THE JOURNAL OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

Volume 1

1979

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH, INC.

8570 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California 90211

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SOCIETY
FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

The Journal of the Southern California Society for Psychical Research has been established to present research proposals and results, and other discussions regarding parapsychology written by members of its research committee.

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LOW-AMPLITUDE, ACOUSTICAL, TAPE-RECORDED PK WITH TARGET OBJECTS: EXPERIMENTS CONDUCTED BY WESLEY FRANK AND RAYMOND BAYLESS

by

Raymond Bayless

In 1956 and independently in 1959 an entirely new facet of parapsychology came into view with the discovery of low-amplitude, tape-recorded voices. In time this phenomenon was found to consist of two types, acoustical and non-acoustical, electromagnetic voices, the latter possibly utilizing audio frequencies. After some thought, Bayless decided to determine the mechanism used to produce such voices with Mr. Attila von Szalay and found that by using a microphone both open and sound-proofed, it was possible to demonstrate that his voices were acoustical in origin.

Some years later Bayless theorized that a parallel phenomenon, low-amplitude, tape-recorded raps must also exist. This suggestion was confirmed in May, 1975 when a successful series of voice experiments was launched to explore such raps encountered by Mr. Wesley Frank. Frank had placed his microphone on the surface of a drawing board while performing voice trials and was surprised to find that he had recorded numbers of sub-audible raps. These raps, as with the voices, were only revealed by high amplification and the tape recorder. The first announcement of this newly found phenomenon was published in the Newsletter, Southern California Society for Psychical Research, July, 1975.

A still later development began in 1977 when a small bell was utilized, suspended from the apex of a heavily constructed, pyramidal, wooden box. The shape of the box

had no significance whatsoever and was used merely because it was immediately available. The box in turn was placed on the surface of a wooden table and a microphone was placed partially within a doorway cut into the box. A Panasonic RQ-454S tape recorder was primarily used as both amplifier and tape recorder. All equipment was free from normal contact and a dim but adequate light was used and a policy of constant observation of both experimenters and equipment was faithfully followed. Participants were seated within 45 inches of the table and each other, at times much closer. Frank rested motionless lying full length on his bed. Tapes were rewound for each individual test, each test usually lasting ten minutes. Several tests were generally made during each experiment. Full light was used in later tests.

The policy of using rewound tapes has been questioned but from a practical standpoint this technique is perfectly acceptable, not to speak of being thrifty. When a tape is rewound and then re-recorded, it is normally automatically erased when passing through the recording head, but anamolies can occur. However, during each test period intermittent speech in the form of requests and observations is recorded, and significantly identifying sentences, various sounds, bell tones, abnormal raps vary in position from previously recorded similar sounds. Therefore, when a previously recorded tape is rewound and re-recorded, the absence of previous sounds and the presence of new sounds and comments by the experimenters demonstrate that previous sounds have been erased. Further, normal sounds, outside sounds, coughs, and thermal creaks when present are noted on the tapes.

A series of successful experiments utilizing the target bell, a small, light and sensitive bell with Frank as described began on February 2, 1977 and included experiments performed on February 10, February 25, March 8, March 18,

April 12, and April 21.

The first experiments proved blank but during the February 10 experiment consisting of four ten minute recording tests, four decisive non-audible bell tones were recorded. To repeat, as with the voices and raps, the bell tones are very seldom audible to the unaided ear and are only revealed by high amplification and the tape recorder.

February 25 yielded a particularly good bell tone which in this case was heard audibly by Frank who noted this incident on the tape. The second and last test was blank.

Dr. Elizabeth McAdams participated in the March 8 experiment consisting of four ten minute tests. All proved blank. The box, bell, microphone, etc., were all checked by Bayless after each test.

A typically carefully controlled experiment performed on March 18 again with Dr. McAdams provided an excellent bell tone during the second test. During this and the fourth test a number of abnormal "scratching" sounds were also recorded. The box, bell, microphone, and table were examined before each test and nothing amiss was found.

On April 12, the third of four ten minute tests offered a fine bell tone followed by a very loud, audible rap clearly struck on a nearby table completely isolated from Frank and near Mr. Scott Pogo who participated in this experiment.

During the April 21 experiment, the last of this series, four tests were made and the third gave a single bell tone. The box, bell, microphone, table, and surrounding area were examined after each test.

A new series of bell experiments was launched in September, 1978 again with Frank and Bayless as primary experimenters. A description of experimental technique will

again be given and unless noted all experiments follow this model exactly.

The microphone was placed partially within the small door cut into the wooden box previously described and the same bell was suspended as before from the apex of the box. The box measured 16" on each base side and is 6½" in height. The box was positioned on the same wooden table. The table is somewhat smaller in surface area than is the normal card table. The recorder, usually a Panasonic RQ-454S, was placed close to the feet of Bayless who usually activated it for each individual test. During each entire experiment consisting of varying numbers of tests, Frank never reached into the box or touched the bell. During experiments 1-4 Frank sat upright and remained motionless on the edge of his bed. In the dim but adequate light he was completely visible and constant observation was unfailingly maintained. Bayless sat motionless and was equally visible to Frank. Frank, Bayless and the box were positioned in a roughly triangular pattern, each approximately three feet from the other. The window and door were closed during experimentation. Intermittent speech took place during tests and was cast in the form of requests for phenomena. Any normal sounds, such as thermal creaks, coughs, and outside sounds were noted on the tape. No bell sounds, faint or otherwise, were heard outside the room. For such a sound to have been recorded it would have had to be fairly loud and would have been easily heard. During these experiments the tape recorder was in view of Bayless as well as the wires leading to the microphone and to a wall plug.

Experiment 1

September 14, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Sony TC-110B (brought by Bayless)
Tape - TRACS 90 (Bayless)
Two ten minute tests.

Test 1. One faint unintelligible voice recorded. A small liqueur glass had been placed on a desk approximately two feet from the side of Bayless. Bayless was positioned between the desk and Frank. A thoroughly audible, glass-like tone was heard and noted on the tape by both Frank and Bayless. At the end of the test Frank spontaneously remarked that the tone had originated from the direction of the desk and glass. When the tape was replayed it quickly became apparent that the recorded bell-like tone was fainter than was the audible tone demonstrating that the bell within the box could not have been the source of the sound. Frank then suggested that the liqueur glass was actually the source of the tone and when Bayless made numerous tests involving striking the glass he was able to the satisfaction of both experimenters to closely reproduce the sound. The tone was within the room and logically originated from the glass.

This incident is very reminiscent of an event that took place during an earlier series of experiments. Both Frank and Bayless were seated side by side in bright light facing the experimental table discussing a test when an object behind them on the desk was noisily rattled. Both experimenters were in full view of each other and the spontaneous incident was as equally free from error and fraud as the strictest formally controlled laboratory experiment. The second test proved blank.

Experiment 2
September 19, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - BASF 60 Chromium dioxide (Frank)
Two ten minute tests.

At the beginning of the first test the box, table, and bell were examined by Bayless. One faint, unintelligible

whisper/voice was recorded. The second test proved blank.

Experiment 3
October 5, 1978
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-C60-2 (Frank)
One seven minute and three ten minute tests.

The first test provided two faint bell tones. Bayless heard the second tone audibly. The second test offered one very faint bell tone. The third test gave three raps and a double audible bell tone. Frank heard it as a bell tone and Bayless as a toneless sound. Both experimenters noted this incident on the tape. The fourth test provided two bell tones, the first audible to Frank. A following recorded sharp non-audible rap was also recorded.

At the conclusion of this last test Bayless examined the box and table and as usual found them free from any fraudulent device.

Experiment 4
October 12, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-C60-2 (Frank; previously used)

The first test lasted for five minutes and the remaining five averaged about seven minutes in length. Mr. D. Scott Rogo participated in this experiment and sat at the side of Bayless away from Frank. All other conditions were identical to previous experiments.

The first test was blank. The second gave one extremely faint bell tone. Mr. Rogo first noticed it on the tape. The third test proved blank. The fourth test again offered one faint bell tone. Tests 5 and 6 were blank.

Experiment 5
October 26, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)

Tape - rewound from previous experiment (Frank)
Five short tests performed.

Test 1 offered one bell tone. Test 2 gave two bell tones. The two tones took place close to each other and Frank announced on the tape that he had heard three tones. At the beginning of this test Bayless examined the box and table and repeated the examination at the end of the test: the interior of the box and the bell were examined carefully with the aid of a flashlight. This examination was made as was the first in a bright light. Frank operated the tape recorder during the first test but Bayless placed it at his feet and operated it during the second test. The third test was blank but the fourth test offered a definite, almost tonal, "human" voice which both experimenters agreed said "Orwin."* Bayless again operated the recorder during the third and fourth test.

The fifth test was made in <u>full light</u> and the recorder which was placed at Frank's feet and operated by him was under constant observation as was Frank. A faint whisper/voice was recorded and when the tape was replayed Bayless heard "Raymond," his first name, but remained quiet until Frank spontaneously said that the voice had said "Ray." Following this incident another whisper/voice said "Ha ha." Both experimenters agreed that the spoken "laugh" was what was said. Near the end of the tape a fully audible bell tone was recorded and heard by both experimenters. Bayless noted this fact on the tape.

During these five tests careful observation was kept

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* Curiously, Marjorie Bayless has both a brother-in-law and nephew named Orwin, both living.

of both experimenter and equipment. The tape was rewound for each test.

Experiment 6
November 2, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-C60-2. (Rewound from previous experiment)

Eight short individual tests were conducted and all were held in the same dim but quite adequate light but no observation of equipment or experimenter was maintained. In spite of this lack of supervision no difference of experimental results was to be found.

During the first test a crystaline bell tone was recorded which resembled a glass being struck more than it did a bell. The second test provided one bell tone and a fairly loud rap. The third test resulted in one bell tone and one rap. The fourth test gave two bell tones, the first crystaline in tone and the second audible to both Frank and Bayless. Test five offered two bell tones, the second audible to Frank. The sixth test provided two raps, the second occurring immediately after Frank requested a rap. The seventh test was made in full light and constant observation was kept by Bayless of both Frank and the recorder. One light but very clear rap resulted. The eighth test proved blank.

A special test was then made to determine if heavy vibrations could influence the bell. A very crude but highly effective method was used. Bayless simply stood a few inches from the table and jumped heavily up and down on the floor. No bell tones or raps resulted!

Experiment 7
November 9, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-C60-2 (previously used);another used Maxwell tape used during and after Test 5.

Seven five minute individual tests made and all but

the second were conducted without observation maintained. The usual lighting was used. Frank operated the recorder.

Test three provided two faint raps and one bell tone heard by Frank. The fourth test gave one splendid bell tone heard audibly by Frank. A curious "double sound" was heard within the wooden box. A small liqueur glass had been placed within the box for this series of tests and may have been the source of the sounds. The fifth test was blank but the sixth offered two faint raps and the seventh test provided a bell tone.

Low-amplitude, tape-recorded PK with Tuning Bar

A new series of six experiments using a tuning bar as target object was launched on November 30, 1978. These experiments were five in number.

November 30, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RZ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-260-2 (Frank); tape previously used; a new tape was opened and used for tests 4-6; tapes were rewound for each test.

The tuning bar (pitch C-523.3, J.C. Deagan, Inc., Chicago, Illinois) is 9 11/16" long, ½"wide and ¼"thick. It is mounted on a metallic base completely sound insulated from the bar. The bar cannot be activated even though the base is heavily struck.

Tests were made before actual experimentation began and during one such test Frank tapped the bar four times. Immediately after his first tap a second, very faint sound from the bar was recorded. He did not touch the bar. Even though this incident was not part of the formal test, it still possesses considerable interest.

The tuning bar was placed directly in front of the small doorway cut into the wooden pyramidal box used in preceding experiments. The bell was left suspended within the box. The microphone leading to the recorder was placed

so that it was within ¼" of the edge of the tuning bar. The recorder was placed on the floor and operated by Frank. Frank sat approximately 24" from the tuning bar during all tests.

All tests were conducted in dim but adequate light and during tests 4-6 he sat upright in a kitchen chair used during this series, folded his hands across his chest and remained perfectly motionless. He could be seen very clearly and the slightest motion made by him would have instantly been seen. He was equally able to observe Bayless if desired. Bayless maintained constant observation sitting within 24" of Frank and was able to determine that no equipment including the box, tuning bar, microphone, wires, table on which the box and bar were placed, and the tape recorder were not contacted.

The first three tests yielded a number of effects including several excellent raps and two "rubbing sounds," but these tests were not fully controlled. The last three tests, as described were completely controlled.

Test 4, from 10:30 to 10:32 P.M. with a new tape in the recorder, yielded one crystalline bell tone, four measured metallic, faint taps, and a faint but clear tone originating from the tuning bar.

Note:

Fraud did not exist and was not possible due to test conditions. The tuning bar can only be activated by a touch or by resonance. For example, it can be activated by a person's voice if properly pitched. However, the sound emitted by the tuning bar took place during a period of recording completely devoid of speech or any other sound before and after the incident. In consequence resonance can be eliminated as a normal explanation.

It can be theorized that a tuning bar or fork could be hidden and struck during the test creating a resonating

effect or a pseudo "strike." This theory cannot be held because the pitch of the tuning bar was unknown to Frank and it had never been seen by him until it was taken out of its box just before the experiment began. Secondly, if a second instrument had been struck secretly, it would have been fully audible and consequently heard. Switched tapes, pre-recorded tapes and other thoroughly impractical presumed methods of fraud could not have taken place; the very fact that the tuning bar tone was recorded plus our remarks demonstrates that.

Due to the sound insulation of the base and the bar, taps or pushes on the table, microphone cable, or the tuning bar base cannot cause the bar to sound, hence fraud using mechanical methods is not possible. Visual control further eliminates such possibilities.

December 7, 1978

Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-260-2; tape used previously and rewound for each test.
Illumination identical to previous experiment.
Experimental conditions identical to tests 4-6 in previous experiment.

Test 1 offered one clear, perfect bell tone and one faint but clear rap. The second test gave one faint bell tone. The third test gave one faint rap. The fourth test provided one "medium" rap and four medium loud "gong" sounds. Each tone was a different note but they were definitely not produced by the tuning bar. The tape was reversed for the fifth test and one rap was received. The sixth test gave a faint, unintelligible whisper/voice while Frank was speaking. The seventh and last test was blank and the experimenters sat approximately one foot from the microphone and each other.

December 14, 1978
Place: Frank apartment

Tape recorder - Panasonic RZ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-260-2 (Frank; previously used)

Frank sat 6" from the microphone head and Bayless sat approximately 1 foot from the microphone and from Frank. Constant observation was maintained. All speech (requests for phenomena) was whispered. Each test as in previous experiments lasted for five minutes. Illumination was identical to previous experiment.

The first test gave one loud "exhalation" sound over Frank's speech. The second test gave three faint bell tones. The third test offered one "musical note." It was "short" and "sharp" and took place while Frank was speaking. The fourth test provided one bell tone. The fifth test gave two faint bell tones and a double faint tone from the tuning bar while Frank was speaking. The sixth and seventh tests were blank.

December 21, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-260-2, previously used and rewound for each five minute test (Frank)

Frank sat 6" from the microphone head and Bayless sat approximately 1 foot from the microphone and Frank. Illumination was identical to that in the previous experiment. The first test was blank. After the test Bayless examined the box and table and found no fraudulent devices. The second test provided one faint bell tone while Frank was speaking. Bayless again after the test checked the experimental area. Test 3 gave one medium rap while Frank was speaking; a faint, unintelligible whisper/voice consisting of two sound divisions; and another whisper/voice consisting of one unintelligible sound division. The fourth test provided two bell tones approximately one second apart. The first bell tone was very clear and loud. The fifth test gave loud "scraping

sounds;" three fast, faint but clear raps; and one faint tone from the tuning bar. The tone diminished normally but was cast at a slightly higher pitch than is the normal tone.

December 28, 1978
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Panasonic RQ-454S (Frank)
Tape - Maxwell UD-260-2; previously used and rewound for each test (Frank)

Frank sat 10" from the microphone head and Bayless sat approximately 1½ feet from the microphone and from Frank. Illumination was identical to the previous experiment. Before the first test began, Bayless explored the inside of the box and felt the bell. The table, box, tuning bar, and microphone were equally carefully examined. This test was blank. After the second test which was blank was finished, Bayless examined the table, box, microphone, and tuning bar. The third test was again blank. An identical examination was made after the end of the test. The fourth test provided spectacular results, but before and after the test identical examinations were made by Bayless. Nine faint bell tones were recorded as well as a faint double "rustle." The fifth test provided one faint bell tone; a medium-loud tone from the tuning bar; one clear bell tone; and six faint, fast clear raps. The tuning bar tone lasted for over one second and resonated in three typical waves. The actual "strike" when the bar was first sounded could be easily heard and there is little doubt that the bar in fact actually was struck. Each test lasted for five minutes.

January 5, 1979
Place: Frank apartment
Tape recorder - Sony TC-95A (Bayless)
Tape - Maxwell UD-260-2; previously used (Bayless)

Illumination was identical to that in the previous experiment. Three tests of five minute duration and the

fourth test of four minute duration were conducted. Frank sat approximately 18" from the microphone head and Bayless sat approximately 1½ feet from Frank and the microphone head. Bayless examined box, table, tuning bar, and microphone before the first test began. This test was blank. The second test provided one extremely faint bell tone in a clear tape area. For the third test the Panasonic RQ-454S tape recorder was again used. A previously used Maxwell UD-260-2 tape was used. As with the second test the table, box, tuning bar, and microphone were examined but in both the last two tests the examination was made after each test was completed.

This test was blank. Before the fourth test began, the box, tuning bar, microphone, table, and surrounding area were examined. Two very faint bell tones were recorded in a clear area of the tape. Raps were also recorded during the second test, - two sets of four raps and one single rap.

January 6, 1979
Experimenter - Bayless
Place - the front room of the Bayless home
Tape recorder - Sony TC-95A (Bayless)
Tape - TRACS 90; previously used (Bayless)

The microphone was placed ¼" from the edge of the tuning bar and both instruments rested on the surface of a small wooden table. Bayless sat from 2 feet to 8" from the microphone head. Dim but adequate lighting was used. Six individual tests were conducted totaling thirty minutes of recording time. All were blank.

January 15, 1979
Experimenter - Bayless
Place - front room of the Bayless home
Tape recorder - Sony TC-95A (Bayless)
Tape - TRACS 90; used in previous experiment (Bayless)

Bayless sat approximately three feet from the microphone head, with other conditions identical to previous experiment. All four tests were blank except for one

short, sharp whistle received during the second test. Thirty minutes of recording time were used.

Experiments on January 6 and January 15 are very important and demonstrate that during a total of one hour's recording time no bell tones or tuning bar tones were received. When it is remembered that during experiments on December 21, 1978 and December 28, 1978, bell tones were received using the same recorder by Bayless alone, it is clear that the tones do not originate from the recorder itself.

It also must be remembered that bell tones originating from the outside of the Frank apartment will not explain the recorded bell tones, much less the tuning bar tones. For a bell tone to be recorded, the source must be fully audible and in consequence would be normally heard. Inasmuch as none were heard when in particular a careful "watch" was kept for just such a possibility, the theory that outside bells were responsible for the recorded bell tones cannot be maintained.

During the December 28, 1978 and January 5, 1979 experiments, extreme care was taken to determine if any outside bell sounds could have possibly been responsible for the recorded tones. During the December 28 experiment eleven bell tones were recorded and during the January 5 experiment 3 bell tones were recorded. No normal outside bell sounds were heard. This does not negate the paranormal source of the few audible bell tones heard, for by the same token a few audible raps were also heard along with the large number of sub-audible raps recorded.

To still further demonstrate the fact that the recorders were not responsible for the bell tones and taps, an experiment on January 16, 1979, using the Panasonic RQ-454S tape recorder and a Maxwell UD-260-2 tape, consisting of four tests and totaling 25 minutes recording time, was con-

ducted with Frank again at his apartment. Frank sat 18" from the tuning bar and Bayless sat approximately 2 feet from both Frank and the tuning bar. The box, microphone, tuning bar, and table were examined after each test was conducted excepting the third test when the examination was made before the test began. The first test yielded two medium-loud raps and one unintelligible whisper/voice consisting of two sound divisions. The second test provided one faint bell tone and one rap. These results clearly show the dependence of the bell tones on the presence of Frank.

A series of experiments of a similar nature was conducted by Charles Moses individually and with Bayless and many highly successful and significant paranormal incidents, voices, and raps. were experienced. These experiments utilized the now standard procedure of placing a microphone on a wooden surface and using a tape recorder set at its highest sound level and experimenters seated close to the microphone in dim but very adequate light. Short five minute testing periods were generally used.

Three splendid psychokinetic movements were observed, two during one experiment. During the evening of August 8, 1978, a small piece of dog meat (1" by 7/8" by 1/8" weighing approximately 1/3 ounce) moved about ¼" above the carpet's surface and flew (observed length) about two inches in bright light. A pencil placed on the table's surface also moved or partially rotated about 1½" in full view, in dim but adequate light. On still another occasion a small fuzzy mouse, an animal toy, moved perhaps one inch or more in full view, also in dim but adequate light.

It is now clearly seen that the acoustical tape recorded voice phenomenon is frequently accompanied by many other psychokinetic effects including telekinetic phenomena, raps, whistles, "scratching" sounds, bell

tones, tuning bar tones, etc. The taped voices, then, are only a part of a complex overall effect.

This entire range of effects, low-amplitude, tape-recorded psychokinesis, has opened up an immense new field of parapsychological phenomena whose full extent is still unguessed. Undoubtedly, many more discoveries will surface if more sophisticated equipment can be brought into play, but for the present comparatively simple though adequate techniques are employed through necessity.

There is no reason to think that the various phenomena described are limited to a handful of gifted subjects. Bayless, for example, certainly cannot be described as a gifted subject but nevertheless he has experimentally received raps, whistles, and "scraping" noises, though on a much reduced scale.

Various types of low-amplitude, tape-recorded phenomena have been received by five experimenters: Attila von Szalay, Wesley Frank, William Welch, Charles Moses and Bayless. It does seem quite probable that a large number of individuals will be found capable of producing at least some of the effects noted.

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AN "ELECTRONIC POLTERGEIST"

by

Raymond Bayless

During the early part of July, 1978, I received a telephone call from Miss Gladys Gordon wherein she described telephonic and paging system disturbances plaguing a very large industrial plant where she occupies an excellent and respected position. She described the history of the disturbance and the strange phenomena which had taken place and kindly offered to call me when the next episode occurred so that it could be witnessed.

A few days passed and at about 2:45 p.m., July 21, Miss Gordon called and said that the disturbance had been very active for several days and at the moment was in full flower. She suggested that I immediately join her at her place of employment. I then called Mr. Scott Rogo, told him to join me at the plant, and then drove on to meet Miss Gordon.

The traffic was extremely heavy but I finally arrived at my destination at 3:30 p.m. I gave my name to the receptionist at a front desk and was thoroughly interested to hear her and another young lady spontaneously remark that the sounds and general electronic interference had been very intense.

I was told that Miss Gordon had left the building for a short time - about ten minutes previously - a procedure that caused the disturbance to temporarily cease. During this conversation Miss Gordon came to the desk and then led me back to her office, and while walking I heard several comments along the hallway saying that the witch was at it again, etc. I was interested to hear confirming remarks, albeit of a curious nature.

During our first telephone conversation Miss Gordon had mentioned that when the telephonic and paging systems became useless due to the reception of high-pitched "electronic" sounds, she would leave the building for short periods of time. When she did this, she explained, the disturbing shrill sounds would die out and normal operations of the communicating systems would resume.

I was seated in her office where she repeated the history of the strange case in detail and told me about the plant equipment and its accompanying intense radio frequency output. Due to previous difficulties with a nearby airport control tower and its communications system, the manufacturing equipment had been heavily shielded, but in spite of these measures a large output of radio frequency still occurred. This output, I believe, was responsible for my tape recorder's being rendered inoperative by the reception of high-pitched sounds.

Mr. Rogo arrived at 4:15 p.m. and our discussion continued. The electrical oddities, we were told, actually began in August, 1977. She and other members of the company soon discovered that she was the focal point of the activity. Her office phone and other phones that she might use would become completely dead and silent or would emit the usual high-pitched, "electronic" sounds completely eliminating any possibility of communication. The buttons or stations at the telephone base would light up apparently at random and the paging speakers throughout the plant would also give out similar but extremely loud sounds. Miss Gordon remarked that on occasion her electric typewriter and calculator were affected, a statement later verified by the plant's General Manager.

Miss Gordon said that during a day of particularly intense activity, she could sense the radio output bodily - "I can feel it in my body." Other employees of the company

confirmed having heard her make this comment immediately prior to an outbreak of the disturbance.

The phenomena had undergone some changes as time passed. For example, she said that the tone of the sounds "...now goes up and down." She also insisted that when things were active, other telephones that she used became subject to the same disturbances that plagued her office phone.

At 4:47 p.m. while we were talking, a paging speaker set in the ceiling just outside Miss Gordon's office suddenly began to emit a continuous, intense, high-pitched "screech." This racket was echoed by other speakers throughout the hallway and undoubtedly throughout the entire plant. Any attempt to communicate via the paging system would have been completely drowned out and the system was for the moment totally inoperative.

Quickly following this bizarre outbreak, the various illuminated buttons or stations on the base of Miss Gordon's desk telephone began to light up in, as far as I could see, a random fashion. While this really fascinating activity was underway she picked up the telephone saying that it would be either silent or producing the same type of sound coming from the paging speakers.

I was handed the telephone several times and on each occasion it was either completely silent or swamped with a tone like that coming fromthe hall speakers. After listening to the phone I handed it to Mr. Rogo and he too heard the weird interference or equally strange silence, and in consequence we had ample opportunity to verify the phenomena. At 4:49 p.m. the bizarre noises suddenly ceased.

Within seconds a second outbreak began starting with the paging speakers and as before the telephone prefaced its peculiar behavior with the buttons lighting up. When the phone was tried it was once more either silent or producing

shrill tones and at 4:53 p.m. this second flurry of activity ended.

I think that I should note that when the first interference began I heard several voices up and down the hallway remarking that "Gladys was at it again."

Once more at 5:07 p.m. a quick seven second period of activity took place but this time was much less in intensity, confining itself to the speakers only. Miss Gordon, Mr. Rogo, and I left the besieged building a few minutes after this last outbreak.

Interestingly, a small electric clock on Miss Gordon's desk operated quite normally during the three periods of disturbance.

I had brought a small pocket compass with me to test for the presence of any possible electro-magnetic oddities but it yielded no peculiar behavior.

On September 19 I payed a second visit to Miss Gordon and her hag-ridden plant and stayed for about forty-five minutes. Only one abnormal incident occurred during which the speakers began their usual misbehavior but the duration of the disturbance was short and the actual volume of sound was much less than that heard during the previous visit.

I met several members of the plant while talking with Miss Gordon and received information of great value relative to the case. Miss Audrey Smith volunteered the most important item when she told us that she had been the focal point of a somewhat similar disturbance about one year previously and prior to Miss Gordon's employment. Her telephone was affected producing "electronic" sounds but the paging system was not influenced. She also remarked that when the new telephone and paging equipment was installed, the disturbance ceased. Importantly, she spontaneously said that she frequently felt the radio output bodily.

The General Manager, Mr. Ceil Vance, joined us in Miss

Gordon's office and said that in his presence her electric typewriter and calculator had misbehaved during an outburst. He stated also that he did feel the radio output bodily, an observation obviously of great importance as well as providing confirmation of the statements of Miss Gordon and Miss Smith.

Eventually, Mr. Leslie Butterworth, Vice President of Sales joined our discussion and he flatly stated that a relationship between Miss Gordon's presence and the disturbance had been definitely established.

On August 10 I visited Mr. James Tyler, Vice President of a prominent company specializing in telephonic communication systems and he kindly allowed me to tape his comments about the installation of the new equipment and his investigation of the Gordon case. His company had revised and installed new equipment within the industrial plant and, as reports of the strange behavior of the communications systems reached him, began a study of the entire case in order to solve the problems that had been encountered.

Essentially, he stated that after the original telephone system had been revised with additions made, the peculiar phenomena encountered began. His company started its investigation by changing Miss Gordon's desk phone but that had no effect.

Next, the button stations on her telephone were revised but again that gave no relief.

Miss Gordon's lines were isolated and still nothing was changed.

As Mr. Butterworth observed, "Inasmuch as we were changing the system to a much larger one...it might have had an effect on the disturbance. We used different relays, different circuitry, but these changes had no effect. It still happened."

As he stated, "There are only certain basic things

that happen in telephone equipment and once you have checked these functions, then you know that you have done everything to correct anything normally out of order. But it still happens."

One last incident occurred on May 17, 1979 when Miss Gordon called at 2:20 p.m. and my wife Marjorie answered the call. At first Miss Gordon's voice was clear but it soon faded and was covered by high-pitched "electronic" sounds. My wife finally remarked that she could not hear her and both she and Miss Gordon hung up. She did call back and during our conversation she told me that the phenomena had continued and, in fact, had become even more intense. She also observed that when she calls out, other people's phones are affected.

This completely unique case, I think, speaks for itself.

Basically, electronic equipment consisting of telephonic and paging systems becomes sporadically disturbed in the presence of Miss Gordon and prior to her employment when Miss Smith was the center of a similar outbreak.

Miss Gordon insists that the disturbances are related to emotional states and also has stated that her car radio and the telephone and television in her apartment are on occasion affected.

The plant equipment still emits a heavy output of radio frequencies and in spite of careful shielding, a certain degree of this radiation still escapes the shielding. Various people at the plant have said that they can at times bodily feel the radio output, and here, I think, lies a partial key to the phenomena.

First, it does seem highly unlikely that two individuals at different times not in the presence of each other can be "poltergeist agents." Possible, yes, but highly unlikely!

Therefore, I suggest that this remarkable case is based on a "near-physical" foundation, in this case actual radio

emissions, electro-magnetic fields or transmissions. The two young women involved are, I suspect, actually acting as detectors and modulated radio frequencies into a form that could "physically" be picked up on electronic equipment, in this case telephones and speakers. One of the case's unique attributes is its close relationship to normal "physical" activity, a characteristic that perhaps removes it from the poltergeist category. In that the phenomena are so closely allied to "normal" physical effects and that the "raw material" for the phenomena encountered is actual radio emissions, and that more than one unrelated person can trigger the manifestations, I think that the case can be termed a proto-poltergeist disturbance.

THE WIDE RANGE OF SURVIVAL EVIDENCE

by

Elizabeth E. McAdams, Ph.D.

While early parapsychological researchers expressed primary interest in after-death survival, most current parapsychologists focus on laboratory E.S.P. and PK and their implications for the living.

When the survival question is posed to most current parapsychologists, they commonly respond with the so-called "super-psi" or super E.S.P. hypothesis, claiming a complex combined functioning of several aspects of E.S.P. of the living to explain so-called "survival phenomena." (Rhine, "super-psi," 1971 ; H.H. Price, "this-world E.S.P.,"1976).

Such a response seems to reflect an inadequate grasp of survival data and to rest on an overestimation of laboratory E.S.P.'s known potential.

First, many parapsychologists do not demonstrate a knowledge of the number of different types of phenomena which historically have convinced their investigators of survival after death. In survival discussions, current parapsychologists commonly allude to recent studies of such phenomena as pseudo-death, where a person is pronounced clinically dead, then revives to tell of his experience with a being of light (Moody, 1975); near-death, where a person near death sees apparitions of loved ones beckoning him to life after death (Osis, Heraldsson,1977); out-of-body experience, the experience of consciousness outside the physical body (Osis, Hartwell, Morris,etc.); and mental mediumship, the reception of veridical information by a medium in the absence of sensory or motor cues and in the absence of means of rational inference (e.g., Hodgson, Savage: Piper, 1898).

Not commonly mentioned in such discussions are some

of the phenomena viewed historically as the most convincing survival evidences. One such source is apparitions, - observed by investigators and multiple witnesses (Cummings, 1806: Nelly Butler case), seen from several angles in proper optical perspective (Hart, 1893:case of Lady B.), capable of being successfully photographed (Watertown case, 1924, Carrington), at times seeming to influence matter (Landau, 1955), and which exhibit purposeful actions (Barrett, 1908: godfather-godchild suicide case).

Another source of survival evidence not commonly mentioned is physical mediumship, including materializations in full bodily form which offer highly meaningful veridical information to the sitter (Venzano, 1907: Palladino). Still another aspect of physical mediumship, hailed by major psychical researchers of early days as the phenomenon most convincing of survival, is the direct-voice, - the reception of an audible human voice in the presence of a physical medium. Voices claiming to represent deceased persons,complete with appropriate vocabulary, dialect, and speech characteristics have been received.

For example, the paranormal voices of medium Mrs. Etta Wriedt were extremely prolific and on numerous occasions she demonstrated the ability to speak and understand many languages. She was not a particularly well-educated woman, yet languages encountered in her seances included German, Croatian, Latin, Dutch, Servian, Spanish, Scottish, Hindustani, Welsh, French, and Norwegian, with communicators claiming to represent the dead.

Investigators of such direct-voice mediums employed control conditions that convinced them that the voices were not emanating from the medium's body. For example, one of the best evidences that the voices were entirely separate from the medium's voice is that while the medium was speaking, more than one other voice was clearly heard

speaking. During a sitting on October 26, 1929 with the Moore sisters at the home of Reverend Duncan, full precautions had been taken to prevent the presence of speaking tubes and other fraudulent equipment. The voice of mediumistic control "Andrew Wallace" was carrying on a lively conversation with the investigator Reverend Duncan's daughter on one side of the room, while the voice of a gentleman friend of Duncan's family who had been a professional singer and had died over ten years before, was talking to Duncan in an independent voice at the other side of the room.

Edward C. Randall first met Mrs. French in 1892 and continued studying her phenomena until her death in 1910. He wrote several books devoted to her history. In an informal but effective test, Randall placed the medium's mouth on the back of his hand while the voices were speaking, pressing on the back of her head. Paranormal voices continued their speech. This test was made after the death of Dr. Isaac Funk whom Randall knew well, and the voice spoke representing Dr. Funk.

Mrs. French was deaf, a fact attested to by her physician as well as her researchers. As Randall wrote, "Being quite deaf, often she failed to hear the voices of spirit people and spoke while others were speaking...."

Other more recent "voices in the air" have been heard in the presence of the famed medium Mrs. Ena Twigg of London and with Mrs. Gladys Osborne Leonard, who died recently. Recordings of Mrs. Leonard's voices can be obtained from the British Society for Psychical Research and are extremely interesting.

Paranormal photography (Carrington, Barrett: Hope; Eisenbud: Serios), poltergeist effects, and low-amplitude tape-recorded phenomena similarly have indicated after-death survival to many of their investigators, but are

rarely mentioned by today's parapsychologists responding to the survival question.

Many parapsychologists avoid mentioning several sources of survival data because they assume that inadequate controls were exercised in many historical cases. Of course, an awareness of fraud and an expertise in recognizing the use of sleight of hand are essential prerequesites for effective investigation of alleged paranormal phenomena because fraud must be ruled out conclusively.

Actually, in a great many historical investigations, controls were carefully described and exercised. For example, let us consider the investigation of Guy L'Strange by Dr. Robin Sanders-Clark and others in England in the early 1900's. Commonly, the empty experimental room would first be carefully checked by experimenters, the medium subjected to a complete medical examination including checking all bodily orifices to eliminate the possibility of hidden fraudulent material. The medium was then outfitted in a one-piece suit furnished by experimenters and his hands were taped to the chair arms in such a way that escape and attempts at re-taping would be obvious visually to the experimenters. Such controls are difficult to criticize. Under these controls, several paranormal effects were witnessed, including the formation of a ball of light and partial materializations.

A second major problem with the super-psi hypothesis as an answer to the survival question is that E.S.P. has not shown itself to possess the sorts of dramatic, far-reaching powers that it would need in order to justify super-psi claims. For example, research findings do not support the idea that telepathy is capable of culling out and transmitting the minutiae of detailed information such as exact names and dates and locations involved in much

mediumistic communication. Telepathy exhibited in deliberate experimentation is a comparatively simple process and is not selective to that extent. To quote parapsychologist D. Scott Rogo, "It really doesn't amount to much." Numerous parapsychologists including Renée Warcollier have noted that pictorial material when reproduced by the percipient in E.S.P. experiments is not to be compared qualitatively with the original drawings. The various elements may be separated and in disarray, some even missing, with the actual lines far more crudely drawn. The inherent deficiencies and the highly limited nature of most telepathic exchanges have been clearly found.

To sustain the super-psi hypothesis, E.S.P. should be capable of conveying such detailed, intricate patterns as personality and speech characteristics and the accurate characterizations of deceased persons found with direct voice phenomena. It has not shown itself capable of such a task.

Quite a formidable array of data needs explaining. Taken separately, several classifications of phenomena offer compelling suggestions of survival after death. The near-death phenomenon with its explicit intimation of after-death existence; the pseudo-death experience, with its returnees thereafter unafraid of death; mediumistic communications' relaying information unknown to any living person; apparitions in the form of deceased persons, appearing unexpectedly; the direct voice, often identical to voices of the deceased and even conveying unique peculiarities of speech; materializations, approximating deceased persons in appearance under controlled conditions; and out-of-body experience, recently furnishing an experimenter's first closed-circuit television sighting of an OBE apparition in the target room (Hartwell, Journal of American Society

for Psychical Research, January, 1978), all offer in varying degrees, dramatic suggestions of survival of consciousness. Low-amplitude tape-recorded voices and raps, though interesting in their possible survivalistic interpretation (Bayless, Raudive), are hardly ever mentioned in parapsychological journals or discussions. And it remains to be seen if the currently investigated "telephone voice" phenomenon purportedly emanating from deceased sources will receive mention by most parapsychologists in survival-related discussions.

When considered together, these phenomena, highly complex and frequently occurring under carefully controlled conditions, investigated in the past and present by researchers of high repute and impeccable imputed integrity, present a strong assertion for survival of consciousness after death.

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