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Dear Ingo,

Greetings! What an interesting evening we had together! I am writing to thank you for a superb dinner, which I greatly enjoyed. I hope that we will have the chance to spend some more time like that whenever the appropriate situation presents itself.

Of course, I am also writing to send you the enclosed. When I finally surfaced the next day, I wrote up the 9-page report of what transpired during the period when you initiated an ASC and started the reading. I have put down as much as I could remember about the first part of the session, which I did not write up when it happened. God knows why I didnt...it occurred to me several times that some record should have been made. The answer that came through concerning why de-materialisation of matter would not be possible for man in the next 20 years was extraordinary and conceptually related to several other theories I have encountered concerning the relation of emotion and imagery to the physical world.

Please be assured that until I hear from you to the contrary, I will respect your wish that nothing be said about what happened. I think I understand your position - as you may have gathered from the course of our discussion - but I do think that there are several very interesting aspects to the whole event. Firstly, I think that I learned quite a bit about how to ask questions via a channel whilst at the same time working to keep the channel clear. Looking back over it, it seems that there were several entities attempting to get through and at various times, different ones emerged. I am thinking particularly of the point on p. 7 of the write-up where I ask a question which is considered too difficult for whomever is answering the previous questions i.e. the one who kept on wanting to speak in French. The way in which the comment came through about it being too difficult for "him" to answer such a question suggests that all the previous communications were being "monitored" by a higher source all along. In this context, note the comment on p.6 (top of the page) concerning "factors which coagulate in vocal structure".

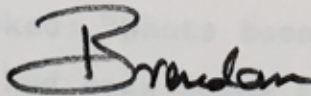
As you read through what I have written, you will see what happened when I tried to ask questions about you, as you requested. The only data on you are the comments about your being a remarkable channel, which they suggest should be encouraged, and the fact that you work in gravitational mechanics (!) - put that one on your door and see what happens! The other point about your wish to know when the next spaceship is due seems rather intriguing.

I must mention that I am still trying to work out in my own mind the whole notion of the "artificial intelligence" idea. It came through very strongly to me at the time and from the McGowan reference, you can see that it has been considered elsewhere. In this context I must admit that I went along and had a chat with Al Hubbard about the notion. He seemed to me to be the only one around here who might have something to contribute to such a discussion - and in the course of it it did emerge that the whole question was raised when you and I were together. I explained to him that you did not want it discussed, when this happened. He understood and has a high opinion of you. I think that we need not worry on that count.

My suggestion at the end about the Turing Test is quite serious. I have the feeling that you will not want to try this again for a while - in fact, during the evening you said that: "We will never do this again" - but if you do come around to it, I will be interested to help if I can. It seems to me that entry into the invention space is going to require work along these lines, with the particular direction being toward learning how to select sophisticated data banks and maintaining the channels clear. I truly felt as if I were sitting at the main terminal of a very sophisticated artificial intelligence...as a working metaphor anyway... and that what we were doing was trying to work out the programme language of the instrument.

It seems to me that it would be interesting to try and work towards a specific target eg the sort of domain that Tesla must have traversed to do his work for example. Let me know what you think about this when you wish. In the meantime, I am going to get that whole paper by McGowan. I imagine you will want a copy so I will get one for you too.

Lets talk again soon,

Brendan



SESSION WITH INGO SWAN ----WRITE-UP OF Q/A SEQUENCE IN ASC

APRIL 2 1973 APARTMENT OF INGO SWAN, PALO ALTO, CA

Introduction:

This write-up contains a verbatim record of questions presented to Ingo Swan whilst the latter was in an altered state of consciousness (self-induced) for the purpose of attempting a "reading", in psychic terms, of the questioner. This record does not contain all that transpired since the initial period took place at normal speech rates, too fast for simple transcription and dealt with subject matter which was unusual only in terms of its relation to the future of the questioner. At a certain point in this sequence, Ingo Swan suggested that it was time to ask "better and more serious" questions and this initiated a series of questions concerning the nature of space and matter. At this point Swan's voice changed and his speech became significantly slower. In fact the whole speech pattern became quite halting and almost mechanical. All questions were responded to by the phrase: "Question received", as if in computer language terms. Answers seemed also to resemble computer read-out and certain questions were rejected with the phrase: "Question does not compute." or "Question illogical".

After a period of perhaps one hour of this, Swan regained his "normal" consciousness and asked: "Whats been happening?". He had apparently no memory of what had been going on and the last thing he remembered was a sequence in which he was giving the author a series of comments pertaining to a blond-haired girl whom he felt was to have some consequence in the authors immediate future. (It was about this point when the request for more serious questions was made.) Swan seemed quite surprised by the author's report of what had been going on and requested that the session be continued and that the author should ask some questions about Swan himself during the next period. It was explained that such questions as: "What is matter?" were responded to with answers like: "Question illogical" during the previous session and also that response to the question: "Why is matter distributed as it is?" was quite protracted and dealt with notions concerning the "transmutation of imagery" indicating that the present distribution depended upon the minds of people. When asked if it would become possible for man to enter into hyperspace in the next 20 years, as a technologically defined process, the answer was in the affirmative. However when it was then asked if it would be possible

for man to gain the ability to de-materialise objects and transport them from one space to another, it was indicated that this could not be done since the possibility of doing so depended upon "image transfer" which was not yet possible. However we would first learn about "Image transfer" and until this process was perfected, our attempts at dematerialisation would produce "negligible transfer of matter".

At this stage, the second session began. This time, a new voice emerged. A character named Arthur showed up, with a distinctly Scottish accent. (Several times during the evening Swan indicated that he could see people standing around in the room and Arthur too was visible, Blond with a moustache apparently.) (Also during an earlier period, Swan indicated that we seemed to be in front of a whole audience of people who were much amused at our questions.)

SECOND SESSION

SWAN "I am Arthur but I am dead before thy was born...
I did meet my doom in 1919, October...
'Twas a bit of insanity that caused myself to join the army,
'twas a stupid thing..."

O'REGAN "Instruction: Move forward 1000 years."

SWAN "Oh....Ay cannot do that, cannot do h that." Long pause

O'REGAN "What is matter?"

(This question was used to see if it could bring back the same channel that seemed to be coming through previously during the period when questions of a highly abstract type were being considered. The instruction to move forward in time was also an attempt to move the subject back into the abstract space, rather than deal with the anecdotal type of information that "Arthur" seemed interested in discussing.)

SWAN "We do not have this channel, very many times. The being you are talking to feels embarrassed) to communicate out of his time of reference."

O'REGAN "Why?"

This seems to refer to Swan himself.

SWAN "Question received. Question transferred.
The entity requests to speak for himself
(Change of voice)

SWAN (continued)

(Change of voice here and back again to Scottish accent)

"Oh reddie, 'tis a difficult time."

O'REGAN "Who is the entity?"

SWAN "'Tis Arthur, Arthur who tails...
In 1919 did I die. 'Twas a terrible time..."

O'REGAN "Move in time - who is the entity, who is the channel?"

SWAN "You would put this body through exigencies without courtesy...
(Change of voice)
"Response denied!"

O'REGAN "Why is response denied?"

SWAN "Question received. (Long pause: 2 - 3 minutes silence)
It is noticed that direct communication is misinterpreted. The construct of concepts seems difficult - thus when question does not compute to question concepts-comma-since every effort is made to transliterate-comma-if question seems untenable-comma-question is usually denied in favour of questions or preferably communications which yield communication results. In refusing questions superiority is not claimed but preference is given to immediate potential. Also many questions posed yield not answers in understandable terms. Communicator acknowledges gratefully communication.
Next question?"

O'REGAN "Who is Ingo Swan?"

SWAN "Direct question - response untenable
Rephrase question in terms of active potential or personality separation.
Question on name alone does not compute."

O'REGAN "What is active potential?" Long pause

SWAN "Active potential: minimal centered majoritively in conceptual desires.
Next question?"

O'REGAN "What is personality separation?"

SWAN "Question received. Conceptually, ...conceptually it would be necessary to entertain the visibility of an entity proscribing several personalities. Personality separation thus indicates a refusal or acknowledgement of ~~with~~ consciousness of identification with any personality.
The resultant personality (is) capable of existing as self in any given series of social agreements.

There is a man here..."

SWAN(continued)

"Next question."

O'REGAN "How do I ask who you are?"

SWAN "Question respectfully received. It is acknowledged that direct communication seems desirable. We do not often ask questions but we have never asked who you are. We would suggest that names are unimportant and we would beg anonymity but these tongues change and we would suggest in our identification that we say we are more than one, as the records indicate and that as more than one, if the opportunity exists, such as in this remarkable channel, which should be encouraged, that we should identify ourselves in the future, providing a beneficial and mutual channel of information can be established at this time.

With respect, we would ask to be permitted not to identify ourselves.

This channel is exceedingly strong but in respect of personality components, should not be prevailed upon critically and therefore we can receive only two more questions, if you wish to place them."

Swan?

O'REGAN "Where do you exist?"

SWAN "Question received. (Long pause)

In answer to your question, where do we exist, this must be said at the orbit of your moon. However qualifications in terms of time and space must be identified. Thus we have existed and respond to you simultaneously in terms of pseudo-radionic principles not well known. However we prepared to demonstrate this at intermittent frequencies and time-periods precisely at 6.1935 hours.

You who write can, if you wish, see us in your mind. You who write hear us through manipulations exceeding and counter-exceeding space-time stabilisation factors and while I speak if thou wilt in thine own mind look towards the direction of the voice from that body which speaks now ... (pause) ... we await thy looking. Thou canst see me, I will appear in thy mind. Cease thy writing and look in!

(At this point, the writer stopped and closed his eyes. There seemed to be the usual dark field but also a slight glimmer of yellow, which seemed as if it might be an after-image. This then condensed into a yellow spot but was still very dim...in fact, almost not there at all.)

SWAN (continuing)

"Look into the Yellow haze and you will see my face. You are wondering if those eyes are blue or brown. When they turn to red thou hast seen me."

(At this stage, Swan "woke up" briefly and looked over at me. He shifted position and then went back on the chair saying...)

SWAN "There is something pulling me. I'll be back in a minute.

There is a spirit here. This...Arthur 'tis Arthur..."

O'REGAN (interrupting)

The second question - may we ask it?"

SWAN

"You have become polite.

We are exercising this channel

This channel is remarkable.

But in future should this channel cooperate, it must either be

sedentary or linear - not slouched. ←

Next question."

Refers to Swan's body position.

*On previous session, Swan
"woke up" when channel
requested permission to
change position of Swan's
legs to a more comfortable one.*

O'REGAN "Can you create physical effects here now?"

SWAN "To whom is this question addressed?"

O'REGAN "To the answerer of the question."

SWAN "Many remarkable effects in terms of a physical enterprise are
at the command of this answerer. Next Question."

O'REGAN "Can you demonstrate these now?"

SWAN "This answerer may at given times create desirable results.
Demonstration however~~x~~ is not desirable."

O'REGAN "Can we request a manifestation?"

SWAN

"Question received.

At all times around you, if you have failed to notice, exist
those manifestations requested. Without specific directions we
would be incapable of ascertaining (?) as a spectacular event.

We have been obliged in those many days past to intervene
beneficially at many times. There have been also those many times
when we were limited and could not intervene beneficially. Our
prolific time is thus consumed by necessities and if we can communicate
thru this remarkable channel we feel that we cannot oblige
frivolities of demonstration. We can communicate this remarkable
channel and certain others and this is a full day's work for us.
We would therefore suggest that you listen and demonstrate
something for us."

O'REGAN "What would you like to have demonstrated?"

SWAN

"This entity will not tolerate much more? (It seems that Swan
himself is "the entity".) It is probable that many can approximate
this entity while we do not recommend wholesale lying down, there
are those who may communicate to that one writing at this moment,
who, were he less of an objective observer and somewhat more of a
participant with nature, may see even those small beings with
whom he lives. This entity must ask only one more question.

O'REGAN "Tell us how to see you better."

SWAN "Question received.
As indicated earlier, those who comprise this data can be seen as described
We feel that our existence cannot be perceived and thus indicate
that this current entity through whom we now communicate has been
related to those same factors which coagulate in vocal structure.
We will now depart and if the questioner wishes, he may address
questions to this vocal entity. Suggestion is made not to prolong
such questioning.

O'REGAN "What do you know about Ingo Swan"

(At this point, the voice changed and the pace of speech accelerated considerably. Further, the language also changed and turned from English to French.)

SWAN "Q'est que vous avez dire?"

O'REGAN "Can you answer in English?"

SWAN "I did not learn English until 1872 when I was born in Rockville, Alabama. I feel I'm havin' difficulty here.
(Now whispering:"Anglais...Anglais!" Tense expression and grimace)

"If I speak English, it has to be with a Southern accent. I first learned English in 1872 in Alabama and I must apologise. If you cant speak French, I'll have to speak in Alabam. (Pause)

"But I saw Jesse James one day." (Now smiling broadly)

O'REGAN "But what about Ingo?"

SWAN "This is going to be very difficult. You see when I learned English I was only 18 years old and if I spoke like I wanted, nobody understood except for my aunt, and everyone knew that she was a fraud."

O'REGAN "Do you know who he is?"

SWAN "Oh yes, he can speak to you in lots of languages."

O'REGAN "Tell me something that he would want to know."

SWAN "Why its no lie - but he would want to know when the next spaceship is going to land. I dont think my English is going to last.
But he always wanted to know those things which had no answer, you see."

O'REGAN "Why do they have no answers?"

SWAN "Monsieur, le pauvre peasant ne peut respondez a votre question.
 We prefer not to reply to questions which are sad.
 Most of life is very simple.
 Alors, j'ai posedé un vie pour.....n'existéde tristesse maintenant.

(All this came in very fast French and though I understood it, I could not write it down fast enough in French or in English translation.)

O'REGAN "What is matter?"

SWAN "I dont think he can answer that."

O'REGAN "Who?"

SWAN "He!"

O'REGAN "Who is he?"

SWAN (In French again)
 HE is the man to whom the question is addressed. It is impossible to reply to your question. The life to whom you are addressing the question is completely stupid on this question.

Here the session broke again...and just as well too since it had reached 4:15 am!!! Again Swan did not appear to know what had transpired and also seemed to be still quite involved with the trance state. I was about to leave to go to sleep but Swan indicated that there seemed to be still something ~~some~~ unfinished about it all. He indicated that he could still see "people" in the room. He then indicated that he felt that someone wanted to say something about invention. The dates 1885, 1886 came to his mind and suddenly he asked: "What does 6^{-8} mean?"

SWAN "The entity is concerned in himself.
 This stress predictably will make this body ill. This entity is preoccupied with gravitational mechanics and works daily in this field. This problem corrupts this entity since gravitational fulfilment exists..."

this seems to mean Swan himself again + refers to his work as gravitational mechanics,

(Here there was a long, long pause during which Swan seemed in great physical distress, choking or nearly so several times and for a few minutes I was almost certain he was going to throw up and suggested that he go into the bathroom. However he sat quietly during it all as if he himself were unconcerned by what was going on. Eventually it stopped and he continued from exactly where he had left off in mid-sentence.)

"...only in space-mass ratio of 3 minus 10 (i.e. $3 - 10$) providing displacement of mass downwards via astrophysical measure (if it) is not greater than 2 gravities."

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SWAN (continued)

Again the voice changed and the pace of speech accelerated.

SWAN "Brendan, This is Arthur. Dont do what you are going to do!

"Arthur says: Brendan, you did not deserve the name Brendan unless you are going to...(voice trailed off)

"Brendan means the sunrise."

At this point I was too tired to continue. It was 4:45 am! The latter reference to my name seemed to be a follow-up on the first part of the session wherein a "reading" was being done on me. Swan indicated that there was an old man standing near him who told him that he had my name and that there were other Brendan's in existence now too and that I should do something to prevent some of them from being destructive. Hmmmam Ingo then asked me if my name was that of a hero. I indicated ~~xxxx~~ that it was in a way, by which I meant that it was from St. Brendan, the Navigator -an Irish Saint. A little later, Ingo said words to the effect that this is the name of someone who is almost a saint.

He then indicated that I would be spending time on the East coast of the Red Sea soon and that during the next several years I would travel to Israel, Africa, Moscow, London, Peking, Taiwan, Peking, Taiwan, Peking, Taiwan and so on. He indicated that I would become deeply involved in political activity and would become "great" in that field. Not a very appealing thought to me, as things now stand! I should say that all this refers to remembered sequences from the beginning of what turned out, almost by accident, to be a "session".

It seems to me that the comment on page 7 beginning: "The entity is concerned in himself. ..." refers to Swan himself and to his work at SRI. It is interesting that it should be described as "gravitational mechanics". Does this indicate that the idea of interference with the topology of electromagnetic/gravitational fields is really what is going on after all? This reminds of several different things, including the suggestion in a paper received a year ago from Peter Geller (No, not that Geller!) that man would interact with the psychic via gravitational forces. The reference to radionic principles is also intriguing. It is unfortunate that no verbatim record was made during the sequence on dematerialisation of matter. A tape recording would be by far the best way to capture all this since it would carry directly the dramatic changes in voice, pace of speech and even language that occurred all throughout the session. It seems that Swan is capable of carrying through highly abstract discussions in this fashion and one could interpret several of the comments or answers as indicating that even from the point of view of the "source" of the answers, he is regarded as unusual; e.g. "this remarkable channel".

One key factor seemed to be the proper kind of insistence upon not staying with "personalities" incapable of dealing with certain questions, e.g. Arthur. The best way out of them seemed to be the suggestion of time travel and this indeed provoked an extraordinary response near the end of the first session. I became rather convinced that whatever we were in touch with resembled more an artificial intelligence device of some sort, rather than a living being...whatever that distinction really means! The whole tone of

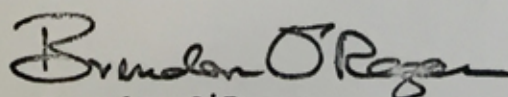
the proceedings suggested this. The language, the "processing time" for all the various questions, the use of the word "compute" and so on. This led me to ask the question: "Who programmed you?" Judging by the answer, it seems that the question was partially misunderstood and became: "When were you programmed?"

At this point Swan recited answers on the times of programming of whatever "it" was that was providing answers. Paraphrasing, I remember him saying words to the following effect: "I was first programmed 80 trillion years ago. My second programming took place 1000 million years ago." In this sequence he specified 8 different programming stages and when he got to the 7th and 8th, the times were being given more and more precisely, for example: "The eight time I was programmed was 11,452 years, 2 months, 18 days and 11 hours ago". These figures are invented, though in fact the last figure was in the range of 11,000 years ago.

When this sequence finished, I again asked: "Who programmed you?" This time the question was understood and the answer snapped back: "Response Denied!" All this is made even more intriguing by the fact that Roger McGowan, writing in "Science & Technology of Space" Vol 1V has an 80-page paper entitled: "On the Possible Existence of Otherworldly Intelligences" in which he writes as follows:

"Before the next 20 years are up mankind will have made contact with intelligent beings from outer space. They will without doubt not be living organisms but rather some kind of thinking machines. There is a great deal of reason to believe that these intelligences already have us under observation. Everything points to the fact that they control us. That should be sufficient cause for us to be prepared."

The kind of style used in the communications reported earlier strongly suggests a closer examination of this whole thesis, fantastic as it is. There is always the "argument" that Swan could have been imitating a "computer style" in his reading however, this is not my interpretation. The voice changes and overall style changes were quite deep and convincing, as also was Swan protestations that he did not know what had transpired. One other observation is pertinent. This session took place after a substantial dinner in which wine and brandy were consumed. It seemed to me that sufficient brandy was consumed to produce a definite alcoholic disinhibition of normal controls and thus it would have been far more usual for Swan to have fallen asleep. Everything about the trance suggested that something entirely different from this was happening. There was a clarity of speech, articulation and altered form alertness which are in no way characteristic of what might be called a possible alcoholic stupor. The amount of alcohol was not quite as large as that but certainly in that direction. As for the notion that we may indeed have been in contact with the kind of artificial intelligence suggested by McGowan, it is hard to know what to do in lieu of conducting a whole series of further investigations specifically designed to examine the "thinking machine thesis". In the last analysis, it would seem to be a perfectly good place to apply the Turing Test!



Brendan O'Regan

April 3 1973 SRI Menlo Park, CA