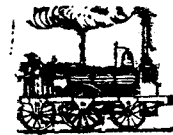


Objects seen in lens (with prism) at 166x, eighth nights, July 4 and September 1, 1987

# The Tower at Crater Plato

*A tower 20 miles  
tall on the moon*

by Felix A. Bach



Just outside the northeastern rim of 64-by-67-mile Crater Plato stands a monumental Jet Black Tower, which must be one of the tallest structures anyone can ever see. It is certainly not very fancy, but seems to be a counterpart to those familiar microwave towers we see sitting off on distant horizons as we drive along nowadays.

However, while our towers with their antennae are quite conspicuous at perhaps several hundred feet high, they are not even in the same league with this awesome colossus at 20 miles high, sporting up to five assorted round and diamond-shaped antennae(?) at least three miles across. Hopefully, the very thought of seeing such a gigantic manufactured object will tempt interested readers to check it out for themselves.

My notes cover at least 48 sightings of this structure in just the first ten years following its initial discovery in April 1985. Most consist of little sketches showing the extent of its massive shadow (a necessity for prorating its height), various spare

parts(?) on the surface, and frequent changes to its antennae configurations.

## The Cocoon

One special entry points out a "Spongy Looking Cocoon" added around the top of its shaft in July of 1986, several months after it began looking "tired" and leaning northward. The significance of this eluded me at the time. But later, I discovered that cocoons like these are installed expressly for the protection of workers who must make urgent repairs on a continuous basis inside of them, regardless of the broiling sunshine outside, so that critical equipment can be returned to service quickly. Otherwise, lunar residents apparently do their outdoor work under earthshine during their two weeks of darkness (when we earthlings cannot view them) and then retire to their (underground?) abodes for protection from the coming two weeks of scorching sunlight, unless a shelter like this is available for them.

Frequent changes continued to occur between the previously seen antennae and

this new cocoon through the eighth night of the lunar cycle on July 4, 1987. Then a month later on the next eighth night (August 3, 1987), when the Tower was due to become lit again, it turned up missing!

## Vanishing Act

Since I never dreamed that something this big could have been spirited away so quickly (and because a warbling atmosphere made viewing nearly intolerable that night), I presumed that a lunar fog may have obscured it. There was no way to know, of course, except to check it out again as soon as possible, which I got to do quite unexpectedly 12 nights later in reversed lighting near the terminator of a waning moon at 2:00 A.M. on August 16. This was one of those wonderfully rare, warm, soft nights with the moon near perigee (i.e., closest to the Earth) and a clear sky, allowing for the steady viewing of features only a few hundred feet across with my SPC8 at 500x.

From my first glimpse, I could see that the entire Tower was well into the process

of being replaced. About five miles of its base had already been re-erected by then, while the top 16-mile hinged portion (with a cocoon attached) had been partly raised to a vertical position. On the next eighth night two weeks later (September 1, after two more weeks of darkness), it was a profound experience to see the whole thing standing upright again, although a bit shorter than before, with its cocoon removed.

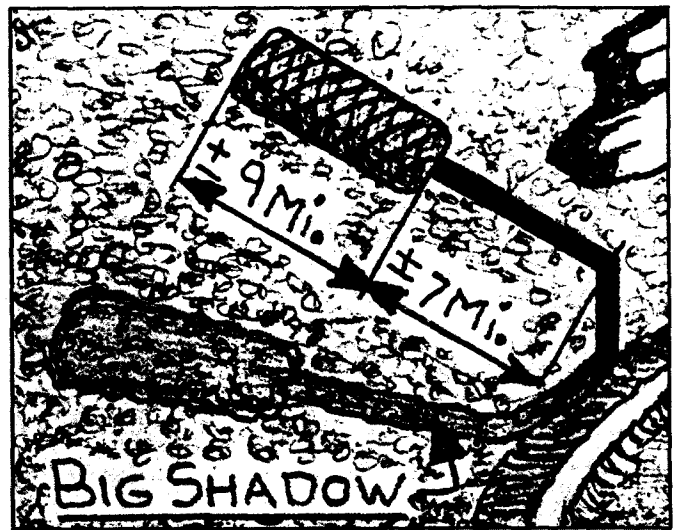
### Plain As Day

Outside of such occasional disruptions, this Tower is one of the easiest of all lunar structures for new viewers to find, provided they know where it is and what to look for. Otherwise, it gets missed even by skilled moon watchers, duped by our space leaders into believing that nothing like this could be up there. To boot, at first glance it seems to have no shadow to draw attention to its presence, which often causes it to be mistaken for a deep, dark rill heading north toward Mare Frigoris. But in fact, it casts a magnificent shadow that often runs out 100 miles, excepting that its first 40 or so miles usually runs right along inside the crater rim, where it merges with other shadows cast by the rim itself and gets lost. Then it re-emerges to make a little jog up and over the western rim before continuing strongly out across the plains for another 20 to 60 miles (depending on timing and lighting), often running into the distant terminator even the next night.

### Needle-Nosed Object

Diagonally across Plato on its southwestern rim is another curious (and surely related) 15-mile-long "Needle Nosed Object." Regrettably, most official photos are doctored to make it look like a rock formation, regardless of the fact that its true shadow shows it sitting atop a post perhaps *ten miles tall*. Yet I have never been able to resolve it satisfactorily, despite considerable effort, partly because it seems to be visible only when it is left parked in a "usage mode," and under favorable lighting during a waxing moon. When it is, its shiny Needle Nose seems raised and aimed eerily toward earthly viewers. At other times, it looks like several deflated air bags lying on the surface, highlighted by a white line halfway around its perimeter. Hopefully, a dedicated dawn viewer somewhere (which I am not) will one day help resolve it via systematic viewing in the reversed lighting of a waning moon and offer further observations.

If you cannot view via telescope for yourself, much of this shows up quite well in lots of recent "Interactive Moon Photos" posted on the Internet by Antonio Cidadao ([www.astrophoto.org/mercure/cidadao](http://www.astrophoto.org/mercure/cidadao)) or at other "Moon Photo" sites such as [www.inconstantmoon.com](http://www.inconstantmoon.com) or [www.astrosurf.com/ceres/therin](http://www.astrosurf.com/ceres/therin). How about checking out and experimenting with all of the ninth- and eleventh-night photos of Crater Plato that they offer? Download, enlarge, flip, and rotate for opposite-hand views corresponding to my "about as seen with prism" sketches to compare. While there, take a few minutes to ponder the several dark, tent-like covers seemingly draped over the crater's southern rim covering what



Half-raised Tower as seen in lens  
(with prism) at 500x, August 16, 1987

looks like a spare shaft and some lumpy antennae underneath just outside the rim. Could they be the same cocoon materials used at the top of the shaft unfurled and stretched out there?

### Official Tampering

The only way to avoid being misled by dishonest lunar photos from any source is to first assume that *all of them* may have been doctored to disguise all the visible lunar artifacts and their shadows. This requires a familiarization with various key structures (such as the Tower) in a half dozen lunar areas, so that it is easy to see them immediately show up in the background of any photo in question. If so, that photo is probably (but not necessarily) legitimate. If nothing shows up that should, then it may be one of those secretly retouched by computer, and should never be used again unless it later squares with your own telescopic views or other works proven to be honest.

As you get proficient, you should learn to avoid most of the carefully laid propaganda designed to keep a trusting public oblivious to the extensive alien activities up there and become immune from further deceptions. Once you are, why not warn everyone you can about these official falsehoods? It might motivate them to seek the truth for themselves and thereby expose more of the twisted science still voiced by our space leaders to confound the public. When people realize that the higher forms of energy and technology in visible use right now by our very advanced alien neighbors on the moon are being kept from them, there is no telling what wonderful things they might do with that knowledge to improve conditions for mankind. And with a little luck, they may also help hasten the days of everlasting shame upon those who have knowingly helped perpetrate this immoral travesty of deceit upon all the rest of us. ✕

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