

# THE ARK CONSPIRACY



Jonathan Gray

Cover-ups... Betrayals... Miracles...

**THE ARK CONSPIRACY**

THE REAL, SHOCKING STORY

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### **About the author**

Jonathan Gray has travelled the world to gather data on ancient mysteries. A serious student of pre-history, he has investigated numerous archaeological sites, and has also penetrated some largely unexplored areas, including parts of the Amazon headwaters.

Between lecturing globally, the author has hosted newspaper columns and contributed to various magazines.

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# INTRODUCTION

Suddenly this mystery object popped out of the ground – and an amateur “detective” started probing what was to become an archaeological sensation.

He was soon to find himself caught in a cloak-and-dagger game of tomb robberies, betrayals and attempted murder. At every step, attacks would be made on the man and his project. Then came wonderful, astonishing surprises. Miracles, if you like.

Convinced that he had discovered Noah’s Ark, this real-life “Indiana Jones” chose not to swipe at his critics or try to justify his work. He had one goal: to quietly gain the evidence needed to convince the world. It was his desire that release of information about the discovery be kept to a minimum until preliminary work was completed to protect the historical remains.

Meanwhile his adversaries went on shouting, slandering and sabotaging.

April, 1992. Quite unexpectedly, I was drawn into this drama. It soon became apparent that attempts were being made to suppress the facts. A man and his noble cause were being wronged. This book now seeks to correct this injustice –by sharing some of the crucial facts that turned my skepticism into belief. This story, therefore, is partly my experience, as well.

The search for Noah’s Ark is an adventure that has no equal in today’s world. Are you ready?...

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## **Chapter 1**

# **SPECTACLE OF TERROR**

“Must be careful,” warned Ron. “I think my phone’s bugged.”

Ron Wyatt had just arrived home from his expedition. He was unwinding with a book, when I rang.

“So you’re home, too?” he asked. We’d split just two weeks earlier. He’d gone east and I’d flown west.

“How was it?” I asked, careful of my words.

“I was there two days and two nights,” he croaked. “It was a bit hairy. The first night five terrorists were shot dead near our hotel. So we moved across town. The second night nine terrorists were shot in the street near that hotel.”

“Were you able to use the boroscope?”

“Yes, we raced out there quick before the killers woke up to it. But the light was too dim. Next time, when you come, we’ll need a stronger light to see inside.”

I replaced the receiver. Thank God Ron had come through!

It was spine-chilling, this whole thing. Phone buggings, break-ins, “spy” arrests, murder attempts and betrayals.

It had started for me when my good friend Roy Tucker held out a copy of Life magazine.

“Look,” he shrieked, his eyes popping out like antennae. “A MASSIVE SHIP IN THE MOUNTAINS!!! Can you believe it? Just look! It’s as big as a battleship! What on earth can it be?” he exclaimed. “Noah’s Ark?”

“Not Noah’s Ark,” I retorted, skeptically. “This thing has to be a freak of nature.” (Get real! What else could it be - at 6,300 feet altitude?)

“There IS enough water, you know,” retorted Roy. “Enough water to put it up there. There’s eighteen times more water below sea level than there is dry land above it.”

“You don’t say?”

“Yes. And it’s well known that most of earth’s mountains are of recent formation. If seabeds can rise and continents sink, there’d be heaps of water for a worldwide Flood. If all the land now above the sea were dumped into the ocean depths, it would

fill only one eighteenth of the present volume of the oceans. Quite enough water, don't you think?"

I tried to visualise it...

### ***WHAT REALLY HAPPENED***

Amanda had hung her dress out to dry. She lost her dress in the Flood. She lost her guitar, all of the clothes in her wardrobe; and the box of letters from her boyfriend.

She also lost her life.

November 17, 2345 B.C. (Some ancient calendars would make this date November 1.) It was a calm, clear night, an hour after sunset. At the Gaiety Hotel, there was a dance on. The rumble was gentle at first. They thought it was the drums. It grew louder. Then the building began to rock violently.

At that moment, the first hurricane winds slammed into Seaport, bringing chaos and terror. First there was an eerie wail..., and it rose into a scream like jets.

Rod rushed out of his shop door just as a man and a boy ran past, shouting about the sea coming in at the south side of town. At first, he didn't catch what they were saying - but he soon understood because, behind them, he saw a wave rolling along the street.

The high wave was advancing, crashing over the rooftops. It flattened everything in its path. Large buildings simply vanished.

As lights went out in Seaport, cookers, water-pumps and receivers clicked off. A crackle ran across the sky, then thunder burst savagely on top of every house. All shook. It scared everyone crazy. Forks of lightning began writing the word FEAR across the sky. The wind rose to a deafening shriek like the keys of all the organs in the world being played at once.

About midnight Jake awoke to find his house creaking and rocking on its foundations. Looking out, he saw water everywhere. Then he heard what he thought was the noise of someone breaking in. He went down to check the front door, and it felt as if someone were pushing from the other side. Then the door flung open and he was submersed in water up to his neck.

The Benjin family, living in a slightly taller apartment, were awakened by their neighbours shouting and screaming. They watched with horror as the houses swept by. As one floated past, they saw a woman washed off it. Others had people clinging to the roofs.

At the Western Theatre, a play called "Night Without Sleep" had been advertised for next week.

Further inland, Enoch City was in nerve-shattering suspense. As refugees brought in the real story, hour by hour, the horrendous finality of the event became evident.

### ***AN IRREVERSIBLE DISASTER***

Few knew it, but the earth's axis had tilted. Until now, a vapour canopy had helped keep the earth's climate springlike from pole to pole. This canopy above the stratosphere was at this moment disintegrating. Its trillions of tons of water would take six weeks to collapse upon the earth.

The next morning, deep underground mutterings quickly reached the intensity of cannonades. By nightfall, volcanoes were showering the land with boulders. Bridges fell. Roads became impassable.

Simultaneously, volcanoes burst out in America, Africa, the Pacific and everywhere. Immense cracks appeared and lava pushed up through them.

Great undersea explosions churned the seas and the water temperature rose rapidly.

By noon the next day, a new volcano, the largest, had joined the thundering chorus near Enoch City. Then another, and a few hours later an entire volcanic chain within visible distance was trumpeting its fury.

The howitzers of hell were in full volume. The sea boiled, in places, around the doomed planet. The earth trembled. The raining nights were red with the glow from the seething volcanoes - thousands of them roaring in unison.

Suddenly there was an explosion so vast that it defies description -the plain of Hiddickel had disintegrated in one cataclysmic blast that sent earthshocks and airwaves around the globe.



## ***PROPHECY IGNORED***

It took the world by surprise. Sure, everyone knew society had become unsafe. Human life on this planet had seemed about to blast itself into extinction. People had been asking, almost tritely, Just where was God in the face of the ever-present horrors of warfare, of crushing anguish, of crime, hatred and injustice? Stop it? That would mean the end of everything. Won't happen.

Yes it will. Noah's group had been preparing for 120 years. Yes, there'll be intervention, it was revealed. It **MUST** happen, to preserve a nucleus of mankind before it was too late. This promised Flood will be so earth-changing, nothing on land will survive. Of course, if there'd been no warning, no time to prepare, then clearly there could have been no survivors. Nor would we, their descendants, be here to talk about it.

There had been knowledge, 120 years before the event, that a total world wipeout was to occur - specifically by water. And there was detailed preparation for a gigantic, tidal-wave-proof survival vessel. **AGAINST ALL EVIDENCE**, at the time.

When you think about that, does it not suggest some kind of outside intervention? Such would seem not only likely, but an absolute necessity.

But they wouldn't believe Noah. Too busy living. Now it was upon them. That rebellious generation were to realise, before death overtook them, that they had fallen into the hands of their Creator, whom they ignored.

Sky and earth were thrown into a furious revolution. The lightning flashed without ceasing. The thunders rolled throughout the heavens, bugle calls that a day of judgment had come.

(Mere fancy? No. That such violent destruction **DID** occur is verified by the condition of fossils and rocks. Geologists are acquainted with these conditions, and describe them accurately, attributing them to violent upheavals and continental revolutions, but because it is regarded as unfashionable to accept the biblical account of a worldwide catastrophe, they place these events in the nebulous past of millions of years ago.)

## ***STAMPEDE***

...Three weeks have gone now. The populations of the seacoasts are gone. Huge tidal waves are now sweeping inland. Nothing is alive for 600 miles inland. The survivors are dwellers in the centre of the continent. By day, the sky is now permanently darkened; the sun no longer shines. The moon cannot be seen.

Like a cosmic mower, the continuing hurricane cuts through forests, ruthlessly harvesting. And everywhere it goes, the hurricane hurls a lethal barrage of flying missiles - tree limbs, broken glass, whole roofs. Steel poles are twisted like spaghetti. The hurricanes and wild seas tear the trees from the ground and pile them, trunk, root and branch, in enormous heaps.

Gigantic waves sweep madly over valley and mountain alike, carrying rocks, stones and rubbish at enormous speed.

Each twice-daily current of the sea comes higher and higher up the rivers and valleys, spreading further and wider inland each time. It progressively tears at the land and whisks it away.

Gripped by the same terror, wild beasts and tame struggle together to higher grounds. Some of the people bind their children and themselves upon powerful animals, knowing that these will climb to the highest peaks to escape the rising waters. Some fasten themselves to tall trees on the hills or mountains, but the trees are uprooted and hurled into the billows. As the waters rise higher, the people flee for refuge to the loftiest heights. Often man and beast struggle together for a foothold... in the blinding rain.

In amphitheatres in the hills, they find themselves trapped. In great numbers they throng together, pushing into caves, swarming over the ground in front.

Until the waters rise and cover them. Strong animals, without a sign of degeneration, come to an end. This is not the survival of the fittest. Fit and unfit, and mostly fit, old and young with sharp teeth, with strong muscles, with fleet legs, with plenty of food around, all perish.

The earth is even at this moment convulsing, opening up fissures to swallow many of them, as they collect on the tops of these hills. Then the huge waves smash over them large rocks and debris, until their bones are crushed and smashed. Here, often thousands of feet up, they are washed into crevices and held tight.

We're not told about this, are we? Here is something most crucial that is not disclosed to the public.

Did you know that on every continent and in numerous places are vast "fossil graveyards", where creatures have been swept to their death in their millions? LAND and SEA creatures all mixed together. Creatures from different habitats and even different climatic zones! Hippopotami, polar bears, marsupials, horses, plants, trees, crocodiles, dogs and lions - LAND creatures AND creatures of the DEEP SEA ALL MIXED AND BURIED TOGETHER in a completely unnatural way! The bones are in a "fresh state", neither worn, rolled nor gnawed. They are splintered and broken.

There are fissures packed with bones high up on hills across Europe. In France, for example, near Chalon-sur Saone, stands an isolated, flat-topped hill, Mont de Sautenay. It rises 1,030 feet above the plain. Near the summit is a fissure crammed with bones. I ask you, why should so many kinds of animals FROM SUCH DIFFERENT HABITATS have ascended a hill isolated on all sides? High up on Gibraltar, at different altitudes, are numerous such crevices up to 300 feet deep, filled with bones of animals from the plains and the crags and the caves, ALL DRIVEN TOGETHER, SMASHED TO PIECES.

Artefacts of men are found among the bones. Often birds and animals are mixed together with trees, washed into the fissures soon after they opened. This probably explains why the fissures never closed again.

In North and South America, Asia and Africa, animals of every kind died in great numbers; well-preserved fossil remains tell us they were buried almost immediately. There was mass extinction in all parts of the world simultaneously - and sudden burial. Islands in the Arctic Ocean are composed almost ENTIRELY of their bones.

At last man, the chief object of the waters, was overtaken. Outside the survival vessel, man ceased to exist.

### ***TOTALLY, VIOLENTLY RE-SHAPED***

For the first six weeks, lava poured out wildly above the rising flood level. Thereafter volcanoes (now submerged) continued to force out lava beneath the water.

Colossal tsunamic waves, caused by submarine earthquakes, surged over the planet. The winds, now of inconceivable force, whipped them up to enormous heights.

All over the world, huge boulders, some up to 18,000 tons in weight, were lifted and carried long distances. In Europe, some were hurled 2,000 feet up on to the Jura Mountains, where they now sit. Others were swept from Finland to Moscow as though they were pebbles. Many others landed on what are now isolated islands.

For months the storm raged. Unceasingly, in repeating twelve hour cycles, the mighty ebb and flow wore down the earth's surface and each wave returned with its debris. Travelling long distances under water, fast moving currents of suspended mud and sand spread out over thousands of square miles. The ebb and flow laid down successive strata, alternately burying land organisms and water creatures, which ultimately would fossilise.

(The rock layers of our planet reveal that the earth's surface must have been torn up for miles down and relaid by the action of water. There was enormous power in the surging, raging waters. The earth's surface was plowed up ten miles in some spots and overall to an average depth of almost a mile.)

These titanic waves, driven by screaming gusts, continued to rise. After forty days, the waters were above the highest mountains. (Although some thousands of feet in height, the pre-Flood mountains were not the giants of today. Peaks like Everest were not pushed up until later in the Deluge and during the years of its aftermath.)

Half a year was to pass before the tops of the mountains would again be seen. The enticing beauty of the original world had perished.

### ***13 MONTHS LATER***

Of all the accounts handed down to us, only the Genesis record indicates with the exactitude of a diary or ship's log the date of the inception of the Deluge (Noah's 600th year, and the 17th day of the second month of that year), the length of the actual downpour (40 days), the length of time that the water-depth remained at its maximum (150 days), the date at which the tops of the mountains became visible once more (on the 1st day of

the 10th month), the length of time until the first evidence of new plant growth was brought to Noah in the beak of his dove (47 days, according to Genesis 8:6-11), and the precise day of Noah's emerging from the Ark on the mountains of Ararat (his 601st year, the 27th day of the 2nd month).

"And when the storm came to an end and terrible waterspouts ceased, I opened the windows and the light smote upon my face; I looked at the sea, tentatively observing, all humanity had turned to mud, and like seaweed the corpses floated.

"I sat down and wept, and the tears fell upon my face." (Gilgamesh Epic, lines 128-137, free translation. This is an ancient Flood tablet, from Mesopotamia.)

After 150 days, the drogue stones suspended from the Ark's hull struck submerged ground. Apparently the waters had begun to recede. The process by which the lands were uncovered, the mountains rising and the basins expanding, had begun.

It was a further five and a half months before the flood waters retreated from view.

Toward the end of that period, a raven (crow) was liberated from the Ark, to gain information about the nature of the newly exposed land areas. It flew constantly until the waters had abated sufficiently for it to find food. Once a week, also, a dove was sent out. The second week it returned with a newly-sprouted olive leaf. But on the third occasion, the dove failed to return, a sign that there was at last enough dry land with some vegetal regrowth.

The vessel finally grounded high up in a semi-circle of small hills. These would protect the Ark from the tidal waves that rushed back and forth as the Flood subsided.

An additional two months were required for the ground to dry at deeper levels and for remnants of vegetation to get re-established as food for the animals, when they should exit the Ark.

Meanwhile, the passengers waited aboard.

Just 377 days after they entered the survival vessel, the Noah family stepped out. The Flood waters had covered the earth for just over a year.

(Some evidence hints at an original year of 360 days, which was altered by an orbital upset at the time of the Great Flood. The 377 days in the Ark is correct if we assume Noah employed the

old reckoning, otherwise add five more days. See Gen.7:7,10,11; 8:14-18)

Now they gazed upon a different world. Barren wastes, bleak and sterile hills and unbearable extremes of heat and cold confronted them. Great mountain ranges high, forbidding rocky walls - had been thrust up, destined to isolate areas into harsh climatic pockets.

### ***PILGRIMAGES TO THE LANDING SITE***

Over more than 2,000 years, many historians recorded that the remains of Noah's Ark were to be visited in the Ararat area.

From ancient Assyrian sources, Berosus (c. 275 B.C.) wrote: "There are, they say, remains of the ship in Armenia on the mountains of the Cordyaeans (Kurds), where local people take pieces of asphalt from the object and use these for amulets against danger and catastrophes." (Berosus, *The Chaldean History*. Isaac Preston Cory, *Ancient Fragments*, 2nd ed. London: W.Pickering, 1832, p.26)

In the fourth century B.C., Abydenus wrote: "Local people visit the spot in search of amulets."

Said Josephus in the first century: "This flood and the ark are mentioned by all who have written histories of the barbarians... For even Manetho, who wrote the Egyptian History, and Berosus who collected the Chaldean Monuments, and Mochus and Hestiaeus, and besides these Hieronymus the Egyptian, and those who composed the Phoenician History agree to what I say. Hesiod also, and Hecataeus, and Hellanicus, and Acusilaus." (Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, trans. William Whiston. Philadelphia: Henry T.Coates & Co., book 1, chap.3, sec.5)

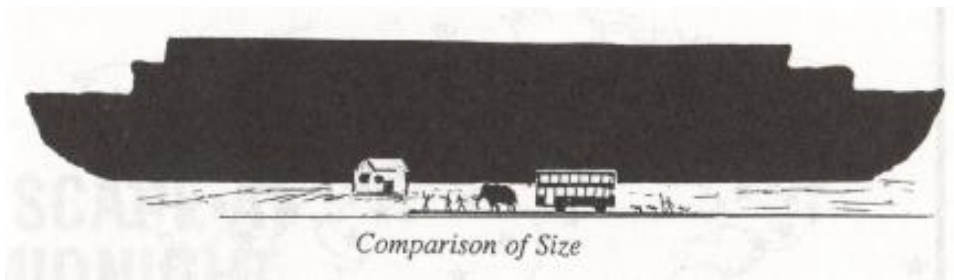
In 380 A.D. Epiphanius of Salamis wrote: "Do you seriously suppose that we are unable to prove our point, when even to this day the remains of Noah's Ark are shown in the country of the Kurds?"

### ***SIZE OF THE ARK***

Pictures of Noah's Ark in most illustrated books are not much more accurate than this cartoon.



The truth is, the Ark of the Bible was enormous, longer than a football field. It was 515 feet long, displacing 32,525 tons, well within the category of metal ocean-going vessels of today. There was room inside for 494 double-decker buses. It has been calculated that all the basic types of land animal would fill 158 such buses. Plenty of room to spare! Don't forget, there is now evidence that antedeluvian technology was sophisticated and quite able to produce a vessel of the dimensions claimed for the Ark.



From the point of view of seaworthiness in a storm, engineers acknowledge the measurements of the Ark to be perfect. Many modern vessels are built to design specifications similar to those of the Ark. Optimum design has been achieved only from long experience, often after fatal errors. The scientific wisdom displayed in its construction lifts the ancient Ark out of the realm of fanciful tale and into the classification of an up-to-date, reliable account.

As for the animals, known natural mechanisms could well have operated in the migration of animals to the Ark, their willingness to mingle and their hibernation aboard during the

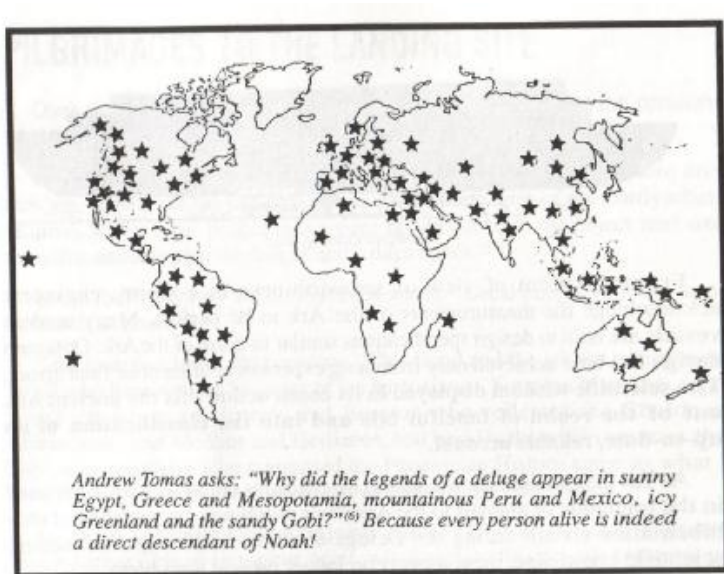
Deluge duration. In the light of modern scientific knowledge, these aspects no longer present a problem.

Nevertheless, the cooperation of a select group from every species of animal does require something above natural law operating. It requires the natural and the supernatural working side by side and hand in hand. The combination of events was nothing less than a miracle. If the event occurred, then it was masterminded, engineered and controlled from the start. This outside interaction and control by Intelligence did not occur by chance.

There is no doubt that the Deluge occurred. Yet the associated combination of events is beyond natural explanation.

The remains of any huge ship in the mountains of north eastern Turkey would have to be Noah's Ark. And it would be proof of something more than just a local flood. Here, a grounded vessel such as the Ark would be in a mountainous region, remote from all oceans, in a continental heartland location.

I pondered. The Ark would be older than the pyramids... the **OLDEST ARTEFACT ON EARTH**, actually. Since it went aground, the ancient kingdoms of Sumeria, Egypt and China had risen and fallen. Was it possible? Could the old Ark of Noah have survived, somewhere... really?



*Andrew Tomas asks: "Why did the legends of a deluge appear in sunny Egypt, Greece and Mesopotamia, mountainous Peru and Mexico, icy Greenland and the sandy Gobi?"<sup>(6)</sup> Because every person alive is indeed a direct descendant of Noah!*

*Locations of some of the 600 worldwide Great Flood traditions*



## **Chapter 2**

### **ESCAPE AT MIDNIGHT**

“RUBBISH!” I cried. “You say this guy Wyatt claims he’s found Noah’s Ark on a plateau way south of Mount Ararat?”

“Well,” shrugged my friend Kristine, “you can get the man’s address. Why not contact him?”

“Look,” I snorted, “if that treasure had been found it would be BIG NEWS. We’d know about it! Anyway, the Ark would be on Ararat itself.

Aren’t all the alleged sightings on Ararat? Don’t all the expeditions go to Ararat? Doesn’t the Bible say it was on Ararat?”

#### ***I MEET “INDIANA JONES”***

I decided to confront this would-be “Indiana Jones” in person.

It was October 2, 1992. At Nashville airport, Tennessee, I was met by an attractive, intelligent lady, who introduced herself as Mary Nell Wyatt.

“It’s true,” she said almost as soon as we were in the car. “We have so much to show you.”

Ron Wyatt was a big, bearded man of fifty-nine. I found him genial and willing to talk. He began his story, and my mind drifted back... back to Roy Tucker and the picture he had once shown me.

Back in 1959, a Turkish pilot had taken stereo photos during a routine aerial survey for the Geodetic Institute of Turkey. On these photos a mapping cartographer noticed a boat-shaped object.

The object was immersed in a field of lava in mountain country 12 miles south from the base of Mount Ararat.



### ***“LET’S BLAST A HOLE IN IT”***

Dr. Arthur Brandenburger, Professor of Photogrammetry at Ohio State University, got interested. (It was he who had found the missile bases in Cuba, using stereo planography.) He carefully studied the photograph. “I have no doubt at all,” he concluded, “that this object is a ship. In my entire career I have never seen an object like this on a stereo photo.”

Within months an American expedition party reached the spot. On site, the formation looked more than ever like the outlines of a ship caught in lava. The team dug one hole after another, finding only soil, clay and lava. After two days, they blasted into one side of the object and left. Disappointed, they concluded it was probably not man-made, but a freak of nature.

“When you blasted the formation, what did you find?” a team member was later asked.

“We found some very unusual stones,” he replied. “They were shaped like timber, but they had no growth rings.”

The verdict: nothing of archaeological interest.

Brandenburger, who accompanied the team, was still not convinced. He believed the site required “further study.”

Soon another character entered the arena. His name was Ron Wyatt. His interest aroused, he contacted Brandenburger. Wyatt didn’t know it yet, but he would become the central figure in a dangerous saga.

## ***A WILD AREA***

“Come on boys, let’s go look at it.”

Amateur archaeologist Ron Wyatt was curious. He suspected there was more to this site than just rocks. So in August, 1977, Ron and his teenage sons Danny and Ronny arrived in eastern Turkey.

They were ready, they thought, for anything. The trip would almost cost them their lives.

The area seemed wild and remote, a world away from anywhere. They mounted up and pack muled into the mountains. Outsiders, it turned out, were not welcome. Kurds had a quaint habit of shooting at strangers.

From a knoll the object came into view. It was at least half a mile away, but their blood was already racing.

“Let’s go,” motioned Ron.

The three of them trekked off down the hill to the dried mud flow below.

Earthquake fissures had to be crossed with caution. The little gear they carried had to be set on the edge. Then they had to lower themselves into the fissure, transfer the stuff to the other side and climb out again.

They had time only for a cursory glimpse of the object. It was almost totally buried. The top of a ship-like structure protruded from the mud.

Could this be the old Ark of Noah?

## ***TOO HIGH UP FOR A LOCAL FLOOD***

“How high are we now?” asked Ronny.

“We’re about 6,300 feet above sea level, son. This location is above any possible height reachable by a ‘local flood’ but it is below the maximum water level that would result if all the water of our planet washed the earth’s surface.”

“How much water is there?”

“If all the land were levelled out, the sea would cover the earth to 7,800 feet.”

## ***TOO FAR FROM THE SEA***

“It’s a long way from the sea now,” exclaimed Ronny.

“That man we met said it’s 750 kilometers from the Mediterranean,” Danny replied. “Whatever that is in miles, it sure is far.”

“Glad to see you’re working it out,” said their father. “We’re so far from any present or ancient body of water that would support it. We’re in the midst of a continental mass here! If this is a boat, it could only be Noah’s famous Ark. It defies any other explanation.”

## ***THE CORRECT LENGTH!***

Careful measurements of the object would later show its inside length to be 515.7 feet (Wilson and Baumgardner, 1985) or exactly 515 feet (Fasold, 1985).

The biblical length of the Ark is quite specific: 300 cubits. (Gen. 6:15) In recording the measurements, Moses would have used the royal cubit of Egypt, since he was educated in Egypt. This cubit was 20.6 inches (as confirmed by Piazzzi-Smith, (Astronomer Royal in Great Britain last century). You can work it out: 300 cubits is 515 feet.

Thus the length of Noah’s Ark and the length of this boat-shaped object would prove to be IDENTICAL.

## ***STONE “SEA ANCHORS”***

On this trip, however, something else cropped up. As he roamed the hills, Ron noticed a number of stone objects, resembling ancient sea anchors.

Large stone anchors were part of the equipment of the ships of antiquity. They were perforated at the top so that chains or ropes could be passed through the holes. Such anchors have been found in the Mediterranean, the eastern Atlantic and off the coast of California.

These stones, with their flat surface area against the water, created a drag, in turbulent water, preventing a vessel from slipping sideways against a wave. In calmer waters, the stones hung deep, sounding for the bottom. They could have served as sheet anchors and been manipulated to direct a vessel around obstructions.

The “drogue stones” that Wyatt found were by far the largest ever found in the world. The heaviest anchor stone found to date had been 1,543 lbs (700 kg) (Honor Frost, *Ancore, the Potsherd of Marine Archaeology: On the Recording of Pierced Stones from the Mediterranean*, 1973) But these were an average weight out of water of 8,700 lbs! (That was the estimate of marine salvor David Fasold.) And on average they were ten feet high by five feet wide and 18 to 24 inches thick.

As I write, thirteen of these anchor stones have been found. There may be a total of eighteen.

Two facts emerged which could be significant. Firstly, they lay at intervals, more or less in a straight line with the boat-shaped object. (Some of them had cable holes intact; in others a portion of the hole remained. Secondly, marine scientists, using computer models, were later able to determine that the stones were the size that would have been required by a ship of the Ark’s biblical dimensions.

Ron asked himself: if this boat-shaped object was really only a natural formation, then **WHY WERE THESE GIANT SEA ANCHORS ON THE SLOPES OF THE ARARAT MOUNTAINS?**

“It’s the Ark, Danny, it has to be!” he exclaimed. “See where these anchor stones lie? They must have been cut loose, or dropped, as the Ark entered the area of its final rest.”



***“THEY’RE TRYING TO KILL US!”***

“Danny, wake up! We’ve gotta get outta here. Some of the villagers are trying to kill us! Into Ronny’s room, quick!...

“...Barricade the door.. ..The bed first... .Now ram the chest between thebed and the wall.” Their minds raced, trying to comprehend what was happening. It was a hot night, and sultry. Hard enough to sleep. And now... They could hear the pummelling of heavy feet rushing up the stairs. Now they were just outside. Somebody was trying to use a pass-key in the lock. The door appeared to strain from the weight of a wild mob in the corridor. This was not room service! Would the door hold?

“Let’s go, boys. Grab what you can and outta the window. Onto the roof!” Their mouths and throats were parched. The Erzurum Hotel in Dogubayazit, eight miles from the “Ark” site, had seemed safe... until now.

Now their well-laid plans were in tatters. “Someone doesn’t want the Ark to be discovered,” thought Ron.

## **Chapter 3**

### **MISTAKEN IDENTITY**

#### ***“I SAT ON NOAH’S ARK”***

Georgie Hagopian was ten years old when he first saw the Ark. That was way back in 1908; a very hot year it was, too.

Near the “top of the world”, the Ark was resting on a massive rock. Apparently his Armenian uncle knew exactly where it was, because he went straight to it. The Ark was long and rectangular. One side was on the edge of a cliff. Georgie’s childlike estimate of its size was 1,000 feet long, 600 feet wide and 40 feet high.

The structure looked like stone. It was dark brown. A green moss covered the Ark. His uncle helped him to get on top of it.

In 1970, Georgie told this story to Ark searcher Eryl Cummings and author Rene Noorbergen.

#### ***RUSSIAN ARK SIGHTINGS***

The story goes that, in 1917, Russian scouting parties went to Mount Ararat to follow up a Russian aviator’s report that he had sighted the Ark from the air. From a cliff high on Ararat, they looked down upon a small valley. In a dense swamp lay what appeared to be a huge ship. A detailed report was sent to the Czar. A few days later, the Russian government was overthrown, so the fate of the report was declared unknown.

#### ***NAVARRA’S WOOD “DISCOVERY”***

Frenchman Fernand Navarra climbed Ararat three times in the fifties. After his first expedition, he claimed to have seen an unusual dark patch within the ice, which was a ship’s hull. The discovery was at approximately 14,000 feet altitude. During a third climb, on July 6, 1955, Navarra discovered hand-hewn timber on the slope.

#### ***NO REAL EVIDENCE***

From numerous claimed sightings of the Ark this century, the belief grew that the Ark lay partly hidden by ice on a large ledge 13,000 to 15,000 feet up on Mount Ararat.

The public was fascinated. And I was “hooked” on the gigantic Mount Ararat as being the site.

In my scientific research I had investigated hundreds of archaeological reports and was well aware of the difference between anecdote and evidence.

One thing had been bothering me.

For more than seventy years, so many expeditions had failed to produce any hard evidence. Great stories were told, which captivated the listener; but of all the rumoured sightings, none had ever been authenticated. Photographs reportedly taken had either been lost or considered inconclusive.

Then my attention was drawn to the site twelve miles south of Mount Ararat proper - the site to which Ron Wyatt kept returning. Ron supplied a stunning piece of information - the “anchor stones”.

That got me started - reluctantly. I was emotionally attached to the Mount Ararat site, to the rumours of a ship high up in a canyon half buried in ice. I didn’t want to believe that THIS thing covered in mud on a plateau was the Ark.

“It’s not rectangular,” I objected. “All Ark reports say the Ark is rectangular.” (However, the Bible account had not really stated the shape. So that argument wasn’t so brilliant.)

### ***THE ARARAT FILE***

“BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE ARARAT SIGHTINGS?” I kept asking. What about the reports in Rene Noorbergen’s *The Ark File*; in Tim La Haye and John Morris’ *The Ark on Ararat* and Violet Cummings’ *Has Anybody Really Seen Noah’s Ark?* - what about all these?

Painstaking research would eventually uncover the truth. And it wasn’t pretty. Supposed documented eyewitness accounts would evaporate.

I learned that the Turkish government had meticulously observed the activities of all who had “looked for Noah’s Ark” over the past 50 years. It was required that Turkish guides accompany each expedition. These guides reported back to government officials, who kept files on the reports. Thus the claims of expedition members could be checked against the facts recorded.



And can you wonder that the Turks were suspicious? Schliemann stole priceless treasures when he dug up Troy and others since had behaved similarly. So was it surprising that the Turks kept tabs on every Ararat expedition?

Information in the Turkish files showed that Navarra first took wood up Mount Ararat, and on the next visit in the company of witnesses “found” this wood “from the Ark”.

As for the 1916-17 Roskovitsky (Russian) discovery story, it was an embarrassing reality that the original tale had been a complete fabrication by one Benjamin Allen. Its purpose: to raise funds for the Sacred History Research expedition in the forties.

Georgie Hagopian lived near Van about ninety miles from Ararat. Interviewed when he was an old man, he was “led” with questions. In truth, as a small child, he had been taken “up the mountain” (a mountain near Van, not Ararat) and while his uncle tended the flocks, he had sat Georgie on a big flat rock and said, “Here’s Noah’s Ark; you sit on it.” In imagination the child was sitting on the Ark. In the interview many years later, the fantasy was relived.

### ***THAT “ARK” MOVIE***

And about that movie screened in the seventies which showed the Ark in a valley on Mount Ararat?

A gentleman named Elfred Lee PAINTED IN the boat-shape on to a photo of Ararat. That’s right. And what is more, a gentleman named Sallier, who prepared a picture for the film *In Search of Noah’s Ark*, took a tiny stone about an inch high, shaped it into a model of the Ark, and placed it against some soil in a little dry wash-out about a foot high, in Utah. The film commentary stated: “This is in a canyon on Mount Ararat.”

They also placed it against some snow and photographed it close up in such a way you couldn’t tell how big it was. Talk about doing a snow job!

One man had his picture taken while he stood in the so-called “canyon” with the mini “Ark” beside him.

Some time later, Mr Lee told Mr Wyatt that “a Mr .... gave me \$500 to paint it in.”

## ***“MT. ARARAT? IMPOSSIBLE!”***

Dr. M. Salih Bayraktutan, Turkish geologist, was reported in 1987 and 1988 as saying that “Mt. Big Ararat is volcanic and if the Ark landed there it would be under four to five thousand feet of lava. Furthermore, the hydrodynamics of a cone shape volcanic mountain would push the Ark away from it. ” (The Institute of Judaic-Christian Research, Inc. Research Letter, Vendyl Jones Ministries, November, 1987, p.1. and September, 1988 p.1)

From pillow lava on Ararat (pillow lava forms under water), it is evident that Ararat was totally submerged during the Flood. Since the Flood waters did not reach 17,000 feet (Ararat's present height), this mountain has been raised higher since the Flood. Such a volcanic upheaval would in all likelihood have destroyed the Ark, had it been there.

## ***MISTAKEN IDENTITY***

Almost any unusual feature of the mountain is likely to be associated with the Ark by observers from the air, the plain or the nearby hills.

One series of climbs up the Ahora trail toward Kup Lake has revealed that what many thought may have been the Ark was simply a large rock spur. (Charles Berlitz, *The Lost Ship of Noah*. London: W.H. Allen & Co. Plc, 1989, p.90)

Of course many of the reported sightings could have been of the other site twelve miles south of Mount Ararat. Others would have misinterpreted such sightings as having been made on Mount Ararat.

## ***ON A RANGE OF MOUNTAINS***

My earlier question now demanded an answer: “Didn’t the Bible say the Ark was on Ararat?”

I leafed through to Genesis 8:4. There it was, now, as clear as distilled water: “And the ark rested... upon the mountains of Ararat.” Mountains, plural, indicating a range of mountains.

“So it landed upon a range of mountains!” I rang John Seymour, a friend who shared my passion for archaeology.

“Seems so,” said John dryly.

Now I knew what to do. I began to map out ancient place names, inscriptions and artefacts. Eventually it would be possible to recreate the exact navigational situation faced by Noah as the Ark came into the area and finally to rest.

Of course, many good people would continue to head for Greater Ararat, unaware that those anchor stones and inscriptions pinpointing a different location were highly significant.

Could the Ark really be upon another mountain of the Ararat region? Could it be covered up with mud?

That would certainly explain the strange sight that greeted the Assyrians c 800 B.C. They called it Varuna's House of Clay. They entered it at the surface. They explained it was three stories deep in the ground! Persian traditions described it as being nearly a horse run long (that is, nearly a stadia of 600 feet). It had wide avenues inside. They entered it and explored the three levels.

### ***THE BOAT-SHAPED OBJECT IN THE CORRECT LOCATION***

As I read this account, my curiosity was exploding. Perhaps there WERE clues still around. Ancient place names, if unchanged, could be pointers to past events. Such clues had sometimes led to discoveries.

I began to sift every available isolated piece of information. Five clues emerged.

Firstly, that boat-shaped object was resting on Akyayla Dagi ("High White Plain") on a hill and close to the Kurdish village of Uzengili. That was definitely in the heart of the "mountains of Ararat" (as in Genesis 8:4) - a region, not a single peak. "Urartu" (same root as "Ararat") was the name of an ancient kingdom in this area. Thus, the Bible could be simply identifying the mountains of that kingdom, or region.

Secondly, on this subject I found Moslem tradition to be of some help.

\* It stated that the Ark came to rest upon the mountainous range of Urartu.

And this is where the object under discussion lay.

\*It was said to be on a hill, not a tall peak.

This object likewise lay on a hill, not a tall peak.

\*It was stated to be on the hill's west side.

Indeed, this object was on the hill's west side.

\*The old tradition held that the Ark was alongside a large rock.

Interestingly, this present object was alongside a large rock, and impaled on it as well. If this were the Ark of which the Moslems spoke, then it had since been pushed sideways onto the rock by the alluvial mud flow that slid down to the east of it, resulting in the Ark's being almost completely covered.

\*The Koran said that the Ark rested upon AL-JUDI. (The Koran says: "The ark came to rest upon Al-Judi." -Houd Sura 11:44)

This boat-shaped object now rested on a plain on a mountain called by the locals AL-JUDI; its Turkish name was CUDI DAGI. (David Fasold, The Discovery of Noah's Ark U.K.: Sidgwick and Jackson Ltd., 1990, pp.93-102,324)

Thirdly, the Assyrian king Ashurnasirpal 11(883-859 B.C.) claimed that the Ark's resting place was NISIR.

Less than 500 metres from this present object was a village now called Uzengili - and under it, according to older maps, lay SAR, or NASAR or NISIR. (Fasold, pp.108-114)

Fourthly, the Ark was reported to be on a north-south axis.

The boat-shaped object likewise was orientated just ten degrees from north-south.

Finally, many ancient place names in the vicinity seemed to allude to the story of the Great flood and its survivors. I noted the following:

### ***BIBLICAL ACCOUNT - compare LOCAL PLACE NAMES***

BIBLE: The flood was a divine judgment upon the whole antediluvian world. (2 Pet.2:5)

PLACE NAME: The area of the slopes near the boat-shaped object is called MAHSER, meaning "the last judgment day". (Fasold, p.100)

BIBLE: Toward the end of the flood, Noah sent out a crow to test for the re-emergence of land. At first, with nowhere to stand, it kept returning; finally it did not return. (Gen.8:7)

PLACE NAME: A nearby village bears the name KARGACONMAZ which means “the crow will not stand or return.” (Fasold, p.319)

BIBLE: The Ark eventually came to rest in the mountains.

PLACE NAME: The nearby castle of DARONYNK stands on a site whose name means “where the oars were reversed”.

BIBLE: They emerged from the Ark as though from death, to start a new world.

PLACE NAME: The field where this object rests is called MAHSUR (“raised from the dead”). (Ibid., p.100)

BIBLE: And Noah built an altar and offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God.

PLACE NAME: The nearby village once bore the name NASAR, which means “to make a presentation or a sacrifice”. (Ibid., p.101)

HISTORY: Historians tell us that pilgrims journeyed to this site in ages past.

PLACE NAME: A point above the head of the valley is called ZIYARET DOG (“voluntary pilgrimage”). (Ibid., p.101)

TRADITION: The company who survived the flood were long considered by the ancient world as the heroes of man.

PLACE NAME: The closer end of the ridge is named YIGITYATAGI (“hero’s bed”), i.e. “the habitat of heroes” or “Where the heroes come from. (Ibid., pp.101,209)

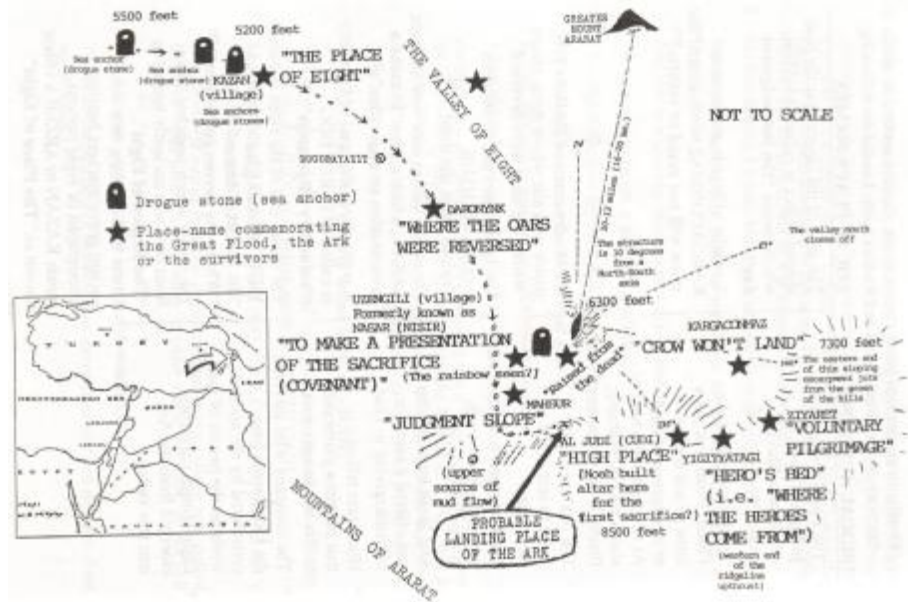
BIBLE: Eight human survivors emerged from the Ark into this valley.

PLACE NAME: The valley which stretches down from here was anciently known as “The Region of Eight”. (Allen S. Roberts, if

This is Not Noah's Ark - Then What Is It? Sans Souci, N.S.W.: Ark Search, 1992,p.14. See also Fasold, p.157)

Lower in this valley, near some ancient grave markers bearing iconographs of eight persons, stands KAZAN or ARZEP, a village known as "The Place of Eight".

The coincidences were becoming too numerous to ignore. What they suggested was breathtaking.



## **PLACE NAMES ARE A KEY TO HISTORY**

Of this I was certain. Ancient place names were found to be among the most imperishable of human things.

This persistence of ancient place names had been fully recognised by leading archaeologists as a "safe" means of recovering ancient history. (For example, Sir W.F. Petrie, Syria and Egypt, p.15)

## **"STOP WYATT"**

Meanwhile, Ron Wyatt's on site investigation was beginning to raise alarm in certain quarters. In San Diego, California, two men met to discuss the problem. One was the promoter of a

Greater Ararat Ark search expedition. It is believed that the other man was a prominent “Ark” writer.

“Wyatt must be stopped,” urged the first man.

The second man hesitated. “I don’t know,” said he, soberly. “There are rules...”

“I’ll find a way,” announced the other, “no matter what it takes.”

## **Chapter 4**

### **MIRACLE ON DOOMSDAY HILL**

“I don’t know what to do,” said Ron, upon his return home in 1977. “The Ark is totally buried. It’s just too big for me to uncover.” (A comparable size would be that of a medium-sized U.S. Navy aircraft carrier.)

He spoke to a small group of trusted friends. They decided to pray for an earthquake - one that would somehow expose the object for what it was, but would not injure anybody.

On November 25, 1978 at 10.57 local time, an earthquake **PUSHED THE OBJECT OUT OF THE GROUND**. Its walls were now upthrust some twenty feet out of the earth.

Nobody was killed.

The villagers were no strangers to earthquakes. This one was considered “abnormal.” It was “preceded by the sky turning silver! Everyone was in the streets, looking up at the strange phenomenon; they were all outside. So nobody was killed.” (The Hon. Tahir Elhan, a Turkish judge. Cited by Fasold, pp.329-330) This earthquake was described as “not normal,” and a mu ‘cise! A miracle! (New Redhouse Turkish-English Dictionary. Istanbul, Turkey: Redhouse, 1984, P.787)

From its tomb, Wyatt’s “Ark” was upthrust; the field was known locally as Mahsur - which means “raised from the dead! (Ibid., p.723) A sign for this generation?

The hill itself had long been called Mahser, which means “The last judgment.” (Ibid., p.723) Resurrected as a sign of the end times?

First that “lure”, the silver sky. Then, when everyone was safely outside, the earthquake - as requested. Think about that!





**BEFORE THE 1978 EARTHQUAKE:**  
Early air view showing break in right side.  
(The London Daily Telegraph)



**AFTER THE 1978 EARTHQUAKE:**  
Risen abruptly from the ground (or the ground has sunk); the metal detector equipment in place  
(Ahmet Ali Arslan)

In the nearby village people shook their heads. “It’s a bad omen,” said some. “Let’s get out of here!” And twenty households got up and left.

Soon after this, the name of the village was changed. Its new name meant “STIR-UP”. “That boat thing,” moaned a local farmer, “it came up and RUINED MY FIELD.”

Within months, Ron Wyatt was on site. When he had visited the previous year, the object was distinctly visible, but the sides were even with the surrounding terrain. The recent earthquake had dropped the solidified mudflow from around the object. This had revealed the sides and “rib timbers”. In succeeding seasons, the covering mud would erode away, leaving behind exposed ends of columns projecting out from within the walls.

While popular expeditions continued to focus on Mount Ararat proper, Ron kept returning to this rejected site, some twelve miles to the south. He would return more than thirty times.

### ***CHEMICAL TESTS***

Working quietly so as not to arouse suspicion, he took samples. The results were confirmed by Galbraith Laboratories of Knoxville, Tennessee:

Carbon content: “The soil from the formation tested at 4.95% while the soil from the field around the formation tested at 1.88%. This degree of difference is consistent with the prior presence of some organic matter (like wood) in the formation.” (Dr. William Shea, Professor of Archaeology, in Archaeology and Biblical Research. Willow Grove, PA.: Associates for Biblical Research, Winter 1988)

Metallic content: August, 1984: Although a metal detector gave no reading at all in the field surrounding the object, there were positive indications over the formation. The metal appeared to be in a pattern.

Repeated chemical tests of different samples, taken at different times by different people and analyzed at different laboratories, gave similar results.

Nevertheless Wyatt’s claim that it was the Ark was met with skepticism. Several times he sought permission to excavate. Each time the Turkish government refused.

### ***ANOTHER CLAIMS THE DISCOVERY***

On his 1984 expedition, Ron was accompanied by Colonel Jim Irwin (The astronaut), Marvin Steffins, Bulant Atalay, “Whatcha” McCullum, and a Turkish military escort.

A few days later, Steffins called a news conference and, displaying some lugs of specimens, claimed for himself the discovery of “Noah’s Ark”.

### ***A MARINE EXPERT ARRIVES***

In March 1985, Ron took David Fasold with him. Fasold was an ex-merchant marine officer with a master’s licence, a man with long underwater diving and salvage experience.

He brought with him a molecular-frequency generator, which operates on the same principle as the CAT scanner used in hospitals, to locate and measure foreign growths. Fasold had long worked with side-scanning subsurface radar for identifying underwater wrecks.

They reached the crest of a hill and looked down.

“I was completely stunned!” reports Fasold. “Christian and Moslem paused on the crest in reverence of what lay below them, dark brown against the snow. Wracked and distorted, yet preserved for the end of the age, were THE WALLS OF A SHIP PROJECTING UPWARD SOME TWENTY FEET OUT OF THE EARTH.”(Fasold, p.7-emphasis supplied)

Soon he was standing below it. “I found myself suddenly dwarfed by the unnatural sight of the bows of a great ship thrust from the loam.” Fasold was convinced that, whether underwater or under earth, “I KNOW A SHIP WHEN I SEE ONE.”

### ***A LINEAR SUB-SURFACE PATTERN***

Several types of metal detector gave the same results. Indications of iron showed up in traceable lines crisscrossed by other lines at definite intervals. Ron suggested these might be remains of great nails used to fasten beams; or perhaps they were metal brackets.

In May, Wyatt and Fasold returned, this time with John Baumgardner, a geophysicist from the Los Alamos Research Lab in New Mexico. Several types of metal detector were used and the pattern they indicated was recorded by laying coloured strips of tape along the lines they delineated, both lengthwise and crosswise in relation to the formation. This pattern was then measured, drawn and video-taped.

In August, five days were spent thoroughly mapping subsurface patterns where the metal detectors again gave positive readings. Tapes were laid over the formation where the metal detectors provided positive readings. Those present were Wyatt, Fasold, Baumgardner, Tom Anderson and a cameraman.

It was found that 13 internal, parallel lines suddenly doubled into 26. This occurred at the transverse lines, just as a builder today would lay a floor joist. The lengthwise parallel lines

converged the closer they got to the pointed end. Finally they came together.

The lines were so evenly spaced you could measure the distance between them.

Fasold was later asked by Charles Berlitz: “What do you consider the most convincing proof of the ship-like formation being the Ark?”

“I say it is the thirteen longitudinal lines, on which you get an iron reading every thirty to forty centimetres,” he replied, “and the nine transverse lines. Remember that the Babylonian description of the Ark described it as having nine divisions.” (Berlitz, p.157)



The preceding picture shows tapes laid out during metal detector testing. These patterns were later to be confirmed in more detail by subsurface interface radar scanning.

### ***DISTORTED BY AN “INTRUSION”***

Interestingly, the object was impaled by a huge rock on its western side. Around the rock impalement area, the lines were greatly distorted. The twisting of these lines around the rock looked like signs of damage.

The rock appeared to be an intrusion, that had damaged the object and was foreign to the symmetry of the whole. This

suggested that the object had been pushed sideways by the mud flow into the rock outcropping.

### ***METAL DETECTOR TESTS: “A SHIP”***

If the metal detector equipment was reliable, this object was almost certainly a ship.

### ***“LET’S SABOTAGE IT”***

While the layout of the site progressed smoothly, a group of thirty Turkish Commandos protected the men. Turkish Intelligence expected that an attempt was to be made to kidnap either Colonel Irwin or Ron Wyatt. The Commandos hid in the surrounding countryside.

Presently a group of Iranian terrorists appeared. The Commandos rose up from the surrounding crevices and mowed down five of them. But three Turks were killed.

Martial law was declared in the area and a planned radar scan of the formation had to wait.

### ***RADAR SCANS SHOW THE SAME PATTERN***

In July of 1986, ten preliminary ground-penetrating radar scans showed, with refined detail, the same pattern picked up by the metal detectors. Reportedly, there were clear outlines of closed sections, beams and cross beams and what appeared to be “collapsed decks”.

Scans were made in “three dimension” - lengthwise, crosswise and laterally along the side.

The side scan revealed both vertical and horizontal members. There appeared to be an interlaced or interwoven pattern in the side of the object, very evenly distributed.

Fasold reports: “We all drew close to the graphic recorder in silence. Even the Kurds who had arrived on the site from the village pressed for the advantage to see.

“There were a total of fifteen walls. The thirteen that had shown on the frequency generator could now be seen to fall within the western and eastern bulwarks. They went down over the entire length of the paper into its interior. At slightly less than what might be three feet under the surface, the walls or posts extended upward from a floor!

“The picture was so clear that the end sections of the flooring could be seen as square blocks segmented together between the walls. I counted six of these beam ends separating the space between them.” (Fasold, pp.318-319)

Those present with Ron Wyatt and David Fasold included Baumgardner, Anderson, Mrs Baumgardner, Dr. William Shea, Tod Fisher and Scott Snider.

Two subsurface radar systems were used.

Archaeologist Shea remarked, “The pattern is exactly what you would expect from a ship. You have the keel represented, you have parallel lines representing keelsons, you have transverse lines of the bulkheads, and other reinforcing lines of a ship.”

A full-length radar scan would have to wait until a later visit.

Meanwhile, there were other exciting finds.

### ***SINISTER PLANS***

Someone has said that if you tread on the devil’s toes, he will react.

Ron Wyatt was treading on toes. A reaction was inevitable.

Plans were being set in place. It would not be long now.

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## **Chapter 5**

### **VITAL SIGNS**

#### ***VERTICAL “RIBS”***

As the formation weathered, a series of vertical striations was appearing more prominently along both sides. These “ribs” or columns remained encased in mud. The exposed ends of the columns were 3 to 4 feet wide. The mud matrix between them not only protected them, but formed a footpath as well.

Using two types of metal detectors, these “ship’s ribs” gave positive readings, while the spaces between them gave negative readings.

#### ***“DECK SUPPORT BEAMS”***

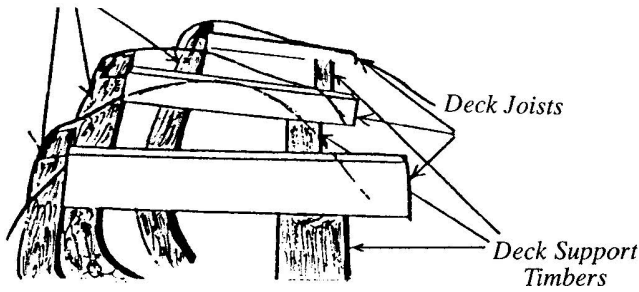
At the lower left end of the structure were regularly spaced black protrusions, visible at the surface. Close up they looked like big rocks, projecting out from the mud-covered walls. But then something was noticed. It was quite startling.

1. They were in perfect alignment. They were directly opposite one another on each side of the formation.
2. They were perfectly horizontal (despite the rock damage distortion on the western side).

Each “beam” was about 5 feet around. And radar showed that directly Under each “beam” was a support upright. To put it another way, the horizontal “beams” lined up with the vertical “ribs”. (Over the rest of the structure, these were protected by overburden, and the radar showed them to be more intact.)

The team scraped off mud from the south end of the object (what they were pleased to call the “prow”) and a lattice work of “ribs” and five horizontal “beams” was exposed and photographed.

The interior of the formation sloped downward from its sides toward the centre, as if the “deck” were still attached to the sides, but carrying a terrific weight had collapsed it in the middle - under the mound of broken “above-deck” structure.



### ***“LAMINATED DECK TIMBER”***

“Have a look at this,” urged Ron. “Pick it up. See? Heavy, right? I tell you that weighs 36 pounds. It’s petrified deck timber.”

I examined it carefully. “It looks laminated, Ron. Is this really from that old site?”

“I’ll tell you how I got it,” he replied.

It turned out that Governor Serket Ekinici of the Turkish province of Agri had asked Ron to do a radar scan to locate a piece of loose timber, something they could dig up to verify that it was indeed timber. With Turkish journalists and officials present, they located a piece which appeared small enough to retrieve. It was broken and angled up toward the surface. A military official dug where the radar indicated and they found the piece.

The governor presented it to Wyatt for testing.

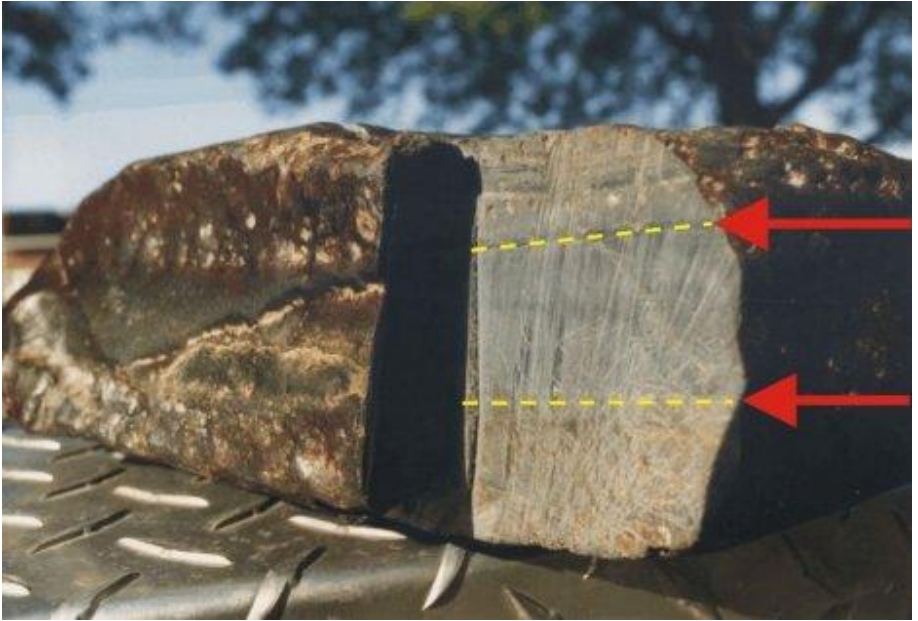
The sample was three feet under the surface. It took 30 to 40 minutes to retrieve.

At Galbraith Labs in Knoxville, Tennessee, tests proved it to have enough organic carbon to be petrified wood. It also showed an iron content of 13%.

What could that iron mean? Ron wondered. Then it hit him. This could be the result of the metal materials used to construct the “vessel”, being replaced in the timber as it underwent the petrification process.

There was more! When a section was cut from the specimen, it was clear that three separate layers of wooden board were laminated. That is, they were glued one upon another to provide extra strength.

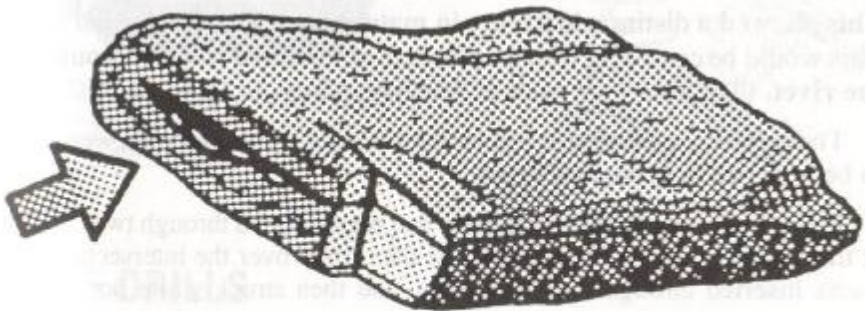




Upon examination, these characteristics were noted:

1. A radial striae;
2. Wood fibres, with the grain showing on all surfaces of the part that had been sectioned open;
3. The bark of the wood separate from the heart of the wood;
4. The glue between the layers of laminated wood being apparently of a resinous material (it had squeezed out).

Thin sections were cut from this deck timber for microscopic examination.



*Petrified wood, believed to be  
laminated deck timber  
(R. Wyatt)*

## ***ANGLE BRACKET***

With excitement, Dr. John Baumgardner walked down the top of the wall with the metal detector going beep... beep every two or three steps. With the trained eye of a scientist he suddenly shouted, "Undecomposed iron! (Ron Wyatt, Discovered: Noah's Ark. Nashville, TE.: World Bible Society, 1989. P.19)

Fasold ran in close with the video recorder. There in the wall, surrounded by mud, was a perfectly rectangular beam end and from it projected what appeared to be iron flakes which had given the signals.

Earlier he had held in his hand a piece of wrought iron. It was a stretched and hammered angle bracket, with the grain clearly visible. The angle bracket was tested by the Los Alamos National Laboratory. It showed 91.84% FE203.

## ***"RIVETS"***

Confirming the existence of metal at regular intervals, Baumgardner said he believed metal to be at the points where these lines intersected. (Wyatt, p.20.)

David Fasold records that in a broadcast aired August 27, 1985, on NBC's "Close-Up," Baumgardner stated that "metal detector data... indicates an orderly pattern of metal underground at the site." (Fasold, p.247.)

More physical evidence would emerge in June, 1991. At that time, the head of a rivet would be found by Ron, in the presence of 26 witnesses, whose names and signatures remain on record.

Analysis of the rivet would show it to be an alloy of titanium, aluminium, iron and other metals. The most important discovery would be the difference in carbon content in the actual rivet and in material just one centimetre away. Though the carbon amount was small, the difference between the rivet and the adjacent material was more than a thousand percent - actually 1,350%.

This showed a distinct difference in material, according to the lab notes. This would be consistent with the presence of fossilised wood surrounding the rivet. (The tests were made at Teledyne-Allvac, in Charlotte, NC.)

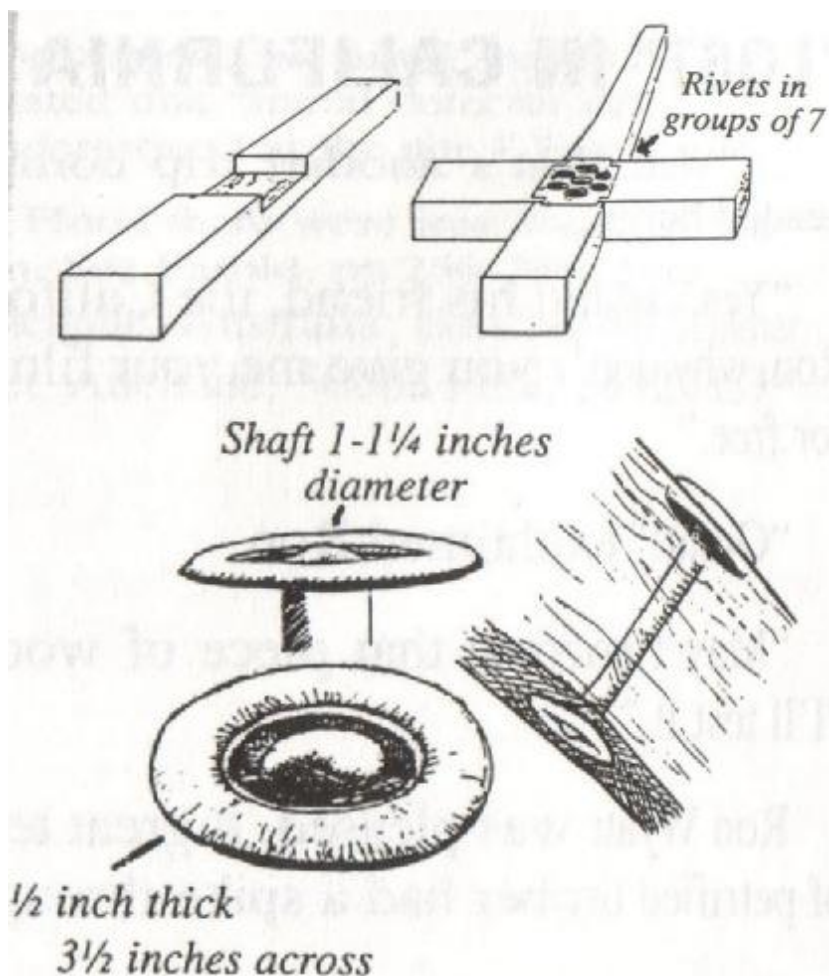
These rivets, appearing at regular intervals along the structure, were seen to be attached in groups of seven.



It was believed that the metal rivets had been inserted through two timbers at their cross joints. A metal plate was then fitted over the intersection, the rivets inserted through the metal plate, and then struck while hot to fold over. Ron told me, excitedly, “There are thousands of these large metal plates, predominantly of iron, fixing the wooden lengths. These must be what the metal detectors are picking up.”

### ***METAL RODS***

After returning from Turkey, Baumgardner gave a fifty-minute talk to employees of the Los Alamos National Laboratory. “We’re convinced this does represent the remains of a large boat,” he said.



He reported that since the American team's recent visit (recent in 1986) the Turkish government had sent an archaeological group to the site and recovered four intact metal rods with these same type heads.

Each was about four feet long. They had also recovered petrified wood and other metal objects. These were now claimed to be in the custody of the Ministry Mines and Minerals.

Just a minute, I hear someone say. Noah couldn't have used iron... Really? Perhaps it's time to look at the fresh evidence coming in from around the world. Long before the so-called "Iron Age", human technology was incredibly advanced. In my book *Dead Men's Secrets* some astonishing evidence of this is recorded. And David Fasold concurs.(Fasold, pp.256-260). *Dead Men's Secrets* is available at <http://www.beforeus.com>

In fact, the book of Genesis (4:22) implies that before the Great Flood there were iron foundries. It appears now that the so-called “Iron Age” is a misconception.

Ron drilled and found STRUCTURES precisely where the detectors showed them. He then drilled where the scanners showed no structure and the drill WENT STRAIGHT THROUGH.

It happened toward the southern end. Ron was drilling with a two inch bit. The bit went in about five or six feet and hit something.

“Oh, I’ve broken the bit!” he exclaimed. “Must have hit a beam or rivet, or something.”

He pulled out the drill and replaced the broken item with a one inch bit. Then he tried again, this time going in at a slight angle.

“That’s better,” he mumbled. Retrieving it once more, he followed up with a larger, four inch bit. It went past the edge of the obstruction INTO A CAVITY!

“Hey, guys!” he shouted excitedly. “No doubt about it. THERE ARE COMPARTMENTS IN THERE!”

### ***“LOST” IN CALIFORNIA***

“Well, that’s another trip completed,” sighed Baumgardner, as they headed home. “Yes,” added his friend, the Californian lawyer in the party. “By the way, Ron, why don’t you give me your films. I can get them processed back home for free.”

“Great!” exclaimed Ron.

“May I borrow that piece of wood you dug up?” asked Baumgardner.

Ron Wyatt was pleased. A great team, this lot. So helpful. And that piece of petrified timber had a spike through it. That was something special.

The worst part was that waiting time, waiting for the films and test results. Did those days drag!

At last the phone call. John Baumgardner, usually cautious, was bubbling with excitement. “I did a section on that wood. This is fantastic! It’s the real thing!”

“Then don’t risk posting it,” said Ron. “I’ll be over in a month.” Ron was in Baumgardner’s office. “John, I’ve come for the petrified timber.”

“I don’t know what you are talking about,” Baumgardner is reported to have replied. “But you said...” I know nothing about it.” Ron quickly rang the lawyer concerning the films. Sorry, they had disappeared too.

Gentle warnings. A storm was brewing.

**the  
DEVASTATING  
SHOCK  
that almost made  
him give up**

## Chapter 6

### JOURNEY INTO DANGER

“Sheer madness,” screamed the police officer. “The roads are closed. The blizzard’s getting worse.

“But I have to go!” Ron exclaimed.

“Unless it’s a life or death situation, stay off the roads,” warned the officer.

Ron knew that he had to go. He didn’t know why, or for whom. He went.

In the early hours of that bleak December morning, as was his custom, Ron Wyatt had asked his Lord to lead him to someone who was in real need.

Immediately came the strong impression that he must drive to Columbia, Kentucky. That was a good two and a half hours from his Nashville home. In good weather, that is.

The roads were deserted... and slippery. His 1976 Dodge Maxi Van had chronic fan belt problems. It was several long hours of miserable driving. He began to resent the whole thing. Then his conscience began to trouble him. He began to pray that God would forgive him for his rebellious feeling and not let someone go without needed help just because Ron was, as he put it, “a jerk”.

Suddenly, from the median of the toll road, staggered a dark form, falling and struggling to get to the side Wyatt was travelling on. Slowing down to see if it was a hurt animal, he realised it was a person! With a feeble wave, the man signalled Ron to stop. He was badly frozen.

Ron helped him into the van. “What are you doing out there without car?”

The man’s speech slurred; the cold had thickened his tongue. He slowly raised his arm and pointed to the median; he HAD a car was what he was trying to say.

Jumping out of the van, Ron crossed the road. Sure enough, buried deep in the snow, sat a red compact car.

“There’s no way we can get it out of there,” Ron said.

“Would you please just try,” the man pleaded.



Clearing the snow from the top and sides, Ron found a chain. He secured it around the back axle and stretched it. "Father," he prayed, "if you want this car out of the snow, you are going to have to do it. I sure can't."

At that exact moment, down the east lane of the road, which had been entirely free of traffic all those hours, appeared the headlights of two cars. They slowed to a stop.

"Can we help you?" asked one of them. And out poured eight young men. Nobody else in these cars - just eight strong, young men. Within seconds, the car was up on the road.

"A piece of cake," someone said. Then they piled into their cars and drove off.

Puzzled at having missed their approach, Ron now watched them leave. In a dip in the highway, they disappeared from sight. However, they never arose from that dip! There was no exit for at least two miles, and they hadn't turned around; they had simply vanished into thin air!

The man's car engine started easily. "Do you believe in God, mister?" he asked, with almost pleading eyes.

Over an hour later, still sitting in the van, the man, with tears rolling down his face, had at last found the answer to his questions.

"How can I explain all of this to my wife and children?" he asked. And Ron handed him a copy of his favourite book, *The Story of Redemption*.

Suddenly, Ron realised what this trip had been all about.

Ron confessed he was an addict. If he did not experience such a "divine encounter" for his Lord every week, he would go into a state of depression. Then he knew he had to ask God to show him what was hindering him from being useful. Once he had straightened out that problem in his relationship with God, he was able to bear witness again.

It was for such encounters - sharing the love of his Lord with others that Ron had an addiction.

## ***THE WARNING***

Meanwhile, Ron Wyatt's "Ark" project was upsetting more applecarts.



Exposure was the last thing some wanted. And now he'd done it. He'd actually said it. He'd called the 40 to 50 year history of the Ark "a quagmire of misquotations, outright lies, theft, fabrication and fraud."

Strange events were about to break.

Ron picked up the receiver. It was his friend Rene Noorbergen.

"Ron, what are you doing? Don't step on any toes, man!" Noorbergen had been a prime mover in getting the 1960 expedition off the ground. He had accompanied Wyatt to the Red Sea and written about Ron's exploits to Israel.

"It's sour grapes, Rene, I know it," said the archaeologist. "Some would like to see me fall flat on my face, so they could claim the discovery as their own."

"There are some."

"Don't you see, Rene, that's why I've taken so much time to do proper research and to share every find with the Turkish government."

"You're thorough, I'll give you that."

"Rene, if this find is genuine, then the other site is not."

"OK, so you're exposing a fraud. But do you know what that means? It'll get messy. Some men have raised a fortune in cash from the public through promoting the Greater Ararat mountain as the Ark site. Men of importance. Reputations are at stake."

Noorbergen had put his finger on it. And while one should not belittle the efforts of others genuinely seeking the Ark, this WAS an emotionally charged issue.

## ***CHANGE OF MIND***

Of course, there were other reasons for rejecting Wyatt's claims. Reportedly, John Baumgardner would later declare: "Ron Wyatt cannot have found the Ark. God wouldn't choose a man who doesn't speak in tongues!"

Baumgardner was asked by a theology professor at a Church of Christ seminary, "Why did you change your mind?"

Hearing Baumgardner's reply, the professor declared, "It seems to me that your reasons for accepting Wyatt's 'Ark' were more compelling than the reasons you have just given for rejecting it."

Mary Nell Wyatt put down the phone. And she knew it. Her father had experience in these things.

“Ron,” she called out, “our phone is bugged. We’ll have to be careful what we say, from now on.”

### ***“DESTROY WYATT”***

The word got around that somebody had hired a private detective to dig up what they could on Ron and Mary Nell.

The order was out, “Destroy Wyatt.”

At great personal cost, Ron stuck to his story that he had found the Ark.

It was known that Wyatt kept some important papers in a safe place just in case. He had confided to one friend - a prominent “Ark” writer and another well-known “Ark” identity, the location.

The break-in occurred on a dark night. It didn’t take long. Two men climbed out of the building and the documents were never seen again.

### ***DEADLIEST GAME***

I have no desire to condemn these men. There is hope that they may do a U-turn. From now on, I shall call one of them, simply, N.R.

The most sinister move in this deadly game was now to occur.

“I’m off to Saudi Arabia,” confided Ron. “It’s that other project - you know the one.”

“Safe travelling, my friend,” N.R. replied. “You’ll let me know how it goes?”

It was all fixed. “Good,” smiled N.R. “We’ll never see Wyatt again.”

...“Would you please come with us,” said two Saudi officials. “Into the car.” Ron and his two sons were stunned. “What’s wrong?” Ron asked. “You’re under arrest.” Spies! The Saudis actually thought they were spies! How could this happen? Ron turned pleadingly to one who looked like the Chief Executioner. Silence!

Prison is never pleasant, especially when your own sons are with you and you realise that you may be there a very long time... He almost lost hope. Not quite.

It turned out to be 78 long, long days. And then release came only through the intervention of astronaut James Irwin. Immediately Wyatt confronted the authorities.

“Why did you arrest us?” he asked.

“You were reported to be spies,” was the Saudi’s response.

“Whoever told you that?”

The reply sent a shiver down his spine. “A man named N.R. phoned our embassy in Washington and warned us that you were about to enter Saudi Arabia and that you were Israeli spies.”

“Dad, you trusted N.R.,” cried Danny. “He came with us on expeditions. He wrote about you. He’s our friend!”

Ronny shuddered. That man knew we could be sentenced to DEATH!”

How vile can this get? Ron wondered.

### ***BETRAYAL***

The telephone rang. It was the publisher, MacMillan. “Mr Wyatt, you signed a contract with Mr N.R. to write another book.

But in it he’s claiming the ‘Ark’ as his own discovery. We think you’d better straighten this out. We don’t want you or David Fasold to get us embroiled in a law suit.”

For a while Ron shrank from it. “Oh, Father,” he prayed, “will You please help me in this?”

N.R. did not expect to hear from Ron Wyatt. What a bombshell! And right there on the phone he suffered a stroke. That man would experience five strokes - and be removed from inflicting any more harm.

### ***TOP SECRET***

But there would be other enemies. Attempts to sabotage the “Ark” project would not let up.

So it was that the first time ever I had spoken to Ron, he had kept saying, “Please, no advance publicity. You won’t say a word?” It was almost an obsession.

“You have my promise,” I replied.

“It would be detrimental to the coming trip to have anything aired until after we’ve left the site. With so much unrest in the Middle East, we don’t want any attention focused on us while we have expensive equipment on the site.”

So right, I thought. That could be downright dangerous.

It was happening that whenever Ron Wyatt let people know he was going to Turkey, somebody was sending messages to the Turkish press. It would get into print that Wyatt was entering Turkey with money for Kurdish terrorists. To his horror, Ron sourced the reports as emanating from Ark search rivals in the U.S.A.

Ron’s rapport with the Turkish authorities was not at stake. However, as they told him, “We cannot stop these press releases coming in.” What the ordinary Turk might believe, now that was another matter.

“So can I trust you to say nothing until it’s over?” pleaded Ron.

The man had been hurt so much, I felt for him.

“You can count on it,” I assured him.

“Then join me. Help me uncover the Ark.”

### ***THE AMBUSH***

It was agreed with the Turkish authorities that a dig into the boat-shape should commence in the Northern summer of 1991. A year of preparation followed, involving complex planning and consultation with the Turkish government, its embassies in three countries, and with various international bodies, all of which would play their part in making the expedition possible.

The party arrived in Turkey. With Ron Wyatt were three others, including Australian Dr. Allen Roberts.

“Can’t get the excavation permit until tomorrow,” announced Ron. “What say we kill time and explore those mountains to the south.”

A fateful move. They were still on the road as night fell. Suddenly their mini-bus was surrounded.

“Get out, all of you!” shouted a bearded gunman.

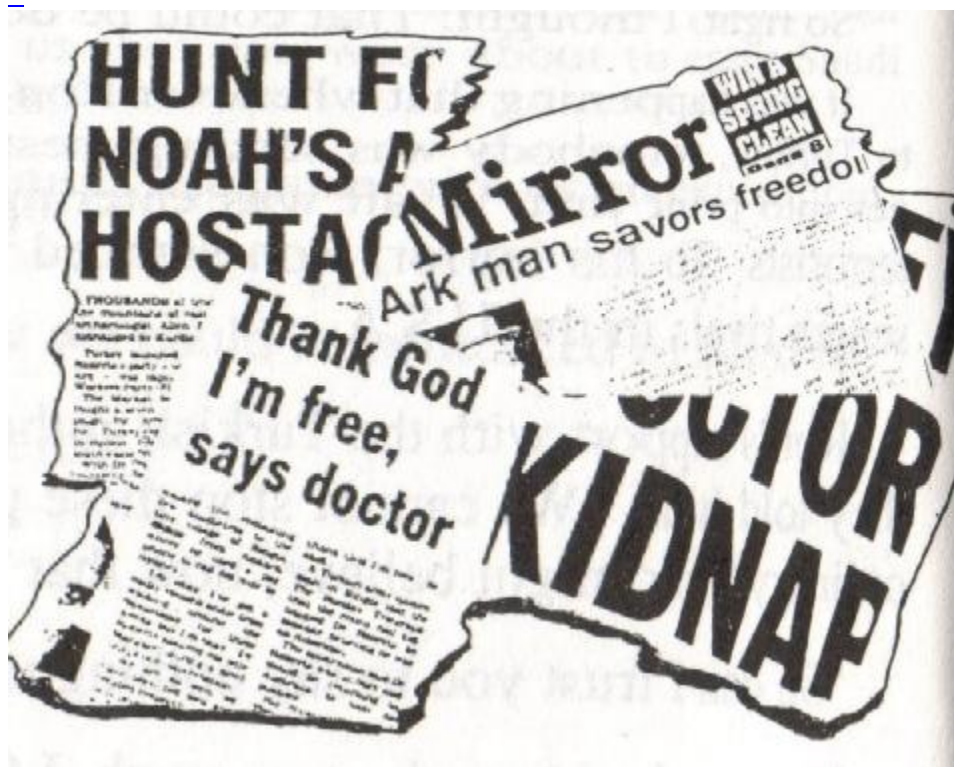
These are Kurdish terrorists, thought Ron. He felt his stomach knotting. They’re taking us hostage!

That night, August 30, 1991 to be precise, would be the start of a three week ordeal. Their captors marched them by night

through the rugged mountains the Turks called Black Hell. By day they were hid at gunpoint as helicopters and 4,000 ground soldiers searched for them, without success.

When they were released on September 21, they knew that the excavation had to wait.

Wyatt and two colleagues returned home to the United States and Roberts to Australia. Ron had tried to keep his expedition quiet until the job was done. But the kidnapping blew it into world headlines. When Dr Roberts got back to Australia with the evidence not yet in, the vultures descended upon him.



**AUSTRALIA, IT'S A 'WAR'**  
**OVER A LUMP OF 'ROCK'**  
**14,000 KM AWAY.**  
**The big guns**  
**are out.**

## **Chapter 7**

# **THE ROBERTS INCIDENT**

“OH NO! This can’t be happening!” the lady gasped. “What’s he up to?”

The crowd sat... mute as death. All eyes were on the man in the audience who had jumped to his feet.

“I’M TAKING OVER THIS MEETING,” he yelled. “AND I’M CLAIMING ALL MONIES PAID AT THE DOOR!”

That night in April, 1992 - the ninth, to be precise - was cool as Tasmanian evenings go. Noah’s Ark “crank,” Dr. Allen Roberts, recently released by Kurdish kidnappers, was speaking at Hobart University. He was to present evidence suggesting that a “boat” may have been found in the mountains of eastern Turkey.

Roberts’ project had a name: the Noah’s Ark Research Project.

Several days earlier, a man walked into the office of the Corporate Affairs Commission and made a title search. He discovered that the name “Noah’s Ark Research Project” was not registered in Tasmania. He promptly registered it in his own name. That man was Ian Plimer, Professor of Earth Sciences at Melbourne University.

Mingling with the crowd on the night of April 9, he made his way into the auditorium and selected a seat under a strong light. This would make him highly visible when the time came. Good for the Channel Nine T.V. cameras, too.

He was allegedly “wired for sound”. (As related to the author by Ron Edwards, chairman of the Noah’s Ark Research Project)

A camera from Channel Nine’s A Current Affair was focused on him and ready.

At the right moment, he stood up. “I am taking over this meeting,” he announced. “The name ‘Noah’s Ark Research Project’ belongs to me. I claim all monies paid to Dr. Roberts tonight!”

On stage with Roberts was David Mitchell, the meeting chairman. He rose to his feet.

"I am the chaplain of the university," he said. "I booked this hall in my own name - and Dr. Roberts is here to speak under my auspice."

The interjector froze. The take-over attempt had fizzled.

Of course, had the plot succeeded, this whole exciting drama may well have gone to air. The T.V. folk discreetly cut it out. So viewers would see only what happened next.

The man soon recovered his poise. "I'm not satisfied," he shouted. "I want my money back! I want my money back!"

Getting nasty now! Great stuff!! The cameras moved in to make a big fuss as two burly policemen tried to "harass" the poor man. Escorted toward the exit, he screamed, "I WANT MY MONEY BACK! I WANT MY MONEY BACK!"

Dr Roberts left the platform and hurried down the aisle. Thrusting his hand into the till, he grabbed the first note in the pile and stuffed it into the man's top pocket.

"Here's your money. Go in peace," he said.

A camera zoomed in. The man took out the note and waved it. "LOOK, HE'S GIVEN ME \$50. I only paid \$4. HE'S TRYING TO BRIBE ME! HE'S TRYING TO BRIBE ME!"

(In its wisdom, A Current Affair saw no point in interviewing the others. You know, those who did not want their money back. The majority, probably.)

Now A Current Affair moved in to appraise Roberts himself. His doctorate, it was pointed out, was acquired at a private Christian university, not a government accredited institution. Well, that does stretch the man's credibility, now, doesn't it?

(The reporter was tight-lipped about one thing: Freedom University was one of many independent institutions of high standards across the United States which were deemed officially acceptable without the kind of registration that brought government control. Two of the most prestigious of these were Yale and Harvard.

### ***"BRING ON THE GEOLOGIST"***

Now it was time to bring on a mighty thinker.

Interviewed in a nice white coat and backed by shelves of books, with a fossil or two and a microscope beside him, the bearded geologist looked very wise.

It was his educated, considered and scholarly opinion that this thing in Turkey was nothing more than a natural rock formation. Boat-shaped formations were common all over the world, you know.

Really, he was quite helpful to the Ark searchers. He offered them this gem of wisdom: "For all the good it will do them, Ark searchers might as well go to Africa or New Zealand and excavate boat-shaped rocks."

Very sedate and calm did he appear. That evoked confidence. Indeed, one could conclude that those who believed the Bible were simpletons, deluded, weirdos, or the whole three.

To demonstrate impartiality, A Current Affair brought on experts for the other side - two old ladies protesting "the Bible has to be true." (Not old wives' tales, you see.)

If one was waiting to see the pivotal stuff - Roberts' expedition evidence alas! No time, presumably. Or perhaps one should not be concerned with such trifles as FACTS?

A Roberts-hater was given the last say: "This Ark man and his kind are only racing about all over the world in a desperate bid to prove the Bible true."

So ended the T.V. report. Accurate. Fair. Slanted to assist informed public debate.

### ***A ROCK FORMATION?***

Let's all be skeptics! It sure is a lot of fun.

A few days later, John Lovering, a geologist with the Flinders University of South Australia, went on Philip Satchell's ABC Radio show to confirm that the Turkish site was, indeed, just a natural rock formation.

I later quizzed John whether he had been there.

"No," he confessed, "but I have flown over it. And it's a pretty good boat imitation. Natural rock, of course."

"Yes, it does appear so," I agreed. "On the surface. But did you know, John, that since the geologists went there, geochemists have analysed the rock and identified it as DECOMPOSED CEMENT?"

His response jolted me. "I'm a geochemist as well," he retorted. "And you can't tell the difference between natural and man-made."



“WHAT? But you just said, Professor, that you can tell the difference. Didn’t you say quite emphatically that it was a natural formation?”

Of one thing I was now certain. The geologists were not sure of their ground (no pun intended). But they were displaying that rigorous logic we have all come to love.

I must take this further. A man-made “ship” 6,300 feet high in the mountains would not be popular with some people. So further questions would have to be general or hypothetical.

I left a message for Jim Jago, of the Department of Applied Geology at the University of South Australia, to phone me. He responded quickly.

“Is it possible, Jim,” I asked, “for a geochemist to know whether a rock formation is natural or man-made?”

“Oh, beyond doubt, yes!” he exclaimed. “Of course one can tell. But over what area?”

“Say, 500 feet.”

“Absolutely!”

### ***“IT GIVES ME GOOSE PIMPLES”***

Brisbane... Perth... The Ark lectures continued.

...Sydney. Now Professor Plimer was back on Roberts’ trail, like a hound scenting blood.

There had been attempts to serve Plimer with a writ. Roberts’ supporters claimed that Plimer had publicly smeared Roberts’ character. For some weeks Plimer had eluded the writ server.

But tonight he surfaced, emboldened for a slaughter too tempting to miss. Behind him trotted the Channel Nine crew.

“Sorry,” said the doorman. “You can’t enter.”

The crewman looked surprised. “Why not?”

“Hobart,” said the doorman.

A middle-aged man in a grey suit pressed the writ into Plimer’s hand. Plimer now knew he must tread carefully.

The meeting had begun. It was whispered that thirty members of the Skeptic’s Society were positioned in the audience.

Roberts, as was his manner, was showing some exhibits from the Turkish site. “...and so, in seeking an age for these items,” he announced, “we cannot rely on carbon dating. The accuracy

of all radiometric dating systems has come under fire of late. It is not generally known that MOST results are suspect." A man leapt to his feet. "Just a moment, there," he cut in. "YOU CAN'T PROVE THAT!"

"He's a leader of the Skeptic's Society," whispered a young woman to her friend.

Roberts paused. Feeling inside his briefcase, he withdrew a sheaf of papers and squinted at the man over his spectacles.

"Here, my good fellow, is a whole file of statements by authorities mostly evolutionists - who testify to the truth of my assertion. May I read you one?"

"Aw, you'll only quote it out of context," the man sneered. A few in the audience nodded their heads in agreement.

"If you will all bear with me," said Roberts, "I shall read it in full." He did.

There was an uneasy stir in the audience. The skeptic looked decidedly agitated. With his wife, he arose and left.

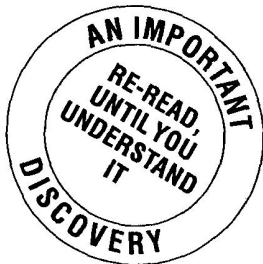
...In the foyer, another member of the Skeptic's Society pondered the photo display. "It's disturbing," he gasped.

Disturbing also was the recent word of a New South Wales judge. He confided, "From the evidence presented there is a prima facie case that this is Noah's Ark."

Derryn Hinch, T.V. current affairs host and avowed agnostic, also saw some of the evidence. On air, he was honest enough to admit: "IT GIVES ME GOOSE PIMPLES."

Meanwhile, I stumbled upon something else. And then I realised that the most startling fact of all was being missed by most people.

You are now in for A BIG SURPRISE...



## Chapter 8

# THE GOLDEN RATIO

Leonardo Fibonacci, Italian mathematician, discovered that the ancients used a mysterious set of numbers that were connected by a “Golden Ratio”. This sequence of numbers begins with 1 + 1 and progresses by adding the two previous numbers, to form the next number, thus:

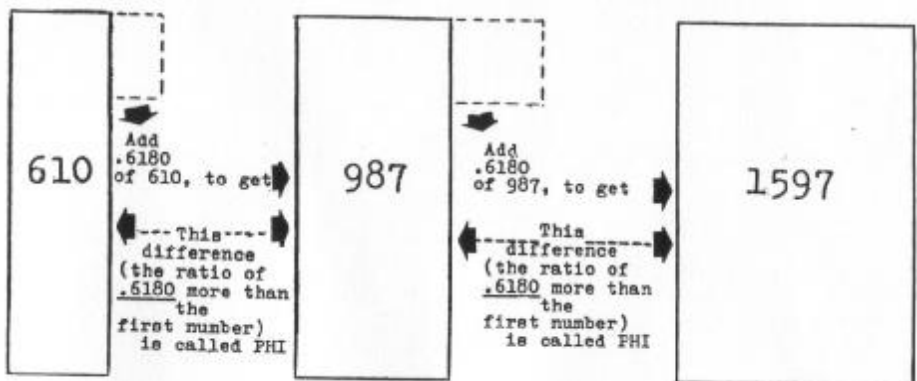
$$1 + 1 = 2; 1 + 2 = 3; 2 + 3 = 5; 3 + 5 = 8, \text{ etc.}$$

The sequence continues:

2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233, 377, 610, 987, 1597, 2584, 4181, and so on, to infinity.

As the sequence progresses, it is discovered that any given number approximates 1.618 times the number preceding it. The higher the number, the closer it approaches this ratio. Likewise, any given number approximates .618 of the number following. The higher the number, the closer it approaches this ratio.

In the above sequence, let's break up what is happening:



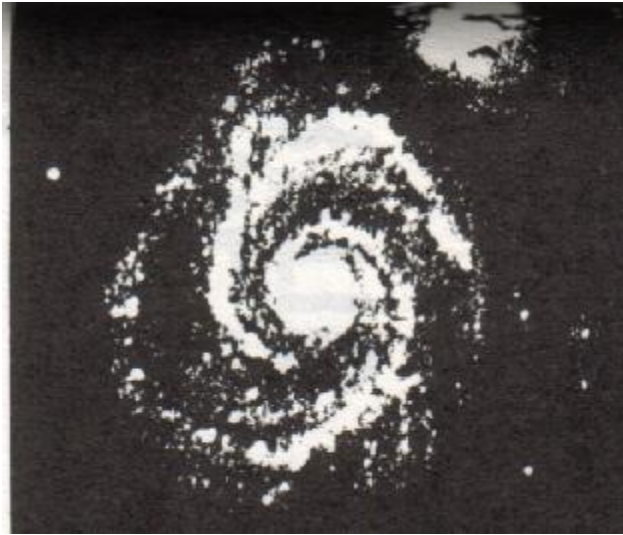
Take the number 610 in the series, as an example. You add .6180 of the number 610 to itself, to get 987. This difference of is called Phi. In other words, the ratio of .6180 more than the first number is the Phi ratio.

Likewise, you take the number 987 and add to it .6180 (or 61.8%) of itself, and you come up with 1597. The difference between 987 and 1597 is the Phi ratio.

In this series, each number can be increased by adding to it .6180 of itself. (It's the same result if you multiply it by 1.6180. The 1 is the original number, plus .6180 of that number.)

### ***HOW NATURE USES THIS RATIO TO FORM A SPIRAL***

This ratio of .6180 is seen in nature, for the shape of everything from tiny snails to the gigantic spiral galaxies of outer space.



This ratio is the invisible “building block” with which a “nature spiral” is shaped.

In nature, an invisible square is planned. Then the .6180 formula is added to it.

In Figure 1 below is a square. And .6180 of that square is added to it at the top, to form a rectangle. (That is, the two parts combined form the “golden rectangle”.)

Notice that the upper portion also forms a smaller version of the same rectangle – but on its side.

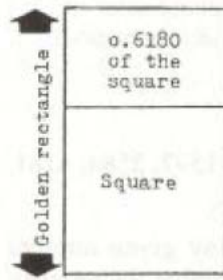


Fig. 1

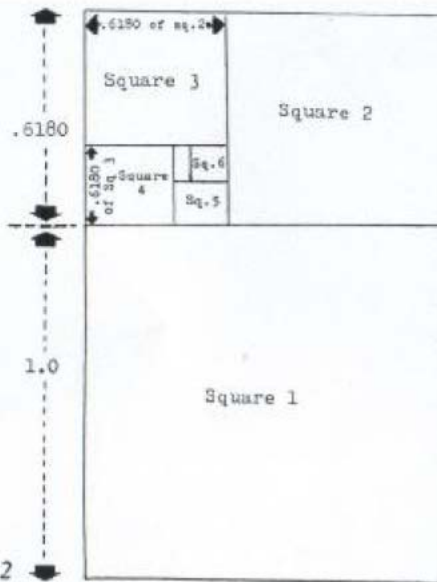


Fig. 2

In Figure 2 the upper rectangle is divided into a square on the right – and .6180 of that square on the left.

The new, smaller rectangle is divided the same way again (+ .6180), producing another golden rectangle, smaller still.

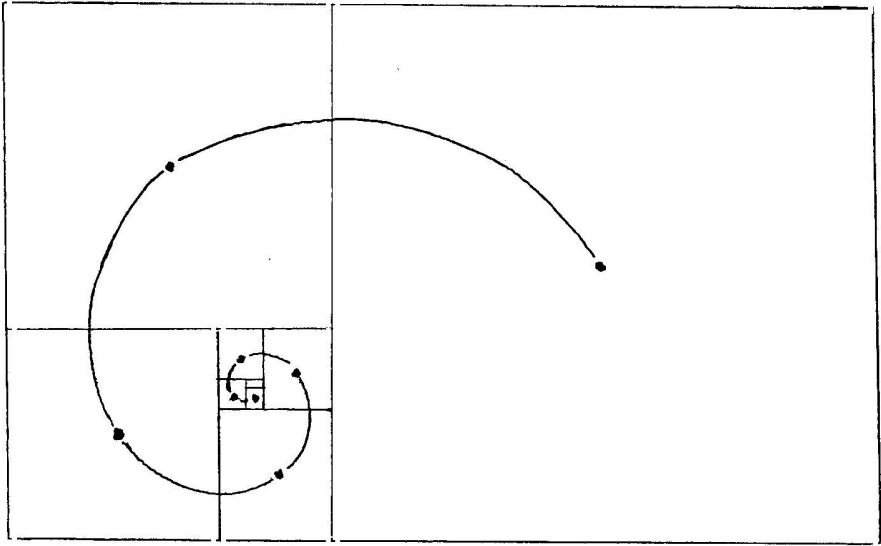


Fig. 3

Figure 3 continues this process. It also shows what happens when a curved line is connected to the centers of the squares. (These centers are marked by dots.) This is called the logarithmic spiral.

Thus a composite of golden rectangles can be joined to form the logarithmic spiral that forms the gap inside a breaking wave.

This spiral is so closely allied to the relentless pounding of the sea, that the Swedish treatise on shipbuilding, *Architectura Nava list Mercatoria*, even suggests it as **THE MOST EFFECTIVE CURVE FOR THE ARMS OF AN ANCHOR!**

If we eventually find the bows of the Ark designed on the curve of the logarithmic spiral, should we be surprised?



## ***IN A NUTSHELL***

The only curve that is truly natural is that of the logarithmic spiral seen in giant galaxies, tiny shells on the sea shore and in the inward curve of a wave when it breaks.

The oldest structures of antiquity, including the Great Pyramid, likewise display this feature of PHI - showing that such principles were known long before Pythagoras. (Pi was used, as well.)

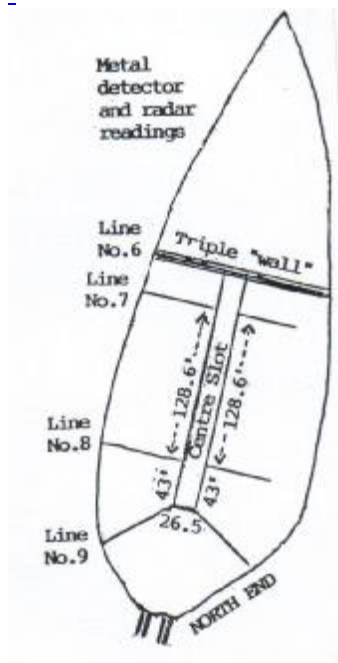
And we shall now discover that Noah's Ark was designed on the ratio of this same curve.

## ***AN UNEXPECTED PATTERN SHOWS UP IN THEAKYAYLA "ROCK FORMATION"***

I was about to stumble upon a most startling discovery:

THE FORMATION'S MEASUREMENTS AND CURVES, ACCIDENTALLY OR INTENTIONALLY, SHOWED A RATIO TO THE PHI FACTOR - TO THE LOGARITHMIC PROPORTION OF .6180.

The next diagram will help to make this clear.



Seven examples turned up:

**1. LENGTH** The length of the formation was 515 feet, which equalled 6180 inches. ( $515\text{ft} \times 12 = 6180\text{ inches}$ )

This may be just a coincidence, but the length of the Ark as in the Bible (Gen.6:15) was 6180 inches (= 300 cubits). If Moses, the compiler of the account, was raised and educated in Egypt, he would undoubtedly be using the Egyptian cubit. I am not suggesting that Noah built the Ark on the Egyptian cubit. I do suggest that the Ark was built by Noah on a special cubit in harmony with the design of all nature, and that this cubit, which was inherited by Noah's descendants and later brought to Egypt, is the one referred to by Moses.

Regarding the inch referred to above, one early Egyptian inch equals 1.001 British inch. So it matters not which inch we use; they are virtually the same.

The Egyptian cubit was 20.6 inches. Three cubits equals 61.80 inches (again, that magic number); thus 300 cubits is 6180 inches.

**2. NORTH-END CURVE** The curve of the north end was based on the spiral of phi (.6180). A portion of this logarithmic spiral formed each wall of the structure.

**3. CAVITY ONE RATIO** From metal detector readings a long, narrow central slot showed up. This large rectangle (much like a central passage way) was the only region that appeared to be an open area, free of metal pattern, with no transverse line across the width of the "ship" for just over 200 feet. This "centre slot" was 26.5 feet wide.

Multiply this width by 1.6180 and you have the length also of the first cavity on either side of it – measured as 43 feet.



**4. CAVITY NO.2 RATIO** The second cavity was 128.6 feet long. This is three times the width of the "centre slot" multiplied by 1.6180.



**5. RATIO OF MAIN DIVIDER TO LENGTH** Dividing line No.6 (of 9 lines crossing sideways) the only “triple wall” in the formation, ran from side to side across the formation. It was the dividing point of the entire design. This “triple wall” (from its forward side) was .618 of the total length of the structure (that is, 61.8 percent from the extremities of the rod-like protrusions).

SURELY WE ARE ON TO SOMETHING HERE.

IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE ENTIRE FORMATION IS LAID OUT BY THIS RATIO OF 6180.

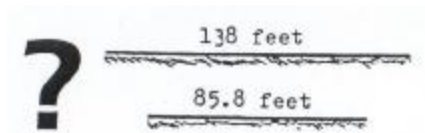
## **6. RATIO OF MEASURED WIDTH TO BIBLICAL WIDTH**

Now, it seems, we are in trouble! Big trouble!!! When we measure the width of the formation, there is a problem.

The Bible states that the Ark was 50 cubits (that is, 85.8 feet) wide. This Akyayla formation as measured by scientists at its widest point was 138 feet.

A big discrepancy. Too big. To repeat, this is a discrepancy of 138 feet, as against 85.8 feet.

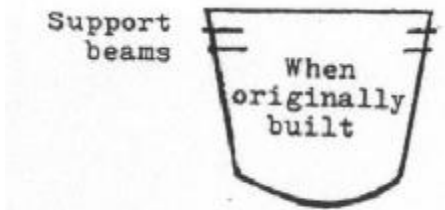
How come?



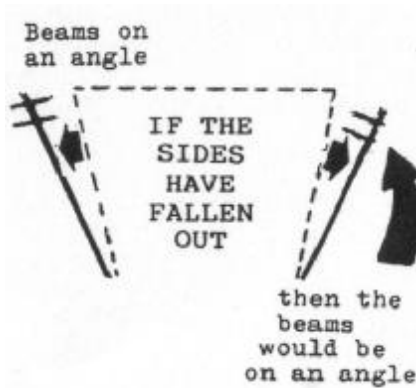
I faced four alternatives:

- (a) This formation was not the biblical Ark.
- (b) If this was the Ark, then the biblical specifications were wrong.
- (c) If this formation was the Ark, and if the biblical measurement was correct, then the sides had fallen out. (This is what Ark-ologist Ron Wyatt believed.)

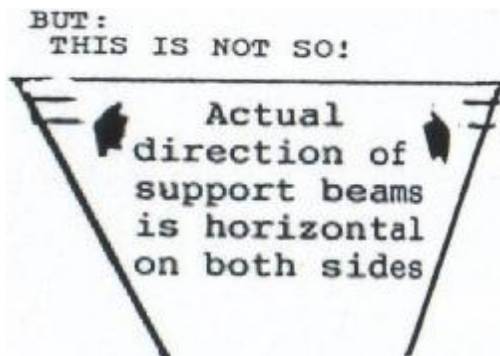
However, I thought the sides had not fallen out. Here's why:



A number of “upper deck support beams” were visible - and they projected out from inside the walls. They were in perfect alignment with those on the other side. What is more, they were perfectly horizontal. If the walls had fallen out, these support beams would be



jutting up at an angle! No, the sides had not fallen out. (In one section the sides have been pushed out, but we are not dealing with that here.)



The Ark-ologists did measure correctly – so there remained one alternative.

It was this:

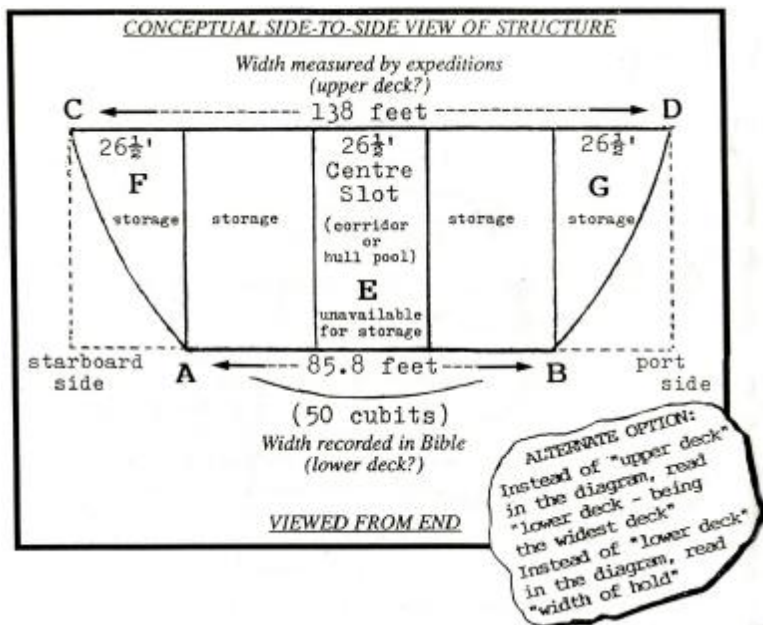
(d) The biblical width (50 cubits) was a measurement based on volume - and both the Bible and the Ark-ologists were correct.

Let me explain. It was once the practice to purposely describe containers by volume. When a Sumerian customer ordered a jar he might express his request in cubic volume, such as 10. This would mean  $10 \times 10 \times 10$ , a cube.

Of course, the customer was not asking for a cube-shaped jar, but a jar consisting of the same volume. It could curve out to 12 wide and maybe only 8 deep, for example. But it was of the volume he had requested.

It is possible that the Ark's dimensions indicated volume, or cubic capacity, as was the ancient practice for many other objects made for containment.

Think about this as we consider the following diagram:



Imagine that you are standing at the end of a ship, with the two sides curving up left or right of you.

In our diagram, the line A-B measures the biblical 50 cubits (85.8 feet). Let's call this the lower deck.

Line C-D is the width measured by modern expeditions (138 feet). This is 53 feet greater than the biblical measure of 85.8 feet. Let's call this the top deck.

Rising vertically between decks A-B and C-D is the “center slot” or corridor (E). This is shown in the diagram as a rectangle 26½ feet wide. This corridor cannot be used for storage.

At each side, however, the outward curve of the vessel’s sides gives extra space (F and G). F and G are shown in the diagram above as rectangles each 26½ feet wide (that is, each is the SAME width as that measured for the central corridor – 26½ feet). Could that be significant?

Now notice. Only half each of rectangles F and G is inside the ship. But together these two halves are EQUAL TO the total of rectangle E. Thus they compensate for the loss of storage space occasioned by the need to use E as a corridor. AND THE LOWER DECK WOULD STILL MEASURE THE BIBLICAL 50 CUBITS (85.8 FEET).

To put it another way: THE COMBINED VOLUME OF F and G INSIDE THE HULL IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL VOLUME OF E.

NOW CATCH THIS!!!

If you are wide awake, this will stretch your mind.

The width of the Ark as stated in the Bible was 50 cubits, that is, 85.8

feet.(Gen.6:15)

The width of this object as measured by archaeologists was 138 feet.

AND WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE? (Get out your pocket calculator.) The difference is .6180!

I suspected that the upswept sides of the structure would be found to be on the same ratio of .6180.

PERHAPS THIS CLINCHED IT - THE CONNECTION BETWEEN this “natural rock formation” and the biblical Ark.

The apparent problem (the difference between the 138 feet and the 85.8 feet) now turned into something else: IT WAS THE .618 FACTOR. THE DIFFERENCE WAS NOW A LINK. Almost uncanny...

I cautiously wondered, could this be Noah’s Ark, under all this mud, built on dimensions that originated with the Master Architect?

Of course, I could be mistaken about this. Excavations should tell us.

**BIBLICAL HEIGHT** Even the height of the Ark, as recorded in Genesis 6 (namely 30 cubits) conformed to the same phi factor. Ark's Height = 30 cubits. Length of cubit in inches = 20.6.  $30 \times 20.6$  equals 618.0 inches. Q.E.D.

### ***TO SUMMARISE***

One...The length of the Akyayla formation (measured) and the length of the Ark (as recorded in the Bible) were identical: 6180 inches.

Two...The horizontal curve of the "bow" was on the spiral 6180.

Three...The length of the "first room" was greater than the width of the central "corridor" by a difference of .6180.

Four...The length of the "second room" along the "corridor" was greater than three times the width of the "corridor" by a difference of .6180.

Five...The difference between the position of the main transverse dividing "wall" and the total length of the formation was .6180.

Six...If this principle is applied to our 50 cubits for the width of the Ark (85.83333 feet), then we would expect it to be as wide as 138.87832 feet. A difference between the two of .6180.

The Akyayla object was measured by David Fasold at its widest bulkhead (No.8), at 138 feet.

(a) Thus the measured top surface width of the formation was greater than the biblical width of the Ark by the ratio of .6180. If this formation were, indeed, the Ark, then the curve of the upswept stem and stern were very likely on the same ratio of .6180.

Seven...The biblical height of the Ark was 618.0 inches.

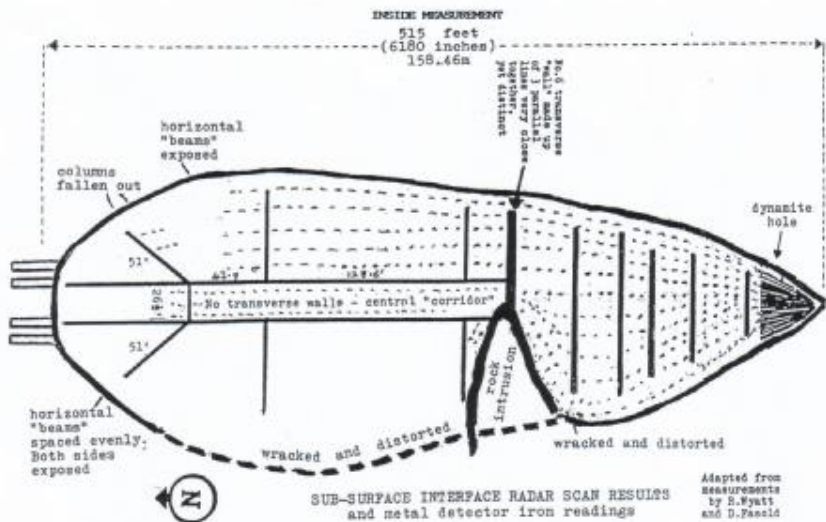
Oh, I must share with you this fascinating piece of trivia:

One experimenter measured sixty-five women and found their navel height, on the average, was .618 times their total height. Divinely proportioned indeed, and a fine symbol of the creation of "like from like".

The book of Genesis tells us bluntly that before initiating the Great Flood the same One who had designed the human body, also specified the Ark's dimensions to Noah.

That .618 factor is common to both. Like a signature?

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## Chapter 9

### THREE ANGRY MEN

“You’re an enemy of reason, of science and of education. So there!”

The Skeptics continued to heckle and interject Dr. Roberts’ lectures so much that sometimes he was unable to finish.

It appears these people had never seen any data from the site, never been there or examined any samples from it, nor spoken to anyone who had done so. And yet they were prepared to shout down any suggestion that the Bible account might be true.

Roberts’ meetings had positively infuriated them. The truth was, evolution was under threat. If the story of the Flood and Noah were true, then the theory of evolution was ALL WET.

On May 14, 1992, I sent an updated report on the boat-shaped object to Professor John Lovering (a copy going to Philip Satchell), with the comment:

*“For years I have argued, as would most persons, that there are many natural boat-shaped formations in the world. It seems logical to dismiss this as no different from the rest.*

*“But could we have been wrong?”*

*“We were wrong about Troy. We were wrong about the griffins guarding the golden treasure of Altai. We were wrong about the “natural” Panecillo hill within the city limits of Quito.*

*“We all make mistakes.”*

Lovering courteously replied that the object was “an eroded syncline within a folded sedimentary rock series., a relatively common geological structure.”

### THE HOUNDS

Roberts’ foes were not so gracious. A concerted smear campaign was mounted against him by the hard-core anti-creationist campaigners associated with Australian Skeptics.

Peter Pockley in the Sydney Morning Herald and Ben Hills in Good Weekend (Melbourne) both wrote disparagingly of Roberts’ project. Hills noted that Ian Plimer was spearheading

a campaign to try to discredit “Noah’s Flood Creationism”. Their “immediate target” was Allen Roberts.

In Weekend Review (Adelaide) noted atheist Philip Adams wrote passionately that “to claim to have found Noah’s Ark is tantamount to announcing that the world is flat.” People who “believe in Noah’s Ark,” said he, “have bats in their belfry.” On one side were all earth’s learned men, the “experts”; on the other side the “gullible” Bible believers, “a growing multitude of dimwits” and “gormless groupies” in need of “psychiatric help.” The idea of a Great Flood was a “looney proposition.”

I combed his article hopefully for some evidence. I’ll say this for him. He seemed to care. (About what I had no idea.) No evidence against the Flood, the Ark, or the Bible. A good clear mind, this fellow, not all cluttered up with facts.

Yes, he did care about Roberts’ qualifications. He suggested they were dubious.

On July 20, Philip Satchell interviewed Adams on a talk-back show. A lady called Freda rang in, addressing herself to Adams:

“Dr. Roberts realises that he’s in the infancy of what he’s discovered, that nothing’s been proven yet. And I’d like to put forth the hypothesis that if what he is hoping he has found is Noah’s Ark, turns out to be this, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO ANSWER THEN?”

If what Dr. Roberts turns out to have discovered IS Noah’s Ark,” replied Adams, “I will write out a cheque for \$100,000 to your favourite charity, madam. But I think the money would be better spent – belatedly - on getting yourself an education. What you’re talking about is rubbish. The reason I’m angry and impatient is because characters like you and the followers of Roberts are involved in blasphemy against thousands of years of slowly won human learning. You try to turn back the clock to medieval ‘gobbledygook’ and superstition. You are dangerous people. I am impatient with you. I have no tolerance for you.”

### ***WHY SO HOT AGAINST IT?***

Talk about emotion! The attack was assuming a religious intensity.

The reason was now clear. Most scientists, you see, were sincere in their quest for knowledge. But, like all of us, they were products of a system which churned out the evolution theory of



origins exclusively. So it was natural that evolutionary assumptions would underlie all their research. We were so brainwashed that we assumed the Bible explanation of origins was sheer idiocy.

Evolutionary theory was now big business. Careers were bound up in it. Ph.D.degrees. Lifetime reputations.

While most theorists were sincere, a few others were unscrupulous, faking evidence, concealing contrary evidence - and had enormously influenced our thinking.

It was taught that the earth's strata with its encased fossils was deposited in a uniform, steady fashion over aeons of time. It was assumed that the uniform action of nature had never been interrupted by catastrophe. But if most of this assumed "evidence for evolution" had been caused by a Great Flood, then the evolution theory was all wet.

The real reason for such high emotions went deeper. This was clarified by Dr. Michael Walker, Senior Lecturer in Anthropology, Sydney University. He acknowledged that "many scientists and technologists pay lip-service to Darwinian theory only because it supposedly excludes a Creator." (Michael Walker, Quadrant, October, 1981, p.44) Unlike the biblical view of origins, the evolution theory held no sway over one's life and what one should do about it.

### ***SOW THE SEED, REAP THE HARVEST***

For generations, school children were taught the biblical absolutes: respect for authority (there is a Creator; we are answerable to a Higher Power) and the value of all men as under the Creator's love. This meant that to murder someone was wrong, to steal was wrong and to be dishonest was wrong.

Then, into the teaching system was introduced the evolutionary philosophy: that man is ultimately alone in a meaningless world. You are only an advanced animal creature. You are subject to your own inclinations. You can decide yourself what's right and wrong. Each individual must come first in his or her thinking. It is survival of the fittest. Claw your way to the top...

This is a monstrous perversion of the truth. It denies the value of both discipline and responsibility. A generation of such philosophy was now showing its fruits.

Take for example, that “man is alone in a meaningless world.” In this purposelessness are rooted dangerous and deadly problems: suicide, promiscuity, chemical abuse, low self esteem, depression and violent behaviour, to name a few.

We’re told that man is “only an advanced animal. Do as you please.” With such thinking, is it any wonder our streets have become unsafe and our homes armed fortresses?

And many churches have been infected by this humanistic nonsense!

No wonder they are so corrupt!

Those who peddle this system in our schools to the sponge-like minds of innocent children are to a large extent responsible for the ills that now plague our society. That is crystal clear.

Our youth have evolution thrust upon them. They are given no choice.

They are being programmed. And in the media it continues - a T.V. induced hypnosis.

Violence and corruption is, therefore, a deliberately created disease.

It is more serious than you think.

### ***A CONSPIRACY?***

In vitriolic language, Philip Adams made his intentions clear: Australian children would NOT be given the opportunity “in classrooms of this country” to hear both sides of the question. He and his fellow evolutionists would fight “to the last drop of sweat on one’s brow” to suppress such an attempt. Their view alone – the evolutionary, anti-creation view would be touted to all our children.

Noah’s Ark believers “are dangerous”, Philip complained. “They deserve to be insulted,” he added with charm.

Apparently, such information as Noah’s Ark really existing, high up in the mountains—if confirmed—was TOO DISTURBING to be allowed to circulate freely. Yes, it was dangerous.

Was there a conspiracy to stop the facts getting out? Perhaps. Certainly there was, on the part of some, a vested interest to ensure that if there were an Ark, it should never be known.

Was I mistaken in sensing that the anti-Ark hysteria, the HATRED welling up against the Ark project, seemed almost supernatural?

Such vocal opposition should be considered beneficial, since it helped to arouse public awareness, curiosity and interest.

It was time to call society back to its lost heritage. And discoveries such as the Ark would demonstrate that the Scriptures could be trusted.

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## **Chapter 10**

### **“IT’S A FAKE”**

A few weeks later I received a disturbing report from a Christian organization, for whose work I had considerable respect. So its claims bothered me a lot.

The unbelief of the Skeptics Association didn’t faze me a bit. They hadn’t even been to the site. But here were Christian researchers who accepted the biblical account of the Great Flood and the Ark of Noah, but who flatly rejected the boat-shaped object. And their reasons seemed compelling.

They wrote that “like all true Bible-believing Christians [we] would be ecstatic at the Ark’s discovery, no matter by whom, nor where on the ‘mountains of Ararat’. Mt Ararat itself has been the focus purely because the only leads seemed to relate to it.” (Prayer News, August, 1992)

### ***“IT’S A PITY HE’S AN AMATEUR”***

“Self-styled archaeologist and explorer Ron Wyatt,” the report went, “is well known for claiming to have found virtually every important biblical artefact known. Wyatt’s alleged ‘finds’ include:

- \* The true site of the crucifixion
- \* The Ark of the Covenant
- \* The true Mount Sinai (with a plaque announcing it as such)
- \* The site of Korah ‘s earthquake
- \* The true site of the Israelites’ Red Sea crossing, also with a marker ‘built by King Solomon’ as a memorial
- \* Chariot wheels from Pharaoh’s drowned army
- \* Noah’s grave
- \* Noah’s house
- \* Mrs Noah’s grave (containing a fortune - her gold and jewellery).

“Much of the ‘evidence’ has been taken at his word, it appears, and/or is in his possession, and not made freely available to doubters.”

One by one, Wyatt’s “Ark” claims were demolished. The writers included one Dr. Andrew Snelling, a geologist. I had felt that

Ron Wyatt could be mistaken in a few minor details concerning his “Ark” site. But now I held in my hands a “bombshell”.

As I studied the report, the most serious allegations seemed to be the following:

### ***THE TURKISH COMMISSION***

The special Turkish Commission set up in conjunction with the Ataturk University at Erzurum, to investigate the site did not conclude it to be a boat, according to Dr. Salih Bayraktutan, a member of the commission. “He was at pains to dissociate himself from almost all of Wyatt’s claims about the site, expressing grave doubts about how some of his ‘evidence’ actually found its way on to the site.”

### ***BAUMGARDNER***

“Dr. John Baumgardner, an internationally respected creation scientist, is featured on the Wyatt video as being cautiously enthusiastic that this might be the Ark. He tells us that he certainly was at the time, having had his curiosity aroused by information supplied by Wyatt. But, after his own detailed investigations, he has completely reversed his opinion.

### ***RIVET***

“A photo has repeatedly been shown of an alleged ‘fossil rivet’ found in a gully near the site.” The list of elements in the object were “consistent with hydrothermally altered basalt, not ‘exotic technology.’

### ***PETRIFIED WOOD***

“Wyatt has claimed there are ‘trainloads’ of petrified wood on the site, in complete contradiction to the findings of all the trained scientists who have explored the site.” His claim “is completely unsubstantiated by expert opinion, laboratory, or microscopic data. When we pointed all this out to Ark Search recently (Ark Search was an Australian group formed by Dr. Allen Roberts to raise funds for further research), their chairman, Ron Edwards, rang Ron Wyatt and urged him to allow the crucial specimen L (apparently found in the presence of witnesses) to be sectioned under safeguards. Wyatt initially refused, but offered other samples for such sectioning, the

origin of which cannot be independently verified. (Photographic assessment and descriptions from eyewitnesses suggest, to us, that L is likely to be basalt, and the alleged 'petrified adhesive' actually calcite veining.)

### ***ANCHOR STONES***

"Large rocks with holes carved near their tops and with crosses carved on them are claimed to be 'anchor stones' from the Ark. Wyatt says on his video they are granite. Ark Search correctly states they are basalt, a volcanic rock type common in the area. The number of crosses on them varies from 3 to 29; the only number of crosses mentioned by Wyatt, not surprisingly, is eight. An expert on Armenian studies identifies them as pagan Armenian stelae with the Armenian crosses, or khatchkars, added in Christian times. According to one reliable Christian source, they are found in an ancient cemetery (for Armenians) some 22 km away. Similar stones with holes are known from within Armenia, much further away.

### ***METAL DETECTOR TESTS***

"Dr. Snelling... has also been able to have face-to-face discussions with highly qualified and respected Christian creationist scientists... who have carried out and documented research at the site.

"Wyatt used a 'crank' device... the so-called 'molecular frequency generator', which produced the regular pattern of 'metallic objects' that has convinced so many! In spite of much pseudo-scientific justification by the manufacturer, the device depends on a pair of hand-held, bent brass rods which tend to cross or separate as one walks along (by simple physical principles possibly reacting to the conscious or unconscious expectations of the user.

### ***RADAR: "NO PATTERN"***

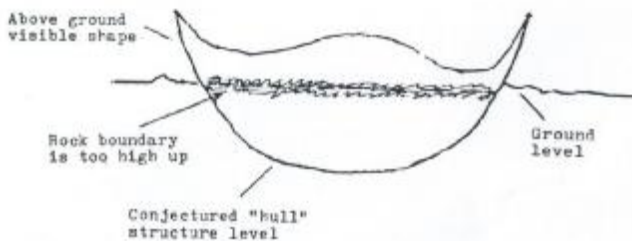
"Ark Search... says... 'evidence gained by using high-tech subsurface equipment has led Tom Fenner of Geophysical Survey Systems Incorporated to designate the formation as a man-made boat also.' Fenner tells us emphatically and writes that this is not true, and that his 1987 radar survey showed no sign of any man-made object.... The detailed research that has been done includes a more extensive survey with subsurface

(ground-penetrating) radar, which reveals that talk of any 'bulkheads', 'keelsons' and the like is not in accordance with the factual data." The use of "proper instrumentation (such as is used by mining companies), magnetic, seismic and metal-detector surveys showed no evidence of any regular pattern that suggested anything man-made."

### **CORE DRILLS**

Tests also included "core drilling down to sample a planar surface shown on radar and alleged to be a 'deck'." Snelling reported that "the drilling intersected basalt at between six and seven metres depth in the northern portion of the boat-shape.... In the southern portion of the boat-shape the drilling intersected a different rock type.... between these two drill-intersected rock types is the fossiliferous limestone outcrop, making the third rock type cutting across the site." (Creation Ex Nihilo, vol.14, no.4, September-November, 1992)

Core drilling intersected "a rock boundary... at a shallow depth in the central portions of the boat shape. Basement rock (was) intersected before the bottom of the conjectured 'hull'-structure was reached." In other words, a "rock formation" crosses the structure too high up to permit the object to be a ship.



### **WHY THE BOAT SHAPE?**

Snelling noted correctly that the boat-shape was situated in a sloping valley in a slowly moving mud flow. In his opinion, "the stable area around which this mudflow material flows is an uplifted rock and erosional remnant of basement rock, including limestone and basalt. Just as water flows around a rock in a river bed, the site has acquired a streamlined shape due to the dynamics of the slowly flowing mud."

(Creation Ex Nihilo, vol.14, no.4, September-November, 1992)

Anyway, it was pointed out, there were other boat-shapes in the region, all natural.

### ***SOMETHING WRONG***

Just a moment... I thought. What is happening here?

It was the radar scans, in particular, that bothered me. There were tests that showed patterns - the same, identical patterns, repeatedly. Then along came others, also with scientific equipment - and their scans showed no such pattern.

Can you see? Clearly, something was wrong, here. Something was profoundly wrong!

I was aware of this organisation's working connection with John Morris. Morris was reported to be violently anti-Wyatt. (According to Ron Wyatt, the Turkish files revealed that Morris had not been on Mount Ararat when he claimed, but in a Dogubayazit hotel, playing cards and drinking. One would assume that Morris, a reported teetotaller, was drinking tea, pepsi or bottled water.) However, I did respect much of this organisation's research. So I pushed that connection out of mind.

More importantly, I was now persuaded that such serious allegations as they had made against Wyatt might well be true. This could not rest. For starters, I decided to examine more closely Ron Wyatt's other claimed "discoveries".

One of these was the Israelites' Red Sea crossing site, long sought by archaeologists without success, but now claimed by Wyatt. There was only one way I could check this claim: take diving lessons and go down to the sea bed myself.



## **Chapter 11**

### **AND THE SEA WILL TELL**

She felt a sudden surge of panic..., and held back. “Go on, Mary Nell. We’ll all be in together,” coaxed Ron.

“No, not yet. I don’t like that water. Something tells me it’s not safe.” “I’ll show you,” said Mark. In a moment there was a splash. Just as quickly, Mark was back, trying to climb on board.

“What’s wrong?” asked Ron. “I think there’s air leaking.” “Go under again; we’ll watch for bubbles.” Mark obeyed... “No it’s not really leaking,” said Ron. “You’re O.K.” Delays. Delays. Anything to stop them getting on with the job. Why must this happen today?

Suddenly there was a shout. “What is it, Mary Nell?” “Look out - a shark!” A hungry looking monster with a white snout was circling. It was the kind that eats people. “Shark! Mark! Quick, get out!”

Then they saw the others... also circling.

“How many are there?” panted Mark as his last leg came up.”

“Just three... ONE FOR EACH OF US.”

When Ron Wyatt, Mary Nell Wyatt and Mark Wynn took two rubber rafts out to sea that day, THEY DID NOT EXPECT COMPANY. “It’s like someone wants to scare us off,” thought Ron. “Or eliminate us.”

If he was not mistaken, they were on to a most sensational discovery THE REMAINS OF PHARAOH’S LOST ARMY ON THE FLOOR OF THE RED SEA.

### ***THE WARNING***

You’ve heard it, of course - that saga of the dramatic escape of an enslaved Hebrew nation from ancient Egypt? The story goes that the Red Sea backed up for them into two walls of water, between which they fled to the opposite shore. Pharaoh’s huge army went down on to the exposed sea bed to pursue them. As soon as the whole Egyptian army was within it, the double wall of sea crashed down and encompassed the Egyptians.

What a plot for an epic film! But... fact? or fable?

These slaves, it seems, were about to be used in a long range global plan. The world had degenerated to a sorry state, if we are to believe the sacred records. The knowledge of original truth was all but lost. So the Creator selected a group of people to be trained as a beacon, a “field of influence”, for mankind. Then He gave spectacular demonstrations, to PROVE that He was APPOINTING that nation to a UNIQUE ROLE IN HISTORY

His first show of might through the Hebrews was in their dramatic deliverance from Egyptian slavery. Egypt was a super-power. The Hebrews were groaning under the slave-master’s whip. The future seemed not to exist, let alone the promise that through them all other nations would be blessed.

Sudden and dramatic came the rescue. First ten plagues fell on Egypt. Pharaoh had been warned what was coming if he did not let Israel go. So the king knew what was involved. First came the frogs and flies and lice, annoyances that did not threaten life. Pharaoh received chance after chance each time being warned of what was coming next, so that he could escape it if he would.

But he let love and compassion harden his heart instead of melt it. He eventually destroyed himself by his own choice.

And the people of Egypt were given every opportunity to accept the message.

Many did just that – and left Egypt with the Hebrews.

### ***EGYPTIAN CHRONOLOGY***

Concerning these plagues, some recent researchers contend, with considerable evidence in support (though this has not yet been accepted by most Egyptologists) that an error in Egyptian chronology, once corrected to the extent of 600-800 years, will yield an Egyptian account of the plagues parallel to that of the Bible.

Immanuel Velikovsky has presented a detailed analysis of two records, the Papyrus Ipuwer and the el-Arish shrine inscription, which appear to be Egyptian versions not merely of a great catastrophe, but of the ten plagues. (I. Velikovsky, *Ages in Chaos*. New York: Doubleday and Company, 1952, pp.25ff)

## ***MIDNIGHT SHOCK***

According to the book of Exodus, the last night the Israelites were in Egypt death struck instantly and took victims from every Egyptian home. The Pass-over of the “angel of death” was at midnight. And “there was a great cry in Egypt.”(Ex. 12:30) The select and the flower of Egypt lay dead.

The Egyptians looked upon the ten rapid-sequence calamities as acts of God and the slaves. “And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.” (Ex.12:33)

And now the Hebrews, whom Pharaoh had refused to let go, were driven out. God had delivered His people - but at what a cost, what needless cost!

The Papyrus Ipuwer clearly describes three consequences of the catastrophe: the population revolted; the wretched and poor men fled; and the Pharaoh perished under unusual circumstances.

## ***PURSUED***

The Bible records that after the Hebrew escape, the Egyptians tried to restore order. They pursued the slaves. The Hebrews found themselves trapped by the sea.

The book of Numbers lists 603,550 Hebrew men. Add to this the women and children, and one could estimate a total of two million.(Num.1:46)

The Jewish historian Flavius Josephus reports that the number of Egyptians that pursued after them was 600 chariots, with 50,000 horsemen and 200,000 footmen, all armed.

“They also seized on the passages by which they imagined the Hebrews might fly, shutting them up between inaccessible precipices and the sea; for there was a ridge of mountains that terminated at the sea which were impassible by reason of their roughness, and obstructed their flight. Wherefore they pressed upon the Hebrews with their army, where the mountains were closed with the sea; which army they placed at the chops of the mountains, so they might deprive them of any passage into the plain.” (Flavius Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews, book 2, chap.15, sec.3)

Between these two walls of water the Hebrews ventured. All night they plodded across the sea bottom, the last stragglers climbing up the opposite shore to safety as the morning light broke.

Then the cloud separating them from their pursuers was removed - and the Egyptians saw their quarry escaping. Fitting on their armour, the soldiers poured onto the seabed after them.

Says Josephus: "...but the Egyptians were not aware that they went into a road made for the Hebrews, and not for others." Soon it began to soften into a slimy bog of mud and the charioteers struggled to free the sinking wheels.

Then, with a heart-chilling roar, a tsunami-like wave thundered back over the Egyptian army.

The monarch and the nation's army were in that place of fearful danger by their own choice. They had destroyed themselves!

In both the Bible and the Egyptian records, the Pharaoh perished in a whirlpool during or after the days of the great darkness and violent hurricane.

### ***AN ARMY VANISHES***

Journalist Rene Noorbergen writes of this event: "It was the greatest single disaster that ever befell a nation, for in one blow the Pharaoh the Egyptian king and commander-in-chief - and the priests who had accompanied the army and its entire elite fighting force had been totally destroyed without the enemy's having suffered a single casualty. Roughly 251,000 men and more than 50,000 horses died that one night on a path through the Red Sea that was probably no wider than a few hundred yards and no more than twelve miles long!" (Rene Noorbergen, *Treasures of the Lost Races*. London, England: W.H. Allen, 1983, p.162)

This disaster to the flower of the Egyptian army and nobility was so overwhelming that Egypt succumbed to looting, disorganisation and anarchy for several years.

There was no longer any royal power. Egypt was largely depopulated. And she was defenceless.

### ***A STRIKING PROPHECY***

A prophecy had been made:

“For this cause I have raised thee [Pharaoh] up, for to show in thee my power. AND THAT MY NAME MAY BE DECLARED THROUGHOUT ALL THE EARTH.”(Ex.9:16)

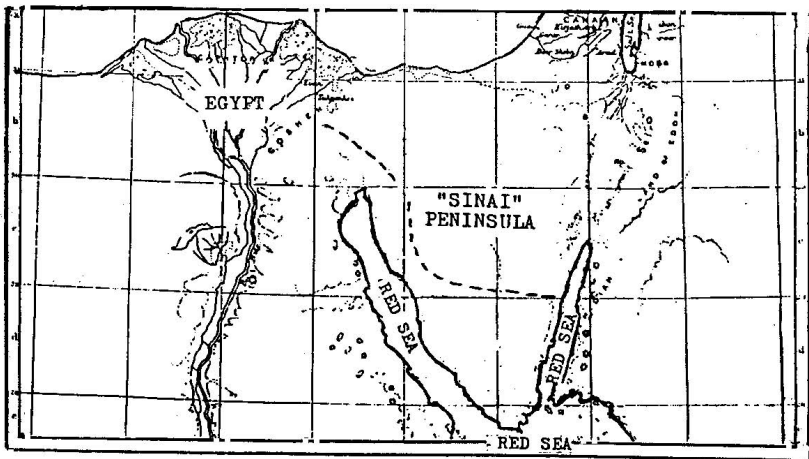
One wonders, indeed, if any event in history, except those connected with Jesus Christ, has been so extensively “declared throughout all the earth,” and for so long, as this description of the deliverance of a people who at that time were minor and insignificant.

It cannot be denied that the news of their exodus from Egypt and the name of their God has been “declared throughout all the earth” - a precise fulfilment of prophecy. Epic films have been made of it; the story has been translated into over a thousand languages.

### ***THE MUMMIES' LAST TRIP***

But the prophecy meant more than this. Pharaoh had been “raised up” for the purpose of showing, by the extent of his fall, the puny and insecure nature of the greatest human power when measured against the power of the Creator.

Moses, motivated by the grand mission for which his God had called him, refused the throne, the wealth and the splendour of the world’s most pompous nation. Today his name is honoured. And the once majestic Pharaohs? Just listen.



#### **Route of the Hebrews' escape from Egypt to the Red Sea**

Early this century, when some mummies were to be shipped down the Nile to Cairo, the contractors were in a dilemma. There was no cargo classification for “royal mummies,” so you

know what they did? The majestic Pharaohs had to travel under the designation, “dried fish”!

“That settles it!” Ron Wyatt turned to his son Danny. “I’m going to the Red Sea to check it Out.”

“But nobody’s ever found their remains, Dad.”

“That’s because they’ve been looking in the wrong place.”

### ***BELIEVING THE CLUES***

Taken together, the Bible and Josephus said that the Hebrews had gone south from Egypt, through the desert, and ended up at the shore of the Red Sea at a place where “the mountains were closed with the sea”; and Pharaoh decided, “They are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in.” (Josephus, book 2, chap.15, sec.3; Ex.14:1-3)

The Egyptians pursued the escapees and took over the adjacent mountain passes. The two million Hebrews found themselves trapped beside the sea.

Where could so many people and their flocks have gathered? After travelling south from Egypt and east through the desert, there is such a place - a beach of tremendous size on the Gulf of Aqaba at Nuweiba - which was in biblical times (and still is) considered part of the Red Sea. (1 Kings 9:26) And the only passage to it is the Wadi Watir, a wide and wild mountain gorge, a natural roadway from Egypt.

Wyatt concluded that the Hebrews went from Egypt, down into the Sinai peninsula, then crossed to the east.

### ***“ENTANGLED”***

It was considered that in order for them to be hemmed in, or “entangled in the land”, they would have to be travelling through an area of wadis (canyons) with high mountains all around, which would seem to hem them in. There is such a system of four interconnecting dry river beds. This wadi system must have appeared like an endless maze to them. Hemmed in to the left and right, they could travel in only one direction - and the only path through that wadi leads to the enormous sized beach.

An escaping horde coming to this point of the Red Sea would be hemmed in by mountains on the west and south and could be annihilated on the beach by the pursuing armies that would

enclose it from the north. Or they could go eastward INTO THE WATER.

Could this be where a pompous king and his priests took a well-equipped army of 251,000 men to their doom?

### ***GRIM DISCOVERY***

And so it was that in winter, 1978, Ron and his sons took their equipment out some two hundred feet from the beach.

The sea bottom was clean. It showed a great number of uneven shapes that had become completely covered with coral.

One had the round shape of a wagon wheel with a hub in the middle. It was crusted over.

Close by was something large and half circular; the front armour section of a chariot, perhaps?

The next day the sea was choppy and a greenish muck had moved in, hindering their view. The algae seemed to extend for miles, so they had to abandon the search for that visit. Easy? Never.

Next time they saw them again.

At depths of 60 feet to 200 feet, they sampled a stretch of about a mile and a half (2.5 kilometers).

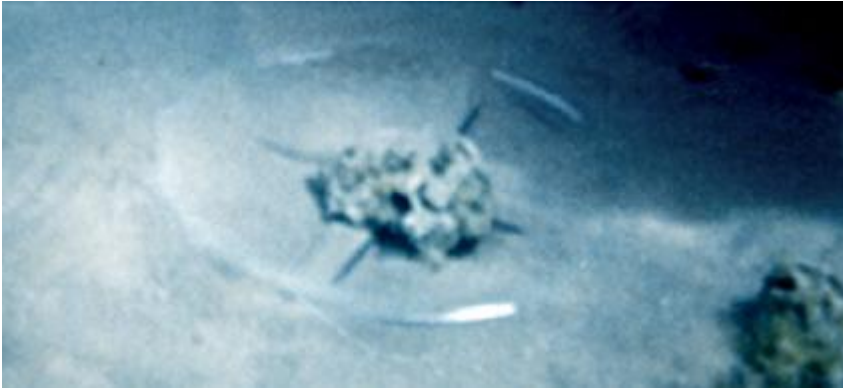
There on the sea floor they lay. Chariot wheels, some overlaid with gold, some iron, some still attached to the axles.

And detached FROM the chariots. Did you know, the Bible actually said that “the Lord took off their chariot wheels”! (Ex.14:25) And there they were now - detached! Such biblical accuracy of detail!

Ron was able to photograph the remains of three chariots on the sea floor.

There were chariot parts that looked like the chariots found in King Tutankhamen’s tomb.

-



In amazement, I stared at footage of a gold-shelled chariot wheel. It was about thirty inches in diameter.

Mary Nell was convinced it had belonged to some important person like a priest, since this was at the Egyptian side of the Red Sea crossing. The priests, who accompanied the army to bring them success, would have followed at the rear.

As my eyes scanned objects on the sea floor, strange shapes were everywhere. I looked closer at one spot. With a catch at my heart, I realized it was a man's hand.

Strewn along the sea bed were human skeletons, bones and skulls. I can assure you I held with my own hands a man's hipbone, a clavicle and parts of skulls. Yes, even a shrivelled horse hoof. It was all too real.





There is no doubt that it all happened exactly as the Scriptures say.

In 1978, on the beach at the site of the Red Sea crossing, Ron Wyatt and his sons found a standing column. It was later moved to its present site, across the road from the beach, and set in concrete.

In 1983, he found a matching column on the opposite shore in Saudi Arabia, with the inscriptions—in Phoenician and archaic Hebrew— still intact. From this second column Ron was able to determine that they were erected by King Solomon to commemorate the “Crossing of the Red Sea.”

### ***NATURAL OR MIRACLE?***

Did the sea really split into two high walls of water? Could the sea really have parted for every Hebrew then drowned every Egyptian, “so that there was not one man left to be a messenger of this calamity to the rest of the Egyptians”? (Josephus, book 2, ch.16, sec.3; Ex.14:28)

Until now, we have been fed only a bundle of changing guesses about the Exodus. As recently as 1982, Harvey Arden wrote in National Geographic:

Hardly a place-name in the Bible's Exodus narrative can be fixed on a map with any certainty... Conjectures about Sinai's... unclear biblical past - whether the route of the Exodus, the location of the "real" Mount Sinai, or the origin of the pillar of fire - must be taken with a few grains - indeed, a dune - of desert sand... I came to Uyun Musa, "springs of Moses," about 15 kilometres from Suez... Again, only speculation...(National Geographic, art.: "Eternal Sinai", April 1982, pp.420-461)

The skeptic roared himself hoarse. "Where are those chariots, dead men and horses, sprawled across the sea bed? Show me," he sneered, "and I'll believe.

Well... baby, it's happened!

Now, at last, discoveries show that the Exodus story tallies with the facts. The artefacts and skeletons are there; they cannot be argued away.

But there's more. Would it surprise you to learn that not in this one spot, but in many places on the opposite shore and inland from it, are other relics, the precise ones we should expect to find, if the Exodus account were true? And they are in the correct order that the story indicates. (We'll find them in the next chapter.)

So the question is no longer, DID this astonishing event happen, but HOW did it happen? Since it was against natural law, then how was it accomplished?

From the air, one may notice that the dark blue of the Gulf of Aqaba is broken by a narrow strip of light blue which cuts across it from shore to shore. On either side the sea floor drops off abruptly to 5,000 feet in depth, but over the bridge itself the sea is somewhat shallower. Here is the site of the crossing. Here are the remains.

Think now. Water 400 stories deep! What else but a miracle could have exposed the bridge, that night?

A miracle is simply the overriding of the laws of nature by a higher law. If such a person as God exists, one who created all laws, then He could do it.

I cannot shake off the feeling that, long before this ever happened, the Creator in His foreknowledge prepared this path through the sea for the event He saw ahead.

The Gulf of Aqaba is part of a geological fault. The land bridge cuts across this fault. In the extremely wet early post-Flood centuries, sand was washed in enormous quantities through the Wadi Watir, into the sea. This sand was washed right across to the opposite shore, to form a bridge 4,000 feet higher than the sea bed.

Referring to this crossing, Isaiah says that the Creator made this “path in the mighty waters” and “divided the (deep) water.”( Isa.43:16, 17; 63:11-13)

I shudder at the thought. If He had divided the waters anywhere else, the fleeing Hebrews would have come and looked down into a sheer drop!

Since the Israelites crossed, a little more sand has been washed in at the western end and covered some of the chariots that were in shallow water.

Oh yes, it happened. The Bible DOES mean what it says. Meanwhile the chronic skeptic holding an ice cream in his hand will still go on cheerfully saying it's a meat pie!

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## **Chapter 12**

### **DISCOVERY IN THE DESERT**

On the morning after the mass drowning, writes Josephus, “Moses gathered together the weapons of the Egyptians which were brought to the camp of the Hebrews by the current of the sea, and the force of the wind assisting it; ...So when he had ordered the Hebrews to arm themselves with them, he led them to Mount Sinai, in order to offer sacrifice to God.” (Josephus, book 2, ch.16, sec.6)

The Exodus account is simple: “...and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. And Israel saw the great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians.” (Ex.14:30-31)

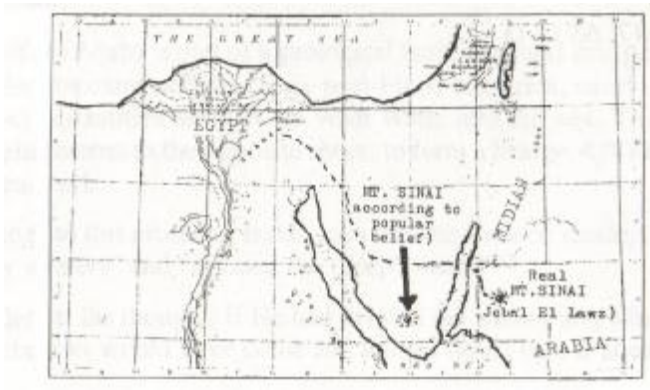
#### ***MAPS FOUND TO BE WRONG***

Ron Wyatt was arched over a map. “If the Hebrews went through the Red Sea here” (he followed with his finger), “then Mount Sinai could not be on the so-called Sinai peninsula, at all!” Of course, some centuries after Christ, a monastery was built on a place the monks asserted was Mount Sinai.

There are many different theories regarding the possible location of the real Mount Sinai. And that is partly because nobody knew for sure where exactly the Hebrews crossed the Red Sea. But with this discovery, it should now be easier.

After they crossed the Red Sea, they went to Mount Sinai. (Ex.19:2)

Look again at any map of the area. The real Mount Sinai would have to be in what is now Saudi Arabia! And to this the Scripture itself bears witness: “mount Sinai in Arabia”! (Gal. 4:25) How could we have missed that for so long?



## ***ORACLES FOR ALL MANKIND***

Now the plan was activated to bond Israel together as a nation in a common trust in God. Organised by Moses at Sinai in a public covenant relationship with God (a unique event in any nation's history), the Hebrews became the recipients of the plan for the Coming One - the coming Deliverer of the human race. They were entrusted with written revelations of the divine purpose.

In a nutshell, it was known that when God created humanity, He entrusted us with the power of choice with independent thought. We chose to cut ourselves off from Him, and death passed upon us. In His love, God set up a plan to save as many of our fallen race as possible. This plan is complete and thorough and overwhelmingly generous. But we have to choose to accept it. His Son was to visit planet Earth, become one of us, then in our place take the death penalty upon Himself. But there were rules by which we must live if we were to be trusted in the coming new world.

At Sinai, the Ten Commandments were formally restated to these liberated slaves. Ten precepts, brief, comprehensive, and authoritative, cover the duty of man to God and to his fellow man, and all based upon the great fundamental principle of love.

They were given specific laws in family relationships, in diet, in dress, in business, in public health and in civil government - guidelines that are still beneficial today.

They were told that these blessings were "for all peoples". (Isa.56:7; Zech.8:20-23) The instructions were not for Israel

alone, but for all nations. Israel was simply the vehicle. They were raised up to be a spiritual beacon.

That's why they would soon be planted on the land bridge between three continents – Africa, Asia and Europe (Ezek. 5:5).

Ron Wyatt went in search of this historic Mount Sinai. And not far from the opposite shore, where the Hebrews emerged from the parted sea, he came upon Jebel El Lawz, a steep, forbidding peak. Ron concluded from the language of the Bible that they had stayed “in” a mountain, enclosed in a mountain. An aerial map showed that this Jebel El Lawz had a large valley enclosed in the rim of an ancient volcano. There was an area of 5,000 acres in there. Was this, indeed, the real Mount Sinai?

The Bible records that God, clothed with majesty of fire, hovered upon the mountain, as He spoke like thunder the Ten Eternal Words (Ex.19:18). Ron surveyed the peak. He gasped, overcome at the sight: the top of the mountain was black and burned.

Again, according to the Bible, Moses was commanded to erect a barrier so that the people would not approach the mountain (Ex.19:12). Wyatt looked down. From the mountain, he could see the fence, running in an arc around the front of the mountain. The boundary markers, when examined close up, were 18 feet in diameter.

Beyond the boundary markers was a huge area, certainly quite large enough to accommodate two million people and their herds. That had to be the camp site!

Only a few days had passed since the Hebrews had stood trembling before the mount, listening to the words of the Lord. While Moses was absent on the mount, it was to Israel a time of waiting and suspense. The people waited eagerly for him to return. Accustomed in Egypt to material representations of deity, it had been hard for them to trust in an invisible being. They had come to rely on Moses to sustain their faith. Now he was taken from them. Week after week passed, and still he did not return. It seemed to many in the camp that their leader had deserted them or that he had been consumed by the devouring fire.

## ***THE GOLDEN CALF***

The masses were determined to wait no longer for Moses. Among the objects regarded by the Egyptians as symbols of deity was the ox or calf. At the suggestion of those who had practiced idolatry in Egypt, a calf was now made and worshipped. They decided this would represent God. The cloud, they said, now rested permanently upon the mount. It would no longer direct their travels. They must have an image in its place.(Ex.32:1-4)

Moses' deputy, Aaron, weakly gave in to their demands. Seeing the satisfaction with which the golden god was received, he built an altar before it and called a feast. (Ex.32:5,6) The occasion degenerated into an orgy.

Upon his return, Moses angrily melted down the golden calf and ground it to powder. (Ex.32:20)

By divine order, the tent that had served as a temporary place of worship was removed "afar off from the camp." (Ex.33:7)

Ron Wyatt went searching. In the valley at the base of the mountain, he found an ancient altar with twelve petroglyphs of the Egyptian bull god, Hathor, inscribed around its sides. Such petroglyphs are found nowhere else in Arabia; they are of the style distinctly Egyptian found in the tombs of Egypt. This indeed had to be the altar where Aaron made the golden calf.

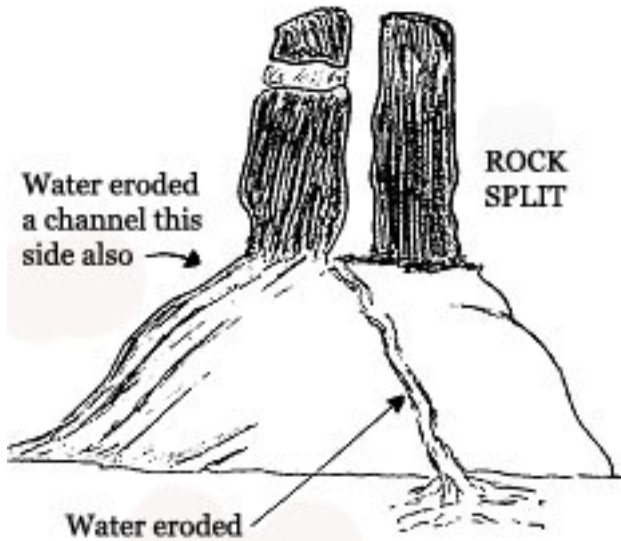
Significantly, there were also very strong readings of the mineral gold registered at this site.

## ***MORE SURPRISES***

Outside the camp, under the mount, was the area of a foundation. Could this be the site to which Moses removed the worship tent after Aaron's golden calf? Adjacent to it was an altar. The Scripture mentions this "altar under the hill". (Ex.20:25; 24:4)

"...and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel." (Ex.24:4) Carefully searching, Ron came upon the remains of these pillars - twelve standing towers of stone, each eighteen feet in diameter.

Surprise upon surprise! Could this all be real? Every minor detail of the Scripture account was coming alive! The Bible was literally true. Skeptics... what now?



There was more to come. Still surviving - the remains of a twelve columned, white marbled shrine, dedicated to the “Mountain of God” (Yahweh).

Still visible was the bed of the large stream that, in this desert, flowed from the mountain to water the camp.

The Bible says of the manna upon which the Hebrews fed, that they “ground it in mills.” (Num.11:8) If this was the site of the Hebrew camp, one might expect remains of artefacts to be found here. A portion of a grinding stone was found.

Fortunately the remoteness and the desert conditions had preserved these remains, just where they were left 3,500 years ago.

### ***WATER FROM A ROCK!***

From Mount Sinai, we backtrack toward the sea... and find ourselves in a place which fits the description of Rephidim.

It was here, in the desert, that, according to the book of Exodus, the Lord descended upon a rock, and out came living water. (Ex.17:6) Moses was told to use his rod - the same rod at which the Red Sea parted and to strike the rock. Was the rock also to be parted?

Here stands the most amazing monument on this planet!

In the midst of the plain rises a mound, 110 feet (34 meters) in height. Atop this mound towers a great rock, for a further fifty



feet., for a total height equivalent to a 16 storey building. This giant boulder is split down the middle.

The remarkable thing is this: There is a water erosion channel coming from the TOP of the mound! It shows that large amounts of water once descended from the top of this 110 feet mound - out of the rock!

As one walks through the split in the rock, one can see the channel worn in the rock from the water flow. And it runs from the rock, down opposite sides of the mound! The channels continue out on to the plain, where the Hebrews must have camped.



Then, says the Scripture, “Moses built an altar.” (Ex.17:15) That altar is still there.

Also to be seen are the remains of some stone dwelling enclosures of the Israelites.

Now anyone can claim that a spring comes out of the ground. BUT... to come out one hundred and ten feet above the ground, out of a desert rock - that’s what one could call a miracle!

Certain experiences in one’s life tower above the rest. Such was this. When I saw this evidence with my own eyes, I was stunned.

### ***WHY SUCH MIRACLES FOR ISRAEL?***

All of God’s acts, though “supernatural” to us, are perfectly natural to His nature and power. Even when supernatural events find explanation in the framework of understood natural phenomena, does that lessen the divine, miraculous wisdom behind them?

There was a reason for the spectacular demonstrations witnessed during Israel’s establishment.

Long had they been oppressed by slavery. God cared for them tenderly, supplied their every need, protected them from enemies and illness. And He worked spectacular miracles, time after time, **TO SHOW THAT THEY COULD TRUST HIM.**

Time and again they were led into situations from which there appeared no way out.

As when death took the flower of Egypt, including the son of Pharaoh, in one night - and Israel, spared, was suddenly freed from slavery.

As when the Red Sea was parted for their escape, and then the angry waters rolled back upon the Egyptian army.

Israel, after this, was not a nation unacquainted with God. Move by move, she was acquiring an incomparable heritage.

God gave these spectacular demonstrations **TO PROVE** that He was **APPOINTING** that nation to a **UNIQUE ROLE IN HISTORY.** And other nations saw it too.

It was through **THIS** nation that the world's promised Deliverer was to enter the human race. He worked miracles for this nation, **SO THAT THE WORLD WOULD FOCUS ON IT, AND ON THE DELIVERER WHO WAS TO COME THROUGH IT.**

### ***WORLDS BIGGEST LIAR?***

And what has all this to do with the Noah's Ark discovery?

Our reason for this detour through the Red Sea and Saudi Arabia was to settle a vexing question. I had been troubled by Ron Wyatt's **HUGE** claims. My natural skepticism had the better of me. It had to be faced: this man was either the biggest liar on earth, or he had made several of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time.

Well, I have now led an expedition down to the floor of the Red Sea. Yes, the remains are there. And James Irwin's team, High flight, of Dallas, Texas, has (after many tries at getting permission) gone into the Saudi Arabian desert and photographed all the remains Ron claimed to have found there.

This detour to the Red Sea and Saudi Arabia was important. As I weighed the evidence (and, importantly, assessed the man himself), there was in my mind no longer any doubt that this man was telling the truth. Ron Wyatt had made some significant discoveries never before recognised by anyone.

But there still remained those serious objections against Wyatt's so-called "Ark" site. I got ready for the "attack".

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## **Chapter 13**

### **THOSE AWKWARD QUESTIONS**

“There’s no doubt this is the Ark. I’ll stake my eternal life on it!”

I looked at him. He really, truly means it, I thought.

Ron kept his eye on the road. We were Memphis bound. A ten hour trip, it was - plenty of time to interrogate him. “Ask anything you like,” he urged.

Mary Nell, I could see, was also ready to respond. They were in this together and deeply committed. That was obvious.

“Have you seen the article in *Creation Ex Nihilo* (Sept.-Nov. 1992) debunking your research?” I queried.

Mary Nell was quick to respond. “Yes,” she said. “The article in question contained a massive amount of wrong information.”

“They complain you’re unwilling to reveal all.”

“I’ll state up front,” replied Ron, “that we are not ready to release all of our evidence on Noah’s Ark. This will be done when we are completely finished with our research. It has been our experience that if we release our information ‘piece-meal’, the critics have time to find ways to ‘explain away’ each evidence, even though the rationale behind these explanations is not realistic. Therefore, we are withholding the bulk of our research until we are completely finished.”

“You understand,” said Mary Nell, “we will not be bullied into revealing all of our research until we are finished with our work.

“Prior to that article we had lots of phone calls from Australia trying to get us to reveal certain evidences. We suspect that our refusal was one of the reasons for that article.”

#### ***OTHER SIMILAR BOAT SHAPES?***

Jonathan Gray: Are there not other boat-shaped formations in the area, which are purely natural? I’ll quote from that article (p.27), in reference to the original 1950’s photographs of the Ark site taken during the NATO survey of the area:

“However, this particular boat-shape is far from unique. The Turkish Air Force released another photograph (see page 32) several years ago showing three similar boat-shapes in the mudflow material on the footslopes of nearby Lesser Mount Ararat.”

Ron Wyatt: There are other natural formations which have a superficially similar shape, but these do not have the special characteristics of this site.

In the presence of Turkish authorities and other observers, I performed an electronic survey of a site that some critics said resembled the boat formation. (The similarities were vague... non-existent.) The metal detectors and subsurface radar scans showed nothing in the site that was not present anywhere in the area.

Mary Nell Wyatt: In the NATO surveys of this area of Turkey, which were done in the 1950's, every inch of this section of eastern Turkey was photographed by high-altitude aircraft. The region was within 20 miles of the Russian border and a Soviet missile base. These photographs were taken so that it could later be determined if missiles had been moved into the area by comparing current photos with the earlier ones. Suffice it to say, every inch of ground was thoroughly photographed and documented, especially the remote areas of Greater and Lesser Ararat, which could provide excellent hiding places.

When the photograph that showed the "boat-like" shape was noticed, Dr. Arthur Brandenberger, the world's leading authority on stereo planography, said:

"I have no doubt at all that the object is a ship. In my entire career I have never seen an object like this in a stereo photo."

Had there been any other formations even remotely similar in shape, these would have been detected in these surveys, which were very carefully examined.

Careful examination of the photo presented in the article will show that it has been touched up. Especially notice the one in the bottom left section. [You can find this Turkish Air Force photo back in Chapter 10, in the form in which Creation Ex Nihilo reproduced it.]

But to further respond to this allegation of other similar boat-shapes in the area, part of the research done by Ron Wyatt and his associates was a careful examination of other areas which had a superficially similar appearance. Between August 20 and 27 of 1985, Christian Broadcast Network did a series of daily broadcasts on the work on the site. This was at the same time that ABC's "20/20" did their filming. These broadcasts were initiated by Dr. John Baumgardner, a geophysicist with Los

Alamos National Laboratories in New Mexico and centered on interviews with him, on the work he was participating in with Ron and David Fasold at that time in investigating the “boat-shaped’ object.

In one newscast they report:

“...Using a metal detector, Baumgardner has been able to confirm the existence of metal at regular intervals.”

In a live interview on the same program, from Ankara, Turkey, Dr. Baumgardner stated:

“We feel the formation is quite unique. There’s several formations that have a superficially similar shape and we’ve investigated several of them. And they, uh, as we investigate them, we find they do not have the special characteristics we find in the site we’ve been focusing on.”

So here, on nationwide television, Dr. Baumgardner clearly states that the site he, Ron, David and the others in the team were working on was unique.

### ***METAL READINGS: RANDOM, NOT REGULAR?***

**JG:** The article states as fact that the metal readings were random, not regularly spaced:

“Using a standard beachcombing type metal detector (the type with a disc shaped detector head on the end of a long pole) ‘hotspots’ were indeed found, but these were randomly distributed and not in a regular pattern along lines.”

**MNW:**In the CBN interviews I have just referred to, the statement is made by the newscaster:

“...Using a metal detector, Baumgardner has been able to confirm the existence of metal at regular intervals”. [Mary Nell passed me a newspaper article, Noah’s Ark found? ] See, the reporter writes of a speech John Baumgardner gave at Los Alamos National Labs:

“Showing aerial slides which showed a striking boat-like shape, Baumgardner noted the Americans found an organized pattern of metal at the 6,300 foot elevation site with the aid of metal detectors.

‘For me, it was quite an amazing discovery to find the pattern of metal.’ he continued.”

A video tape of the 1985-6 field expeditions of Ron, David Fasold and John Baumgardner can be obtained from David Fasold, showing John Baumgardner himself using the metal detector and proving the regularity of the “hotspots”.

### ***METAL DETECTOR “A DIVINING ROD”?***

**JG:** You are accused of using a “crank” device to obtain the iron patterns over the boat-shaped object.(p.29) The writer claims that the molecular frequency generator is nothing but a “divining rod”:

“Qualified scientists have been independently consulted about this gadget, which is generally advertised in treasure-hunting magazines, not scientific journals. They are unanimous that there are no scientific principles employed. Indeed, two of these scientists built and tested working models. The results of this technique can hardly be considered trustworthy, that brass welding rods being used in essence as divining rods, similar to the use of a forked stick to search for water.”

Are the readings based entirely on that molecular frequency generator?

**RW:** We have used three types of metal detectors: - Pulse induction - Ferromagnetic - Molecular frequency generator. And also we have used a single antenna radar scanner. So even if you want to delete No. 3, the others give the same identical patterns.

**MNW:** In 1988, Ray Brubaker, of God’s News Behind the News in St. Petersburg, Florida, asked an electrical engineer to research Ron’s claims. This independent, non-biased research on the part of Terry Johnson of Tampa, FL, included research on the molecular frequency generator.

Here’s the report and it explains in layman’s terms. [She handed me the report, which I have published in my book Discoveries: Questions Answered, pages 84-86.]

Also, notice that the Ex Nihilo article condemning this gives no names of the scientists who supposedly built and tested these devices.

Also, Joe Walker, of Nashville, TN. used the molecular frequency generator to help the police department locate the body of a boy drowned in a lake. [I was also presented with a copy of this, which is reproduced in the same book, page 82.]

This instrument is not “divining” but works on very solid scientific principles. Many scientists, archaeologists, engineers, etc. use them.

The molecular frequency generator we use is manufactured by Cochran and Associates of Bowling Green, Ky. and costs \$6,500.00 -quite a high price for a “divining rod”.

The location of metal on the site with the molecular frequency generator was identical to those located by ferromagnetic and pulse induction detectors, as well as the subsurface interface radar.

### ***COMPLETE RADAR SCANS NEVER DONE BY RON WYATT?***

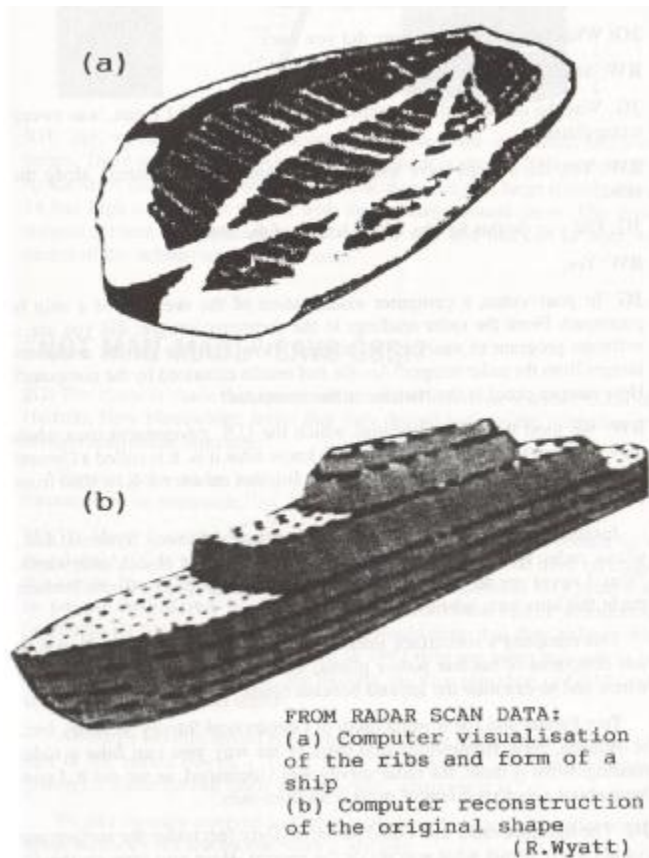
**JG:** Claims are made that the radar data is not accurate and that a scan of the entire structure never took place. They claim that the 1986 scans were incomplete and more were never done:

“...so the planned follow-up work to scan the whole formation never came to pass, at least not at the hands of Wyatt and Fasold, from all published accounts.”( p. 29)

**MNW:** Again, let me stress that this author never had access to any of our research. He only received second hand reports from various people. We are still holding our “aces in the hold” until we are finished, but to prove that other scans were done, we have attached for you a copy of one of Ron’s radar permits from 1987 [I was given opportunity to examine this permit.] This is positive proof that there were scans that these people have no idea about.

-





And there were numerous scans, not just one. Also attached is a copy of Ron's certificate of training on the GSSI radar equipment [I was able to authenticate this, also.]

**JG:** What type of radar scanner did you use?

**RW:** 51R3 subsurface radar scanner.

**JG:** Was the radar used in sweeps in three directions? I mean, was sweep triangulated?

**RW:** Yes, the sweeps were longitudinal, transverse and lateral, along the sides.

**JG:** Did you do this for the whole length of the object?

**RW:** Yes.

**JG:** In your video, a computer visualisation of the skeleton of a ship is portrayed. From the radar readings to the computer images: did you use a software program to analyse the images? How did you get the computer images from the radar images?

Are the end results enhanced by the computer? How tamper-proof is the transfer to the computer?

**RW:** We used the same technique which the U.S. government uses when they see a satellite image and they don't know what it is. It is called a Ground Truth unit, which verifies beyond doubt. It is not enhanced. Raw data from the scan.

Joseph Rosetta, vice-president of Geophysical Survey Systems, Inc., whose radar system we used, said of the boat-shaped object, afterwards, "You'd never see anything like that in natural geography.... Some humans made this structure, whatever it is."

("Science/ Technology" promotion in Sunday Telegraph (N.H.), August 3, 1986)

This company's subsurface interface radar system is used worldwide to test structures of nuclear power plants, to locate buried pipes, cables and wires, and to examine the ground beneath roads.

Tom Fenner and Joe Rosetta (both of Geophysical Survey Systems, Inc., of Hudson, New Hampshire) said there is no way you can fake a radar reading. What is more, the radar survey was videotaped, as we did it. I now have about a thousand feet of radar scan print-outs.

**JG:** The interface radar unit, I understand, could penetrate forty feet under the surface and could clearly depict what was inside the mound. Have you seen anything?

**RW:** Yes, we have seen walls, cavities, a door near the south end, and also ramps. There are chambers. Along the keel, there is timber 20 feet through. At the same end as the door, near the bow, there are two large round tanks, 14 feet high and 24 feet across, with metal bands around them. The deck support timbers are intact along the western side and this can be seen by means of the subsurface interface radar.

### ***"NOT MAN-MADE" SAYS GSSI?***

**JG:** The claim is made that the manufacturer of the radar scanner, GSSI of Hudson, New Hampshire, states that they do not believe the formation to contain man-made structure:

"Fenner goes on to indicate that neither he nor GSSI believes the formation to be manmade."(p. 30)

**MNW:** Here, Jonathan, is an article entitled, “*Archaeologist certain he’s found the Ark*”. It’s dated August 3, 1986. Now, in 1992, we have received this article from GSSI in their information packet which they send out to people interested in the subsurface interface radar scanners. [Discoveries: Questions Answered, page 125] It’s rather strange that they would deny that they believe this to contain man-made structure, when in 1992 they are using this article in their advertising. In the article, Joe Rosetta, the vice-president of GSSI (and also Tom Fenner’s boss) states:

*“Although Rosetta would not reveal his opinion about Wyatt’s claim, he said of the buried object, - You’d never see anything like that in natural geology... Some human made this structure, whatever it is.”*

We also recently received another advertisement on the GSSI radar which again mentions its use on the Noah’s Ark site:

“GSSI systems have travelled to Egypt to search for underground tombs 4,000 years old, to Turkey to locate the true resting place of Noah’s Ark, and to the Arabian peninsula to find the site of an ancient city that was a spice-trading center.” [Ibid., page 126]

Joe Rosetta also appeared on the Hudson NH television channel 9 in an interview in which he states, while displaying the actual scan from the Ark, which we show in our presentations:

“This data is not, does not represent natural geology - it’s a man-made structure. These reflections are occurring very periodic, too periodic to be random natural-type interfaces.”

We do not ask nor expect GSSI, nor any other research facility, to conclude that the evidence proves it to be Noah’s Ark - we simply state their conclusions as to what the tests or evidence represent, such as the fact that the radar scans definitely show man-made structure. When Joe Rosetta viewed the data, he was shown the video of the scan in progress on the boat. So he, as well as Tom Fenner, not only saw the results of the scans, but also the work in progress with the scan results being printed as the scan took place. When Ron went to GSSI, he videoed the entire process of their interpreting the scan results, and we have that video in our possession.

## ***THE DECK TIMBER NOT PROVEN?***

**JG:** Why do you say there is petrified wood when others say no?

**RW:** Well, the Ark became buried in mud and sand, which by a process of siliconization, petrified the giant ship and preserved its shape.

**JG:** But they say that what you claim to be wood has no growth rings.

**RW:** These same scientists fail to recognise the fact that pre-Flood vegetation had no seasonal growth rings.

So these men, upon observance of the structural remains that appear on the boat-shaped object at regular intervals, declared them to be rocks! Now, if we truly believe the biblical description of the earth before the Flood, we know that there couldn't possibly be any growth rings in pre-Flood wood. The Bible says there was no rain [Gen.2:5,6], that a mist went up and watered the whole face of the earth. Are not growth rings the result of a variance in water supply and seasonal temperature changes in trees and other vegetation?

**RW:** I'll quote Baxter, in the publications of the transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science. He said this:

"It has been shown that a lack of annual rings is characteristic of wood of all Carboniferous plants the world over." [Excerpt from a presentation to the Association of Geological and Earth Sciences at Oxford University, U.K., by John Mackay, Creation Research Director. (Excerpt from his video of that talk)]

And notice this. [He passed me a statement from an encyclopedia referring to ancient sigillarias found without any growth rings.] "To support trunks of six-foot base diameter and 60 to 100 foot height, tissues must have increased in thickness from year to year. There was, as we have already said, secondary bark and wood, similar to that of modern trees but lacking the spring and winter rings which correspond to seasonal alternation of moisture and dryness." [The Larousse Encyclopedia of the Earth.. London: The Hamlyn Publishing Group Limited, revised ed. 1972, p.369]

I tell you, if growth rings were found in the wood of the Ark, it would be a fake or a replica.

**JG:** Your opponents say that you will not subject your “wood” sample to scientific scrutiny.(p.31)

**RW:** Just look at the specimen. It’s behind the seat. See where a section has been cut off the corner of this piece of deck timber? Thin sections have been cut for microscopic examination.

We have extensive testing done on this sample, most of which will remain confidential until we are finished working. However, we can positively prove that the lab tests prove it to contain organic carbon, and that it has been examined by thin section under electron microscope.

**JG:** You say this is laminated deck timber. You know your opponents are saying that the “adhesive” between each layer may be only calcite veining.(p.31)

**RW:** Take a look at that sample again. Look, the excess of the cementing substance was squeezed out the end of the plank, hardened, and remained fossilised. Where the cut was made, you can see how thin and even it is inside between each layer of board. It was squeezed and ran down to appear wider only on the outside. It’s an adhesive. And it’s laminated wood. That’s for sure.



**MNW:** The lab test [Discoveries: Questions Answered, page 100], from Galbraith labs, shows testing for total carbon, which includes both organic and inorganic, and then testing for only inorganic. The presence of organic carbon is proven by subtracting the total of

inorganic carbon from the total carbon. The result is the amount of organic carbon. This test, which is only one of the numerous testing done on this deck timber, shows that there was .7019% organic carbon in the timber. The presence of any organic carbon proves the object was not a rock, but does contain once-living matter. (.7100% total carbon less .0081% inorganic carbon = .7019% organic carbon)

The timber was taken to Teledyne-Allvac labs where it was examined by electron microscope in 1992. I personally videoed the entire process, including the entire process with the electron microscope filming the screens as they were viewed. These folks will just have to wait to learn about these evidences at the same time everyone else does. We have all of these results filed along with photographs of the thin sections, etc. We also have a very large number of witnesses as well, as Richard Rives of Matthews, NC accompanied us, and numerous personnel of Teledyne witnessed the work and are all on video.

See this? A photo of one of the electron microscope scans. [Ibid., page 103] Jonathan, the complete data on all the tests on this deck timber will be released just as soon as we finish work.

**JG:** Do you have any idea what type of wood it is?

**RW:** The latest test has confirmed that the two outer layers are of cypress; the inner layer is, as yet, unidentified.

### ***TURKS FOUND NO METAL OBJECTS?***

**MNW:** It is claimed that Ron lied about Turks finding metal objects — 4 foot long metal rods—in the site.

**JG:** Yes, I read that:

*“As for the report of the Turkish archaeologists finding eight pairs of long forked metal rods, etc, the only source of that story is Wyatt himself.”* (p. 33)

**MNW:** Well, in the article referred to earlier regarding the John Baumgardner report at Los Alamos Labs, it is stated:

*“Since the American team’s August visit the Turkish government has sent an archaeological group to the site and recovered four-foot-long iron spikes, petrified wood and other metal objects, Baumgardner said.”* [Discoveries:Questions Answered, page 94]

As a scientist, he isn’t going to report to Los Alamos Labs

something he doesn't know to be fact.

### ***RON WYATT PLANTED ARTEFACTS?***

**JG:** Several claims are made that Dr. Bayraktutan, a member of the Noah's Ark Commission in Turkey, does not support Ron's claims. They even state that he accuses Ron of "pIanting" artefacts on the site:

"...not only most emphatically does not support this and other claims, but is at pains to dissociate himself from almost all of Wyatt's claims about the site, expressing grave doubts about how much of Wyatt's 'evidence' actually found its way on to the site."( p . 33)

**MNW:** In late July this year (1992), I personally was with Ron when he met with Dr. Bayraktutan in Erzurum, Turkey, in the dining room of the Oral Hotel. I witnessed the entire conversation and personally asked him questions about certain things. He expressed concern about the people in Australia and was relieved to discover that Ron was not working with them.

He also told us that 2 individuals had done a core drill in 1988 and still owed the Turkish government quite a large amount of money resulting from the cost of building a road to take the core drill equipment onto the site, plus the cost of the equipment. The last statement he made as we stood up to walk out was, *"We are still 100% sure it is the Ark - don't worry."*

Salih Bayraktutan is on the Noah's Ark Commission, but he isn't the head of it. Ron deals directly with the various ministries in Ankara.

As to the accusation that Ron's samples "made their way on to the site", we have a signed statement from witnesses who were present when Ron found the fossilized rivet. [Discoveries: Questions Answered, page 116]

I, myself, found the animal hairs; Greg Brewer found the antler; Dr. Nathan Meyers found one of the chunks of ballast - none of these were found secretly - all were in the presence of numerous people.

The author of this magazine article has never met Ron. He has never had access to our research except through what he could learn from other people.

## ***RIVET IS JUST BASALT?***

**JG:** It is claimed, Ron, that the fossilised “rivet” you found, is only basalt, and they suggest the same for a lot of other things, as well. (p.32)

**MNW:** I’ll answer that, Jonathan. Again, as we said earlier, there are some things which we just are not going to release. However, in order to vindicate the attack on the rivet, here is part of a lab report from Teledyne-Ailvac. [Discoveries: Questions Answered, page 91]

The report includes a paragraph which is extremely important - I have blacked out names and addresses of the lab because we cannot allow them to be harassed by inquisitive phone calls. Any questions relating to the work done at this lab will be answered when we release our data. As mentioned earlier, I personally videoed all work in progress, including their taking the samples to be tested, etc.

This paragraph mentioned as being quite important is the last one of the attached report from Teledyne-Ailvac. It is actually at the top of page 2, but I placed it so as to reflect the lab’s letterhead. This paragraph reads:

“It is interesting to note that location 1 (presumably fossilized timber members) was found to contain much higher carbon (-1.9%) than location 2 (presumably fossilized metal).”

The significance of this is: one sample was taken of the actual metal rivet. This section was tested twice and showed carbon content of .14% and .13%. Then, a mere centimeter away, a sample was taken of the area around the metal impression. This showed carbon content





of 1.88% and 1.97% in the two tests done on it. This shows that within a centimeter, we have an area that contains almost 15 times more carbon as 1 centimeter adjacent to it! Whether these folks want to admit it or not, this is as positive evidence as you can get that this fossilized object - whatever it is, even if a person wants to reject it being a rivet - this is evidence that it is 2 distinct structures. One with minute amounts of carbon in it, while right next to it, an object with 15 times more carbon in it - enough to have been once living matter.

Much more evidence on this rivet will be revealed only after Ron is completely through with his research, including the presence of organic carbon, which is not present in basalt.

Again, the author of the Ex Nihilo article has never seen the rivet.

### ***THE “ANCHOR STONES” MADE BY ARMENIANS?***

**JG:** It is asserted that the “anchor stones” are not really anchor stones, but that they were made by Armenians, etc. It is claimed that there is evidence that these once had other inscriptions on them beside the crosses, and that these pagan inscriptions were removed at a later date and replaced by Christian crosses. They also claim these are again, basalt.

“This is no mere conjecture, as those who have examined these stelae report that there is evidence of an earlier defacement.” (p. 34)

**MNW:** The most interesting thing about this report is that they mention numerous times people and scientists who have “examined” this and that, but no names are ever given. Not too many people have actually seen them. Many of them, no one has seen but Ron because he is the only person who knows where they are. The article produces no photos showing any signs of “earlier defacement”. We have hundreds of close-up photos and video of all of these anchor stones, and none of them show any sign of earlier defacement.

We also have video where, in 1988, we applied ultraviolet paint to these stones in order to be able to photograph cracks in the stones which would not be visible to the naked eye. We contacted Kodak in Rochester NY who sent us complete information on the procedure. We purchased a special light for viewing the stones with the ultraviolet sensitive liquid on the

stones. This procedure is used, for example, by Egyptologists who are checking for earlier inscriptions on ancient Egyptian monuments. The liquid seeps into microscopic cracks, which are revealed when the ultraviolet light is shone on the surface.

Now, again, I personally applied the liquid during the daylight. We returned to the sites in the dead of night where we examined these, photographed them and videoed them. There is positively no evidence for any earlier defacement on any of these stones that any of us have seen.

**RW:** Near Kazan, I recently found two more anchor stones, which are just now beginning to surface as the mud erodes - and they have no crosses or other carvings on them. But they do have the same unusual holes at the top. These were apparently covered by mud soon after the Flood.

**MNW:** We will give you a photograph of one of the anchor stones Ron found which is still partially buried in the earth and is just now becoming visible [Discoveries: Questions Answered, page 78]. Apparently it was buried in the mud when it was dropped. Only now is the earth eroding away from it enough for it to become visible. We have 3 of these documented and none of them have crosses carved on them, yet they all have the hole at the top. This disproves the old theory that the Armenians made them and carved the inscriptions on them at the time they made them.

**JG:** It is claimed that Soviet Armenia is loaded with stones like this, with holes in them.

**RW:** Those who say that can not have been to Soviet Armenia. Levon Azarian has made a lifetime study of the stone Khatchkars of Soviet Armenia. Not one has ever been found with a hole pierced through its top. And David Fasold will agree with that.[David Fasold, The Discovery of Noah's Ark, pages 167-168]

But marine archaeologists are plucking anchor stones of the same type as these near the Ark site from ancient harbours and shipwrecks. Tell them that what they're finding is Armenian tombstones!

**MNW:** The writer of this article and his cohorts must have made an awful lot of enquiries until they could find someone who would provide them with a story that these anchors are common. So far, we have not been able to find any record of

anything like them anywhere else. And the Turks ought to know! The crosses carved on them are of 2 styles - Byzantine and Crusader. This shows that these people identified the stones with holes in them with 8 people. The upright stone in the village of Kazan has more than 8 crosses on it. Close examination of these do show that many of these were put on at a later date for the algae is not growing on these later crosses as it does in the original crosses.



**The author beside one of the drogue stones**

As to the type of rock that these are made of, since we can't bring one home, we can't prove the type they are made of any more than can the unnamed persons who "examined these" in the report. We will document the taking of a small sample of one of them so that there will be no doubt as to the validity of the sample when it is verified by scientific testing.

**JG:** It's claimed that the holes were cut in the top to drag the stones to their present location. So I have heard one person say.

**RW:** Well, Jonathan, let me say that, for a start, they're far too heavy to have been carried up to the mountain peaks they were found resting on. The location and size of the holes are such that out of water the holes would break right off under the weight of the stones. By the very location of the hole it can be seen that it was to be supported by a medium heavier than air. Only in the buoyancy of water could they be held by ropes.

Now, my friend, notice this. The holes have a larger inner diameter than outer. It appears they threaded a knotted rope or

cable in through the 7 inch hole toward the 5 inch aperture. This would leave the knot in the 9 inch interior space. It could not come out through the 5 inch diameter, so it would catch in there. Then, in the water, the knot would swell and hold tight, thus preventing chafing. Pretty clever, if you ask me.

**JG:** Do you believe the stones today lie near the same spot as when they were released from the Ark?

**RW:** That appears to be so. The Ark's entry into this area is clearly defined by the positions of the stones. As the Ark came progressively into shallower water, it is probable that these stones were progressively "lost" on purpose. Apparently as the Ark drifted, the first two anchors snagged on two submerged peaks, where, each in turn, they were cut loose and lie today, a short distance apart. Further east, in a gentle arc to the south, as the boat made a direct line through these mountains, toward its final resting place, more anchors were cut loose. Kazan, the village where five of these are located, is in a direct line with the twin peaks where the first two dropped. Two more are buried in this direct line. Then about eight miles further, about a quarter mile below the boat, lies the tenth one.

### ***BALLAST: NOT SLAG, BUT MANGANESE NODULES?***

**JG:** The claim is made that the manganese samples have never been examined by thin section:

*"However, no microscope thin section has been produced to show whether the samples collected and claimed to be slag do in fact have the internal texture and mineral composition of a true slag."*( p. 33)

**MNW:**In fact this certainly has been done. We have in our possession photos and lab analyses which John Baumgardner had done at Los Alamos of numerous samples. One of these samples was of the ballast material. In his own handwriting, Dr. Baumgardner wrote on the report: "tailing of aluminum alloid production" and signed it "John Baumgardner, Los Alamos." He sent these reports to Ron and we have them on file. [See Discoveries:Questions Answered, pages 109-110]. The writing is faint on the copy I have attached to this response, but can be made out on our original.

**JG:** John Morris, your opponent who has sought the Ark somewhere else, suggests that what you call ballast here could

well be manganese nodules, such as are found on the floor of the Pacific Ocean.

**MNW:** This can be easily disproved. First of all, these aren't on the Pacific floor! In one of our analyses, we have an 84% manganese content and in another, 87%. From the Encyclopaedia Britannica (1985 edition, art. "Oceans and Sea", p.503) you can see that manganese nodules are normally about 35% manganese, with high concentrations being 50%. Also, these found on the ocean floor contain significant amounts of copper (2.5%). Our sample contains less than .03% copper.

**JG:** He says this boat-shape is mud that has welled up from an old sea.

**RW:** If that was so, the manganese nodules would average slightly less than 2 inches in diameter. But this site is so very different. The most significant evidence is the size. Our sample is 7 inches by 10 inches with a depth of about 2½ to 3 inches.

### ***TURKEY NEVER ACKNOWLEDGED THE SITE?***

**JG:** Claims are made that no Turkish announcement has been made about Noah's Ark.(p.35)

**MNW:** I have here a copy of the Turkish newspaper article in the Hurriyet, the largest Turkish newspaper, dated June 21, 1987. It is translated in the front of Ron's book, Discovered - Noah's Ark, but you may want to have your own done. [I've reproduced it in Discoveries: Questions Answered, page 130.]

And here's a copy of Turkish tourism literature, which we picked up in Ankara in August of 1989, which advertises Noah's Ark, complete with a photograph of the site. [Ibid., pages 129-130]

As to the highway, at the dedication ceremony on June 20, 1987, at which Ron was guest of honour, plans were shown him of the visitors centre and of the planned highway. David Fasold mentions this in his newsletter.

This highway was not to go up into the mountain to the actual Ark site - it was to lead to the cut-off that leads up into the mountain. The Turks had anticipated a great influx of tourists to the area and the present road was insufficient to handle the expected traffic, especially of buses. However, because of the extreme attacks by the Mt. Ararat Ark hunters, the US tourists

never came to pass, at least not in large numbers. The road construction began in 1988 and was never completed.

Then, the area became quite dangerous for tourists due to terrorist activity. Our statements made about the road construction were based on what the Turks told Ron and David Fasold. We documented the beginning of the highway construction in 1989 where they moved all the power and telephone lines over, and actually began laying asphalt that was in places 14 to 18 inches deep. But when we returned in 1990, it was not completed.

A newspaper article about the Turks' acceptance of the site as Noah's Ark is criticised in the article simply because it was in a Nashville newspaper - the implication being that the reporter was biased. However, the reporter spoke personally with Turkish officials in both New York and Ankara. He also interviewed John Baumgardner for the article.

### ***LATER WORK DISPROVED THE SITE?***

**JG:** It is claimed that core drills showed no trace of anything but rock.

**RW:** John Morris said he did core drills. But they did not take radar with them on that occasion, so that they could target anything. They hit oxidised iron plates and some ballast.

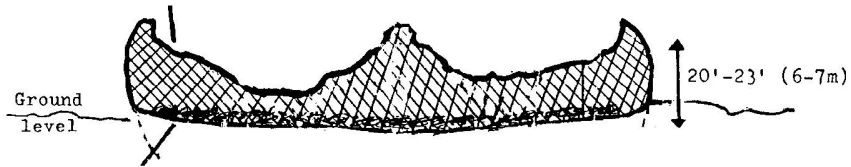
Members of that group rented a core drilling outfit from the Turks. Disappointed when they found "nothing", they hurriedly left the place, owing, according to the Turks, several thousand dollars.

**JG:** Your opponents say they did a radar scan and found no evidence of any pattern. How come your scan suggested something man-made and theirs did not?

**RW:** Our scan was done in May when there was still a lot of moisture in the fossilised timber. You see, wet fossilised wood gives a more powerful reflection, so it would be much easier to locate on the radar. They did their scan late in summer when it was dried out. That was a tactical error.

We used a 51R3 radar scanner. They used a 51R8 which was set for automatic, to target the MOST DENSE material and missed everything else. The equipment zeroed in on the metallic ballast. Any ship structure below the ballast was obliterated by the reading of the ballast.

They did it right considering they didn't know the ballast was there; had they known the ballast was there, they would have done it differently. So they got the ballast. But there's (less dense) Ark above it and Ark below it.



Conjectured rock boundary is too high up.



It was ballast they zeroed in on. The instrument ignored the less dense fossilised wood. They should have set it for a particular depth, as we did... 8 feet, 16 feet, whatever.

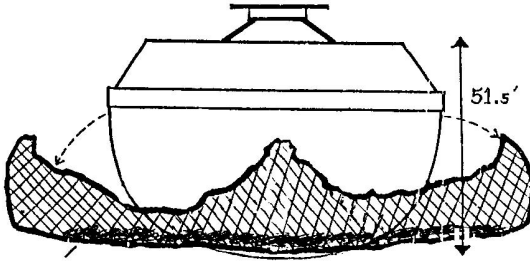
**JG:** But what about the DEPTH of this “ballast” they found? They say it was no more than 6 to 7 metres (20 to 23 feet) down. Since the Ark was 51.5 feet high, then shouldn't ballast in the bottom of the ship also be some 50 feet or so down?

**RW:** The ballast is where it should be. Some people have a mistaken idea of how much of the Ark is buried below the surface. They think that if this were the Ark, then just under the mud overburden would be the top deck. And that the hull (and therefore any ballast) should be perhaps 50 feet down from the present mud surface. That's what some of them conjecture.

That's wrong. You see, the upper two decks have collapsed. Their rubble has contributed to the centre mound in the boat-shape. The varying height of the mound in different places agrees with the most likely positions of former upper deck structures before they collapsed under the weight of the lava overburden.

Below this mound lies the lower deck and then the hull. It is the lower deck that lies just below the surface. The visible above-ground boat-shape - the walls of that are the outline of the hull

itself (somewhat pushed out, under the weight of mud overburden).



Ballast END VIEW

**JG:** How far down, then, is the bottom of the ship?

**RW:** In the centre, along the mid-section, about 25 to 28 feet. At the ends it's shallower.

**JG:** So that's why they hit ballast no deeper than 20 to 23 feet?

**RW:** Yes, that's the level at which they found their "rock".

**JG:** It is claimed that geologic survey work done in 1987 and 1988 by John Baumgardner with Dr. Bayraktutan prove that this isn't Noah's Ark, or that it is even man-made structure. (p. 36)

**MNW:** We have a copy of the July 1987 radar survey done. It claims to be written jointly by John Baumgardner and Dr. Bayraktutan. In July 1992, I took a copy of this to Turkey and when Ron met with Dr. Bayraktutan, I myself showed it to him and asked him to verify that it was indeed the official documentation of that survey. He told me it was. I will quote from that report:

*"We conclude that the data from our geophysical investigations in no way conflict with the proposition that the unusual boat-shaped site near Mahser village contains the remains of Noah's Ark."* [See

Discoveries: Questions Answered, page119]

As to the evidences of the core-drilling in 1988 by Dr. Baumgardner, here is an excerpt from one of his "newsletters" [Ibid., page 124]: "Another notable discovery was the presence at three locations in the mudflow layer of nodules of the bright yellow mineral limonite. Limonite is a hydrated oxide of iron, and its occurrence in this environment appears to be anomalous. Just how anomalous is the crucial question, since the minerals in the rocks in the source area of the mudflow have



a moderate iron content. However, during the months now that I have worked at the site, I have never seen this bright yellow material anywhere in the fissures or exposures in the mudflow clay. Because earlier investigations led us to suspect unusual amounts of iron in the site, these occurrences of limonite are of special interest as they could represent the rusted remains of metallic iron objects.”

### ***WHY NOT IN THE HEADLINES?***

**JG:** Tell me, Ron, why hasn’t Noah’s Ark made the headlines?

**RW:** First of all, it is our policy to work quietly and not seek publicity until we are completely finished. We believe firmly that this is in God’s timing and only He will dictate when it will be brought to the attention of the world. The Turkish government did make a major announcement back in 1987, when they dedicated the site as a national park, and later when it was upgraded to the status of national treasure, and it has been in the news at various times.

We have no plans to seek publicity until we are completely finished with our research.

The bottom line is this: we do not know at what point the Lord will say, “That is enough - the work is finished.” There is enough evidence for anyone who really wants the truth. But we hope to be able to excavate enough of the remains to convince even the most hardened skeptic. Although we have plans to do more, it’s ultimately in His hands.

### ***A FINAL QUESTION***

**JG:** Finally, Ron, what do you say about those who don’t agree with you? Those who say they are more qualified?

**RW:** There are over 500 people who have a sheepskin scroll with a Ph.D. on it who got their doctorate degree by writing about the Putdown Man!

[Piltdown Man, if you didn’t know, was for forty years hailed by the scientific world as a missing link - a “proof” of evolution. Then it was discovered to be a hoax!]

As this book neared completion, I received a letter from Dr. Carl Wieland, Managing Director of Creation Science Foundation, which published *Creation Ex Nihilo*. I accepted his assurance that his organisation was “not involved in any

conspiracy to ‘silence’ this particular site.” And I was able to assure Carl, in turn, that this present work, *The Ark Conspiracy*, was not titled with reference to his organisation’s article. The reader will have already noted in what context the term “conspiracy” has been used (see Chapter 9).

Carl told me that he did “not believe that it is likely anymore that the Ark will be found on Mt. Ararat itself. Most of the reasons for the searching there have been the eyewitness reports only.” He expressed an interest “to print an update if further information is forthcoming, regardless of which way it tends.”

Meanwhile, a massive amount of wrong information had been circulated. The writer of the article didn’t even give the names of so-called “scientists” who claimed to have examined the anchor stones and built molecular frequency generators.

It appeared that much of the mis-information could be sourced to a certain John Morris.

### ***THE DECEIT GOES ON***

Soon after this a programme was aired on American television pushing the claim that the Ark had been sighted on Mount Ararat proper. The Wyatts decided to release a report on the matter. It read as follows:

#### **EVIDENCE OF DECEIT ON RECENT CBS SHOW ON NOAH’S ARK**

With all the lies that are being told about our work, we have decided that it is necessary to show how unreliable the information is that was given in the recent “Amazing Discovery of Noah’s Ark” which was shown on CBS on Feb. 20, 1993.

Near the end of the program, a man from Holland spoke of how he flew with Jim Irwin around Mt. Ararat and they saw an object that they knew was Noah’s Ark. They showed a photograph. Earlier, the narrator told how Jim Irwin was sure he had found the Ark but kept it quiet until he was able to mount a ground expedition to the site of the photograph. Sadly, they explained, Jim died before he could accomplish this.

Well, in the book *Noah’s Ark and the Lost World* by John D. Morris, copyrighted 1988, on page 31 you will see this same exact photograph that was shown as having been photographed

by Jim Irwin's expedition. The caption below this photograph reads:

"...A friend of mine took this photo by holding his camera out over the ledge of a cliff. It was too dangerous for him to reach the edge and look over, but he was able to take several pictures of the hidden canyon below. When the film was developed and the pictures examined, a strange object that looks like Noah's Ark could be seen, just as these enlargements show. But because he didn't actually see the object himself, we don't know for certain what it really is. In fact, the more we study the picture, the less we believe it to be the Ark - but we certainly plan to go back and take a closer look! We call this picture the 'Mystery Photo'".

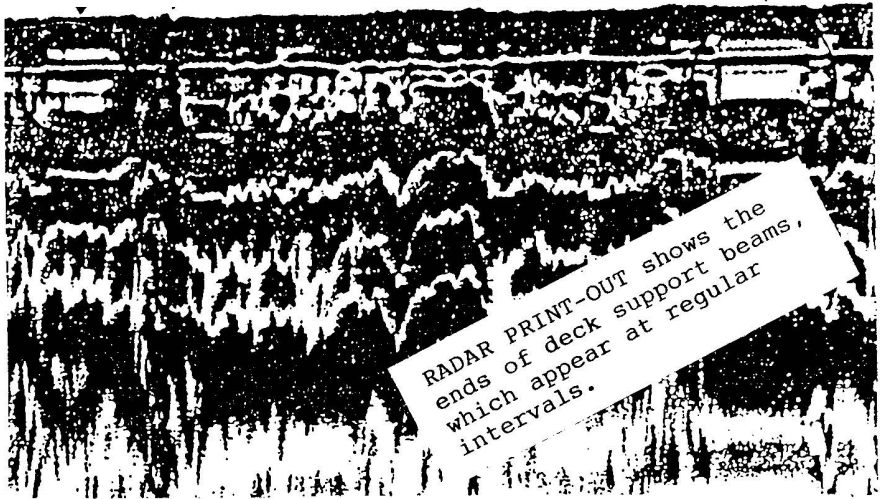
The book was published before Jim Irwin's last flight around the mountain. Also, Morris claims a friend of his took the photo by hanging over a ledge.??? They are the very same photograph, but with two very different stories. The publisher of the book is Master Books, should you want to see the photo for yourself.

One thing stood out in this investigation: Ron and Mary Nell Wyatt were thorough. Ron had been coming back to his site for fifteen years. Thirty-four visits to date. Twelve years of electronic and mechanical probing. Repeated mechanical analysis of many different samples. Samples taken from the structure in the presence of many witnesses. I discovered that they were going to universities and libraries - visiting every museum in every country that they could. They were consulting experts in each field regarding "fact", but they were not asking anyone to endorse the fact that "this is Noah's Ark". They believed the general public were quite able to make their own decisions, given enough fact.

The Wyatts now had sixty hours of video footage covering research at the site.

Throughout all this, I had been carefully assessing both Ron and his wife. Until I met them, I harboured serious doubts. But I was determined to know the truth. And I claimed the promise of the Lord that He would let me know what was of Him and what was not. (John 7:17; 8:32; Prov.1:23)

This Ron Wyatt - this real-life "Indiana Jones" who had got himself beaten, kidnapped, almost killed a few times - why was he doing it?



## **Chapter 14**

### **INDIANA JONES... MOVE OVER**

“WORLD’S GREATEST ARCHAEOLOGIST - OR WHAT...?”

“His claims are not moderate; they are huge... (and) make Indiana Jones look like a whimpy school boy.”

So said his opponents.

It was impossible that ONE MAN could discover so many of THE MOST SOUGHT AFTER RELICS ON EARTH. Perhaps if this amateur had found just one, it might be forgiven him. But not a whole string of them... bang, bang, bang... one after another!

#### ***THE REASON WHY***

“Why are you doing it?” I asked. “Three or so trips a year must cost you a packet.”

The anaesthetist father of three straightened up and looked straight at me. “Jonathan, it’s not for treasure. I take the Bible LITERALLY and go after the evidence.

“There have been some EXTRAORDINARY INTERVENTIONS OF GOD IN HISTORY For example, the parting of the Red Sea. So I tracked the route, dived down, and, at 80 to 100 feet, there they were - 3,400 year old Egyptian chariot wheels and skeletons of men and horses.”

I shuddered as he handed me a shrunken horse hoof and various human bones. His underwater video footage was spine-tingling. I have since led my own expeditions to the area and acquired more footage.

“How do you finance your work, Ron?”

“For the most part, out of my own pocket. I sold a farm; we own nothing except the equipment for our research and our two 1985 vehicles. I make a good salary at my hospital work. I have to do this ‘part time’ in order to spend time overseas.

“Some of your former colleagues are claiming your work on the Ark to be their own discovery,” I said.

“Sure,” he quipped, with a half smile, “they discovered it - after I pointed to it!”

“But Ron, doesn’t it bother you that others may get the credit?”

“Let them, if the CREDIT means so much to them,” he sighed. “But CREDIBILITY - that’s the thing. Not for me, but for the Good Book. That’s all I want.”

“What about the skeptics?”

“Attitudes are influenced by parents and environment,” he responded. “And later we may find we’ve picked up some wrong ideas. That’s often hard to face. So the least I can do is show some understanding. Jesus died for these people too.”

### ***WHY NOT FOUND LONG AGO?***

“Why haven’t all these things been found before?”

“It is my belief that we are living in the last days of this planet’s existence as we know it, and that Christ is coming very soon. God is going to bring human history to a close with a tremendous show of His power. So, in this age of skepticism, just before it happens, He’s going to reveal these previously hidden evidences to give proof that His past interventions were real. And God has miraculously preserved all of these evidences of the major events of biblical history to show that His Word is accurate down to the last detail.

“Just think about these, Jonathan. His most dramatic evidences in history included the Flood, the opening of the Red Sea, the falling judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah. All these will now be revealed. Great treasures, God’s great ‘attention getters’.

“Before He intervenes again, the Creator will give every person the chance to know the truth.

“There’s a prophecy that He will do something that will call nonbelievers (Gentiles) to Him, and that He will show them that He really is the Lord:

“...the Gentiles shall come to you from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit... Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know my hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is THE LORD.” (Jer.16:19-21)

“He hasn’t done this yet, and He says clearly ‘this once’ He will do it. We believe that the things He has revealed through this work and others in the field of biblical archaeology will be a big part of this event.

“There are 5 plus billion people on this planet, and for the first time in history, a large number of those people can be reached through television satellites and mass communications. We have instant translation capabilities, as well. Technology is such that, when it is God’s time, He can get this information throughout the entire world. We truly expect this to happen soon.”

“So we’re approaching SHOWDOWN TIME, Ron.”

### ***IT’S DEATH AND LOVE***

“Look, Jonathan, this is more important than the Olympics, more vital than the economy. It’s about the biggest issues - DEATH, LIFE and LOVE.

“We’ve all broken God’s law. We’re all in the death cell. No way out. But what love! God’s Son came down to take human form and accept the death penalty for each of us. That’s history — not fantasy — and it’s the pivotal event of history.

“And when He returns, it’s to be in dazzling splendour as King of kings, to end the 6,000 year rebellion and claim the earth.”

“But everyone won’t be saved,” I heard myself saying.

“No, because He won’t force anyone,” said Ron, sadly. “To have a personal relationship with Him is one’s choice. It has to be that way, so rebellion and suffering will never arise again.”

### ***“HE CALLS THE HUMBLE”***

“Why do you think He chose you to make these archaeological discoveries?” I asked.

“I can only give my opinion on that,” said the big American. “If ten different people found ten different major archaeological finds, people could say, ‘Well, they were lucky, or smart’. But for one person to find all of these things is not a human possibility. Not even the most brilliant and celebrated. But God uses ‘the simple things to confound the wise’. In choosing a simple, average person, He leaves no room for doubt as to ‘who’ is actually doing these things. Perhaps He chose me because I was willing - I really don’t know. But I can say that there is no one on earth who could be more grateful than I am to be allowed to work with these things.”

The more I conversed with Ron Wyatt, the stronger grew the impression that here was a humble person. A man who could be

trusted. One obsessed with honesty in all his affairs. I sensed that he had spent many deep hours led by God's Spirit in study and prayer.

### ***A PHENOMENON***

And he was bringing to light more than any other person in archaeological history. An amateur!

In these multiple discoveries - any one of which was of earth-shattering shattering significance – we were witnessing nothing short of a PHENOMENON. I was forced to agree with Greg Brewer, noted prophecy lecturer and writer, that Ron's work was a gift of God's mercy to this last doubting generation.

No wonder there were so many who wanted to silence him!

This whole Ark drama was packed with surprises. And the next discovery would be mind-blowing. Just hang in there... I'll tell you about it.

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## Chapter 15

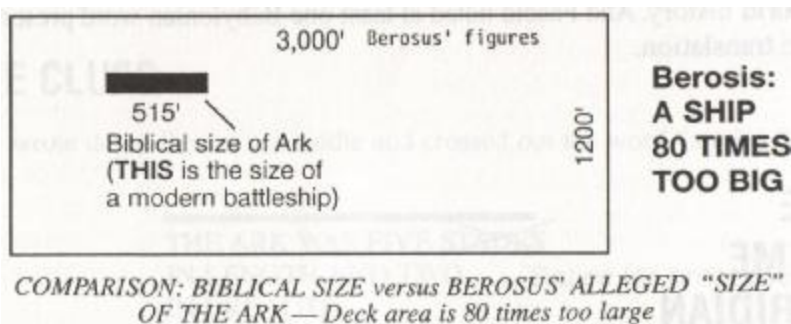
### A CRYPTIC TEASER

“He wouldn’t say that!” exclaimed David. “It makes no sense... not a cracker of sense.

David Fasold was poring over the mysterious phraseology of a Chaldean priest named Berosus, who, about 275 B.C., wrote concerning the “Magur”, or god boat of the Deluge. Put simply, this said:

THE ARK WAS  
FIVE STADES IN LENGTH  
BY TWO STADES IN BREADTH

If the Greek stadia (about 600 feet) was meant, then the Ark would be 3000 feet long and 1200 feet wide. Quite unacceptable.



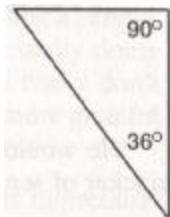
Modern scholars shake their heads. Poor Berosus! Perhaps it was a touch of the Mesopotamian sun.

But something about this “wild exaggeration” disturbed Fasold. He wondered, Why on earth should an otherwise learned man, writing with the ancient knowledge at his disposal, suddenly slip into such nonsensical twaddle? Surely Berosus himself could hardly have believed the Ark to be that big!

Of course, Berosus’ works had been retranslated a number of times before reaching us. Could it be that the original works of Berosus used a Chaldean symbol that had been erroneously translated “stadia”?

Egyptian surveyors used a right-angle triangle, one corner of which was 36 degrees. This was called a “mr”. (Peter Tompkins, *Secrets of the Great Pyramid*. London: Harper & Row, 1971,

## Appendix. Notes on the relation of ancient measures to the Great Pyramid by Livio Stecchini)



Could a similar geometric figure have been used in Berosus' original work?

### NOT DIMENSIONS, BUT LOCATION?

Could Berosus be giving a geographical location for the Ark, rather than the Ark's exaggerated dimensions?

The Chaldeans (directly descended, according to Josephus, from Arphaxad, born two years after the Flood - Josephus, ch. vi: 4) would surely have held sacred the knowledge of the exact location of the Ark.

Berosus was, after all, giving the Babylonian or Chaldean perspective on world history. And Fasold noted at least one Babylonian word preserved in the translation.

### ***THE PRIME MERIDIAN***

Now, about geographical locations. Every spot on earth is measured from the prime meridian - an imaginary dividing line that runs from north to south.

Today's prime meridian of longitude, as we all know, runs through Greenwich in England. But in Berosus' day the Chaldeans would still consider the world divided by their prime meridian, even though conquered by Alexander.



Their meridian ran through Persia. The “world navel” was marked by Darius’ tomb just west of Persepolis. On the same latitude as the Cheops pyramid of Egypt, this geodetic centre of the world would be 30 degrees 00’ N and 52 degrees 50’ E, on today’s maps.

### ***A RATIO?***

What was Berosus REALLY saying? It was just a faint whim, mind you, but could it be, from Berosus’ understanding, that “5 by 2” was a RATIO, pivoting on this world navel, to give the location of the Ark?

I am indebted to Fasold for taking me thus far. His investigation was brilliant. But from here on it became hazy and he lost me. I’d have to figure out the solution my own way... if at all.

For now, it went into the “too hard” file.

Yet, in the succeeding months, this riddle just would not die. I found myself flirting with it - and time and again pushing it aside. On at least one occasion, a solution stared me in the face, only to slip away again. Then one morning, after eighteen months of this, all fell into place. It was August 8, 1992. What happened was simply staggering.

### ***THE CLUES***

I wrote down the ancient riddle and crossed out the word “stades.”

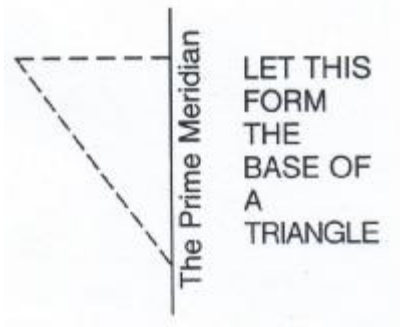
~~THE ARK WAS FIVE STADES  
IN LENGTH AND TWO  
IN BREADTH~~

Ratios (or proportions)?

In ancient Egypt, a right-angle triangle was used in surveying. Suppose we were to do likewise, I wondered. What if we were to plot a triangulation, with the base of the triangle along the prime meridian?

Out came a map of the Middle East.

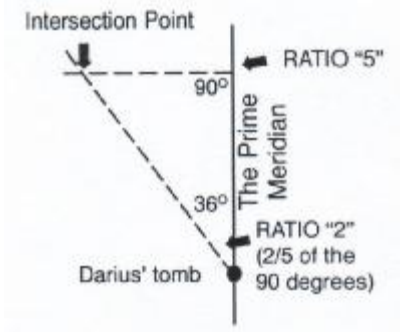
Somewhere along this meridian, one would draw a line out at 90 degrees. This 90 degrees would form the right angle of a triangle extending west from the meridian. In a right-angle triangle, 90 degrees is the largest angle possible. Suppose this 90 degrees were to represent Berosus’ major ratio (the “5”).



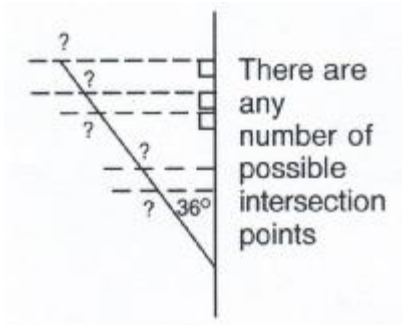
IF 5, THEN 2

The other value he gave ("2") would be the smaller angle of that triangle. It would be just two fifths of the "5" ratio (the 90 degrees). Two fifths of 90 is 36. The "2", then, would represent 36 degrees.

So, from the world navel at Persepolis, let's draw a second line at an angle of 36 degrees. If we interpret Berosus right, would this intersect at the Ark's latitude?



No, not quite! There was a problem: Just where should one draw that first line? At what latitude should one go 90 degrees west? There are any number of possible intersection points. (And what a long walk that would entail, to find out!)



A precise point of intersection was needed. (But, remember, we're still only speculating.

### ***THE MISSING CLUE***

In Berossus' puzzle there had to be a third factor - that which determined the intersection point. And this was what kept eluding me.

Again I stared at Berossus' statement:

**THE ARK WAS FIVE  
STADES IN LENGTH**

Suddenly, it clicked! "That's it!" I shouted, not caring if anyone heard. I had been focusing so much on the "stades" anomaly that I'd thrown out the whole phrase - "stades in length." But really only that one word was wrong, the word "stades." "IN LENGTH" was the missing clue.

Remember, the first line we drew (at a 90 degree angle from the prime meridian) was represented by the "5" factor.

But, according to Berossus, this "5" factor is also THE ARK'S LENGTH! That was the missing clue.

Now my excitement was really welling up. This was turning into a GRAND ADVENTURE.

### ***THE ARK'S LENGTH ON A MAP***

Follow this carefully. The Bible says the Ark was 300 cubits long. Convert the cubit length of the Ark to geodetic feet - 515.

Now transpose this on to a world map - and the 515 becomes minutes of an arc. And how do we express 515 minutes, on a map? In degrees and minutes, of course. And since there are 60

minutes to a degree, we must divide the 515 by 60. The result is 8 degrees 35 minutes.

But did the ancients measure this way? you ask. Yes, they divided the circle of the earth into 360 degrees, just as we do. Our system came from theirs.

Now notice:

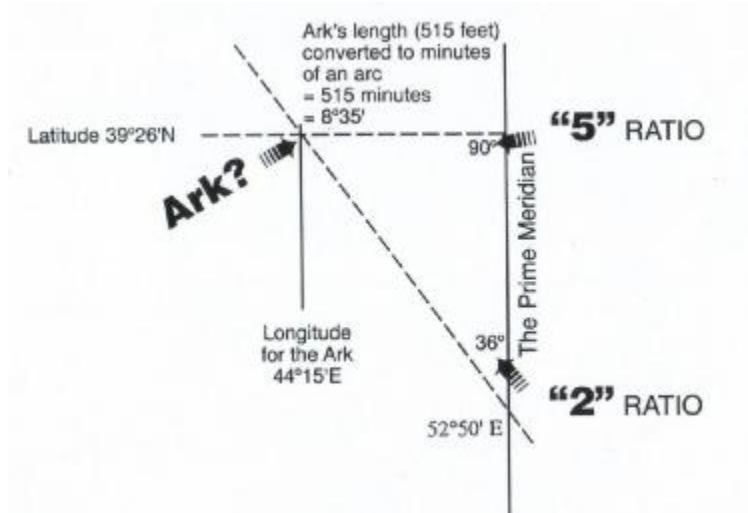
From the prime meridian at Persepolis (situated at 52 degrees 50' E), subtract the 8 degrees 35' - and you should get the present-day longitude for the remains of the Ark.

52 degrees 50' E minus 8 degrees 35' equals 44 degrees 15' E

THE ARK'S LENGTH IS THE CLUE TO ITS LOCATION, you see!

Such a clever cryptic message one might expect from one like Berosus who represents himself as steeped in the mysteries of the Chaldeans and a guardian of ancient secrets.

According to Berosus' figures, the Ark would be 515 minutes of the sun's arc west of the Persepolis line (that is, it would be at 44 degrees 15' E). And it would be intersected by a line of 36 degrees from the geodetic navel at Persepolis. The point of intersection takes us to 39 degrees 26' N latitude.



I must concede that, so far, this whole exercise remains just a wild speculation. Never mind, let's see where it leads us.

## ***DOES THIS SOLVE THE PUZZLE, OR NOT?***

You work it out yourself. Open a world map... or better still, one of the Middle East.



Notice the vertical lines of longitude and the horizontal lines of latitude?

Now take a pencil and mark where you think Longitude 44 degrees 15' E and Latitude 39 degrees 26' should run.

Tell me, where do they intersect? That's right, in Turkey! More specifically, in that little pocket of Turkey that converges with Armenia and Iran. Notice, it is just south of Mount Ararat.

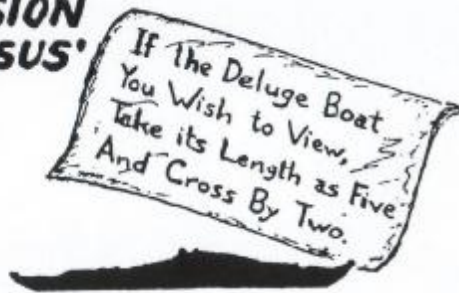
Go on, get out your map and do it! Then see how you feel!

It was these "lines of Berosus" that gave David Fasold the feeling that the Ark would not be found on Mount Ararat, but in the foothills to the south. He mentioned this to James Irwin. "Why don't you talk it over with Wyatt," said Irwin. "That's where he's looking."

In the mountains south east of Dogubayazit, I found myself standing on a rise overlooking a dried mud flow. Silhouetted against it was the boat-shape. THIS BOAT-SHAPE AND THE LINE OF BEROSUS WERE LITERALLY SIDE BY SIDE.

**MY VERSION  
OF BEROSUS'  
CRYPTIC  
PUZZLE:**

Incredibly,  
it gets you  
there!



Even if the Ark was no longer here, this was the place, I believed, where Berosus said it should be found.

Of course, one may not believe that this is what Berosus was saying. Yet, if you take this to be the meaning - and TEST IT - it gets you to that boat-shaped object... PRECISELY!

---



## Chapter 16

### SOMETHING UNCANNY

If you liked that bit about the Fibonacci number sequence, you'll enjoy this. But first, a little back-tracking.

#### AT THE GEOGRAPHICAL CENTRE

Egypt's Great Pyramid (the Cheops one) was practically the first built.

(Joseph A. Seiss, *The Great Pyramid: A Miracle in Stone*. New York: Harper and Row, 1973, pp.38-41)

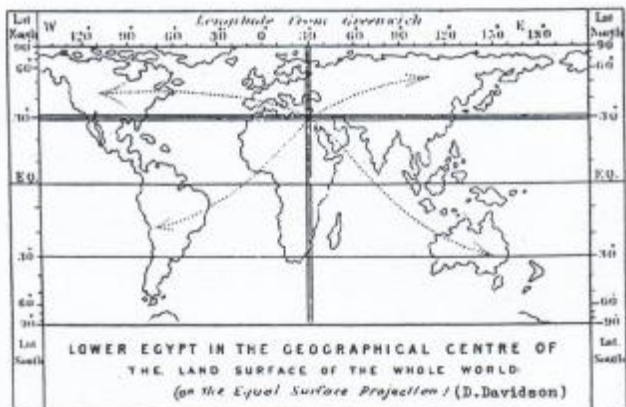
It stands at 30 degrees 00' N and 31 degrees 14' E.

If you divide the earth into four sections centred on the Great Pyramid, you will find in each section an equal land area.

This location is therefore the proper central meridian of the whole world. It seems that the builders were well aware of the exact amount of land on the surface of the earth, as well as the geographical distribution.

The Persians moved their centre of the world to Persia.

They retained the same latitude as the Cheops pyramid (30 degrees 00' N) but their prime meridian (their "Greenwich" line) crossed it at 52 degrees 50' E. Darius' tomb was built on this intersection.



---

#### AN "ARK'S DISTANCE" AWAY

Now consider this...

- How long was the Ark? - Answer: 300 cubits, or 515 feet.
- How high was the Ark? - 30 cubits, or 51 feet.
- What was the combined length and height of the Ark? - 515 plus 51 equals 566.

Note that. We'll come back to it.

Now look at the diagram (next page). The location of the Ark is at 44 degrees 15' E. The Persian prime meridian is at 52 degrees 50' E. The difference between the two is 8 degrees 35'. Right?

The Persian prime meridian was drawn exactly 515 minutes (that is 8 degrees 35 minutes) east of the Ark. Do you get it? The Persians located their prime meridian precisely an "ark's length" east of the Ark.

Again look at the diagram. The latitude of the Ark is 39 degrees 26' N. The latitude of Darius' tomb is 30 degrees 00' N. The difference is 9 degrees 26 minutes. Convert this to minutes of an arc (60 minutes to a degree). What do you get? 566 - the combined length and height of the Ark.

Thus Darius' tomb (on the Persian world navel) is precisely an "ark's length and height" south of the Ark; and the Persian prime meridian is precisely an "Ark's length" east of the Ark.

Does this mean something? Or is it accidental?

Think about it.

What we have here is the Great Pyramid in the precise centre of the earth's land mass.

And it's ALSO precisely an "ark's length and height" south of the latitude of the boat-shape in Turkey.

We also have the Persian world navel a precise "ark's length and height south of the latitude of the boat-shape, and an "ark's length" east of its longitude.

Tell me if that's just a coincidence.

## ***THE GOLDEN NUMBER SEQUENCE***

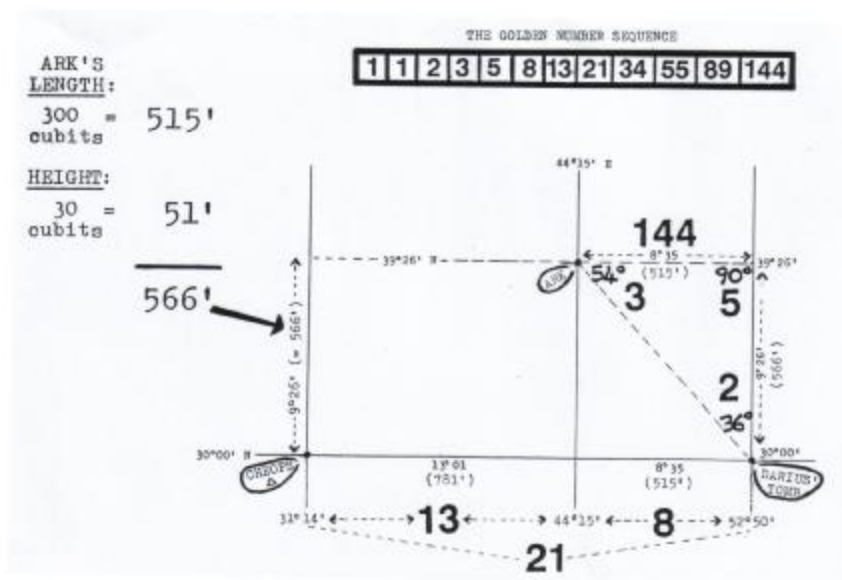
But there's more.

Remember that numbered sequence discovered by Fibonacci, which we find throughout nature?

Look again at the diagram. Notice the triangle which links the boat-shape with Darius' tomb.

This particular triangle, we shall see, is the most “perfect” triangle possible.

I’ll explain. Every triangle totals 180 degrees. In this triangle the angles are 36 degrees + 54 degrees + 90 degrees, which are in the ratio to each other of 2 - 3 - 5. That is the Fibonacci sequence. (You can refer to that sequence of numbers at the top of the diagram.)



You will also notice that from the longitude of Darius’ tomb to that of the boat-shape is of the order of 8 degrees of an arc. And from the longitude of the boat-shape to that of the Great Pyramid is 13 degrees. Add those last two distances together, and you have the next number of the Fibonacci sequence - 21.

There you have it: the Fibonacci sequence:

2 - 3 - 5 - 8 - 13 - 21

We could go on. Now add the two upper angles of the triangle – 54 degrees and 90 degrees. Result? 144, the twelfth number in the Fibonacci series.

## ***TWO FASCINATING QUESTIONS***

Finally, consider these questions:

When the Great Pyramid was built an “ark’s measurement” in latitude from the boat-shape, that ALSO turned out to be the

precise centre of the earth's land mass! Let's put it another way. From the central meridian of the whole world (the Great Pyramid location) you measure a precise "ark's measurement and find yourself on a line intersecting that boat-shape! How did this come about?

The same thing happens from two directions if you start out at Darius' tomb.

Did those early builders deliberately measure from this boat-shape? WHO THEN ARRANGED THE EARTH'S LAND MASS TO MATCH UP TO IT?

On a map, when the coordinates from the boat-shape to Darius' tomb and to the Great Pyramid are examined, they compose themselves into a pattern found in nature and in ancient buildings - a pattern we call the Fibonacci sequence of numbers. Three items had to be coordinated to achieve this: the boat-shaped object, the Great Pyramid and Darius' tomb. Was this relationship deliberate or accidental? I ask you.

---

## **Chapter 17**

### **PEERING INTO THE DARK**

To discover the truth can be so liberating. The love of truth casts out all fear. I was no longer afraid to be heard on this. Some of us had uncovered a trail of lies. Despite the danger to ourselves, we decided it was time to go public. In February, 1993,<sup>1</sup> I launched from Adelaide the first issue of my quarterly Update Newsletter. It contained news of the “deck timber” laminated sample. Within days, someone was faxing it furiously around Sydney.

But it wasn't just the skeptics at home. By now the terrorist situation was hotting up. In the valley below the Ark, Ron overheard a renegade village chief, by the name of Mehmet, graciously plotting a little surprise. “...take him into the hills ... get rid of him... Fortunately, Ron knew enough Turkish to get the gist of the conversation and quickly decided he was needed somewhere else.

#### ***TO LOOK INSIDE***

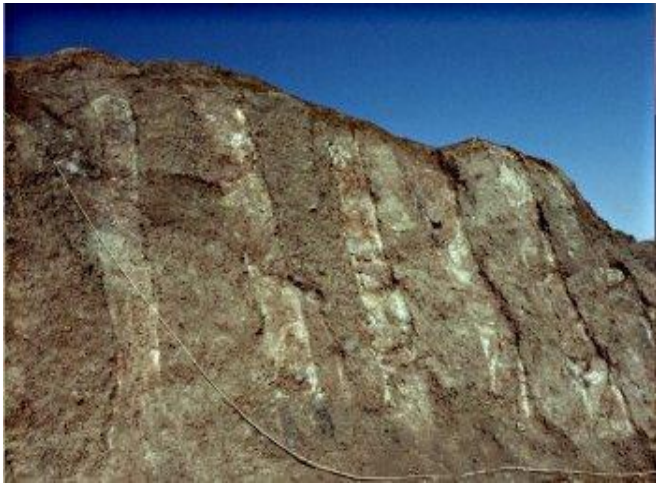
In the early morning of October 8, 1992, before any Kurdish guerrillas were awake to the fact, Ron had made a lightning dash to the Ark site. His purpose was to thrust a boroscope through the rubble and penetrate to a chamber at the south end of the structure, so as to peer inside.

He inserted the small light on the end of an optic fibre. As it went down, the sides of the drilled hole showed up wonderfully all the way down. Then it entered the vast chamber.

Now, all was dark. The light made no impression. It was too weak to illuminate this vast hollow space.

The months slipped by. Eventually the solution appeared to be at hand. On June 16, 1993, as I discussed the matter with him, Ron already had some improved equipment in front of him in his little office. It would enable him to drill small, non destructive holes into the chambers of the structure and film inside.

“Hope we can go back soon,” sighed Ron. “Yes,” was my response. “I can hardly wait to peer in.”



## **Chapter 18**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE GIANTS**

Leaving the cooler mountains behind, the three men began their descent to the “Valley of Eight”. The area was convulsed, broken and rock-strewn. Their path led through a sere land, eroded and brown.

This day it was an oven. Their throats were parched. The sweat trickled down their faces. After two hours of scraping over boulders, stumbling into deep gullies and up almost vertical rises, they came upon a gentle bowl depression in which nestled a Kurdish village. This was Kazan, “the Place of Eight.”

#### **THE VALLEY OF EIGHT**

The presumed Ark rested twelve miles further up the valley, on what was known locally as “JUDGMENT SLOPE”. This VALLEY OF EIGHT must surely have been the area over which the Ark had once drifted. Anchor stones lay around this village, THE PLACE OF EIGHT.

They began exploring. Across the road from the village were some very old, deserted relics. To say the men were in for a surprise would be an under-statement.

“Hey, Dad, just look at this!” shouted Danny. The other two came running. Danny was rubbing an old, weathered marker. There was lichen or something over it. But under the crust, there were clear incisions.

“There’s another here!” exclaimed Ronny. “These must be grave markers.”

Ron had his camera running. And the inscriptions were unmistakable.

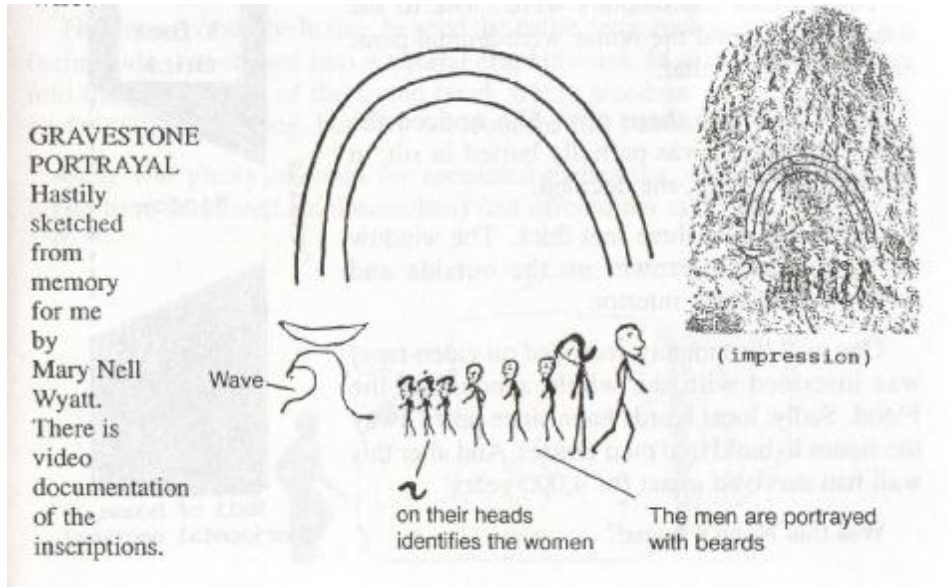
#### ***MRS NOAH’S GRAVE***

This they had never expected. Yet here it was in front of them. They didn’t expect to be so favoured. But it was happening! One discovery after another. This sequence of discoveries was so breathtakingly rapid, Ron’s mind was whirling. He had to mentally pinch himself. Could all this be real?

Yes, the iconographs identified the graves. If the inscription meant anything, then what they had stumbled upon was - dare

they say it? probably the first post-Flood grave marker on this planet, that of Noah's wife. And nearby, that of Noah himself!

The two grave markers bore the eight-cross symbols of Noah and his family above an ancient, petroglyphic portrayal of Noah's death on one marker and that of his wife on the other. These grave markers were in the front of a very ancient stone house.



Below the rainbow (associated with the Flood account), on the left was the crest of a wave, and atop the wave a boat. To the right of this were eight stick characters. It was clear who they were. Two larger figures (male and female), accompanied by three smaller men (their sons) and behind them three women (their sons' wives). According to Genesis, the eight human survivors of the Great Flood were Noah and his wife, their three sons Shem, Ham and Japheth, and their sons' wives.(Gen.7:13)

The inscription showed the woman with her head bowed and her eyes closed. And the other seven were walking away from her. Mrs Noah had died. She must have been the first of them to go.

### ***NOAH'S GRAVE***

The other grave marker depicted the man as well as his wife, with head now bowed, eyes now closed in death - and the other

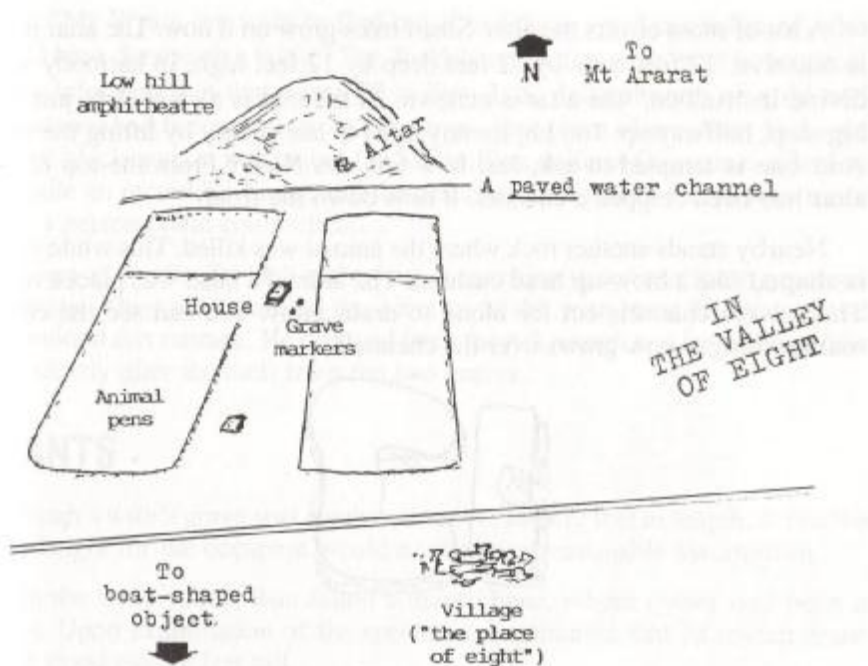


six persons walking away. Yes, if the iconograph meant anything, this was Noah's grave.

### ***NOAH'S HOUSE?***

These black tombstones were close to the house. And around the house were animal pens. And close by, an altar. Mary Nell was there now. She noticed the stone house itself was partially buried in silt; at least four feet deep, she decided. The walls were three feet thick. The window apertures were narrower on the outside and widened toward the interior.

One wall (fortunately, recorded on video-tape) was inscribed with the whole account of the Flood. Sadly, local Kurds have since taken away the stones to build into their houses. And after this wall had survived intact for 4,000 years! Was this Noah's house?



### ***ALTAR OF A GIANT***

Northward from the house, beyond the cattle pens, rose a low hill, whose facing side was shaped into a natural amphitheatre. Mary Nell strolled up into the eastern side of the sound bowl,

where stood an ancient altar. She spoke without shouting, but way out from the hill I could hear her clearly.

Here was plenty of room for appointed gatherings, when the patriarch could have addressed his descendants and offered the sacrifice.

A lot of moss covers the altar. Small trees grow on it now. The altar itself is massive: 12 feet wide by 12 feet deep by 12 feet high. In harmony with divine instruction (Ex.20:5), the altar is unhewn. At the rear is a giant step, just one big step, halfway up. Too big for any of us to use simply by lifting the foot. And one is tempted to ask, Just how tall was Noah? From the top of the altar has been chipped a channel. It runs down the front.

Nearby stands another rock where the animal was killed. This white stone is shaped like a blow-up head cushion. The animal's head was placed on it. There were channels cut for blood to drain away. You can see the chisel marks. Fungus now grows over the channels.

### ***THE DISAPPEARANCE***

The graveyard mentioned earlier is in the front yard of the house. Since it was video-taped in 1977, the local Kurds have broken up and taken away the grave markers. Fortunately, the video evidence survives. As already stated, the house also has been vandalised. Unfortunate.

Let me ask, could you keep such a discovery secret? Ron was exploding. He wanted to shout it to the world!

"That's incredible," gasped [we shall not name him]. "Simply incredible!" The man was an Ark-search colleague. "Ron, I must see this!"

Trembling with excitement, Ron drove the man out to Kazan. You might call Ron naive. He trusted that his friend would feel the same awe that had moved him. A reverence, if you like.

Mehmet, the village mayor, looked both ways down the street, then yanked the visitor inside. The pact was sealed with a drink and the visitor crept out into the darkness and sped off with no lights

Within hours, the two graves were dug up.

"Mr Wyatt, we want to find out if you have any knowledge of who could have done such a thing." The Turkish authorities

were most concerned. They informed him that over 100 million U.S. dollars worth of gold and gemstones had been stolen from the graves. One piece of jewellery had sold on the black-market in Istanbul for \$75 million dollars! Of course, it had to be quite an incredible piece, and the description of this one item was more than a person could comprehend.

Even as I write, Turkish authorities are seeking to recover these precious artefacts. They are aware of the identity of the man most likely to have committed this outrage. He dropped from the Ark search and from the public eye shortly after the theft from the two graves.

## **GIANTS**

Noah's wife's grave was measured at over twenty feet in length. A twelve foot height for the occupant would not be an unreasonable assumption.

In the same valley, Ron found a thumb bone, whose owner had been a giant. Upon examination of the specimen, I estimated that its owner must have stood twelve feet tall.



My mind drifted back to my time on the remote Pacific island of Rotuma. When a road was first built around the island, the labourers uncovered an old cemetery containing bones of such large size that they could only have belonged to bodies at least twelve feet tall. The graves of the giants are still shown on the island.

The fossils preserve evidence of a pre-Flood world of giant trees, plants and animals. A vapour canopy around the planet not only facilitated a gentle, terrarium like climate from pole to pole, but blocked out harmful cosmic rays. During the Flood, this canopy collapsed. Turbulent waters washed through the soil, redepositing highly nutritional elements into the seas.

The post-Flood world was a wreck. It had lost the protective canopy, the soil was impoverished, the climate harsh and more stressful. Rapid deterioration of life set in. But the original era of longevity and giants survived in our racial memory in the form of historical traditions, as well as in the Bible.

### ***INSCRIPTIONS IDENTIFY THE ARK***

We now travel back to 1977. In the mountains behind the boat-shaped structure, Ron, his two sons and another man, ascend to a ridge on the Turkish-Iranian border. This is wild country, inhabited by dangerous men, so they cannot stay here long.

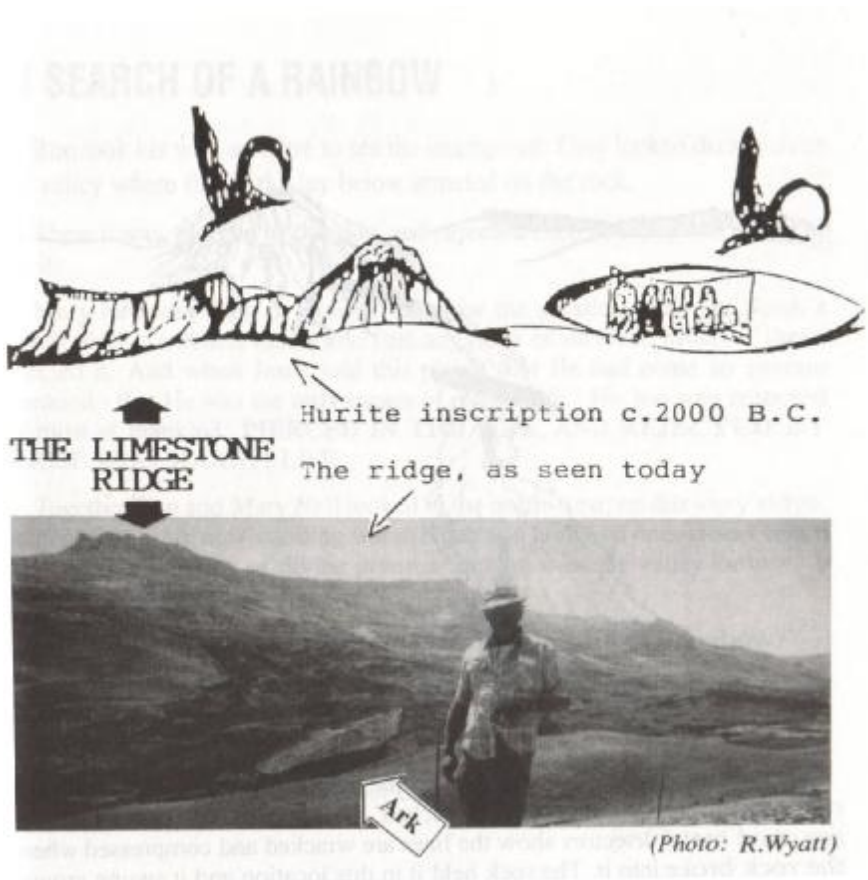
The fourth man points out to them a column. It will later be identified as a Hurite column of the third millennium B.C. It is intact.



*(Photo:  
R.Wyatt)*

This column bears a picture. It shows the limestone ridge which appears in today's photographs of the boat-shaped object. It also shows what looks like a volcanic peak to the right of that limestone ridge. (Today, this peak is not evident on the horizon, but when you climb up to this ridge where the column lies, the peak can be seen to the south.)

They stare, hardly able to believe their eyes. The inscription portrays a boat-shaped object, as seen from a high hill above the site. And on it are eight faces within the boat-shape.



More vandalism. The column has since been broken into pieces and used as boundary markers. Despite this, all pieces appear to be present. Photographs of the broken pieces with the inscription on them are currently in Ron Wyatt's possession.

What a crying pity that such important relics can survive for millennia and now, at this time, be so ruthlessly vandalised! It is well that they survived until they could be documented photographically.

### ***ARK "DESCENDED IN MUD FLOW"***

Ron pointed to the area around the boat-shaped object. "See," he said, "the flow lines in the terrain under the object indicate its descent from a higher level. I think the mud flow originated from the volcano. Volcanoes are a source of mud flows, you know."

"You think the Ark landed in a valley higher up?" I asked.



“That’s right. It appears this volcanic peak depicted in the inscription erupted, covered the boat-shape, carried it down the valley two or three miles (three or four kilometres) or a thousand feet altitude, but then it was stopped by a large rock, a limestone outcropping which is part of the bedrock.

“The boat-shape was carried down the valley sideways. When it hit the outcropping, it was impaled and ‘racked’. The break in its side is there to see. And metal detectors show the lines are wracked and compressed where the rock broke into it. The rock held it in this location and it swung around with the flowing lava.

“In time, the lava completely deteriorated (which lava does over time), leaving the distinct mudflow. However, the boat-shaped structure was held in place.

“The intense water flow, under the hardened lava, precipitated the petrification and fossilization of the structure encapsulated within the boat-shape.”

If Ron was correct, here was the TOMB OF THE ARK. That very oldest of inscriptions - the Hurite one at the top of the ridge - suggested that this was indeed the BURIED SHIP.

## ***IN SEARCH OF A RAINBOW***

Ron took his wife up there to see the inscription. They looked down over the valley where the “Ark” lay below impaled on the rock.

There it was, pierced in the side, and rejected even by many who sought for it.

Mary Nell was deep in thought. She saw the parallel. Only in Noah’s Ark could the antedeluvian world find any hope of survival. Most of them rejected it. And when Jesus told this planet that He had come to rescue mankind - that He was the only means of eternal life - He, too was rejected by most of mankind. **PIERCED IN THE SIDE, AND REJECTED BY THOSE WHO SOUGHT LIFE.**

Together Ron and Mary Nell looked to the north-west; on this very ridge, perhaps they were now standing where Noah and his loved ones stood when they saw the rainbow of divine promise arching over the valley below. A good friend, Nathan Meyer, stood with them.

“Nathan,” why don’t you ask the Lord if He will give us a rainbow?”

Nathan put in his request. He knew their Lord to be a loving Creator who cared about each of them personally.

It began to rain. And - you guessed it - the rainbow appeared over the Ararat mountains. But not just your every day rainbow. **THIS** was a flashy **DOUBLE** rainbow!

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## **Chapter 19**

### **OMEN**

***THE SEARCH FOR NOAH'S ARK IS AN ADVENTURE  
THAT HAS NO EQUAL IN TODAY'S WORLD.***

#### ***DISCOVERY NOT NEEDED***

We really don't need the Ark to be discovered. There IS so much credible evidence for creation, as well as for a global Deluge.

If I were at present a skeptic, I would now have to look at my doubts, and why I hold them.

The problem is not intellectual; it's spiritual. Most of us don't like to consider God in our thinking. We want to do things our own way.

I came across this ancient prophecy concerning the present time. Quite interesting:

"First, I want to remind you that in the last days there will come scoffers who will do every wrong they can think of, and laugh at the truth.

"This will be their line of argument: 'So Jesus promised to come back, did He? Then where is He? He'll never come! Why, as far back as anyone can remember everything has remained exactly as it was since the first day of creation.'

"They deliberately forget this fact: that God did destroy the world with a mighty flood, long after He had made the heavens by the word of His command, and had used the waters to form the earth and surround it.

"And God has commanded that the earth and the heavens be stored away for a great bonfire at the judgment day, when all ungodly men will perish." (2 Peter 3:3-7 Living Bible)

Doesn't that sound familiar? It's talking about the modern theory that known physical laws have continued without variation, without interruption. The prophecy says that this theory will arise in "the last days" before the Second Coming.

The modern skeptic unwittingly fulfils this prophecy. Ignoring evidence, he "shouts down" the Great Flood and Noah's Ark.

I say to my skeptic friends, "You should keep quiet. Then the prophecy would fail. But you're making it come true."



## ***WHAT AN AUTHENTICATED ARK DISCOVERY WOULD DO***

The confirmed discovery of the Ark would be the greatest archaeological event of all time, more newsworthy than the walk on the moon. It would have worldwide repercussions.

The authenticated discovery of a massive ship thousands of feet up on the mountains would shout loudly that a global Flood did occur. And if so, then the “evidence” from the fossils found in layers of the earth would need to be reinterpreted in terms of a global Flood. Goodbye to evolution as a scientific theory.

Remember, every major discipline in the Western world is currently dominated by philosophies based on the theory of evolution. SO JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING would be shaken.

We would need to consider that all of us have descended in very recent times from the sons of Noah.

We would need to take another look at the probability that there is a Creator who once purged the world of evil people. His LOVE and MERCY in providing for the Ark to be built as a means of rescue would become clear.

IT WOULD BE HARD FOR A THINKING PERSON TO IGNORE THE PROPHECY THAT HE IS SOON TO INTERVENE AGAIN. AND THAT SURVIVAL THIS TIME IS THROUGH ONLY ONE APPOINTED RESCUER, JESUS CHRIST.

Jonathan Gray

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