

# THE MIND AND BRAIN DILEMMA OF OUR POOR SCIENTISTS

*By Gordon Creighton*

For many years past it has been obvious that a great many of today's scientists - particularly the biologists and the chemists - have been wrestling with a fearful problem. Their difficulty is that they *will insist* on equating "mind" with *brain*. As a result we have seen British scientists like the late biologist Sir Julian Huxley and the genetics expert Professor Steve Jones proudly and stubbornly trumpeting the profound truth that "when you're dead, you're dead and there's nothing else. That's it."

To set against all this there are however some important and interesting new developments and new factors coming into play. There is, for example, such a remarkable man as Dr. Peter Fenwick of the Institute of Psychiatry and the Maudsley Hospital, both in London. Dr. Fenwick does not conceal the fact that he has for many years past been deeply involved in, and right in the forefront of British psychical research. He is, for example, one of the Senior Consultants at the Institute and at the Maudsley, and, as many of FSR's readers will know, he has recently been engaged in setting up secret markings on walls and ceilings, high up above the beds of the patients in some hospital wards, so that an accurate scientific check can instantly be carried out whenever a patient claims to have had an "O.B.E." (out of the body experience") or an "N.D.E." ("near death experience".) By asking the patient if he or she has seen anything out of the ordinary up there, he hopes soon, in this way, to accumulate a corpus of incontrovertible evidence as to the reality of these two much disputed types of what can only be a projection of consciousness/out of and beyond the body.

*Once it has been firmly established that consciousness can exist without possessing the object that we know as a physical body, then the fur will really begin to fly and our Marxist-materialistic-anti-psychic, anti-spiritual, and anti-mystical MAFIA fraternity will really be bad-tempered, and will be in a frightful jam, for they will perceive that the props have been knocked from under them and that, as all the world's great Religions have always taught, we are something rather more than simply chunks of animated meat.*

And now, finally, it is possible for us to report that, at the famous Institute of Psychiatry itself, in South-East London, in October of last year, the Fifth Mind and Brain Symposium took place. And its organizer was Dr. Peter Fenwick, billed as "one of Britain's foremost researchers into the near-death experience".

## SCIENTIFIC PROOF OF SURVIVAL

And scientific acceptance of the thesis of Human Survival after Death has received a powerful boost from the gathering, at which doctors, physicists, spiritualists, and researchers in many fields and from all over the world set about a serious examination of *whether or not the mind can operate outside the brain*..

Among the speakers were experts on Quantum Physics, Psychology, and Spiritual Healing, all challenging the orthodox (and fatuous) view that our mind is nothing more than the physical brain in operation, and therefore that it must "die" when the physical body "dies".

Opening the proceedings, Dr. Fenwick explained that this Fifth Mind and Brain Symposium was not only the largest yet in the series, but also, to quote his words, "*so far as I know the first to look at the scientific evidence that the mind may act directly outside the skull*".

## HERETICS

To illustrate how seriously claims for a "*non-local mind*" are now being taken, he then showed a film-clip from the recent BBC Television series "HERETICS", seen by British viewers early in August this year.

The series, which focussed on scientists who are currently being persecuted for their original and revolutionary work, included a profile of Professor Robert Jahn of Princeton University, USA.

Professor Jahn, who as punishment has been stripped of his title as Dean of the Princeton University's Faculty of Engineering, had committed a truly heinous and unforgiveable crime — HE HAD TESTED TO SEE WHETHER PEOPLE COULD MENTALLY INFLUENCE RANDOM ELECTRONIC PULSES GENERATED BY A MACHINE. AND HE HAD SECURED SIGNIFICANT RESULTS SHOWING THAT THEY CAN!

"The results are incontrovertible", declared Professor Jahn in the film-clip, "to the extent that individual subjects are recognizable in their performance. We can even refer to their results as a signature".

So what does all this mean and what will be its effect on current ideas? Dr. Fenwick had little doubt.

And he told the delegates at the Conference: "*If his work is replicated by other laboratories, and I see no reason why it shouldn't be, then we clearly have an action of the mind outside the skull, and we need new theories to explain it* \*

Another important speaker at the Conference was Dr. Daniel Benor, a qualified and trained psychiatrist and

healer, who identified over 155 controlled studies that have already been made of its efficacy. Over half of these 155 tests, he said, confirm that healing can be a potent influence on humans, animals, plants, bacteria, yeast, and even cells in laboratory cultures.

He also pointed out the very powerful evidence, already well known, that *absent healing*, as now already widely practiced, confirms the ability of our human minds to reach out over great distances and “touch” people on the other side of the world.

Dr. Benor continued: “Critics say that the public doesn’t know what it’s doing, and that people are simply convincing themselves that they are getting better. But I tell you that the public *does know* what it wants. A recent American medical survey discovered that in 1991 people spent twelve billion U.S. dollars on complementary medical care.

“And, within months, hospitals and universities like Harvard started running courses in alternative forms of therapy”.

Dr. Benor is the head of an organisation known as the Doctor-Healer Network, which aims to combine the efforts of both orthodox and complementary practitioners. He first came across spiritual healing when, as a sceptical young medic, he watched a woman giving it to a young man with a large, tender, inflexible lump in his chest. After the treatment, Dr. Benor felt stunned. He explains: “When I examined the lump again, it had shrunk by a centimeter, was soft, and no longer tender. If there hadn’t been another doctor then to measure it, I would probably have convinced myself that I had made a mistake. Because, according to *my* medical training, what had happened was impossible”.

#### **\*AFTER-THOUGHT by EDITOR,FSR**

We must however never forget that there is already in

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with the ubiquitous “Dave”, had made hundreds of circles over the years. There is no evidence that they had in fact done so, and no evidence to the contrary. Perhaps Doug, too, yearns for public recognition. “Have you been to my two exhibitions?” he asked, perhaps half eagerly.

The two skeptics were less forthcoming. My questions met with a curt “no comment” and then silence.

Meanwhile, Uri Geller assured us that the US Government heads — Bill Clinton and Al Gore — believe in the power of the human mind to effect change in other people, via the same energy that Geller possesses. If I heard him aright, Geller said that Gore was present at the peace talks in Geneva, where he (Geller) was mentally prompting the Russians to sign the treaty.

Geller showed the audience a photograph of himself and... Al Gore, who was a few feet away from him.

#### **CONVICTION**

Mrs. Thatcher taught us “conviction politics.” The skeptics preach all-out “reverse belief”. Geller teaches us conviction belief in super-normal happen-

existence, in the USA, with powerful collaborators here and also in France and elsewhere, a tremendously influential group of scientists of alleged renown and equally alleged probity, whose job it will be to *make quite sure* that no further tests are permitted to take place and so corroborate this highly unwelcome evidence produced by Professor Robert Jahn.

The unsavoury features of one of the American front-boys of this organisation (which is or was financed, I understand, by an American “Communist millionaire”) are already well known to British viewers, as he has appeared here in a number of documentary films in recent years,

He has a British ally of whose face we are also getting rather more than a little tired, and who too is almost invariably trotted out to do a good obliteration job whenever there is a TV or radio discussion here on such things as psychic healing, out-of-body or near-death experiences, reincarnation, or the truths about real Religion. G.C.

#### **POSTSCRIPT**

Finally I would also mention that one of the speakers at the Mind and Brain Symposium was Dr. Rupert Sheldrake, the brilliant young Cambridge man who is engaged in highly important research into the strange and inexplicable powers of various living creatures, particularly birds (in respect of *navigation*) and dogs (in respect of their remarkable knowledge of the whereabouts and movements of their distant owners, as well as their ability in certain cases to warn of the onset of sudden illness in their owners). In this issue we include details of Dr. Sheldrake’s latest book (see inside front cover) and in future we shall probably have more to say about him and his remarkable theories on morphogenetic resonance and morphogenetic fields.

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ings, a belief which appears to be shared by the two most powerful men in the world (Clinton, Gore), and also by secret service/intelligence agencies.

“Are you still being approached by intelligence agencies to work for them?”, one questioner asked. “Yes, constantly,” Geller said. he added that he does do some work in this field, “but I can’t do negative things with this power.”

Uri Geller did not charge a fee for the evening, which was organised by Lucy Pringle of CCCS (Centre for Crop Circle Studies). Lucy delivered her own hour-long dissertation on the 1994 corn-circles, and what might cause them, illustrating her talk with some stunning colour slides.

A mystic, Lucy believes there is an intelligence behind the creation of the corn-circles. “It has our best interests at heart.” However, she does not think that we are intended to see whatever it is that forms the circles.

Lucy believes that every blade of grass and every tree in the Silbury Hill-Avebury complex in Wiltshire, scene of many circles and other phenomena, “*has something to tell us. They are our ancestors.*”

*And who is to say they are not? ■*

# UFOs AND POLITICS: EPISODES IN THE 40-YEAR HISTORY OF SOVIET UFOLOGY

By *LEV CHUIKOV, Russian Engineer*

## INTRODUCTION BY EDITOR FSR

In the course of my many articles in FSR over the past thirty-nine years I have frequently mentioned FSR's own very early contacts (through myself) with the Russian researchers. See, for example, my editorial notes on page 18 of FSR 38/3 and on page 10 of FSR 39/2.

The following important article is from the excellent Russian publication AURA-Z, No.1, issued in Moscow in March 1993. As will be seen, it mentions the names of all those early Soviet researchers, Fomin, Kazantsev, Rubtsov, Stolyarov, Zigel', and Tikhonov, all of whom were either directly or indirectly in touch with FSR via the last named, Arkadiy Tikhonov, their "front man", who, for many years, was delegated by their group to "keep open the pipeline to FSR" via myself.

Most of these men are now gone - except of course for our very good friend Dr. Vladimir Rubtsov of Kharkov, who today runs the Ukrainian Astronomical Society, and still maintains the link with us as our Ukrainian Consultant. Yuri Fomin too is still alive, so far as we know.

The author of the present article, Lev Chuikov, was born in Moscow in 1938 and graduated in 1962 from the famous Moscow Aviation Institute. His PhD is in Mechanics and Applied Mathematics. At present he heads the Department of Ufology at the Inter-Branch Scientific and Technological Centre of Venturing and Non-Traditional Technologies, "VENT". He has been interested in UFOs since 1960 and his book *Sons of the Stars* was the first such work in the USSR to advance the concept that the UFOs might be of extraterrestrial origins. EDITOR

"We notice a bright object high in the sky. The object is moving from North to South. We fetch three powerful binoculars from our tents. We observe a large spheroidal object glittering in the sun. It is seen clearly against the blue sky. It moves very quickly. Then we notice that the object changes its direction and moves to the South-West where it disappears beyond the snowy Humboldt Ridge. The whole camp follows this unusual phenomenon..."

(From the book, *The Heart of Asia*, by Russian artist and explorer Nikolai Roerikh, who reported seeing a UFO in Central Asia in the 1920s)

One may think that one such sighting was a good enough impetus to start serious investigations into UFOs, but academic science in this country would not study these phenomena. The attitude of military and civilian authorities made this kind of investigation impossible.

Let us follow the course of development of ufology in this country during the last four decades.

As early as the beginning of the 1950s J. Stalin ordered Korolyov to study the phenomenon of the UFOs, but Korolyov managed to avoid fulfilling this task.

Meanwhile some enthusiastic scholars took an interest in the problem. Among them were: Yu.Fomin, A. Kazantsev, Yu. Roszius, V. Rubtsov, A. Tikhonov, P. Stolyarov, F. Zigel', and others. We must make a special mention of the late Dr. D.C. Felix Zigel' who died on November 20, 1988. He was an astronomer who started investigating UFOs as early as 1955 and continued these investigations courageously and productively until his very last days. He had authored over ten large volumes on ufology, none of which came out during his life-time. He brought together informal groups of investigators, arranged expeditions to UFO landing places when the very subject was unrecognized and banned, organized collection and analysis of primary ufological data, conducted a broad exchange of information with foreign scholars and appealed to a lot of different organizations and authorities trying to prove that the problem of UFOs was real and extremely significant. Then, on November 10, 1967, he and Air Force General P. Stolyarov, and Navigator V. Akkuratov were given a chance to state their case on National Television.

Thousands of people from all over the country responded to that programme.<sup>1</sup> Letters from eye-witnesses, often with drawings and photographs enclosed, poured into the contact address.

The authorities of official bodies chose a different course of action. For instance, reports from civil pilots of UFO sightings were directed to the State Scientific-Research Institute of Civil Aviation. Lots of telegrams came to the Chief Administration of the Hydrometeorological Service. Packages of reports arrived at the Astronomical Council of the USSR Academy of Sciences. *But each boss was much too fond of his chair, so all information of this type was safely stored away at the bottom of drawers and in king-size vaults.*