies beyond. The group, says Richardson, has no preconceptions and will find what it finds.

At stake are numerous theories pertaining to the real



Robot is inserted into Queen's chamber shaft

purpose of the Great Pyramid itself. Hawass himself is among those who believe the structure is fundamentally a tomb. He has indicated that he thinks the current exploration may ultimately locate a mummy, something which, conspicuously, has not been found in any of the pyramid's previously explored parts. Others have suggested that the real purpose of the Great Pyramid was to aid the pharaoh's passage to the afterlife. Still others, like engineer Christopher Dunn, have argued that the structure was, in fact, a great power plant.

As for the Queen's chamber shafts, themselves, Dunn has pointed out that both end at the same height above ground and that their design appears consistent with passageways for some kind of liquid, and that the copper "handles" look like nothing so much as fluid switches capable of closing some kind of electrical circuit when the shafts were filled to a sufficient height.

Maybe soon we will all know the truth or, perhaps, be greeted by yet another mystery. ■



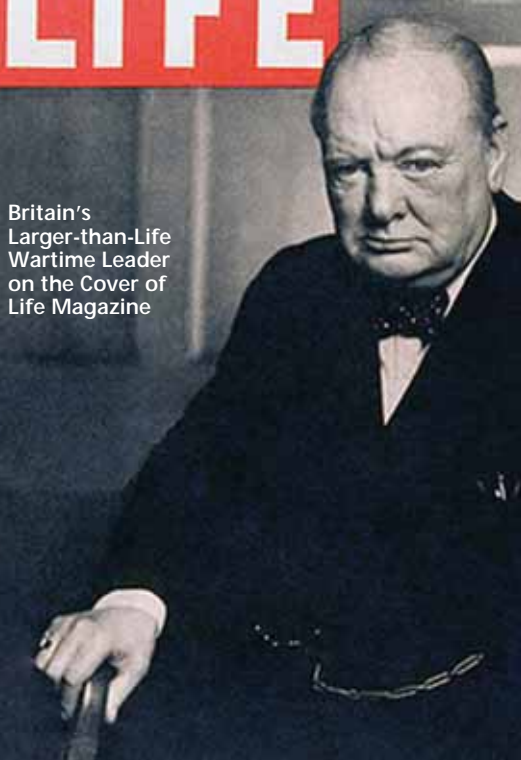
Gantenbrink's "Door"

Great Pyramid

# LIFE

## Did Churchill Order UFO Coverup?

Britain's Larger-than-Life Wartime Leader on the Cover of Life Magazine



According to files once classified but recently released under Britain's Freedom of Information law, Winston Churchill was accused by one of his bodyguards of ordering a 50-year coverup of a World War II RAF-UFO encounter over the English channel. Churchill, it was said, "feared panic" and the loss of faith in religion if the report was released.

Information concerning the original incident is unavailable; since, before 1967, the Ministry of Defense, citing a lack of public interest, routinely destroyed all UFO reports over five years old. According to Britain's *Daily Telegraph*, though, the story was brought to light in memos and correspondence from between 1995 and 2003 when a British Physicist attempted to investigate a story related by his grandfather who was one of Churchill's personal bodyguards. The physicist had been told by his mother that her father, though bound by the official secrets act, had told the story to her when she was nine and then again to his wife on his deathbed.

As the grandson explained, in correspondence with the government, during the war an RAF reconnaissance plane returning from a mission over occupied Europe was approached and shadowed at close range by a

metallic object unlike anything the crew had ever seen before. The crew took pictures, and ultimately their detailed report made it to the wartime prime minister Winston Churchill. He responded, it is said, by ordering the report kept secret for at least half a century and only to be released then, after review by the future prime minister.

Historians, says the *Telegraph*, believe the story is probably true, at least the part about Churchill's reaction. Britain's wartime leader had a well-documented interest in UFOs. In 1952, he personally ordered a report on "flying saucers" and what they "amounted to."

Meanwhile, back in current time, the government of Brazil has just taken steps to ensure that in the future, any UFO encounters with its Air Force will not be lost or suppressed, as has apparently happened elsewhere. A recent government decree requires all military and civilian pilots as well as air traffic controllers to register any UFO sightings with the national aerospace defense command. The information will be stored in the national archives in Rio de Janeiro and made available to researchers, including those seeking evidence of extraterrestrial life.

The fate of the head of John the Baptist has finally been cleared up. That, at least, is what a group of archaeologists, including Bulgaria's minister without portfolio Bozhidar Dimitrov, would now have us believe. Dimitrov, the former director of Bulgaria's National History Museum, says a reliquary in the fifth-century monastery on Sveti Ivan island in the Black Sea produced the treasure for a recent expedition. If subsequent research confirms the authenticity of the find, it will surprise many.

## Bones of John the Baptist Said Found

the Eastern church. Many sects throughout Asia assign him a very special role; in some cases, even preeminent to Jesus. Some believe that his head was one of the key relics in possession of the Knights Templar.

The bones found in Bulgaria—once part of the Byzantine empire—include fragments of a skull, bones from a jaw, a tooth, and an arm. It should be added that many countries in the region claim to have the bones of John the Baptist, including Turkey, Montenegro, Greece, Italy, and Egypt.

The quest for the remains of St. John even provided the background for a recently broadcast episode of *Poirot*. Though the TV drama focused on a more recent murder, the ancient killing of an enigmatic saint clearly continues to disturb even jaded modern sensibilities as do few other crime stories.



Scientists Examine Bones

John the Baptist, according to the New Testament, prophesied the coming of Jesus Christ then later baptized him in the River Jordan. John was eventually beheaded by the emperor Herod as a favor to the daughter of his (Herod's) wife. The story has been preserved in the Richard Strauss opera *Salome*. St. John is especially revered in

Lou Brits (left) and John Christie with their machine. (Photo by Marc McCormack)



## Australian Inventors Claim Free Energy

A pair of Australian inventors are back in the 'Free Energy' sweepstakes. Engineers John Christie and Lou Brits first made news for their "Lutec 1000" over-unity technology in 2001, but they were driven virtually underground for over six years by ensuing attacks from the 'skeptical' community. This year, though, armed with patents from at least 60 countries, Christie and Brits have reintroduced their system to the world.

Operating as an "energy amplifier," their generator draws

power from a bank of batteries but puts out, it is claimed, 10 times the energy it consumes. The core of the system deploys an array of powerful, permanent magnets to achieve the effect. According to the Australian newspaper, *The Cairns Post*, the technology was verified earlier this year in tests by SGS, a major independent industrial engineering inspection service operating in Australia.

Christie and Brits are now reported to be working on a production prototype.

# The "New" Crystal Skull Enigma

The Mitchell-Hedges  
Is No Longer  
Unique!

• BY PHILIP  
COPPENS



"Compassion"

With the 2008 release of *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, the featured artifact attained a far higher level of exposure than ever before. Prior to that, crystal skulls had become somewhat famous only in the 1980s, primarily in New Age circles. Today, there are hundreds of crystal skulls, almost all of them of modern fabrication (most made in China) and used in various New Age-type seminars. Only a handful are suspected of having ancient origins including the most notorious of all, the Mitchell-Hedges crystal skull.

The movie makes scant reference to the Mitchell-Hedges skull; yet, that particular skull stands alone as, by far, the most complex and the only one with a detachable jaw, meaning that whoever made it was a master in carving crystal—able to achieve something that modern artisans cannot. Gerald Leandro De Souza, a master skull carver from Brazil with 25 years of experience, notes that "the process of cutting the jaw from a skull causes the jaw to break and is almost impossible for any skull carvers to accomplish."

Still, skeptics, principally led by Jane Walsh, an anthropologist at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, attempt to argue that all

these skulls are of modern fabrications. So far, none of the claims made by Walsh and company, have been substantiated by any actual evidence. Specifically, Walsh tries to point the finger to Germany and the town of Idar-Oberstein, arguing most of these skulls were carved there by the resident artists. However, no records of skull carving have ever been found there; there are no records of any carver of this kind in the middle of the 19th century, when some are said to have been made. In short, Walsh's theories remain totally unsubstantiated—not very scientific!

(Contributor, David Childress, gave the history of the Mitchell-Hedges skull in "Enigma of the Crystal Skulls" in *Atlantis Rising*, #83.—Ed.)

The Mitchell-Hedges crystal skull has a Central American origin. Mitchell-Hedges' daughter Anna says it was found in the ruins of Lubaantuon on her 17th birthday in 1924. Until now, the famous skull—by dint of its complexity—has been the most celebrated, the most debated, and most unique crystal skull. Today, however, it no longer remains so unique: on August 6, 2009, former Alaskan fisherman Joe Bennett, purchased from a California import shop, another crystal skull, with a detachable jaw,



Dr. John Minch

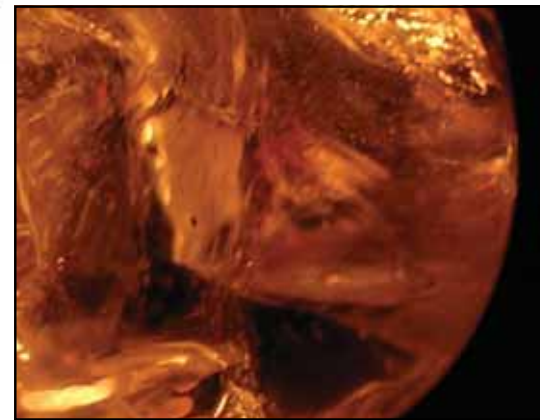
which he soon named "Compassion," thus possibly ushering in a new era in crystal skull research.

Adult-human-sized "Compassion" consists of clear quartz, 5.5" tall, 5.5" wide, and 8 inches long, weighing 11 pounds—very similar in dimensions to the Mitchell-Hedges. The mouth has 28 teeth. Little is known of its origins, but it is known to have been stored in the United States for the five years previous to Bennett's purchase. Before that, it had spent 22 years in a warehouse in Africa.

The African owner's name is not a matter of public record, but initial analysis has shown that the skull does not come from Brazil. Gerald Leandro De Souza argues that, indeed, the "quartz probably is from Africa." The likeliest origin is Namibia, a well-known quartz crystal source.

Whereas the Mitchell-Hedges is "crystal clear," "Compassion"—made out of three distinct layers—is more like the skull known as MAX which has five such layers. The largest, frontal part, however, is made of the clearest quartz. Behind the top of the forehead is a softer section of less translucent crystal. Behind that is the third layer, separated from the others by a small fissure of iron oxide, which can be easily seen from the back.

The possibility that the material inside



the fissure is iron oxide was first suggested by crystal carver James Ziegler, who added that the material at the bottom of the fissure was feldspar, a conclusion confirmed when the skull was examined by Dr. Ray Corbett, Associate Curator of Archaeology at the Natural History Museum in Santa Barbara and Geologist Dr. John Minch on March 30, 2010. Minch confirmed that the fissure was filled with iron oxide.

These experts, furthermore, accepted that its grinding had been done by hand, and not machine. Discernible pie-shaped areas would be kept by a carver but would be smoothed out by a grinding wheel. Other aspects of the skull, related to a lack of left-right symmetry, show that the work was indeed done by

Continued on Page 59

• BY DR. GREG LITTLE

In *Atlantis Rising*, (March 2010) Philip Coppens described rumors of secret passageways under the Giza Plateau including brief details of an illegal excavation that occurred in September 2009. The illegal excavation was apparently a search for Edgar Cayce's Egyptian Hall of Records. Until researcher Bill Brown asked me for assistance in arranging a meeting with John Van Auken, Director of the Association For Research & Enlightenment (ARE), I was not aware of the details. Oddly, only a few days before Brown's request, he sent an email stating that the ARE was involved in a coverup with Dr. Zahi Hawass, and that they were "lying." It was the confirmed death of six Egyptians and a series of illegal activities that convinced me to try to unravel the details.

In September 2009, six Egyptians died in a collapsed shaft excavated under a house in Nazlat el-Samman, a village abutting the Giza Plateau. The house and shaft were alongside the wall erected around the pyramids and Sphinx to control access and stop looting. According to Egyptian newspapers, the tunnel had been a seven-month project, and at least 17 people were arrested.

The men "died while hunting for treasure when the floor beneath them collapsed ... rescue teams spent four days desperately trying to save the six Egyptians, who had been trapped in a large hole ... The rescuers eventually hauled them up as dead bodies. The six people were allegedly fooled by a charlatan into believing that there was an antique treasure lying hidden beneath the house owned by one of them ... the six died of asphyxia after they stayed for four days in the hole they had dug to a depth of about 15 metres ... neighbours had heard screams as the house collapsed and almost disappeared into the hole shrouded in dust." (<http://www.ablogabouthistory.com/2009/10/14/treasure-hunt-fatalities-in-egypt/>)

### The Alleged Conspiracy

Bill Brown and Richard Gabriel (a pseudonym) link a series of events to the deaths of the six people. They claim that the Hall of Records was accessed; artifacts from Atlantis were removed; and that various people are covering up what was recovered. These accusations have been made on websites and in widely circulated audio interviews. The information for this article comes from their website ([www.richardgabriel.info](http://www.richardgabriel.info)), online interviews, and emails.



## HALL OF RECORDS COVERUP?

### The Tragic Death of Six Egyptians, Said to Be Digging for Edgar Cayce's Atlantean Depository, Stirs Conspiracy Talk on the Web

According to Brown, he was the manager of a Polish university's Egypt ground penetrating radar (GPR) project. Brown adds that in 2006 he "privately and secretly" conducted GPR in Nazlat el-Samman, adjacent to the tunnel where the six Egyptians died. The secret GPR is explained as an assessment of the property for possible purchase. (He did not buy the property.) He reported he "was able to see a room about 8 by 8 feet with energy sources at the room's corners." Inside he "saw a wooden box about the size of a briefcase." Inside the box were two foil-like "sheets of gold separated by a half-inch with a light-like energy, crystal, or plasma." He "saw some type of writing on the gold sheets." Brown states that a cylinder was removed which unnamed "experts" were calling "a generator." This device is the alleged "Atlantean technology" artifact. Discussing Brown's findings, Gabriel said adjacent "rooms were filled with treasures, gold and statues." How Brown "saw" the box and writing was explained when Brown said that he actually "saw" these "in his mind." According to Brown, since then he had been "playing cat and mouse with authority while trying to obtain access to sensitive areas..."

Brown claims someone stole his "GPR data" in Chicago around June 2009, three months prior to the deaths. In online interviews, he repeatedly suggests there was a connection between the stolen data and the illegal dig where the six Egyptians died. In a

May 2010 talk, Brown stated: "Someone started to believe that our information was correct, and someone started digging there."

Gabriel adds that he was told of several illegal digs, including one under the house where he stayed (adjacent to the site of the deaths). He also went to one of Mark Lehner's official excavation sites, going through a barbed wire fence and taking photos when Lehner was not present. In another story, he was taken to "another illegal dig location" where inside a living room was "a huge cavernous hole disappearing into the ground."

According to Brown, at 2:00 a.m. on April 28, 2010, a Polish friend "put on a uniform" so that he could enter the closed Giza area and walk past the guards and police who patrol the area. In the U.S. such a crime is called "impersonating an officer" and is a felony. I assume that in Egypt it is also a crime.

This person then supposedly shot film using a cell phone. On the film it's difficult to see anything, except the moving around of a few trucks and loaders in the dark. According to Brown and Gabriel, artifacts were removed

from the ground near the Sphinx. Brown was sent the film, and two enhanced still images were posted online with the caption being a nighttime "snatch and grab." Brown relates that he sent an email to a "high up" official in Egypt who told Brown to post the entire film online, "to protect the person" who illegally filmed it.

Andrew Collins was asked to look into the affair, and he made an inquiry to John Van Auken. John called Cairo and found that the trucks were being used to prepare for the TMX-Red Bull event scheduled to be held directly in front of the Sphinx the next month. Brown and Gabriel interpreted this as a cover story for the removal of artifacts from the Hall of Records. They also allege that a "huge explosion" was heard the next morning, adding that a military satellite had picked up an energy burst in the Great Pyramid.

The TMX-Red Bull event was actually held directly in front of the Sphinx, and hundreds of websites have posted high quality video of it (<http://extreme.com/fmx/1012183/adam-jones-and-the-pyramids-of-giza>). The event was massive and involved construction of ramps and seating areas. Online films show heavy equipment construction ramps and large amounts of scaffolding being dumped from trucks. The so-called "explosion" and secret excavation relate to the heavy equipment used in the dumping of

Continued on Page 30

• BY MICHAEL E. TYMN

**L**ike athletes, chess champions appear to lose some ability with age. At the age of 54, in 1985, Viktor Korchnoi, known as “Viktor The Terrible,” may have been past his prime years, when he was a four-time champion of the Soviet Union and a five-time winner of the European Championship. However, he was still highly regarded in the chess world. Moreover, his opponent, Géza Maróczy, was much older—so old in fact that he had died at age 81 in 1951, 34 years before their historic game began.

The Korchnoi versus Maróczy chess game, which began in 1985 and ended in 1993, lasting 7 years and 8 months, is without a doubt one of the most intriguing cases ever in the annals of psychical research. It was reported by Dr. Wolfgang Eisenbeiss and Dieter Hassler in the April 2006 issue of the *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research*.



**One Case Shows that Even When the Life Is Done the Game Goes On**



Viktor Korchnoi



Geza Maróczy

“This case appears to be one of the most remarkable cases supporting evidence for survival of an intelligent component of human existence after bodily death,” opines Dr. Vernon M. Neppe, director of the Pacific Neuropsychiatric Institute in Seattle, WA and professor in the department of neurology and psychiatry at St. Louis University in Missouri, himself a chess champion at a more modest level than Korchnoi and Maróczy, who were ranked 13th and 29th, respectively, all-time in a 1978 study.

The match was arranged by Eisenbeiss, a Swiss stockbroker and a doctor of economics with a long-standing interest in psychical research. Knowing that Eisenbeiss had considerable experience in studying mediums, a dentist named Waldhorn suggested to Eisenbeiss that he attempt to arrange a chess game between a living person and a deceased person. Intrigued by the idea, Eisenbeiss persuaded Korchnoi, who had defected from the Soviet Union and was living in Switzerland, to take part in the experiment. He then asked Robert Rollans, a long-time acquaintance and an automatic-writing trance medium who was living in Germany, to participate.

Born in Romania in 1914, Rollans was a musician and composer. He discovered his automatic-writing ability at age 33 when early one morning, as he started to write a letter, he sensed a force take control of his hand. “Don’t be afraid, it’s me, your brother Robi,” his hand wrote. Robi, a young physician, had died eight years earlier. Never having heard of automatic writing, Rollans didn’t know what to make of it, but eventually figured it out and developed his gift. According to Eisenbeiss, Rollans would enter into a semi-trance and was unaware of what his hand was writing. After he came out of the trance state, he was ignorant of what he had just written.

Eisenbeiss concluded that Rollans was a

particularly good candidate as he did not know how to play chess and was willing to participate without remuneration. Moreover, he had complete confidence in Rollans’ integrity.

Eisenbeiss gave Rollans a list of deceased grandmasters and requested that he have his control spirits named Tata and Gabriel, said to be late relatives of Rollans, attempt to locate one of the grandmasters in the spirit world and have him agree to such a match. (*The “control” is a spirit who acts as an intermediary in the spirit world, much like the medium does in the material world. In effect, there are usually four parties—the sitter or person receiving messages on this side, the human medium, the control, and the communicating spirit. The control usually relays messages from the spirit communicator and in automatic writing controls the medium’s body, especially the writing arm. Occasionally, however, a spirit communicator can operate the medium’s arm*)

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**Battles for the Freedom  
of this Persecuted People  
Have Been Waged on  
Many Levels for Centuries**

**Politics and  
Psychic Manipulation  
in Romania**

Romanian Revolution, December 1989: The National University Library House, Bucharest, burning in the background.

• BY ROBERT M. SCHOCH, Ph.D.

**R**omania is a land of unparalleled natural beauty and deep religious sentiments, combined with continuing mystery and intrigue. Vampires, Dracula (perhaps based on the real life fifteenth century ruler Vlad Tepes of Transylvania), witchcraft, black magic, and all things paranormal come to the mind at the mere mention of Romania—and with good reason, for the country has a long and continuing tradition of occult manifestations.

Recently (August 2010) I traveled to Romania and explored its mysteries firsthand. There are too many things of interest to relate in one article; here I will focus on some recent political events that are intertwined with serious allegations of psychic manipulation. First: A little background.

Just over twenty years ago, during the month of December 1989, the government of Nicolae Ceaucescu, the iron-fisted communist president of Romania, collapsed. Opposition to the regime had been growing for years. When protests over the government's attempts to evict a dissident priest broke out in Timisoara (a major city in the west of Romania) on December 16, the anticommunist sentiments quickly grew, with crowds gathering, protests spreading, and riots ensuing. The army was sent in but failed to establish order and active fighting escalated.

On the morning of December 22, Ceaucescu and his wife Elena (who was also Deputy Prime Minister of Romania), along with a few high ranking members of his re-

gime, made their exit from Bucharest by helicopter. The Ceaucescu contingent was captured later in the day by the opposition. Ceaucescu and his wife were executed by an army firing squad on Christmas Day.

The National Salvation Front (Frontul Salvării Naționale) established a new interim government. In the final days of the Romanian Revolution, sides in the fighting were not always clear as various factions vied for power. Orders were ambivalent, contradictory, and convoluted as chains of command broke down and loyalties shifted. Military contingents at times ended up fighting one another somewhat indiscriminately. The violence and chaos in Bucharest and elsewhere in Romania did not finally end until around December 27.

**Parapsychological Warfare**

With my colleague Oana R. Ghiocel (a Romanian by birth who lived through the December 1989 events), I have been studying the 1989 Romanian Revolution from the perspective of the psychical sciences. A number of high-ranking military officers have spoken out publicly, making the case that Romania was a testing ground for unconventional warfare carried out using any techniques available, including psychic manipulation by domestic and foreign interests opposed to the Ceaucescu regime.



Teodor Filip was a key military commander during the Romanian Revolution, holding a number of important posts. He was Chief Commander of the USLA (*Unitatea Speciala de Lupta Antiterorista* [Special

Unit for Anti-Terrorist Protection]); he was in charge of security for President Ceaucescu; and he headed security operations at the Bucharest Otopeni International Airport (since renamed the Henri Coanda International Airport), the Parliament House, and other critical areas. In his book *Razboiul Parapsihologic Împotriva României* [*The Parapsychological War Against Romania*] Filip writes (translated into English by Oana Ghiocel):

“... the moments of the beginning of the Romanian Revolution from December 1989, as well as the events that preceded it, raise many questions and doubts. Many of these events were marked by deeds that make one think of the premeditated action of a ‘film director’ from outside the masses of those revolting. Some elements make one realize that during the Romanian Revolution, against Romania took place a true parapsychological war, where all unconventional weapons of psychological, psychotronic, and psychic warfare were widely used.” (Parapsychology here refers to the study of anomalous mental phenomena, such as mind reading or mind-over-matter, and other psy-

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CONSCIOUSNESS



Photo by Robert Broadie



Photo by Tevaprapas Makklay

# Prayer Power



Photo by Erwin Lux

*Could Millions Know Something that Science Doesn't?*



Photo by Bill Andrews



Photo by Plamen Matanski

• BY PATRICK MARSOLEK

In its broadest terms, prayer refers to any kind of communication with a Higher Power, the Absolute, or God. For millennia, humans have been making requests to a higher entity in the form of gifts, actions, or verbal supplication. Prayer is still alive and well in the world today in its many different and fascinating forms. People believe in it, use it, and sometimes rely on it for guidance and healing. Perhaps you know someone who has gone to an energy healer and come away feeling better? Or you might have heard of a person who has received prayers from a church group. Are these practices a carry-over from more primitive times or only 'wishful thinking' as the materialistic paradigm we live in tells us? Let's take a look at some of the current science and research into prayer and also look at prayer's history, diversity, and implications.

Since the 1950's, researchers have been attempting to study and understand reports of the power of prayer and "psychic" healing. Like parapsychology, the methodologies developed for studying prayer have become quite rigorous, ruling out most of the known causal, physical, or even psychological explanations for healing.

Some current scientific research refers to prayer as "Distant Intentionality" (DI) in order to avoid religious connotations and to emphasize the purposeful, mental aspect of prayer. The following modalities of healing fall under the umbrella of DI: A) Intercessory prayer—making a request for a desired outcome; B) Non-directed prayer—requesting only the will of a higher power; C) Energy healing—covering many different practitioners who use subtle energies to heal; D) shamanic healing—a complex set of practices where a practitioner uses altered states, metaphysical realms, and spirits to encourage healing; E) Therapeutic Touch—a specific practice using a meditative focus and intention; and F) Spiritual healing—refers to a wide range of techniques including spirits, mediums, seances, trances, and channeling, often within some religious context.

Researchers have been able to show in double-blind, scientifically controlled studies that mental intentions can have effects upon distant biological systems. These effects have been explored in many varied applications. College students and healers have affected the growth of fungus, yeast, or bacteria growing in cultures. Healers have influenced the growth of cancer tumors in animals or the animals recovery from anesthesia. There are many studies showing how mental intent can influence humans: to speed their recovery from surgery, to increase or decrease the production of certain cells, or slow the progression of certain diseases, such as advanced AIDS.

Researchers have also conducted rigorous 'meta-analyses' of these kinds of studies. These analyses look at the overall results of all the research to see if the results can be replicated and if there is enough statistical power to make the studies scientifically valid.

These meta-analyses show results that are far beyond what might be expected by chance; and, though the effects may be small in some cases, they are sometimes as much eight times larger than the effects reported in other mainstream studies that have been touted to be medical breakthroughs. This kind of research challenges the scientific community and is often strongly resisted. The reasons seem obvious. Acceptance of this research may require a redefining of our culture's predominant models of mind, consciousness, and healing. The conventional model assumes that consciousness, and its effects, is localized in the physical body and in the present. The new analyses indicate that consciousness may be able to affect physical organisms at a distance. Science has shown that you can help your loved one to heal if you pray for him.

Larry Dossey, who has compiled some meta-analysis on this subject, noted some interesting trends in the research. The strength of the affects of the DI seems to compare with the intensity of the thoughts, feelings, and intentions of the person sending intention. Intentional healing abilities seem to be widespread in the human population, and some studies seem to show that advanced meditators and healers produce larger effects. A healing outcome can occur at different distances, from hands held directly over the body to DI practitioners being in different rooms. People with a greater need for healing seem to be more susceptible to the prayers of others. Effects can occur without the knowledge of the receiver and, interestingly, the effects can be blocked by the receiver if desired.

Another interesting area of research has concerned the so called "Maharishi Effect." Since the early 1970's, practitioners of Transcendental Meditation (TM) have been putting their calming thoughts and intentions to use. In many large US cities, studies using TM have observed statistically measurable reductions in crime when as little as one percent of the city's population is engaged in some form of meditative practice. In some studies, the quality of life in the population was measured using incidence of fires, traffic accidents, serious crime, and stock market fluctuations. A direct relationship between the number of participants and the various measures of the quality of life was shown. When the number of people praying was reduced, the incidence of serious crime, fires, and accidents increased.

These studies seem to indicate how the inward practice of calming your mind can have a positive effect on the world around you. Gregg Braden, in *The Isaiah Effect*, claims that early sages and prophets suggested that one tenth of one percent of humanity could shift the consciousness of the world. There is a Hopi prophecy that recommends prayer for changing the course of world events, saying when prayer and medi-

tation are used rather than relying on new inventions to create more imbalance, humanity will find the true path. "The Maharishi Effect" studies confirm these older beliefs and suggest the critical number of those with healing intentions may be even smaller.

The TM studies bring up another interesting phenomenon of prayer. The language we use may have power in itself. TM is a meditative practice that uses mantras, energy-based sounds that when spoken with repetition are believed to transform the psyche of the individual, and sometimes the individual's body, too. Mantras are usually simple one- or two-syllable words but can also be a longer phrase. It is believed that when you invoke a mantra, you are accessing all the stored history of that word. You are in essence piggybacking on the work of all the individuals who have intoned that mantra over the thousands of years they've been in use. OM (or AUM) is one such word. OM is believed to be the sound of the universe in Sanskrit. It is believed that invoking it is to align your consciousness with the underlying unity frequency of everything and to help remove the illusion of separation. Many thousands use this word in their prayer and meditation every day. One interesting quality of mantras is that it doesn't seem to matter if you know what energy your mantra evokes, you can still experience its benefits.

Sanskrit is an ancient language whose sounds are thought to be derived from the actual sounds of the universe. In other words, the sound of the word used is thought to be connected with the essence of whatever is being described. This belief differs from

English or modern languages which are based on a physical and logical connection to what is being described. When one invokes the name of a deity in Sanskrit, it is thought that the power of the deity joins you through the sound frequencies of the name. If, for instance, you call or sing to Ganesha, the elephant-headed god in India who is thought to be the remover of obstacles, you will actually experience more openness and success. In the same



Maharishi

way, each mantra or prayer said in Sanskrit is thought to physically affect change.

Devotional chanting is believed to have similar qualities. When you repetitiously sing a song in one of these ancient languages, you may experience a shift in your consciousness. We have seen the negative effects of this kind of consciousness shift in some forms of mass hysteria, when people are "pulled in" to the consciousness of a group intent for violence. Group chanting can create a mass 'hypnosis' that can affect positive changes. Also, with mantras and chants, you have the added benefit of repetition, which can help to shift you into a trance state. In a trance, the conscious mind is quieter, more relaxed, which allows for a

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# Putting ATLANTIS In Its Place

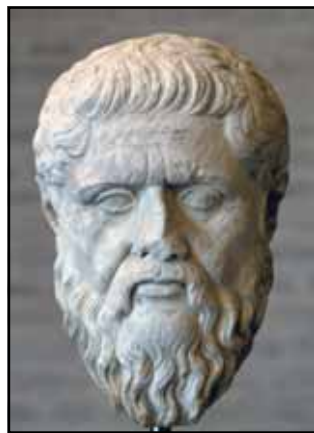
*Everyone Has Taken a Crack at It, So Shouldn't We Get Back to the Source?*

• BY WILLIAM B. STOECKER

In his dialogues, Plato said very clearly that Atlantis was in the Atlantic (hence the similarity in names) beyond the Pillars of Hercules and described the Mediterranean as a relatively small, closed-in body of water. But that hasn't prevented a great many writers and researchers from postulating that it was located almost anywhere except where Plato said it was. People have suggested that it was actually in the far northern Atlantic, or the Sahara Desert. A more reasonable suggestion is that the legend actually refers to the Americas, and this may be correct, or at least a part of the Atlantean empire may have been located there; but it is worth pointing out that Plato described Atlantis as an island and wrote of the "opposite continent," which seems to be a reference to the Americas, located beyond the island.

Some writers of a more skeptical bent, like A.G. Galanopoulos, have gone so far as to claim that Atlantis was located, not to the west, but in the Mediterranean and that the ruins of Akrotiri on the island of Santorini were what remained. The island of Santorini, or Thera, was the location of an outpost of the Minoan culture, a civilization contemporary with and familiar to the Egyptians, who had supposedly told the story to Solon, who passed it on to Plato. It seems unlikely that they could confuse a nation with whom they traded with a civilization that died in prehistoric

times. Galanopoulos claimed that the "Pillars of Hercules" actually referred to two rocks on the coast of Attica, but this seems very, very unlikely; the Greeks of Plato's time at least knew about the Atlantic and, in fact, referred to the Straits of Gibraltar as the Pillars of Hercules. Plato said that Atlantis sank beneath the ocean, but Akrotiri was destroyed by a super massive eruption of Thera—the entire island is a volcano. The eruption and a tsunami it spawned severely damaged the main Minoan center on Crete, but their culture lasted for some time after that. They were finally conquered by the Mycenaean Greeks.



Plato

Perhaps the strangest explanation for Atlantis is that considered by Graham Hancock and by Rand and Rose Flem-Ath, that Atlantis was located in Antarctica during a time when most or all of that continent was ice free and at least relatively temperate. There is a rather complex story behind this.

A researcher named Charles Hapgood, among others, popularized a daring and innovative hypothesis: he suggested, partly on the basis of old maps, that Earth's crust at times slipped as much as thirty degrees within a few years and that this was actually the reason for ice ages. His idea, which also interested Albert Einstein, was based on the buildup of massive ice sheets in the polar regions. Hapgood suggested that the weight of the ice destabilized the crust causing it to slide over the mantle in an attempt to redistribute the weight nearer the equator, car-

ried there by the angular momentum of our spinning planet. Some of the problems with this are obvious. Ice weighs less than liquid water and far less than most kinds of rock. Why should this destabilize our planet? Hapgood, in his later years, concluded that, in fact, the weight of the ice would have been insufficient but, unwilling to abandon his theory, postulated an unknown force capable of shifting the crust.

One of the maps consulted by Hapgood was the Piri Reis map of 1513, named after a Turkish admiral and discovered 11/29/1929 in the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul. In *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings*, Hapgood suggested that it may have been based on one of Columbus' maps, and Columbus certainly had maps purporting to show land to the west of Europe. He was either a member of, or a close associate, of the mysterious Knights of Christ, who appear to have been the Knights Templar, their name changed to avoid the persecution suffered by their comrades in France. The Templars had a large fleet, and many believe that they possessed ancient knowledge, possibly found beneath Solomon's Temple. The Piri Reis map shows Spain and North Africa fairly accurately and part of the Brazilian coast, with fairly accurate longitude—remarkable in a time before the invention of the chronometer. Enthusiasts have claimed that it also shows the coast of Antarctica fairly precisely, but this is very, very unlikely. The map actually shows the coast of Patagonia curving east, with no break between it and "Antarctica." Aside from the fact that early geographers believed in the probability of a huge southern continent called "Terra Australis" to balance the landmasses in the Northern Hemisphere, it

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