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**ANTARCTIC RELIC
ACQUISITION MISSION**

FIELD RESEARCH DIVISION // ARTIFACT ANALYSIS UNIT
McMurdo Station // Antarctic Operations, Season 1975-76

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PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

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The following constitutes the unedited official research log of Dr. Linda Knox, PhD, serving as Lead Linguistics Analyst under the auspices of the CIA Antarctic Relic Acquisition Mission, McMurdo Station, Season 1975-76. Entries are reproduced in full and have been appropriately classified following review by Division Command. All personnel named herein hold or held applicable clearances at time of writing.

22 DECEMBER 1975 —

Due to a fortunate weather window, we've arrived at McMurdo Station as early as possible. The flight from New Zealand was thankfully uneventful.

We have officially received orders to commence research immediately.

Due to the USAP'S report of intricate markings across the excavated object's surface, I've been personally selected by Dr. Stewart Oberman to accompany four other highly accomplished specialists for this mission.

As initially described by the discovering USAP team, the object is:

- Excavated from a little over 6,000ft deep within the ice sheet.
- 15 feet wide by 15 feet in length by 8 feet in height.
- Radioactive.
- Covered in intricate, detailed markings which may or may not be a written language.

Our mission is to discern the purpose of the discovered object and identify if an ancient human civilization or encoded foreign language has been discovered. Our lead archaeologist and geologist, Dr. Ali Ibrahim, proclaims the markings appear similar to other ancient star charts he's come across during his career. He has requested Dr. Yoel Raimundo, our lead astrophysicist, to test his hypothesis.

Dr. Ibrahim has also confirmed the USAP field notes to be correct in their assessment that due to the depth of the object at the time of its discovery, it has been here, buried within the ice since approximately 1200AD; a relic.

23 DECEMBER 1975 —

While inspecting the relic's radioactivity, Dr. Ishiro Hawatori, our lead radio and quantum physicist, has quickly made a profound discovery. The relic is broadcasting some sort of signal. Multiple signals of varying frequencies. He confirmed it was not some form of natural radioactive decay either. The pulses were precise, repeating, and outright predictable at times before suddenly shifting entirely, developing an entirely new, equally complex yet repeating pattern. The relic is broadcasting something.

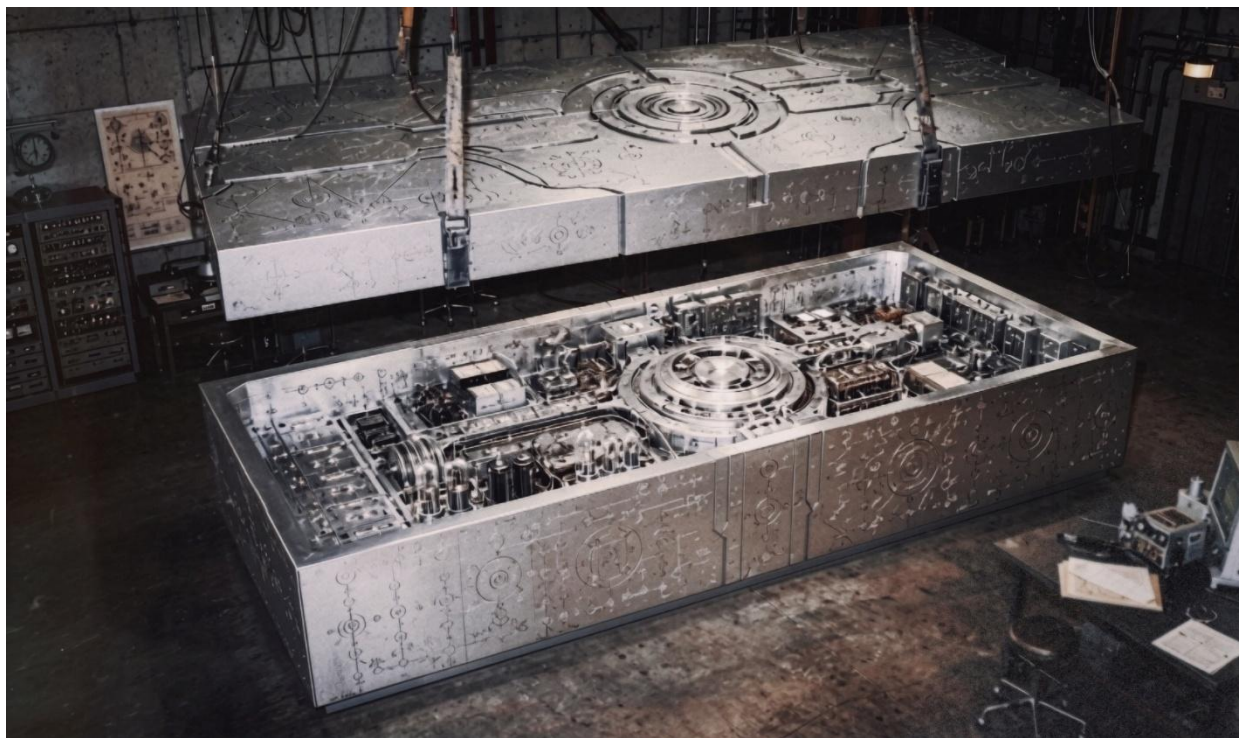
24 DECEMBER 1975 —

The outside of the relic is a casing of some kind.

The inside of the relic was revealed to be a functioning, complex machine. Various parts were spinning, humming, clicking, and moving. Some parts glowed with different colored lights. It was surprisingly noisy.

Dr. Oberman pointed out the relic was not strictly analog in nature. This machine possessed digital components and electronic transistors.

Dr. Raimundo half-joked about this being some secret Soviet installation, but of course the depth at which the relic was recovered quickly debunked his suggestion.



NOTATION: Photographic archive filed under CIA-ARAM-LK-1975-PHOTO-001 through -447.
Image Ref: CIA-ARAM-LK-1975-PHOTO-214

25 DECEMBER 1975 —

Dr. Raimundo has concluded that the markings inscribed within the relic are not star charts, as was the initial prevailing hypothesis. His reasoning is compelling: an overwhelming majority of the circular, orbital carvings depict configurations that would violate the classical Three-Body gravitational constraint. If these were stellar cartography, they represent no physics we recognize.

Multiple, alternate hypotheses have been raised during informal team discussion. Dr. Ibrahim has advanced the position that the relic's sub-glacial depth of recovery may necessitate a fundamental reassessment of the accepted timeline of human civilization - pushing the boundaries of organized society well beyond any currently recognized archaeological threshold.

He has shifted perspectives, proposing that the surface markings should not be approached as a translatable mathematics or linguistic system, but rather as symbolic or devotional iconography designed for aesthetic or religious function rather than for a communicative purpose.

I do not yet lean one way or another. More information is needed.

As of today, Dr. Ibrahim and I have been granted hazmat suits and full access to the relic.

I could not have asked for a finer Christmas gift.

27 DECEMBER 1975 —

The USAP outpost we've been assigned to is well-equipped; the computer terminal installed by Dr. Oberman is more powerful than anything available to me at my home institution. I have brought my full library of resources on floppy disk. We will begin with a broad comparative analysis, casting a wide net before attempting to draw any conclusions about the nature of what we are looking at.

Dr. Ibrahim and I were quick to notice many of the internal components contained the same ornate designs as inscribed on the outer casing.

Further investigation revealed these markings exist within the machine even at microscopic levels. This suggests the use of a tool of extraordinary fine resolution or some other inscription process we cannot yet account for.

28 DECEMBER 1975 —

Dr. Hawatori appears stressed. So far, he has refused to share any findings with the rest of the team. He insists that something must be wrong. He's headed out to visit another USAP building here at McMurdo Station. He was accompanied by Dr. Chelsea Yang (our lead molecular chemist/molecular physicist) and both of their respective security officers.

29 DECEMBER 1975 —

The question of how these markings were inscribed into the relic's surface is one I cannot answer and neither, apparently, can anyone else on the team.

Dr. Yang's characterization of the relic's composition has grown more specific. She describes it as a high-entropy meta-material; a precisely

engineered alloy incorporating carbon matrices, ceramic compounds, and heavy metals in ratios that do not correspond to any documented manufacturing processes. More to the point, she states that every attempted method of marking the material such as cutting, grinding, etching, or ablation leaves no trace on the relics surface whatsoever. The surface is, to the best of her ability to determine, virtually indestructible by any means currently available to us.

She also informed us that the molecular compositions of the relic's various components do not correlate to anything found on Earth, naturally occurring or fabricated.

30 DECEMBER 1975 —

Dr. Ibrahim's command of ancient and esoteric linguistic systems has proven invaluable. Together, we have assembled a working reference corpus, drawing on the most structurally complex and least-understood writing systems known to scholarship. We are not attempting direct translation at this stage; rather, we are cataloguing structural parallels, patterns of visual grammar, spatial logic, and symbol-to-meaning encoding.

INITIAL COMPARATIVE REFERENCE CORPUS

Phaistos Disk – Spiraling undeciphered inscription; attributed to Linear A of the ancient Minoan civilization, Crete, c. 1700 BCE. Unique directional structure and unresolved phonetic-semantic correspondence.

Dongba Script – Pictographic writing system of the Naxi people, Yunnan Province, China. Simultaneously logographic and ideographic; symbols carry layered semantic functions depending on context and positioning.

Sumerian Cuneiform – Early logographic phase specifically. Pre-phonetic Sumerian demonstrates symbol rotation and mirroring as meaning-modifiers; a structural feature largely abandoned in later evolution.

Egyptian Hieroglyphics – With particular focus on determinative usage and multidirectional inscription conventions. The directional flexibility of hieroglyphic text remains unmatched among ancient scripts.

Tibetan Script – Vertical consonant-cluster stacking producing multi-layered glyphs readable at base, modified, and compound levels simultaneously.

Western Musical Notation – Included as a non-linguistic parallel: a spatial encoding system conveying pitch, duration, emotional register, and structure simultaneously across horizontal (melodic) and vertical (harmonic) axes.

Mathematical Notation – Included as a formal parallel: non-linear, spatially-structured symbol grammar in which positional relationships are syntactically meaningful.

Mayan Hieroglyphics – Agglutinative glyph-block system; affixes stack radially onto root glyphs encoding subject, verb, object, tense, and social register in a single compound block.

Incan Quipu – Tactile/spatial encoding via knotted cord. Included as an example of a non-visual, non-linear information system; challenges assumptions about what constitutes a writing system.

Blissymbolics – Engelang devised by Charles K. Bliss, published 1949. Spatial positioning of base semantic pictograms functions as grammar. Closest modern analogue to positional syntax.

NOTE: Full bibliography and data sets filed separately under CIA-ARAM-LK-1975-BIBL-01. Disk copies held by Doctor Stewart Oberman and secured with Division Command.

08 JANUARY 1976 —

Every framework we have applied yields partial correspondences at best, and contradictions immediately thereafter. The comparative corpus I assembled with Dr. Ibrahim has not produced a viable structural model. We can identify features only in isolation. Elements occasionally resemble known systems but do not cohere into anything legible when treated as a unified grammar.

Dr. Ibrahim has offered what aid he can, but his expertise is more productively applied elsewhere at this stage. I will continue the linguistic analysis independently for the time being.

I'm beginning to suspect the problem goes beyond my lacking of the right reference materials.

14 JANUARY 1976 —

Dr. Hawatori approached the team at lunch today. He looked exhausted.

He'd reported that he'd conducted isotopic analysis of the relic on multiple separate occasions. First to establish a terrestrial residence age, then to determine the relics formation age from trace elemental inclusions.

After struggling to accept the results of the first few attempts, he disclosed that he ventured out into McMurdo Station to secure new equipment.

After procuring replacement instrumentation, he repeated both analyses. He declined to accept those results as well. He recruited Dr. Oberman in the complete disassembly and ground-up reconstruction of his equipment from their base components to eliminate instrumentation error as a variable.

The analyses were then conducted thrice more. All independent results aligned with each other, and Dr. Yang was consulted to double check the results each time.

I am recording this exactly as Dr. Hawatori stated it, as I do not yet have the language to record it as my own conclusion: "The relic may have first arrived to Earth in approximately 1200AD, but its creation predates the formation of the sun itself."

22 JANUARY 1976 —

Dr. Oberman is preparing our return trip to the USA. The relic is being packed for transport back to the continental United States within the coming days.

I have spent this week conducting a full photographic survey of every marked surface. Every panel, every internal face, every edge and junction has been documented at the highest resolution available to us here. I have almost four hundred and fifty photographs. I have done my best to record and reconstruct the spatial arrangement of the markings as they existed within the relic's assembled configuration, though I must note with some frustration that I am not yet certain whether the relative positioning of marked surfaces to one another carries semantic significance. It may. It may not. I cannot determine this yet.

I have made no substantive headway toward a translation. I want to be precise in this assessment: I have not failed to find a key. I have failed to establish with confidence that a key in any conventional sense even exists.

30 JANUARY 1976 —

We make for our return to the United States tomorrow. The relic has been packed and secured for transport. By all official accounts, the mission is considered a success. By most measures, I understand why that assessment has been reached. The recovery of the relic alone represents unfathomable implications for not just America, but the entirety of our world altogether.

Dr. Oberman believes that based on the mere construction of the relic, he'll be able to reverse engineer and create the world's most powerful supercomputer ever conceived. He has already begun drafting hypothetical schematics for his first build.

Dr. Yang is already referencing the molecular compositions of the relic for both military and practical use.

Dr. Hawatori believes he can create new forms of wireless communications based on what he'd recorded from the relic.

Even I am hopeful in what I can learn from finally cracking the meaning behind these glyphs. Perhaps the true function of the relic has been recorded onto its surface, simply waiting to be learned by someone capable of reading its story.

My mission has only begun.

[E N D O F L O G]

— E N D O F D O C U M E N T —
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