Ancient Atomic Knowledge?

"The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth--men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air--for I am grieved that I have made them." Genesis 6......

Gurkha, flying a swift and powerful vimana hurled a single projectile Charged with all the power of the Universe. An incandescent column of smoke and flame As bright as the thousand suns Rose in all its splendour... a perpendicular explosion with its billowing smoke clouds... ...the cloud of smoke rising after its first explosion formed into expanding round circles like the opening of giant parasols... ..it was an unknown weapon, An iron thunderbolt, A gigantic messenger of death, Which reduced to ashes The entire race of the Vrishnis and the Andhakas. ...The corpses were so burned As to be unrecognizable. The hair and nails fell out; Pottery broke without apparent cause, And the birds turned white. After a few hours All foodstuffs were infected... ...to escape from this fire The soldiers threw themselves in streams To wash themselves and their equipment.

Ancient verses from the Mahabharata: (6500 B.C.?)

INTRO

"Thirteen nuclear reactors existed in "prehistoric" periods along the 200-metre mine bed at Oklo --it was discovered in 1972, and they were comparable to the modern nuclear reactor in power and heat combustion.

This mine had the capability of enabling self-sustained nuclear chain reactions". This discovery shocked the entire scientific community back in 1972---but hold on,-- we'll get back to this later.

As we look at a bit of what is being called evidence of ancient atomic warfare (or simply atomic explosions), and possible ancient atomic knowledge I think its important to make a distinction. (Here I'm speaking to Believers).

It is important that we can establish through available evidence some seen on other pages here-- that: the Bible does in fact mention dinosaurs, that man and dinosaurs co-existed as the Bible would indicate; that DNA is proof of a creator, that the worldwide flood of Noah did happen, and that the world was created in one week as the Word says.

It's not that every believer needs to have these things proven, but it is at least interesting to know that there is scientific evidence that supports the Bible.

In the case of this examination of ancient atomic capability, there is no Biblical principle, doctrine or account that we need to support. Christians, as far as I can see have no stake in this one way or the other. We believe we have established on other pages here that there were preflood civilizations unaccounted for in traditional science.

We have pondered the question of the technological sophistication of these pre-flood civilizations. Atomic warefare or atomic capability would be another indication of this sophistication and little else. It may be that if it existed it was part of the wickedness that God saw, as referenced by the quote from Genesis 6 at the top of this page. *The most interesting story on these pages is the absolutely true story of the Oklo mines on Page 2 of this section.* To be fair, I'd have to label some of the other stories about nuclear craters and irradiated cities as speculative.

On the other hand, I personally would enjoy the consternation that would result among materialists/evolutionists, if it could be proven that this technology did in fact previously exist. It would be very difficult to fit that knowledge into the current paradigm, wouldn't it?

As for believer's such a confirmation could only bolster our confidence that when we say to materialists that "there are things in Heaven and earth that are not dreamed of in your philosophy", that that is proving truer every day.(Perhaps ancient weapons capability was why some were living in caves in the first place--with mobile art on the walls as technically proficient as the best art of the Renaissance).

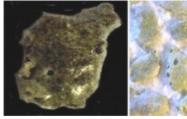
My take is then is that there are some interesting things to consider, and that we should just take a look at it and form a conclusion. It may well be that we will reject all of the "evidence" or merely some of it. It's certainly worth a couple of minutes of our no doubt valuable time to give a look.

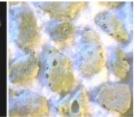
The "evidence" will largely fit in four categories. 1)Descriptions in what are thought to be the oldest written texts by man still in existence. 2)Discovery of archeological sites which demonstrate characteristics, including high levels of radiation, consistent with an atomic

explosion and)3)physical evidence (changes in the sand) similar to those found at the site of current day atomic explosions.4)Bingo! Evidence of depleted uranium with plutonium products!

Atomic Explosions Produce Glass

The following item appeared in the New York Herald Tribune on February 16, 1947 (and was repeated by Ivan T. Sanderson in the January 1970 issue of his magazine, Pursuit):





Click and drag photo to resize.

(Photo:Olive green Trinitite formed in New Mexico as a result of atomic testing in 1945)

When the first atomic bomb exploded in New Mexico, the desert sand turned to fused green glass.

This fact, according to the magazine Free World, has given certain archaeologists a turn. They have been digging in the ancient Euphrates Valley and have uncovered a layer of agrarian culture 8,000 years old, and a layer of herdsman culture much older, and a still older caveman culture. Recently, they reached another layer of fused green glass. It is well known that atomic detonations on or above a sandy desert will melt the silicon in the sand and turn the surface of the Earth into a sheet of glass. But if sheets of ancient desert glass can be found in various parts of the world, does it mean that atomic wars were fought in the ancient past or, at the very least, that atomic testing occurred in the dim ages of history?

This is a startling theory, but one that is not lacking in evidence, as such ancient sheets of desert glass are a geological fact. Lightning strikes can sometimes fuse sand, meteorologists contend, but this is always in a distinctive root-like pattern.

These strange geological oddities are called fulgurites and manifest as branched tubular forms rather than as flat sheets of fused sand.

Therefore, lightning is largely ruled out as the cause of such finds by geologists, who prefer to hold onto the theory of a meteor or comet strike as the cause. The problem with this theory is that there is usually no crater associated with these anomalous sheets of glass.

Brad Steiger and Ron Calais report in their book, Mysteries of Time and Space, that Albion W. Hart, one of the first engineers to graduate from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was assigned an engineering project in the interior of Africa. While he and his men were travelling to an almost inaccessible region, they first had to cross a great expanse of desert.

"At the time he was puzzled and quite unable to explain a large expanse of greenish glass which covered the sands as far as he could see," writes Margarethe Casson in an article on Hart's life in the magazine Rocks and Minerals (no. 396, 1972).

She then goes on to mention: "Later on, during his life he passed by the White Sands area after the first atomic explosion there, and he recognized the same type of silica fusion which he had seen fifty years earlier in the African desert."

Interestingly, Manhattan Project chief scientist Dr J. Robert Oppenheimer was known to be familiar with ancient Sanskrit literature. In an interview conducted after he watched the first atomic test, he quoted from the Bhagavad Gita: "Now I am become Death, the Destroyer of Worlds.' I suppose we all felt that way."

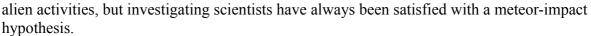
When asked in an interview at Rochester University seven years after the Alamogordo nuclear test whether that was the first atomic bomb ever to be detonated, his reply was, "Well, yes, in modern history." David Hatcher Childress in Nexus magazine

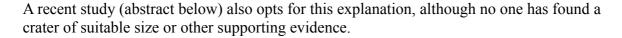
LIBYAN DESERT GLASS

Click and drag photo to resize. Script from The Java Script Source

Pieces of Libyan Desert Glass weighing as much as 16 pounds are found in an oval area measuring approximately 130 by 53 kilometers. The clear-to-yellowish-green pieces are concentrated in sand-free corridors between north-south dune ridges.

The origin of this immense deposit of glass has been attributed by some to ancient nuclear explosions and





Science Frontiers On Line

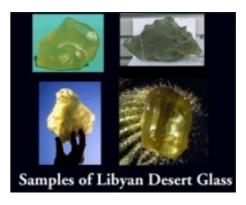
Re: More on Libyan Desert Glass by Gerhard Mehle February 1998

Libyan Desert Glass is found widely scattered over an area 130 km north to south by 53 km east to west.

The Libyan Desert of Egypt is one of Earth's most remote and inhospitable regions. Uninhabited, windblown and foreboding, the Sand Sea, near the Gilf Kebir Plateau, was nonetheless the site of a remarkable discovery in 1932.

The Egyptian Desert Surveys under the able direction of Englishman Patrick A. Clayton (1896-1962) recovered specimens (about 50 kg) of an unusual, often beautiful, translucent to transparent, yellowish-green gem-like, high silica natural glass.

The Area Where The Glass Is Found





Click and drag photo to resize. Script from The Java Script Source

(Photo: from Libyan Desert Glass expedition)

After the 1932 discovery of Libyan Desert Glass, only two other expeditions (both of the 1930's) were undertaken to the location until 1971.

This latter exploration involved three scientists stopping over for only two hours and collecting some 24 samples of the glass. During this brief visit, the expedition accidentally found the site of a forced landing of an Egyptian aircraft with the remains of nine men.

The failure of Egyptian authorities to find the downed airplane for over three years is solemn validation of the remoteness of this arid region. In light of the foregoing, it is perhaps remarkable that a greater abundance of Libyan Desert Glass has been made available recently for collections and study than at any time since its discovery 65 years ago.



Libyan Desert Glass is classified by most meteoriticists with the group of curious natural glasses known as tektites. In 1900, Professor Franz E. Suess of Vienna coined the term tektite from the Greek tektos meaning "melted or molten."

Tektites are compositionally restricted, high silica, natural glasses distinguishably different from other, volcanically derived, natural glasses. Tektites range in size from microscopic (less than 1mm) to macroscopic weighing many kilograms.

Click and drag photo to resize. Script from The Java Script Source

They exhibit a marvelous range of colors from water clear, gem quality, deep forest greens of moldavites to the soothing pale to dark yellow and yellow-greens of Libyan Desert Glass as well

as the stygian, impenetrable black of Australites.

Mankind has wondered about, and cherished, these enigmatic, exotic objects for hundreds of years, perhaps much longer. In the Cro-Magnon Venus of Willendorf site (Austria), dated at 29,000 BC, small moldavite flake blades were found (now lost!).

The earliest written records come from mid-10th century China referring to the black, shiny objects found after rainstorms as lei-gong-mo, "inkstones of the thunder-god". Australian Aborigines called Australites ooga, "staring eyes". The origin and source of tektites remains a mystery.

This Libyan Glass Object was Found in King Tut's Tomb

... in relation to all other tektite groups, Libyan Desert Glass exhibits a noteworthy number of unique attributes.

Lowest refractive index: 1.4616 Lowest specific gravity: 2.21 Highest silica content: 98%

Highest lechatelierite particles: fused quartz

Highest water content: 0.064%

Highest viscosity: almost 6X greater than Australites at the same temperature Other unique attributes: Color, Bubble types: 100% of included bubbles are lenticular or irregular.

..There is no evidence whatsoever, of atmospheric aerodynamic shaping and it is therefore presumed that Libyan Desert Glass formed as a melt sheet of some sort, possibly by meteoritic impact some 28.5 millions years ago. Recent French studies concluded that meteoric elements in the glass, of almost chondritic proportions, "points to an impact origin".

Interestingly, the inclusion of the high number of lechatelierite (fused quartz) particles in Libyan Desert Glass also points to an extremely high, up to 1700 C, formation temperature. Impacts of large bodies at high velocity are certainly capable of creating such high temperatures.

But, the central issue in determining the impact origin of tektites remains, that is, how to transform a mass of crushed rock into a homogeneous and relatively bubble free liquid which rapidly cools to a glass.

Even the commercial production of glass takes many hours to relieve the melt of its volatile components. No partially melted material, or target rock inclusions, have ever been found in Libyan Desert Glass.

Furthermore, other known impact glasses (impactites) such as Darwin Glass are bubbly, frothy, scoriaceous and contain partially melted materials. So the controversy continues.

This file shared with KeelyNet courtesy of Bryant Stavely. Excerpt from the World Island Review, January 1992.

Next Page: Scientists Shocked to Find Series of Ancient Nuclear Reactors: Designed or Natural?

Evidence of Ancient Atomic Knowledge? ...PAGE 2

Scientists Discover Six Ancient Zones of Depleted Uranium with Plutonium Products

Here at s8int.com, we smell a rat. Below in an article entitled <u>"Oklo, An Unappreciated Cosmic Phenomenom"</u>, "science" has applied several of its tried and true methodologies to "orthodoxize" that which otherwise would be a very strange and startling occurrence.



Click and drag photo to resize. Script from <u>The</u> <u>Java Script Source</u>

If you could go back and read the news and scientific articles at the time, you could contrast the shock, dismay and confusion caused by the initial announcement that nuclear material had been mined in the past and that the byproduct plutonium had been created at Oklo, --with the blase way the exlanation for the phenomenon is

presented today.

In 1972, a French analyst named Bougzigues working at the Pierrelatte nuclear fuel processing plant detected a small but significant change in an important ratio between Uranium 235 and Uranium 238. The proper ratio is well known and well established in that field so that the change indicated that something way out of the ordinary was going on.

The initial suspicion was that someone had included spent fuel in with the recently mined ore. This was quickly ruled out because there was no radiation signature associated with the mystery uranium..

The mystery uranium was eventually traced back to the Gabon mine at Oklo. You need to understand that what was so incredible was that a nuclear reaction had occurred such that plutonium was created and that the nuclear reaction itself had been "moderated"! This means that once a reaction is initated, if you want to harness the power output in a controlled manner, you had better be able to keep it from exploding and releasing all the energy at once. .

This particular group of reactors was, incredibly moderated using --water. The first modern nuclear reactors used graphite and cadmium rods to moderate their reactions.

At that time, people were speculating about aliens and advanced ancient civilizations. Some months after the discovery rocked the scientific world, someone came up with a somewhat dubious explanation which over time has taken on the patina of absolute certainty. It was a natural reactor which occurred billions of years ago. .

There are at least six zones of depleted uranium (usually means mined) with plutonium as a by product! You've got to really be trying to manufacture plutonium--its a complicated process.

Yet, scientists studying these zones have A Prori of course, decided not to consider that man was involved.

1) They place its occurrence safely "billions" of years ago. 2) They assume that a breeding reaction could occur naturally when no such evidence of that exists and creating a breeder reactor was once a technological holy grail which was difficult to achieve on purpose 3) They theorize that although it must have happened naturally in the distant past, that we need not worry about it occurring now, as conditions differ.4) Nature designed the reactor such that its spent fuel and dangerous byproducts were "contained".

Scientists use the principal of uniformism to draw conclusions about the future and the past. If they cannot use this "principle", then they can not draw any conclusions because they could not state that the conditions in the universe that exist now, always existed.

Here though as often happens, they have to assume that the past was vastly different as it related to the possibility of naturally occurring breeder reactions.

Again, scientists from other countries were skeptical when first hearing of these natural nuclear reactors. Some argued that the missing amounts of U-235 had been displaced over time, not split in nuclear fission reactions. "How," they asked, "could fission reactions happen in nature, when such a high degree of engineering, physics, and acute, detailed attention went into building a nuclear reactor?"

Perrin and the other French scientists concluded that the only other uranium samples with similar levels of the isotopes found at Oklo could be found in the used nuclear fuel produced by modern reactors. They found that the percentages of many isotopes at Oklo strongly resembled those in the spent fuel generated by nuclear power plants, and, therefore, reasoned that a similar natural process had occurred.

Another View of the Phenomenon

"Surprisingly, this uranium mine's nuclear reactor was well designed. Studies indicate that this reactor was several miles in length. However, for such a huge nuclear reactor, the thermal impact to its environment was limited to 40 meters on all sides. Even more astonishing is the fact that the radioactive wastes have still not migrated outside the mine site. They are held in place by the surrounding geology.

Faced with these findings, scientists consider the mine to be a "naturally occurring" nuclear reactor. The Oklo reactor has been documented for its importance as an analogue (a structural derivative of a parent compound) in the disposal of nuclear fuel wastes. But few people are bold enough to go one step further.

As a matter of fact, many people today know that the reactor is a relic from a prehistoric civilization. It's probable that two billion years ago there was a fairly advanced civilization living at a place now called Oklo.

This civilization was technologically superior to today's civilization. Compared to this huge "natural" nuclear reactor, our current nuclear reactors are far less impressive. The question is: why did such a highly advanced civilization disappear? That's something to ponder about.



The textbook of Basic Radioactive Chemistry (C. Claire ed.) used by Tsinghua university has the following paragraph: "The natural uranium in the Oklo mine in Gabon, West Africa, contains an abnormal amount of U235. It is as low as 0.29%, rather than the normal 0.72%. This means that many self-sustained nuclear fission chain reactions took place at this mine about two billion years ago.

Thirteen nuclear reactors existed in prehistoric periods along the 200-metre mine bed, and they were comparable to the modern nuclear

reactor in power and heat combustion. This mine had the capability of enabling self-sustained nuclear chain reactions...." This discovery, that shocked the entire scientific community in 1972, has already been forgotten by people today."..Pure Insight.org

OKLO: AN UNAPPRECIATED COSMIC PHENOMENON

"In 1972, French scientists discovered that several natural concentrations of uranium ore had become critical and flared up some "2 billion" years ago at Oklo, Gabon.

The concentration and configuration of the natural uranium and surrounding materials at that time had been just right to sustain fission.

The Oklo Mines. **Source:** Click and drag photo to resize.

In fact, the analysis of the nuclear waste in the burned rocks demonstrated that plutonium had also been created. This implies that natural breeder reactors are also possible, raising the possibility of hitherto unappreciated, long-lived heat sources deep in the earth, in the other planets, and inside some of the stars.

Don't worry that the Oklo phenomenon might occur today on the earth's surface. The concentration of fissionable U-235 has fallen considerably in the last 2 billion years due to its radioactive decay. But, deep inside the earth and other astronomical bodies, nuclear criticality might still be possible due to different pressures, densities, etc.

In a stimulating and generally overlooked paper in Eos, J.M. Herndon proffers four important natural phenomena that may involve natural fission reactors.

Geomagnetic reversals. In the deep earth, where pressures and densities are high, natural nuclear reactors may generate intermittent bursts of heat -- just as they did at Oklo -- and thereby cause the earth's dynamo to falter and reverse. Planetary heating. Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune emit much more energy than they receive from the sun. Natural nuclear reactors could be the reason.

Stellar thermonuclear ignition. Astronomers assume that the high temperatures required to ignite the thermonuclear reactions powering stars come from gravitational collapse, but this source does not seem adequate to some scientists. Nuclear fission reactors could ignite stars just as they do H-bombs.

Missing matter.

Natural nuclear reactors are finicky. There may be many star-sized, non-luminous objects out there that were never ignited and that we cannot see through our telescopes.

Science Frontiers Online

Evidence at Mohenjo-Daro



Click and drag photo to resize. Script from The Java Script Source

When excavations of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro reached the street level, they discovered skeletons scattered about the cities, many holding hands and sprawling in

the streets as if some instant, horrible doom had taken place. People were just lying, unburied, in the streets of the city.

And these skeletons are thousands of years old, even by traditional archaeological standards. What could cause such a thing? Why did the bodies not decay or get eaten by wild animals? Furthermore, there is no apparent cause of a physically violent death.

Click and drag photo to resize. Script from The Java Script Source

These skeletons are among the most radioactive ever found, on par with those at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. At one site, Soviet scholars found a skeleton which had a radioactive level 50 times greater than normal.

Other cities have been found in northern India that show indications of explosions of great magnitude. One such city, found between the Ganges and the



mountains of Rajmahal, seems to have been subjected to intense heat. Huge masses of walls and foundations of the ancient city are fused together, literally vitrified! And since there is no indication of a volcanic eruption at Mohenjo-Daro or at the other cities, the intense heat to melt clay vessels can only be explained by an atomic blast or some other unknown weapon. The cities were wiped out entirely.

While the skeletons have been carbon-dated to 2500 BC, we must keep in mind that carbon-dating involves measuring the amount of radiation left. When atomic explosions are involved, that makes then seem much younger.

Giant Unexplained Crater Near Bombay



Another curious sign of an ancient nuclear war in India is a giant crater near Bombay. The nearly circular 2,154-metre-diameter Lonar crater, located 400 kilometres northeast of Bombay and aged at less than 50,000 years old, could be related to nuclear warfare of antiquity.

No trace of any meteoric material, etc., has been found at the site or in the vicinity, and this is the world's only known "impact" crater in basalt. Indications of great

shock (from a pressure exceeding 600,000 atmospheres) and intense, abrupt heat (indicated by basalt glass spherules) can be ascertained from the site. **David Hatcher Childress in Nexus Magazine**

"The crater is formed in the basalt rock of thickness 600-700m (2,000 to 2,200 feet). This rock is made of many layers or flows which were laid why volcanic activity at various times, five of such flows are exposed at the crater rim. Thickness of these flows ranges from 5 to 30m.

The crater is about 150m (500 feet)deep and has average diameter of 1830m (1.4 miles). The elevated rim consists of 25m of bedrock and 5m of ejecta over it. This ejecta blanket is spread over about 1350m (4,400 feet) away from the crater rim and slopes away by 2-6°. The uppermost region of ejecta contains the deposits that were melted due to the impact"....http://www.iiap.res.in/outreach/lonar.html

"Lonar is a place of obscurities, especially as the only meteoric crater formed in basaltic terrain. It has remained relatively intact due to low degree of erosion by environmental agents, making it an excellent model for study. However, several strange things happen here:

- 1. The lake has two distinct regions that never mix an outer neutral (pH7) and an inner alkaline (pH11) each with its own flora and fauna. You can actually do a litmus paper test here and check this for yourself.
- 2. There is a perennial stream feeding the lake with water but there seems to be no apparent outlet for the lake's water. And it is also a big unsolved mystery



where the water for the perennial stream comes from, in a relatively dry region like Buldhana. Even in the driest months of May and June, the stream is perpetually flowing. Lonar generates questions and more questions". **Lilyn Kamath**

A Nuclear Catastrophe in Paleoindian Times?

Introduction. We introduce here a remarkable theory of terrestrial catastrophism that seems to be supported by evidence that is equally remarkable. One of the authors of this theory (RBF) is identified as a nuclear scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley Nuclear Laboratory.

The second author (WT) is a consultant. The authors' credentials seem so good that we must take a close look at their extraordinary claims concerning a natural phenomenon that they believe reset radiocarbon clocks in north-central North America and---potentially---elsewhere on the planet.

We will be most interested in the reception accorded these claims by the scientific community.

The claims.

In the authors' words: Our research indicates that the entire Great Lakes region (and beyond) was subjected to particle bombardment and a catastrophic nuclear irradiation that produced secondary thermal neutrons from cosmic ray interactions.

The neutrons produced unusually large quantities of ^239 Pu and substantially altered the natural uranium abundances (^235 U/^238 U) in artifacts and in other exposed materials including cherts, sediments, and the entire landscape.

These neutrons necessarily transmuted residual nitrogen (^ N) in the dated charcoals to radiocarbon, thus explaining anomalous dates.

Some North American dates may in consequence be as much as 10,000 years too young. So, we are not dealing with a trivial phenomenon!

Supporting evidence.

Four main categories of supporting evidence are claimed and presented in varying degrees of detail.

#Anomalously young radiocarbon dates in north-central North America. Example: the Gainey site in Michigan. [Other map sites include Thedford & Zander, Ont.; Potts, NY; Shoop, Penn.; Alton, Ind.; Taylor, II.; Butler & Leavitt, Mich.; and far to the north Grant Lake, Nunavut; and in the far southwest Baker, N.M. - TWC]

#Physical evidence of particle bombardment.

Example: chert artifacts with high densities of particle-entrance wounds.

#Anomalous uranium and plutonium abundance ratios in the affected area.

#Tree-ring and marine sediment data.

The authors claim that the burst of radiation from a nearby supernova, circa 12,500 years ago, not only reset radiocarbon clocks but also heated the planet's atmosphere, melted ice sheets, and led to biological extinctions.

If verified, the claimed phenomenon would also "reset" archeological models of the settlement of North and South America. To illustrate, we may have to add as many as 10,000 years to site dates in much of North America!

(Firestone, Richard B., and Topping, William; "Terrestrial Evidence of a Nuclear Catastrophe in Paleoindian Times,"

The Mammoth Trumpet, 16:9, March 2001. Cr. C. Davant III. This off-mainstream journal is published by the Center for the Study of the First Americans, 355 Weniger Hall, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-6510.)

Comment. Thus we add another potential cause of an often-hypothesized 12,500-BP catastrophe that is said to have changed the world's history. Competing theories involve asteroid impact, volcanism, a Venusian side-swipe, etc.

<u>Viewzone</u>

Evidence of Ancient Atomic Knowledge?: Tut's Gem Hints at Space Impact Page 3

Desert Glass Scarab. What produced the intense heat in the desert? Click and drag photo to resize.



In 1996 in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, Italian mineralogist Vincenzo de Michele spotted an unusual yellow-green gem in the middle of one of Tutankhamun's necklaces.

The jewel was tested and found to be glass, but intriguingly it is older than the earliest Egyptian civilisation.

Working with Egyptian geologist Aly Barakat, they traced its origins to unexplained chunks of glass found scattered in the sand in a remote region of the Sahara Desert.

But the glass is itself a scientific enigma. How did it get to be there and who or what made it? The BBC Horizon programme has reported an extraordinary new theory linking Tutankhamun's gem with a meteor.

Sky of fire

An Austrian astrochemist Christian Koeberl had established that the glass had been formed at a temperature so hot that there could be only one known cause: a meteorite impacting with Earth. And yet there were no signs of a suitable impact crater, even in satellite images.

American geophysicist John Wasson is another scientist interested in the origins of the glass. He suggested a solution that came directly from the forests of Siberia. "When the thought came to me that it required a hot sky, I thought immediately of the Tunguska event," he told Horizon.

In 1908, a massive explosion flattened 80 million trees in Tunguska, Siberia. Although there was no sign of a meteorite impact, scientists now think an extraterrestrial object of some kind must have exploded above Tunguska.

Wasson wondered if a similar aerial burst could have produced enough heat to turn the ground to glass in the Egyptian desert.

Jupiter clue

The first atomic bomb detonation, at the Trinity site in New Mexico in 1945, created a thin layer of glass on the sand. But the area of glass in the Egyptian desert is vastly bigger.

Whatever happened in Egypt must have been much more powerful than an atomic bomb.

Impact Simulation



Barakat holds up one of the many, huge chunks of glass in the desert. Click and drag photo to resize.

A natural airburst of that magnitude was unheard of until, in 1994, scientists watched as comet Shoemaker-Levy collided with Jupiter. It exploded in the Jovian atmosphere, and the Hubble telescope recorded the largest incandescent fireball ever witnessed rising over Jupiter's horizon.

Mark Boslough, who specialises in modelling large impacts on supercomputers, created a

simulation of a similar impact on Earth.

The simulation revealed that an impactor could indeed generate a blistering atmospheric fireball, creating surface temperatures of 1,800C, and leaving behind a field of glass.

"What I want to emphasise is that it is hugely bigger in energy than the atomic tests," said Boslough. "Ten thousand times more powerful."

Defence Lessons

The more fragile the incoming object, the more likely these airborne explosions are to happen. In Southeast Asia, John Wasson has unearthed the remains of an event 800,000 years ago that was even more powerful and damaging than the one in the Egyptian desert; one which produced multiple fireballs and left glass over three hundred thousand square miles, with no sign of a crater.

"Within this region, certainly all of the humans would have been killed. There would be no hope for anything to survive," he said.

According to Boslough and Wasson, events similar to Tunguska could happen as frequently as every 100 years, and the effect of even a small airburst would be comparable to many Hiroshima bombs.

Attempting to blow up an incoming asteroid, Hollywood style, could well make things worse by increasing the number of devastating airbursts.

"There are hundreds of times more of these smaller asteroids than there are the big ones the astronomers track," said Mark Boslough. "There will be another impact on the earth. It's just a matter of when."

Horizon: Tutunkhamun's Fireball, made by production company TV6, was broadcast on BBC Two on Thursday, 20 July

Evidence of Ancient Atomic Knowledge?: Does Oklo Falsify Young Earth Creationism?....Page 4

Oklo Conversation

by Anthony C. James, 2006

William: "Ahhh. Look at what the wind blew in. How ya doin"?

Robert: "Must have been an ill wind, huh"?

William: "Nah, not at all. Good to see you! Pull up a chair. Everyone else has deserted me out here. How's the wife?

Robert: Well, we're not married yet! We're still just at the



"stalking" stage. But I have to admit that it's going pretty well. Two months and still no restraining order!

William: Wow! Then it really is serious!

Robert: Someday I'm going to marry that girl and -I've got my eye on a coupla kids I think she's really going to like, too! Hey! What're we having? Smoked turkey? I guess, you being a Christian and all will have to pass on it? I mean cannibalism is a sin, right"?

William: "That's very droll, Rob. I suppose you'll be very happy to hear for the exact same reasons that there will be two turkeys and no ham?, You know that when it gets hot out people around you always think they smell bacon".

Robert: "Touche"!

William: "Not that I'm keeping track, but that's actually "three che".

Robert: "Touche"!

William: "If you insist. Did you know Dad is coming by? That's why I was surprised to see you here."

Robert: "Yeah, he's already here. That's one of the reasons I'm out here in the cold with you. I wasn't gearing up to have to see him until over at the house tomorrow".

William: "You still haven't forgiven him for turning his back on your religion, huh"?

Robert: "Atheism isn't a religion and it's not even about that".

William: "Stop trying to convert me, then. You know Dad's coming to church with me these days"?

Robert: "Yeah. Uncle Mike must be turning over in his grave. I'm trying to smarten you upnot convert you, idiot."

William: I don't believe Uncle Mike is dead. As a matter of fact, he was upstairs stuffing his face when I came out here". Besides, do Atheists believe in consciousness after death?

Robert: "Yeah, well he's not looking too good and he's still drinking like a fish. You know he breaks out in hives if he just drives by a church- or, of course, if his blood alcohol drops below .08. Actually, I think he blames his falling out of recovery on your becoming a Christian."

William: "I think he drinks because he needs to in order to continue to be an "intellectually fulfilled Atheist". You do remember that time as kids when we saw him praying over Mom when she was sick in the hospital"?

Robert: "That was no hospital, that was Kaiser. And he swears that he was-throwing up a rum and diet coke. If he knew you were still doubting his story he'd be turning over in his grave right now. Plus, if he was praying, it didn't do much good, did it"?

Robert: After a few minutes of companionable silence: "So, did you get my e-mail? The one about Oklo"?

William: "Oh, man! I should have known why you made a beeline out here! I thought maybe you were out here just to hang out. Please tell me that you don't want to get involved in yet another evolution/creation debate"?

Robert: "No, not so much a debate. A discussion".

William" Let's save some time, why don't you just stalk off"?

Robert:"I've got the goods, this time! Well, I always had the goods but this information I think you'll find is very compelling evidence for an "old universe" and an "old earth". He pulled some folded pages from his back pocket.

William: "For crying out loud! You brought the e-mail with you to a family celebration just so we could argue about it? Look I'm not sure that this is a good time for this, I'm frying a turkey, here".

Robert: "Yeah well I'm trying to fry a turkey, too, bro. Would you be so kind as to pass me the peanut oil and close your eyes"?

He began to read: "In the early 1970s, French scientists noticed something odd about samples of uranium recovered from the Oklo mine in Gabon, West Africa. All atoms of a specific chemical element have the same chemical properties, but may differ in weight; these different weights of an element are known as isotopes. Some uranium samples from Gabon had an abnormally low amount of the isotope U-235, which can sustain a chain reaction. This isotope is rare in nature, but in some places, the uranium found at Oklo contained only half the amount of the isotope that should have been there.

Scientists from other countries were skeptical when first hearing of these natural nuclear reactors. Some argued that the missing amounts of U-235 had been displaced over time, not split in nuclear fission reactions. "How," they asked, "could fission reactions happen in nature, when such a high degree of engineering, physics, and acute, detailed attention went into building a nuclear reactor?"

Perrin and the other French scientists concluded that the only other uranium samples with similar levels of the isotopes found at Oklo could be found in the used nuclear fuel produced by modern reactors. They found that the percentages of many isotopes at Oklo strongly resembled those in the spent fuel generated by nuclear power plants, and, therefore, reasoned that a similar natural process had occurred."

The uranium in the Earth contains dominantly two uranium isotopes, U-238 and U-235, but also a very small percentage of U-234, and perhaps small, undetectable amounts of others. All of these isotopes undergo radioactive decay, but they do so at different rates. In particular, U-235 decays about six-and-a-third times faster than U-238. Thus, over time the proportion of U-235 to U-238 decreases. But this change is slow because of the small rates of decay.

Generally, uranium isotope ratios are the same in all uranium ores contained in nature, whether found in meteorites or in moon rocks. Therefore, scientists believe that the original proportions of these isotopes were the same throughout the solar system. At present, U-238

comprises about 99.3 percent of the total, and U-235 comprises about 0.7 percent.⁵ 5 Any change in this ratio indicates some process other than simple radioactive decay.

Calculating back to 1.7 billion years ago—the age of the deposits in Gabon—scientists realized that the U-235 there comprised about three percent of the total uranium. This is high enough to permit nuclear fissions to occur, providing other conditions are right."

William tried to speak. Robert held up his hand.

Robert: "Hold on! That was from. A G.Cowan, in Scientific American. Just a few more quotes and then let me place them in a context, and I'll let you have the floor". He continued: "

"Ultimately, the mystery was unraveled, when it was discovered that in the pockets of depleted uranium ore a characteristic spectrum of byproducts of nuclear fission were also present and in the distinctive ratio that might be anticipated if a natural fission reactor had produced them.

The U-235 from Oklo had been depleted partly because it had become the fuel of the reactor. It had also dwindled through time, simply by its own radioactive decay.

By calculating how long ago the U-235 had been sufficiently concentrated to fuel a chain reaction, the scientists were able to date the time it was operating to 2 billion years ago, about the age of rocks in which the uranium ore was found".

"Next", he said is this quote from Don Lindsay: "Another evidence is the natural nuclear reactor at Oklo, in Gabon. This reactor was actually just an unusually rich body of radioactive ore. So rich, in fact, that when it was formed, it approached critical mass. Studies of the unusual elements found there indicate that reactors acted the same two billion years ago as they do now. If the *fine structure constant* had been different by as little as one part in a million, the Oklo measurements should have detected that".

Robert continued: "The point of all this is the following. To me, it's not bad enough that you're a creationist, but you are a young earth creationist! If this information does not make a dent with you in terms of creationism, at the very least it should either convince you or create some severe doubts in your mind about a young earth! I say this because the Oklo natural reactors are real, the nuclear reactions did occur, and could only have done so approximately 2 billion years ago when the uranium would have been sufficiently enriched. "

"Finally", he concluded, "the mutagenic radiation from such natural reactors some 2 billion years ago could have been a major driving force in evolution!

Robert waited a moment but William hadn't made a response. "Go on", he said.

William: "Oh, I can speak now? Thanks, but I'm not even sure where to start".

Robert: "Yeah, this is a tough one for creationists. I know of one guy who was formerly a young earth creationist who has become a "theistic" evolutionist" and "old earther", just because he couldn't come up with a "young earth" explanation for Oklo. Not only that, I sent you a newsgroup item where it showed that they pretty well savaged Dembski's intelligent design filter because Oklo meets many of the criteria for intelligent design even though obviously, it was a natural phenomenon."

William: "Yeah, no. I'd heard about Oklo years ago. Plus I did read all the stuff in your email. It's just that this will be our 1,000th discussion on these sort of topics and history tells me that even after hours of discussion, neither one of us is going to change his beliefs one bit. I don't feel like I've got that kind of time, plus it's cold, plus I've got to focus on frying this turkey and plus that other bird is going to freeze if I don't get it in the house".

Robert: "Okay, we'll save the full discussion for e-mail. Just give me some of your initial thoughts because frankly, I don't think there is an adequate young earth response to the Oklo phenomenon. Wait one minute, and I'll run your turkey inside. Get your thoughts together in the meantime".

William: "You're offering to help? You? Ahh! You've had too many beers yourself huh? You've got to go potty!"

Robert: "Like its 1999. Get your little fundamentalist thoughts together, and I'll be right back"!

When **Robert** came back he handed a tumbler to **William**. **William**: What's this?"

Robert: "Some hot chocolate. You're welcome".

William: :Thanks! Umm. Do Atheists wash their hands? Cuz, you know, though its not in the Bible, they do say; cleanliness is next to ...Godliness. Oh, and tell me this? I've always wondered; what do I say if you sneeze again?!

Robert: "You simply apologize for forgetting about my allergy to cheap cologne."

William: "And it was so thoughtful of you to have given it to me for my birthday-even if it was only three quarters full. So, okay, back to the discussion; let me start with this. This whole science thing. This thing where we Christians try to approach the origin of ourselves and the universe in a "scientific" way is for your benefit only. We find it limiting, but because you claim that you can only see the universe through a particular lense, we try to accommodate you. We try to speak the language you say you can understand, while a more perfect language is set aside. We're speaking baby talk here."

Robert: "Gratuitous insult." You're simply saying that you don't need evidence.

William:"We do need evidence, I'm just not limited to what you call evidence. Imagine if someone says that they could only understand love if they can put it into some kind of scientific formula, or measure it out to prove it experimentally? "Science "can tell us little about the appreciation of a sunset, about the soul of man or so many other things. For that matter, science can tell us very little about the mind itself.

The thing is, science can only begin after the universe and the creation already exist. Science can tell us nothing about what happens before that. In fact, let me say this; science begins after creation. The first law of physics, conservation of matter and energy says matter and energy can neither be created nor destroyed. This tells you that science does not know how matter came into existence. It should also tell you that if matter cannot be created under the laws of this universe, that something outside the 1st law created matter and energy. The most important law of science itself points to a "special creation" outside of science."

Robert:"You are going to talk about Oklo, right?

William: "Special Creation" however, is something that happens "pre-science". The fact of the matter is, if you were inclined to stick exclusively to science, the 1st law would turn you away-it tells you not to look here in science because all we can tell you is that all this matter you see..? It can't be created! If you want to know about creation, you have to look outside of science".

William:"Okay. For all the years we've been talking about this, I've been consistent about what I believe, Seven "actual" days, special creation, ie God did it, He is the creator ex-nihlio (from nothing), a global worldwide flood, a young earth. Right." Now, consistent with that, the laws of the universe are now set. But consistent with my beliefs, when Adam and Eve were created there was no death. By the way, I've been consistent but whether you realize it or not, you've been nothing but. Whatever you assert confidently about evolution, or the universe or the "big bang" is likely to be changed the next time we speak. You will then assert the new "take" as arrogantly as you did the prior "take".

I saw an article yesterday that I didn't read,but that says the big bang needs to be moved back another 2 billion more years. Me, I'm sticking with created in seven days. You know what dude, I'll tell you the same thing tommorrow.

To be more specific about the 1st and 2nd laws of physics, my assumption is that in the beginning, the 1st law was set, but not the second, which is entropy...systems over time will lose energy and become less organized. I believe entropy came into existence after the fall. That is, death was introduced into this world; the spiritual death of man, the physical death of man and animal, and the beginnings of the physical death of the universe. At the beginning death was not part of the plan, nor was the winding down of the creation.

I'll come back to this point.

Now, Oklo, okay? Materialists have available to them only one solution for the Oklo phenomenon; a naturalistic one. Nothing else fits uniformism and gradualism. On the other hand, Christians certainly can't accept a natural explanation, particularly if it is one that takes 1.8 billion years to occur. Neither Christians nor evolutionists apparently considered the idea of sophisticated civilizations prior to the flood of Noah in relation t Oklo. Well, evolutionists wouldn't but even Christians who believe in the flood tend to think of the pre-flooders as nomadic herdsmen with no technology.

For that reason, the very first thing that should have occurred to both groups about Oklo did not. Occam's Razor (when there are multiple explanations- choose the simplest one) should have led to the conclusion-or at least the consideration that this was a "designed system" and not a natural one!

Even though materialists were "freaked out" by the discovery and even though as you read the scientific world initially resisted the idea of a natural breeder reactor they never for a minute considered the idea that "cave men" (because of their view of earlier man) could have built a breeder reactor! Oh, and by the way, something else you will have to adjust as you confidently assert evolutionary theories; Neanderthal DNA turns out to match "human" DNA to 99.99%" OOPS!

But I digress, consider; the Oklo reactor produced energy comparable to a modern nuclear reactor, was moderated by water so that the reaction could be controlled, and to this day still contains the waste products from the reactor. In short, this system was "well designed", whether by nature or by man!. I submit to you that to believe it was built by aliens makes more sense to me than the idea that somehow nature built it and I don't believe aliens exist.

To say that you accept the idea that it was a natural phenomenon rather than a designed reactor proves that you probably don't know how much technology went into building a working breeder reactor.

As for Dembski's design filter; Dembski himself probably never considered that the reason his filter might "select" the Oklo reactor as a product of design is that it is in fact a product of design! Duh!

Robert: "You can't be serious"!?

William: "Look! I'm not saying that the reactors were designed and built by man as a certainty. Whether or not it was or wasn't does not impact me as a Christian. I'm saying that this should have been the very first thing considered or that it should have at the very least been on the list. I can send you a link later re some creation scientists who accept the idea that it is natural reactor but who show that it could still have happened in the context of a young earth, but A mistake being made here is the idea that technology will always look the same—that advanced technology had to take the form that it did in this present age.

Let me ask you this; if you had to direct a team and the resources to build; the great pyramid with the technological level and tools we say were available to the supposed builders thereof, the Egyptians (and whatever you may think, there is no firm evidence in any way that connects the pyramids of the Giza plateau to the dynastic Egyptians), —or you had to direct the team and resources to place a man on the moon with the technology we had in the sixties, which challenge would be more difficult?

Do not be so quick to choose landing a man on the moon with the technology available at that time. In order to build the pyramid, you would have had quarry and then move 2.3 million granite or limestone blocks weighing between 2.5 and 50 tons, 600 miles to the site of the pyramid. Keep in mind that the copper and bronze tools experts say the Egyptians used to precisely cut the stone blocks are softer than the limestone and granite blocks. Keep in mind that you will need to lift and precisely place granite blocks, some again weighing nearly 50 tons, to a height of nearly 500 feet. That's 50 stories. These stones will need to be placed with such tolerances that a razor blade will not fit between them. Your pyramid will when finished line up with the four points of the compass with an accuracy of .06 degrees, supposedly, without a compass.

Your team will need to level the 13-acre limestone bedrock base to a degree of accuracy only recently achieved with laser technology using only the known technology of the Dynastic Egyptians. Among technological attributes to numerous to mention, your team will have to excavate what's known as the 'Descending Passage' some 350 feet into solid bedrock using copper and bronze tools, at a 26-degree angle-- all the while keeping the tunnel arrow-straight for its entire length'!

Robert: (Feigning a yawn?) "Thanks! That's fascinating! Not! Look, can you please tell me how you moved from the Oklo natural reactor to a man made triangle? I really want you to focus Billy if you can. How do you react to the information I provided about Oklo?

William: "My point is, that there is evidence of ancient high technology other than the ancient nuclear facility at Oklo".

Robert:"Look, I'll bite. The technology that built the great pyramid is in no way comparable to the technology or effort it took to put a man on the moon. I guess that means that I would take the pyramid. Give me enough slave labor and I'll bring it in on time and under budget! The moon landing on the other hand required computers-much higher technology"!

William:"I don't think millions of unskilled slave laborers are going to help you build one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. How could you do it when experts are still arguing about how it was done in the first place? The point is, the choice is not a foregone conclusion. If you accept the dating of the current experts on the great pyramid, then for more than 5,000 years this precisely built yet huge structure was the tallest structure built by man. It's been less than two hundred years since its height was surpassed. It's almost 50 stories high and is built to a much higher precision that any modern highrise!"!

Robert: "Moving on to Oklo:...?

William:" What makes me laugh is the example we "creationists" use re: the tornado in the junkyard. The idea that the odds of evolution working to produce the diversity of life on earth would be like a tornado coming through a junkyard and completely assembling a 727. The problem is, we underestimate the gullibility of materialists! I mean, you'll take those odds every time if it means that you don't have to get down on your knees to worship God!

If you and I could observe that junkyard and watch a billion years worth of tornados producing not so much as a ninety degree angle, I bet I know exactly what you'd say"...

Robert:: And that is...

William: "Best two billion out of three"!?

Robert:""Rimshot"!

William:" Your faith is almost inspirational. Okay. How did they conclude that the "natural reactor" was active nearly 2 billion years ago? I'll tell you how. By making the assumption that the nuclear decay rate or half-life of U235 has always remained constant. In other words, if the present laws and constants of nature had extended throughout the past, the Oklo uranium deposit could have become critical close to 2 billion years ago. Additionally, the conditions for a moderated reaction do not exist today and must be assumed to have existed in the past. So, this si what happened re: Oklo. 1) Freak out. 2)Sweat. 3)Come up with a "natural" explanation which at first was met with a pronounced skepticism but which later would become dogma, i.e.' darwinism, the big bang theory, dark matter, continental drift and Cold Play"!

Robert:"Cold Play"!

William::4) Gradually rally around the natural explanation because really, what else have you got. 5) Dogma. 6) Verify that constants are "constant" by using constants to arrive at a date a

"natural" reactor was in operation. 7)Turn around and use Oklo with your new assumption generated numbers to prove that constants have always been constant! 8)Try to taunt creationists with your proof"!

Christians on the other hand should know consistent with their belief in both the "fall" and the flood have accepted a view that is completely opposed to uniform assumptions. Our view has always been catastrophic. Who knows how submersion in water for up to a year or more is going to impact radiometric dating? Logically, both the fall of man and the flood eliminate uniformism.

This last part is to address the idea that there are Christians who've been impacted by the Oklo phenomenon in terms of their faith. You said some of them have been cowed by it and I'm just saying that perhaps they haven't fully thought out what the implications are of their belief in the Biblical teachings on the history of the planet and the creation of the universe".

Robert: "To be honest, I feel like you're weaseling out of the Oklo implications, here. The one thing you've said which I will need to go and research is the idea that to arrive at an Oklo date they assumed constants were constant. That doesn't seem unreasonable to me because; what else could they assume". I will however agree that you can't then go back and say Oklo proves that the constants were always constant. The idea that little green men built themselves a breeder reactor belongs on Stargate SG-1, which I know you watch, by the way."

William: "You do know that there has been research indicating that the speed of light and other constants have or are changing? One of those studies even focused on Oklo, though they didn't suggest a magnitude change in the constants.

Would you also agree that if today the fact that matter and energy are "conserved" indicates that there was a time before the present physical laws in this universe were set that another law, permitting the creation of matter must have been in effect"?

Robert: The Big bang....

William:" The Big bang was invented by someone who believed in the creation theory. I believe he was a minister who thought the big bang evidence supported the idea that God created the universe. However, the big bang couldn't have created matter, it was how matter was dispersed, wasn't it"?

Robert:"I'll get back to you on that".

William: "Continuing to respond to your Oklo information. You mentioned mutation. The idea that radiation from the nuclear reactor sped up evolution. I suppose I can't just say "that's dumb" and go back to frying this turkey? It is you know.

Mutation is bad for organisms, not good. Mutation destroys information, it does not add new information. This means that entropy, not only is at work in the universe, it is also at work on the genome. Ironically the very thing that evolutionists believe is responsible for building on the genome and increasing information is doing the exact opposite.

In fact, mutation in humans is much more frequent as previously thought. The human genome is gradually being destroyed by mutation. A population geneticist named "Crow" (and he's on your team) estimates that humans are experiencing an irrevocable net loss of genetic information such that the "fitness" is declining by 1% to 2% per generation. This means that eventually, the human genome will lose too much information for the human race to continue. Read Remine's book on Haldane's Dilemma or Sanford's Genetic Entropy. This of course has implications for the future and the past. In 8 generations, or 200 years human fitness may decline as much as 16% from today. Now if you take these numbers the other way; how old could the human race be?

Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon were physically stronger, had better eyesight (based on paintings in dark caves with no evidence of soot) and had larger brains. Our descendants will be much less robust than ourselves-if the Lord hasn't come by that time."

Robert: "I believe I will find your picture in the dictionary under digress"! Let's eat turkey tonight and finish this discussion by e-mail. I'm going to get some more material and stay focused on Oklo. I think I can make some progress with you on this because it is so conclusive"!

William: "At your current rate of "progress", should it remain constant, you'll accomplish nothing in 2 billion years".

Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth (#301), by Larry Vardiman, Ph.D.

Speed of Light May have Changed Recently

THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE OKLO PHENOMENON ON THE CONSTANCY OF RADIOMETRIC DECAY RATES, C. L. Webster Geoscience Research Institute

The Great Pyramid of Egypt, by Martin Gray

Evidence of Ancient Atomic Knowledge?: Solution to Ancient Nuclear Power Plant Analogous to Materialist Solution for the Origin of Man; Mysterious Process Begun Billions of Years Ago. (Evolution)....Page 5

Oklo Mine at Gabon. Click and drag photo to resize.

"Thirteen nuclear reactors existed in "prehistoric" periods along the 200-metre mine bed at Oklo --it was discovered in 1972, and they were comparable to the modern nuclear reactor in power and heat combustion. This mine had the capability of enabling self-sustained nuclear chain reactions". This discovery shocked



the entire scientific community back in 1972......

...Perrin and the other French scientists concluded that the only other uranium samples with similar levels of the isotopes found at Oklo could be found in the used nuclear fuel produced by modern reactors. They found that the percentages of many isotopes at Oklo strongly resembled those in the spent fuel generated by nuclear power plants..

Romans Chapter 1 speaks of the wise men of this world worshipping the created rather than the creator. Science is a big believer in the creative power of "nature" which is a creation of God rather than a creator. So when faced with the desperate need for an explanation for an ancient nuclear power generator, science renewed its faith in created things. It's difficult to

remember this now, but back when the natural explanation was first offered, not everyone was on board.

PRIOR ARTICLES ON THIS TOPIC

Ancient Atomic
Knowledge?
Ancient Atomic
Knowledge Part
2
Tut's Gem Hints
at Space Impact
Does Oklo
Falsify Young
Earth
Creationism?-A
Conversation

Previously on this site we've looked at an apparently ancient nuclear power plant at Oklo in Gabon, in four articles. These nuclear reactors were estimated to have produced on the order 0f 1,000 megawatts, comparable to a large modern plant.

The radioactive byproducts of the reaction are still conserved in the area around the reactors leading some to call the reactor "well designed". Natural uranium is made up primarily of uranium 238 (99%). In order to make this natural uranium fissionable, the 99% uranium 238 must be converted into uranium 235 (enrichment).

Ancient Atomic Knowledge Part 2 Tut's Gem Hints at Space Impact Door Olds There are a variety of ways to do this, however as pointed out in the New York Times of June 21, 1976, all of them require advanced technology.

In 1972, a French analyst named Bougzigues working at the Pierrelatte nuclear fuel processing plant detected a small but significant change in an important ratio between Uranium 235 and Uranium 238. The proper ratio is well known and well established in that field so that the change indicated

that something way out of the ordinary was going on.

Click and drag photo to resize.

The initial suspicion was that someone had included spent fuel in with the recently mined ore. This was quickly ruled out because there was no radiation signature associated with the mystery uranium.

Evidence Shows a Nuclear Reaction Occurred Spontaneously Long Ago

Published: September 26, 1972 Copyright © The New York Times

France's 'Missing' Uranium Traced to a Natural Chain Reaction Eons Ago
Published: June 21, 1976
Copyright © The New York Times

The mystery uranium was eventually traced back to the Gabon mine at Oklo. You need to understand that what was so incredible to all was that a nuclear reaction had occurred such that plutonium was created and that the nuclear reaction itself had been "moderated", what had been a long term atomic science "holy grail"!

The abilty to moderate the reaction means that once a reaction was initiated, one was able to harness the power output in a controlled manner, including having the ability to keep it from exploding and releasing all the energy at once.

One thing we think is/was missing from our prior articles on this topic is the scientific panic this discovery caused back in 1972. Once a solution was conceived and settled upon, however, it immediately became the gospel although, again, there are few who remember the objections many scientists initially raised.

These two articles printed in the New York Times in 1972 and 1976, at the very least provide possible reasons to be skeptical of a naturalstic explanation for the phenomena and a way to recall initial scientific resistance.

From the start, the alternatives explanations weren't very palatable. Aliens? Advanced ancient civilizations? Unknown Russian technology? Who in the world had the technology to build a breeder reactor (creates its own fuel) in the distant past?

One thing was certain, ancient high technology does not fit in with the theory of evolution and the whole- cave man to modern man chronology. Certainly aliens and secret Russian technology were preferable choices for science.

Richard Dawkins is famously quoted as saying that the theory of evolution permitted him to be an "intellectually fulfilled" Atheist. He had a framework for attaching his unbelief. Simlarly, the explanation that French scientists eventually arrived at also spoke of mysterious processes occurring millions or billions of years ago that don't appear to be occurring today and—-its one that permits physicists and evolutionists alike to be intellectually fulfilled.

And, just like Darwin's theory, the initial scientific skepticism has been replaced with religious adherence.

As a matter of fact, since the "solution" requires billions of years (and suspension of disbelief) materialists have tried to use the timeframe of over 2 billion years as proof that the earth is not young! So even though Christians may feel that they don't care whether or not ancient man had nuclear technology the ramification of the materialists alternate theory is that earth is well over 2 billion years old and Oklo is a "proof". (Some creationists have countered by therizing that a natural reaction could have occurred in "recent" times based primarily on changing scientific "constants").

Materialists have also attacked intelligent design theories with Oklo by showing that what they now call a natural phenomenon has elements that indicate "intelligent design", as described for instance in William Demski's excellent book "The Design Inference". What neither side of that argument considers is that the reactors may have in fact been designed!

Accepting the Most "Outrageous Idea" of All

From the 1976 New York Times article; "Under great secrecy, the investigators drew up and systematically explored a list of possible explanations. One was that the French standard of uranium percentage was wrong.

A group of scientists was sent to the National Bureau of Standards in the United States to make a comparison with the American Standard; it proved to be identical.

Another hypothesis was that nature, in some way, had been able to change the mix of uranium types, or isotopes without the high technology that physicists required. No one could think of a plausible process.

An Outrageous Idea

This left the possibility of theft (someone at the mine had stolen the uranium) or as Mr. Corbet put it "the most outrageous idea of all"—that nature itself depleted the uranium by producing a chain reaction similar to that finally achieved by physicists at the University of Chicago in 1942 after the most sophisticated calculations and preparations."

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An 'Outrageous Idea'

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Published: June 21, 1976 Copyright © The New York Times Click and drag photo to resize.

Extrapolating backwards, the French scientists concluded that the ore would have been enriched enough 1.8 billion years ago to spontaneously produce a chain reaction. They further concluded that water had moderated the reaction much like modern reactors use graphite and cadmium rods to keep their reactors from going critical-and exploding.

What you talking 'bout Willis?! Atomic Scientists Puzzled by Explanation

The 1972 article provides a glimmer of the resistance and implausibility of the natural reactor "explanation:.

"However, specialists in reactor engineering said yesterday that they were puzzled as to how this could have occurred in a deposit with only 3 per cent of fissionable uranium.

"Really Puzzling"

As Dr. Seaborg (head of the Atomic Energy Comm.) pointed out, in a reactor burning such fuel "you have to have things exactly right." Water or some other

"moderator" is needed to slow down the neutrons released as each atom is split so that they are not moving too fast for absorption by other atoms, to sustain the chain reaction.

Furthermore, the moderator and the fuel must be extremely pure. Even a few parts per million of contaminant, such as boron, will "poison" the reaction, bringing it to a halt.

How the necessary conditions could arise underground under natural circumstances, said Dr. Seaborg, is "really puzzling".

Indeed!

"I haven't been able to think of any better explanation," admitted Seaborg, to Time Magazine in 1972.

"There are plenty of explanations I could give you," Caltech Geochemist Donald Burnett also told Time, "but none are less exotic."

http://s8int.com/phile/atomic5.html