

# Aperture

The Official Publication of the International Remote Viewing Association

## Feature Article Roba Kia

by Colonel T.C. Skanchy, USAF (Ret.)

*Editor's note: The following first-hand account, edited for length, is reprinted with permission from the book Nickel on the Grass: Reflections of a U.S. Air Force Pilot, by Col. Philip W. Handley USAF (ret.), as recounted by his friend, Col. T.C. Skanchy. Though Roba Kia's contributions differ considerably from how remote viewing is usually done, still there are related elements that we can perhaps learn from this dramatic incident that would benefit our own remote viewing efforts. We also found this to be a compelling story, and thought our readers would find it as interesting and absorbing as we did.*

Sally Baronowski, our command section secretary, stuck her head in my door and said Colonel Pete Hayes urgently needed to talk to me. I had formerly worked for Pete, but now as Vice Commander of RED FLAG, I was no longer in his chain of command.

Pete didn't mince words on the phone. "T.C., we've just had a bad accident up at Mormon Mesa and we want you to take charge." Startled, I tried to get the details, but Hayes said he wouldn't talk about it on the phone. He told me to get an interim accident board together and get moving.

Sally stuck her head in the doorway again and this time her complexion was quite flushed. "Sir, there is a man on the phone who identifies himself as Roba Kia. He wants to talk to you, now. He says it is very important."

I reached for the phone. "How can I help you Mr. Roba Kia?"

"Didn't you get my letter? Why didn't you do something about it?"

"What letter?" I asked. "What are you talking about?"

"The accident. I sent you a letter warning you this accident would happen."

"Who are you?" I demanded. "You sent me a letter?"

"I am Roba Kia, the psychic. I'll be calling you back."

I couldn't believe what I was hearing.

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### Aperture

Ap - er - ture (ap'ĕr-chĕr) n. 1. A hole, cleft, gap, or space through which something, such as light, may pass. 2. A term of art in certain remote viewing methodologies, signifying the point or portal through which information transitions from the subconscious into conscious awareness.

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## APERTURE

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Letters and contributions to *Aperture* are invited. All manuscripts, review copies, reprints, and information items should be addressed to the Editor. Submission of material does not guarantee its publication.

<http://www.irva.org>

# President's Message

Welcome to another, long awaited issue of *Aperture*. At the time we published our most recent previous number, I rashly promised a more consistent publishing schedule. I won't make that mistake again, but we will hope and try to see that we do manage to shrink the time between issues. You can help with that, by giving us ideas, suggestions, news notices, submitting questions for our "Taskings and Responses" feature, or even writing for us.

Lessening the sting of the width of the gap between issues, was our brilliantly successful annual remote viewing conference just this past October. We will have a review of the conference in an upcoming issue for those who were unable to attend. But we also offer the next best thing to being there: DVDs of each and every conference presentation. You can find ordering instructions at <http://www.shopirva.org/>.

This seems like a good place

to mention our upcoming 2009 Remote Viewing Conference, celebrating the tenth anniversary of IRVA's founding. We hope to have some exciting, new presentations, plus educational workshops and hands-on remote viewing experiences. It will be this coming March in Las Vegas, but at a different, upgraded venue. For those of you who found the October weather in Vegas much more to your liking than the dead of summer, March is usually even nicer!

Because of the tardiness of this issue, we have tried to make amends by adding a few pages beyond our specified 16-page standard news-letter size. We hope you will find our added content interesting and useful!

Warmly,

Paul H. Smith



*Diane Dyan, George McMullen & Dick Allgire*



*Paul H. Smith and Jacques F. Vallee, Ph.D.,  
Keynote Speaker*



*Conference Panel Discussion.  
Left to right: Paul H. Smith,  
Glenn B. Wheaton, Marty  
Rosenblatt, Pam Coronado,  
Lyn Buchanan.*

# RV Training

## The Challenge for IRVA

by Bill Stroud, Ph.D.

Organizations reflect stages of their development. In infancy, they struggle to survive; in adolescence, they fight for an identity; and at maturity they institutionalize their eccentric character with a strict orthodoxy. IRVA presently is engaged in defining and declaring the boundaries of its emerging maturity.

This defining stage includes clarifying what gives remote viewing its distinction; e.g., how remote viewing is distinct from telepathy, clairvoyance, out-of-body experiences, etc.; how it is different from other less defined operations that are often referred to as “remote viewing”; and, even more important, how IRVA can preserve its distinction and promote its goals whatever be its final official definition (orthodoxy).

When an organization constructs an official profile for itself, it also defines what is not official; i.e., orthodoxy has its counterpart: heresy. The faithful are distinguished from the unfaithful (infidels!) and the legitimate from the illegitimate. Like founding fathers protecting a revered bloodline, they exhibit a fear that somewhere down the line the children will not look like the fathers at all.

Whatever the final face that IRVA may wear, the protection of its character and distinction as an organization will be determined by how it answers a primary challenge: training. Training for many organizations is merely pragmatic and procedural. Training in RV, however, entails not only procedures; it involves theory and refined conceptions as well. Ironically, even the rationale for training itself is rooted in a conceptual consideration. For instance, some notables within the movement have openly stated that training makes little difference in one’s ability to be successful in remote viewing. To these proponents of the “natural borns,” training is seen as a waste of time. Others see training in remote viewing as similar to training in other skills, one in which specific training in procedures and mental supervision advances the student to new levels of competency. Proponents of the latter position have designed formal training programs for teaching the concepts and skills of remote viewing, operating as regular

entrepreneurial concerns with marketing strategies to promote their businesses.

The pivotal role of training carries a further burden for IRVA. The Association recruits many of its members through the available training programs. Exposure to the discipline through radio talk shows may titillate the public about the phenomenon of psychic acquisition of knowledge from a distance, but many of IRVA’s members have associated themselves with the organization as a further step beyond their formal training in the discipline. This recruitment factor, however, is directly related to the question of RV’s definition and proposed orthodoxy: When trainers within the discipline become creative and move beyond the tenets of traditional procedures and concepts, IRVA, like every organization, finds itself facing a dilemma: protecting a closed traditionalism vs. being open to novel concepts and procedures. And the consequence is not trivial. If IRVA does not adequately define itself, its future characterization may become so inclusive that it will lose all distinction in the parapsychology community. Furthermore, since the present training programs continue to funnel new members to the Association, the interpretations and procedures of those schools most successful in student recruitment—but not necessarily the ones with the best quality or soundness of training—may become the ones that most greatly influence what develops as the character and distinction of the Association.

Essentially, the distinction challenge can be stated as a choice among options, with orthodoxy on one end of a continuum and polydoxy on the other. If RV is so open-ended (polydoxy) that every phenomenon of anomalous perception and every proposed activity and procedure become known as remote viewing, then the name loses its cash value in the psychological market. (A word that comes to mean everything essentially means nothing.) On the other hand, if RV is defined by—and restricted to—a specific configuration of theory and procedures established at a particular period (an



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*RV Training: The Challenge for IRVA, continued from page 3*

orthodoxy), then it essentially will become frozen in a rigid paradigm that eventually will make it appear primitive and irrelevant.

Considering the challenges stated above, in the future training is likely to become the recruiting—and ultimately the defining—dynamic of the Association. Consequently, opportunity for accessing training in the discipline of RV is crucial to the success of the movement. In fact, IRVA owes much of its original formulation to the discussions that ensued among those who were turning out students of the discipline. But since the Association is at arm's length from these trainers, it is faced with the prospect of seeing, not necessarily the best, but the most prolific school as ultimately determining what characterizes the distinction of the Association.

On the other hand, some of these trainers have been responsible for invaluable nuances and creative elaborations of traditional theories and practices of the discipline. For instance, the ambiance exercise and the stylized ideogram concept set forth by Lyn Buchanan are examples of innovations that appear to be positive contributions to the discipline. Also, the fact that *Aperture* accepted and published an article by yours truly ("The Essential Overlap Matrix: An Extension for a Remote-Viewing Tool," *Aperture*, Vol. 2, Number 2, 2003, p. 5.) indicates editorial openness to examine novel ideas and procedures. The training challenge, therefore, will be to continue to formulate a core profile of orthodoxy without

being so restrictive as to stifle innovation per se.

The answer may lie within a dual approach to providing training in RV: Basic training provided by the Association, with more advanced and certification training being provided by trainers who are officially IRVA certified. The former could be video segments that introduce the rudiments of the theory and practice. This primer could provide two benefits: 1) virtually free elementary training, which would serve to assuage the ire of those who seem to resent having to pay for CRV training. (Those who resent training fees seem to expect trainers to be barefoot messianic mendicants sacrificing their lives for the cause of remote viewing); and 2) a perennial reservoir of new candidates for the more advanced sessions provided by certified independent IRVA trainers. To provide latitude for creativity,

the certified trainers could be free to embellish their sessions with expanded concepts and procedures so long as the rudiments of a basic authorized litany

of concepts and procedures were introduced within the training regimen.

Whatever IRVA does in the future to enhance its mission of promoting remote viewing, the challenge of training will continue to rank as a high priority. It is hoped that whatever options the Association chooses for this task, it will include some stable parameters of definition for itself while allowing creativity and innovation to expand its horizons. ☉

**A word that comes  
to mean everything  
essentially means nothing.**

## Taskings & Responses

(Q & A)

Have you been burning to ask a question of some remote-viewing expert? Are you wanting to know something about remote viewing, but didn't know where to turn for an answer? As we regularly print questions and answers in the Taskings & Responses column of *Aperture*, please forward your questions to:

info1@irva.org (with T&R Editor in the subject line), or mail to:  
T&R Editor, *Aperture*  
P.O. Box 381  
E. Windsor Hill, CT 06028

*Roba Kia, continued from page 1*

The mid-air had occurred at around 23,000 feet, scattering wreckage over several hundred square miles. From rescue helicopters it appeared nobody survived. The F-15 was piloted by Major Bob Ellis. He was an outstanding, experienced fighter pilot who had just been awarded the coveted Robby Risner award the previous Sunday, given for advancing fighter tactics. In Bob's back seat was a young captain who was a ground-controlled, intercept (GCI) controller flying an orientation ride. I had known Bob Ellis for many years. I was his commander at both Luke and Nellis Air Force Bases. Flying the F-5E was a highly experienced Aggressor pilot I also knew and respected.

I quickly put together an interim accident board consisting of Majors Buzz Buzze and Phil Hoffman, both able F-15 pilots whom I trusted implicitly. I also asked for a medical expert, specifying Lt. Col. (Dr.) Earl Yuntis. "Doc" Yuntis was an Air Force flight surgeon that pilots trusted. Most flight surgeons were looked on by pilots as arch enemies because they could ground pilots on a whim or some absurd technicality. Not Yuntis. He'd move heaven and earth to keep a pilot healthy and flying.

Within three hours after the accident my team was well in motion, writing up an accident message to go out to higher headquarters and collecting evidence. They gathered useful material which included taking statements from witnesses, impounding tape recordings from ground stations, and getting the participating aircraft video tapes.

An F-16 flown by an outstanding fighter pilot, Major Joe Bob Phillips, had been able to video tape the accident a second after the violent impact and explosion. Modern fighters have a video system that tapes what the pilot is seeing on the aircraft's radar and on the head's up display (HUD). The tape system is activated by the pilot.

Phillips was part of Ellis' flight, fighting against the Aggressors who simulated Soviet style tactics. He was several thousand feet below and a couple of miles behind Ellis' F-15 when the accident occurred. He pulled his aircraft's nose up towards the fireball—the video system was already activated. Captured on the tape was the tremendous explosion with Phillips' commentary. Pieces of flaming wreckage were documented on tape

flying off in various directions. Also documented were Phillips' F-16's heading, airspeed, and altitude providing valuable clues about the accident.

The afternoon of the tragedy I hopped into a Nellis AFB helicopter and flew up to the accident scene at Mormon Mesa, located about 50 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Hundreds of pieces of wreckage were visible from the air. The on scene commander reported to me that search parties had been unable to find the remains of the three men. I was counting on Joe Bob's video tape to provide some indication as to where they might be.

When I got back to my office at Red Flag there was a message waiting from Roba Kia; he wanted me to call him at his residence. That telephone number will be forever burned into my mind. Talking to a real psychic was an experience very different from the "1-900" phone-in type. During each of our many conversations Roba Kia seemed to know exactly where I was in the investigation without me telling him.

"I know you are having trouble finding the remains. Tell them to look under wreckage for one of them, one is in the cockpit, and the other may still be alive," he said. His words were haunting and depressing but spurred me to faster action.

I went over the Phillips video tape with a Red Flag photographic analyst looking for any clues. We noticed a large piece of flaming F-15 wreckage was thrown 90 degrees away from the heading the F-15 was traveling at

the instant of impact. Could this be the cockpit portion containing the bodies of the two men? I had to be sure, so I arranged for my team to fly a helicopter up

to the area at first light. Before going home that night I stopped by the Ellis house to pay my respects to Bob's wife Marge and his two children.

As we flew to Mormon Mesa the next morning my plan was to search the sector where I thought the missing wreckage had fallen. First, we reconnoitered the area of interest from the air, plotting on our maps the pieces of metal we observed. After landing we commenced a search on foot, dividing into teams of two. We walked for miles finding hundreds of small pieces of metal that turned out to be radar confusing chaff dropped by other fighters during the realistic exercises held at Nellis AFB.

*continued on page 6*

**He pulled his aircraft's nose up towards the fireball—the video system was already activated.**

*Roba Kia, continued from page 5*

We did not find the aircraft wreckage we were looking for. That flaming suspect wreckage proved to be a large ball of burning fuel violently torn out of the disintegrating F-15.

At the main crash site a hundred airmen were at work gathering up the fragmented pieces of wreckage and searching for human remains. Roba Kia suggested we look under wreckage for one of the pilot's so I diplomatically told the on site commander to have his men search carefully. The F-5E pilot's body was soon found, but the other men were still missing as we helicoptered back to Nellis AFB late that afternoon.

When I walked into my office I found several messages from Roba Kia, and the letter he claimed to have mailed to me prior to the accident. But before I contacted the psychic I had a number of details to act on. An old friend of mine, Lt. Col. Bill Crossman, commanded an Air Force Reserve helicopter search and rescue outfit that was part of a Red Flag exercise in progress at Nellis AFB. Besides the helicopters, the unit had personnel trained by Army Special Forces who could search for downed airman in enemy territory and get them out, on foot if necessary. I asked Bill to dispatch a search team to the area and conduct a foot search through the rugged terrain.

I also arranged for a Boise, Idaho, Air National RF-4C reconnaissance aircraft to overfly the area and take pictures with infrared cameras. The infrared should have been able to detect wreckage and the bodies. The pictures taken by the RF-4C were of no help.

I next alerted my accident team and the helicopter crew that we would be searching the main wreckage tract the following morning.

That evening I changed into my dress blues, and with my wife Karen went to the base chapel for the memorial services of the three men.

I called Roba Kia late. Without me bringing up the subject, he expressed satisfaction that we had recovered one of the pilots. I wondered how he knew sensitive information that hadn't been released to outside sources; he just knew. He also told me all of the remains of the F-5E pilot had not been recovered, and he described in graphic detail what was missing and where it could be

found. I told him we would finish the job, and added that I had received his letter.

Roba Kia's envelope contained a typed letter and a hand written diagram depicting how the aircraft would collide, along with his description of the accident. It also included a paragraph pleading with me to help him prevent future accidents. I could not prove he mailed the letter the day before the accident as he claimed, but he dated his diagram the day prior to the accident. I asked Roba Kia how he knew I would be handling the investigation; he said it came to him in a vision.

I submitted the diagram to the accident board president, who upon completion relieved me of the investigation. After the inquiry was closed the document was returned to me and I kept the original (accurate) diagram in my papers for several years. Unfortunately, they were lost by the moving company transporting my personal affects from Daytona Beach, Florida to Springfield, Virginia.

My next conversation with Roba Kia focused on finding the other two pilots. He told me that the F-15 pilot was still in the cockpit of the aircraft and the other pilot, who had lived for a short time, was in kind of a "rocking chair" laying on its right side. Neither of his statements seemed probable so I asked Roba Kia if we could meet at his house the next afternoon after I returned from the crash site.

It was on a Thursday, the third day after the crash that my team and I flew again to Mormon Mesa. We had plotted on a map the pattern of the F-15's located wreckage and a pattern of debris that led over a cliff and into a deep gully. After several hours of hiking down the gully we found a large portion of the F-15's cockpit. Inside were the remains of Major Bob Ellis, still strapped in his ejection seat.

While flying back to Nellis AFB I reported to my boss, General Kelly, who told me to continue the effort of locating the third pilot. Although the Air Force would move heaven and earth to find accident victims, the still to be located pilot had taken on an even greater urgency. Not released to the press or known outside a small circle of people, was that the young GCI captain was a Black man. There had been no mention in the newspapers, TV, or radio about the race of any of the men. General Kelly felt

**I wondered how he knew sensitive information that hadn't been released to outside sources....**

*continued on page 7*

*Roba Kia, continued from page 6*

that it would look very bad if we found two of the three pilots (Caucasians) and not the Black officer. I agreed with him. He told me to find this man, whatever it took.

I also told General Kelly about my ROE violation investigation. Although not finished, I told him I felt there would be no smoking gun. All participants in the air-to-air engagement had been professional and flew according to the ROEs.

It was soon time to drive to Roba Kia's house. He lived in Henderson, Nevada, in a large mobile home. He met me at the door, introduced me to his wife who departed immediately, and invited me to sit down. I opened my briefcase and spread out the detailed maps I had brought.

Roba Kia was a kindly looking gentleman of about 55 years of age. He had white hair and stood approximately 5 feet 8 inches tall with a medium build. He looked like anybody's grandfather, except for his eyes. They were a penetrating blue, almost a turquoise color that seemed to take in everything. As I talked with him he looked deep into my eyes as if he were penetrating my brain and reading my thoughts.

He already knew we had recovered the F-15 pilot and the final remains of the F-5E pilot. He also gave me various messages for the families of the deceased pilots which he said he received from them through séances.

He then told me something that rocked me. He said the evening before our meeting he had been with the Black pilot whose remains are in a "rocking chair" laying on its right side.

I was shocked. I said, "Mr. Roba Kia, how did you know that this man was Black?"

"Oh, I've known since I first visited him. This man is fun loving and likes music. He has changed into white pants, a tropical shirt, and wears a wide brimmed hat that he likes to throw up in the air and catch. He also runs up and down the cliff where his earthly remains are while he laughs and sings."

It was as if I had been kicked in the stomach. I was speechless to hear this kind of talk. Roba Kia then indicated that this man had lived for a short span of time after the moment of the impact. He said we could have saved the young captain if we had gotten to him sooner.

This proved not to be the case . . . thank God.

I presented the search plan to Roba Kia for the following day (Friday) using my maps. I was highly interested to hear where on the map Roba Kia thought we could find the missing body. He had no idea. He said he could not relate what he saw in his séances or visions to what the map showed.

I asked if he would be interested in conducting a séance while we searched the next day. I thought if he was not faking we could be at a given location at a given time and be able to correlate that place with his vision. Roba Kia was not interested. He said he would drive up to Mormon Mesa in his 1975 Chevrolet and look over the terrain. He felt he could tell us where to search by looking over the bigger picture of a non-séance view.

True to his word, as we helicoptered up to Mormon Mesa following the Southern Pacific railroad tracks that cut through the area, there was Roba Kia in his Chevrolet kicking up a cloud of dust. The road to the crash site was an unimproved Southern Pacific maintenance road (he should have been in a jeep), and not long after we overflowed him his Chevrolet became stuck. After several hours a track maintenance crew came along and helped Roba Kia turn around and head back towards Henderson. The psychic was unable to reach the crash site.

Our efforts also proved futile. We needed to search the rougher terrain in the area to the east, but I didn't push our luck. The Nellis AFB helicopter crew was not very experienced and I did not want to pressure them into flying beyond their capabilities – especially since I was a passenger in the helicopter.

After getting back to Nellis AFB that Friday afternoon I called Roba Kia. I wanted to see if he could help us out with a séance. He said he thought he could.

I arranged for the two Nellis AFB UH-1 helicopters and a Department of Energy (DOE) UH-1 to fly a grid search on that Sunday. The DOE helicopter was painted red, white, and blue, and the two Air Force helicopters were painted olive drab. The helicopters were only good for about an hour of search time, so only one helicopter would be airborne at a time. The other two would sit at the staging area on Mormon Mesa waiting for the

**The DOE helicopter was painted red, white, and blue, and the two Air Force helicopters were painted olive drab.**

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# ReView

by Cheryle Hopton

## **Encyclopedia Horrifica The Terrifying TRUTH! About Vampires, Ghosts Monsters, and More**

By Joshua Gee. Scholastic, Inc., 2007.  
Hardcover, 138pp ISBN: 0439922550

I know what you're thinking: Why is IRVA reviewing a book aimed at children and teenagers? Actually, there are several reasons, and one of them is a section that discusses remote viewing and other aspects of parapsychology. The title is *Q&A with a Psychic Spy*, and it features Paul H. Smith. The article spans six pages and provides a photo of Paul, the building at Fort Meade where the Star Gate project began, and a target photo and session sketch by Paul. It even has a photo of the display board Paul's son created for the successful remote viewing project he presented at his fifth grade science fair.

In addition, there's a brief synopsis of Paul's involvement in the Star Gate program and a Q&A with the author, Joshua Gee. If you pay close attention you will find a photo of Paul's book, *Reading the Enemy's Mind*, in one of the horrific sections.

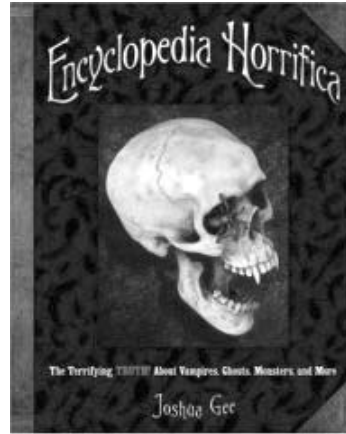
So, if you have curious little folk in your family, this book is a gentle way to introduce them to remote viewing.

### **TURN BACK! NOW! WHILE YOU STILL CAN!**

That's what Joshua Gee, Chief Investigator of the Unexplained, warns each fear seeker before they are invited into his world of facts vs. fiction. A memorandum from Horrific Headquarters assures the reader that they "steadfastly pursue all of the most slithery, undead, repulsive, and/or foul-smelling answers to each question."

The designers ignored most of the rules when they created this book and it succeeds beautifully by capturing the reader's attention and curiosity. The layout is casual, and there are heaps of photos, film stills, reproductions of newspaper clippings and documents, and

colorful art work. In addition, they created a striking hardcover with a lenticular (holographic 3-D effect) showing a spider crawling in and out of the skull's eye socket on the frontispiece. It sounds creepy, but it's very cool.



The author shares his quest for the truth and fearology in four parts: *Real Nightmares*, "That's the Spirit!", *Every Day is Halloween*, and *Fearsome Fates*. Part one examines vampires, aliens, werewolves and sea creatures. Did you know that in 2006 scientists discovered a shark that walks on its fins, enabling it to hunt in shallow waters? That gives new meaning to the *Land Shark* skit from Saturday Night Live....

Part two covers everything you ever wanted to know about ghosts: how they haunt, phantoms on film, ghostly pets and more. It also has a two page Q&A with Loyd "Professor Paranormal" Aubach.

Part three provides the locations of odd shops and eerie eateries, telekinesis, government psychic spies and information on horrific books and superstitions. I didn't realize that wearing green brings grief; so much for my family tartan. Drat!

Part four gives you the low down on zombies, pixies, mummies and murder.

Just for fun you can test your friends for ESP with Zener cards (the ones with a cross, circle, square, star or wavy lines). All you need to do is copy the page and cut them out. You can get more involved by testing your ghost busting abilities, or wait for the final mystery when the author goes missing. The book's endpapers are covered with select pages from Joshua Gee's personal notebook which provide clues to solving his disappearance; I hear this is difficult enough for us big kids.

The book reaches *Un fini lisse* with a detailed index, and an extensive bibliography for anyone interested in further investigation.

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*Roba Kia, continued from page 7*

appointed time to takeoff and search the specified area.

My plan was to talk to Roba Kia on the phone while he conducted his séance pinpointing where the final pilot lay. I had a very carefully timed plan for grid searches. If he could actually project himself out to the site I would know exactly where he was by having only one helicopter flying a specified area at a stipulated time.

I drove over to Henderson to meet with Roba Kia and discuss my plan. I saw his beat up Chevrolet and hoped he didn't plan on suing me or the Air Force for the damage; his car appeared to have a lot more wear and tear on it than it had a few days earlier.

I explained the methodical search plan set up for Sunday and asked if he agreed with the strategy. He said the plan was great and he would be able to work with me in a séance. While still highly skeptical, I asked him what color he thought the helicopters would be.

"Brown, or dark green like army trucks," he responded. I thought to myself that it was just fine that he didn't know about the red, white, and blue DOE helicopter.

I asked, "Roba Kia, why are you going to all the time and effort to do this? I can't pay you, nor can the Air Force."

"I have done this for a thousand years, and if I refuse to help people, God will take my gift away."

He went on to tell me that his daughter was also a psychic but that his wife did not have the power. He also said that he knew who he was in previous lives and that we are all reincarnated. He turned to me and said, "You know, you have psychic powers. I can tell by looking into your eyes. All you need is a little practice."

He then pulled out some written material and drawings from a drawer and showed me mystical psychic symbols, and explained how a séance worked. I felt very uncomfortable and I wanted to get out of there, quickly. Telling him I needed to get back to Nellis AFB, I gathered up my maps and started to leave. He stopped me and said he had some personal messages from the dead for their families. I listened to him, and then he said, "Tell the woman with the big black dog to be careful, the dog will bite her hand three times." The Ellis family had an Irish Setter and I thought perhaps that message was meant for Marge Ellis.

That evening I was late getting home due to paper work, making final arrangements for the helicopters, and stopping by the Nellis AFB Officer's Club for a well earned beer. After arriving home, Karen said that Roba Kia needed to talk to me and that when he called he said, "I know you are sewing, and I am sorry to disturb you, but I need to talk to your husband." Karen went on to say, "I sew about once a year and somehow he knew I was sewing." Well, that is Roba Kia.

The next day, Saturday, came and went and no further progress was made in finding the missing pilot although several search parties, including the Reserve rescue team, was combing the hills. I spent that day at Nellis AFB pouring over transcripts and depositions on the accident. I still owed General Kelly my report on how I thought the accident had occurred and the official report wouldn't be available to the General for several more weeks.

That evening Karen and I went to a farewell dinner for our old friend, Colonel Jerry Cobb, who was transferring to Alaska to be the wing commander at Elmendorf, AFB. While at the dinner I received a message to call my daughter, Jill, at home.

I phoned Jill, who knew nothing about this psychic. She was a bit shocked and said this strange man with a haunting voice called for me. Roba Kia had told her he knew Jill was our daughter, and that I should call him back. I told her it was okay, and that I knew the man.

I called Roba Kia. He had more insight about the accident, the pilots, and wanted to confirm the plan was still on for the following day. It was. The helicopter search was to begin at 10:00 a.m.

Early the next morning (Sunday) I felt very troubled about the psychic powers Roba Kia seemed to have. While trying to keep busy I decided to clip our little black Cockapoo dog, Angus. However this dog had an awful disposition, especially when he was being groomed. He hated the process and exhibited real malevolence towards me when I was clipping him.

While I was cutting his hair and not paying close attention to the dog or what I was doing (because my mind was far away thinking about Mormon Mesa) I suddenly nicked that little Tasmanian Devil. Before I could move out of harms way he bit me hard, three times. My right

**Tell the woman with the  
big black dog to be  
careful, the dog will bite  
her hand three times.**

*continued on page 11*



## **RV Conference Talks have new look...and are easier to get!**

Until now, IRVA has had an ongoing struggle to find a reliable way to handle our growing catalog of outstanding remote viewing conference presentations. Those of you who have recently purchased recordings of those talks were no doubt pleased to find that they now have a more professional look to them, and that ordering them is much simpler and more efficient. All of this is thanks to IRVA volunteer John Stahler, who has dedicated many hours and not a few of his own dollars to collecting, editing, and designing in an attempt to make these priceless recordings both more attractive and more accessible. The full catalog of presentations from the 2006 and 2007 conferences are available now, and John is working hard to process all the other conferences going back to the year 2000. One bonus is that all presentations will be available on DVD, whereas until now most—when available at all—were only on videotape. A further benefit is “one-click” ordering through our <http://www.rvconference.org> website. Now is your chance to make these path-breaking talks a permanent part of your collection!

## **IRVA Secretary Change**

We are sorry to report that IRVA’s secretary for the past two years, Cynthia Tompkins, has left the position to dedicate more time for the care of her husband, Bill, who is struggling with cancer. We are much appreciative of her good work and service, and wish her and Bill the best. We are in the process of recruiting a suitable replacement to fill her shoes, and will hopefully be able to give you the details of that choice in the next issue of Aperture. In the meantime, we urge all of you to join us in extending our prayers and intentions on behalf of Cynthia and Bill Tompkins.

## **Iraq War Veteran Back Where He Belongs**

In a bit of good news, IRVA treasurer Sandy Ray’s husband Bill has safely returned from his second tour in the war zone as a military counterintelligence specialist. Bill, as you may recall, has been master-of-ceremonies for two of IRVA’s remote viewing conferences. He is a veteran of Ingo Swann’s CRV training, and was a commander of the Fort Meade military remote viewing unit for 18 months. We welcome Bill home, and hope he doesn’t have to leave again any time soon.

## **IRVA President Speaks to Scottish Psychological Society – and soon to the Society for Scientific Exploration**

IRVA president Paul H. Smith introduced remote viewing and IRVA to a packed lecture hall at Glasgow University May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Attending were members and friends of the Scottish Society for Psychological Research. His topic was “Remote Viewing and Consciousness.” Paul first presented the basics of remote viewing to the audience, many of whom had heard the term but were unsure what it meant. He then went on to a discussion of what we can learn about consciousness from the remote viewing phenomenon. Well over a hundred people attended and asked many good and insightful questions. Afterwards, the discussion moved a few blocks down the street to the upstairs rooms of a local pub where further attempts were made to untangle the problems of the universe! (For more information on the Scottish Society for Psychological Research, go to <http://www.sspr.co.uk/> )

In another official event, Paul is also invited to address the 2008 conference of the Society for Scientific Exploration in Boulder, Colorado (June 25-28 – information at <http://www.scientificexploration.org/meetings.php> ). His topic will be “Why ESP is Consciousness’ Only Hope.” Other IRVA directors and remote viewing luminaries who will speak at the SSE conference include John Alexander, Dale Graff, Dean Radin, Courtney Brown, and Robert Jahn. ☯

*Roba Kia, continued from page 9*

hand was bandaged for several days after the incident. Roba Kia was right about the dog and the bites. I was wrong about the Ellis' dog . . . it was Skanchy's dog.

At around 9:30 am I called the Nellis AFB Command Post and confirmed that the helicopters were at the base site and ready to go. I then called Roba Kia and told him we were on schedule to start the session at 10:00 am.

Exactly on time Roba Kia went into that strange state in his séance. He spoke with a deep voice similar to the way psychics and people who are hypnotized are portrayed on television and in the movies. He told me he was standing on a cliff beside the "rocking chair" with the deceased soul still strapped in. I had told Roba Kia the day before that he was describing a man in his ejection seat, but Roba Kia chose to refer to the seat as a "rocking chair."

The first helicopter had been airborne for some time and flying over the grid I thought was the most likely location of the dead pilot. Roba Kia couldn't hear or see a helicopter. I asked him to tell me where the sun was from his position, hoping that would help pinpoint his location. He said he couldn't see the sun because he was in a box canyon with a black, water stained cliff at the end. I asked Roba Kia to describe the surroundings. He said the ejection seat was half way down the black cliff, laying on its right side. At the base of the cliff were trees, shrubbery, two or three springs, and farther down the canyon towards the entrance were several old mines with tailings piled around. I thought this a highly unlikely description. Nothing in the accident area looked like that to me.

By this time the second helicopter had flown its search pattern and had departed. Roba Kia still hadn't heard or seen a helicopter. I thought to myself that this effort might be a failure and my confidence was fading. I began to wonder if the people I was working with would think I was going off the deep edge.

I continued this eerie conversation with Roba Kia as the third helicopter began to carry out its prearranged search. The UH-1 was the DOE red, white, and blue helicopter. Following where the helicopter should have been searching on the map, I kept asking Roba Kia if he had seen or heard the helicopter. There was only about

ten minutes remaining in the search.

Suddenly he said, "I can hear a helicopter coming. Now I can see it. Tell the helicopter to stop. It is right over the top of me." I told him I didn't have direct contact with the helicopter.

Rapidly drawing a big red circle on my map I asked, "Roba Kia, what color is the helicopter?"

"It is red, white." He hesitated then said, "Red white, and blue."

That was good enough for me. I told him I thought we had located the site. I did not mention to Roba Kia the next steps I was to take. I didn't want him to be in the way. The circle on the map was to the east of where we had been looking. It was on Mormon Mountain.

I noticed that the local TV weatherman was forecasting a heavy spring snowstorm moving into the Las Vegas area the following evening (Monday). I called the

Air Force weather people and they confirmed they expected heavy snow on the ground by Tuesday up on Mormon Mesa.

I needed to move fast so I called Lt. Col. Bill Crossman. I told Crossman I wanted his three search and rescue helicopters for a special mission the next morning and to forget about the Red Flag participation. When Bill called me back to say the mission was on he asked where to have the crews for the briefing. I said that I needed them in the briefing trailer behind the Red Flag building at 7:00 am the following morning.

I then called the Base Commander and asked for an aircraft fuel truck full of jet fuel. I arranged for several trusted Red Flag staff to lead the truck to the right location. I wanted the truck positioned on a flat clearing where the Southern Pacific service road came off a hard surfaced highway. This would provide a landing and refueling spot for the helicopters. The truck was to leave at 5:00 am.

Sunday evening seemed to drag by. My adrenaline was pumping and I wanted to get this thing over with. Still lying awake at 11:00 pm I heard three distinct knocks coming from what I thought was our front door. I laid there and listened; Three more knocks.

I said, "Karen, are you awake?"

"Yes", she replied.

**I thought to myself that this effort might be a failure and my confidence was fading.**

*continued on page 12*

*Roba Kia, continued from page 11*

“Do you hear those knocks?” She did.

I went down stairs and opened the front door. No one was there. I looked around outside but found nothing, so I climbed the stairs and went back to bed. Once again, three knocks. Shaken, I sat at the top of the steps to try to catch the knocking phantom in action. Three more knocks. This time it sounded like they were coming from my daughter’s bedroom to my right.

Grabbing a flashlight I quietly walked into her room and turned the light towards the noise. It was Paige’s gerbil banging the water bottle—clang, clang, clang—a pause, and clang, clang, clang. Roba Kia wasn’t trying to get a message to me after all.

The next morning I was at Red Flag an hour early to confirm the fuel truck was on its way and to work out the briefing. I ran into my boss, Colonel Jim Woods. Jim said, “T.C., you can’t take any Red Flag assets,” meaning I couldn’t use the helicopters. This was one time I would defy a direct order. It was probably our last chance to find that poor, deceased soul.

With my trusted helpers, Major Phil Hoffman and Doctor Yuntis, I briefed the three helicopter crews on what the mission was, what we were going to look for, and how I knew what to look for. I told them about the psychic, the body in the ejection seat, the blind canyon, the cliff, the mines, and the springs. These guys were real pros, and if we had a chance of succeeding the reservists could help us pull it off.

Lt. Col. Bill Crossman then took over the briefing, providing the details: Takeoff time, search patterns, refueling at the truck, and safety details.

Sally Baronowski came to the briefing trailer and said, “That man wants to talk to you again—now.” I said I would follow her to the office. Sally told me she was humoring Roba Kia when he called.

“Get a pencil and take this message,” he told her.

Sally didn’t have a pencil or pen in her hand and decided she’d remember his message for me. When Roba Kia began to dictate the message all of a sudden he shouted into the phone, “I said get a pencil, now.” Sally said it was like he was looking over her shoulder. I told her I thought Roba Kia was.

He had given Sally a cryptic message about smoke and a dove which made no sense to me so I called him.

Roba Kia said he knew we were going on a search mission and he’d be there.

“Look for the dove and the smoke. That is how I will lead you to the body.”

What did that mean? I mused to myself.

Taking Phil and “Doc” with me in the helicopter I believed we would find the body, and off we went. Unfortunately, I was in a great deal of pain from internal injuries received in a plane crash year’s earlier. I knew this was going to be a tough day.

The weather was already turning sour and we wouldn’t have many hours to search. We overflowed the fuel truck at the refueling spot, and then turned up the Southern Pacific railroad tracks and up to Mormon Mountain (the eastern

defining point of Mormon Mesa).

The helicopters set up their search patterns on the western face of the mountain. Lt. Col. Crossman was taking the highest grid; we were in the third helicopter searching the lowest grid on the mountain. After about thirty minutes the pilot of the middle helicopter radioed, “We’ve got a delta oscar.” That was code for having located a “dead one.” Our helicopter moved up to the location. There on the side of a dark, stained cliff was the ejection seat, about half way down.

On a reasonably level spot at the base of the cliff our helicopter hovered a foot above the ground allowing us to get out with a little equipment and a body bag. We climbed up the side of the cliff to the ejection seat, and I cut the pilot out of straps with a knife. Then we carried the body down to where the helicopter could hover and pick us up. Dr. Yuntis thought it was doubtful the captain had survived the collision with the F-5E. If he did, he died as his body crashed down the cliff.

The ground search team dispatched by Lt. Col. Crossman were attracted by the helicopters and made their way down the steep cliffs. There is a good chance that if the helicopter search had not been launched this team would have eventually found the pilot. The ground team was picked up by one of the helicopters and flown back to Nellis AFB with us. The search was carried out so fast that the helicopters did not require refueling from the awaiting truck.

I kept wondering about Roba Kia’s signs—the white dove and the smoke. I was in so much physical pain

*continued on page 13*

**After about thirty minutes  
the pilot of the middle  
helicopter radioed, “We’ve  
got a delta oscar.”**

*Roba Kia, continued from page 12*

that I couldn't concentrate on the signs, but I was still very intrigued. I found a great emotional release flying back to Nellis AFB.

My report concluded that the accident was most likely caused by the F-5E pilot seeing the trailing F-16 and not Ellis' F-15. Thinking that the F-16 was the leading attacker, the Aggressor inadvertently descended through the F-15's altitude, colliding with the Eagle when both aircraft were belly up to each other. I did not believe there was any willful violation of ROEs. It was a simple miscalculation on the part of the Aggressor with tragic results.

I called Roba Kia. He said he knew all about the search and recovery. He said he was there and asked me if I spotted the signs. I told him no. I then asked if I could drive over to see the gray-haired psychic the next morning. He agreed to the meeting.

I composed a nice, heart-felt letter of appreciation from the Air Force to Roba Kia, signed by me. Sally typed up the letter and I drove over to see him. I shook hands with Roba Kia very gingerly because of my injured right hand. I showed him where the "big" black dog had bitten me three times as he foresaw, except it was me with the dog bites, not Marge Ellis. He smiled about that.

I told Roba Kia about the pervious day's mission, and how appreciative the Air Force and our country were for his efforts. I stated that he was a fine American and had given a lot considering the Air Force couldn't pay him, and I sure couldn't. I then presented him with the framed letter of appreciation.

How do you make a living when you're not helping preventing accidents, solving murders, and finding lost children? I asked.

He smiled and said, "I am a consultant, and I tell people what numbers to place bets on."

Well, he was a gambling consultant, a good profession for a psychic in Las Vegas.

He then turned very serious and said he wanted me to be a conduit to the aviation world for prevention of future accidents. I told him I didn't know if I could do this. It would take a lot of grit to do so—trying to talk people out of flying because a psychic saw dangers in their future. It would drain all a person's emotions, and I would be branded a crack pot for sure.

Closing his eyes and looking very perplexed, Roba Kia said, "The Thunderbirds had something wrong with the 'tail' of one of their aircraft and if something wasn't done

six aircraft would crash, killing all six pilots."

I was astounded. What was he talking about? Nothing like that could possibly happen in a thousand years.

As I stood at the door of his trailer house I shook his hand again, and I told Roba Kia I would get back to him about becoming his "conduit to the aviation world." The truth was that I wanted to put a lot of distance between myself and Roba Kia. The mid-air had taken a lot out of me, and part of the stress was working with him.

Some months later I was attending the University of Southern California's Accident Investigation School that was taught at Norton, AFB, San Bernardino, California. After class one evening I was enjoying a beer at the Officers' Club and I struck up a conversation with a pilot I had never met before. Within minutes he was telling me a wild story about a psychic aiding an aircraft accident investigation at Nellis, AFB. Of course, his story was greatly embellished and exaggerated. I told him I was the Vice Commander of Red Flag at Nellis, AFB, in charge of the investigation, and the way it really happened. This was the first of many times I heard the Roba Kia story. Each time, the story was far different from the truth.

A year later, Karen, the girls and I were at the Army War College, Carlisle Pennsylvania. That spring of 1982, six Thunderbird pilots were killed when their T-38s crashed. They were bottoming out of a loop while practicing at Indian Springs Auxiliary, 30 miles northwest of Nellis, AFB. A foreign object had made its way into the slab actuator of the Thunderbird leader's T-38. The actuator could not function properly, making it impossible to pull hard enough to keep from hitting the ground. It was too late for the wingmen to make individual recoveries when they realized that something was amiss.

Dear God, I knew those men. What a shock, and how tragic. I gasped, I choked, and tears streamed down my face when I heard the dreadful news. I had been warned a year earlier, but did nothing. What could I have done? Roba Kia did all he could do.

Sometimes we can have all the forewarning in the world and yet are unable to do anything about impending disasters. Still, I wonder. That accident haunts me, and I will live with this horror until my dying day.

(Find out more about Col. Handley's book, *Nickel in the Grass* at <http://www.nickelonthegrass.net/> ) ☯



# ReView

by Paul H. Smith

## The Men Who Stare At Goats

By Jon Ronson (Simon & Schuster, 2005  
[published in the UK 2004])  
259 pp + author note (no index or pictures) \$24.00

If you've spent much time in the remote viewing community, then you've probably heard more than one outlandish story told by one opportunist or sensationalizer or another, or by one or another of our more credulous friends. *The Men Who Stare at Goats* contributes to the noise-level by linking remote viewing to stories about Army generals trying to walk through walls, people stopping the hearts of bleat-less goats just by staring at them, and alleged torture of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison. It should be no surprise that such linkages don't stand up to scrutiny.

*The Men Who Stare at Goats* has been around a long time in book-years, ever since the spring of 2005. Unfortunately, I have only just now gotten around to reviewing it for *Aperture*. But a critical look at the book has gained added urgency, since *Goats* is not only still being read (and thus still casting a jaundiced light on not just remote viewing's history but by extension remote viewing even today). It is also on its way to becoming a motion picture starring none other than George Clooney!

(Get added details in our feature "RV in the News," in this issue.)

First, as I said in my review of the book last year on the Amazon website (and, in the spirit of full disclosure, that review provided the seed-kernel for this one) I really do recommend you read *Goats* if only for its entertainment value. But if you do read it, do so with a very large helping of salt, since it presents a warped, if amusing version of how remote viewing was passed on to the civilian world through the military.

Whenever possible, Jon Ronson and his crew (yes, *Goats* is a team effort, though Ronson gets prime billing) opted for color and sensationalism over accuracy. Interviews with the main characters are cherry-picked for the juiciest stuff, leaving context on the cutting-room floor that would have presented what they did choose to print in an entirely different light had it been more honestly presented. (I intentionally use the film-making language, since the book is the literary companion to a three-hour conspiracy-laced documentary on the same topics, called "Crazy Rulers of the World"; the documentary, too, is highly entertaining, but perhaps even more distorted in the view it portrays because it has more footage to work with).

For the sake of the story, Ronson and his associates make vast logical leaps to connect events and persons

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*ReView: Encyclopedia Horrifica, continued from page 8*

*Encyclopedia Horrifica* is entertaining, informative (sometimes tongue in cheek), interesting and occasionally chilling. For those adults who still have a bit of whimsy in their hearts (and don't mind peeking into the dark side) the *Encyclopedia Horrifica* would be a nice addition to your RV and Psi related book collection—and you can have Paul personally autograph his section at the IRVA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in March 2009.

**Joshua Gee Biography Excerpts from his Website: According to eyewitnesses, Investigator Gee lives and works in New York City.** *Encyclopedia Horrifica*

**is widely believed to be his first book. Investigator Gee is terrified of sunlight, water, full moons, ticks, dust mites, Lindsay Lohan, ragweed, mold spores, cat dander, heights, and towns without pharmacies. Citing the author's disappearance in the final chapter of *Encyclopedia Horrifica*, many believe that his first book will also be his last. However, blog entries posted at [http://www.myspace.com/EnHo\\_000](http://www.myspace.com/EnHo_000) suggest that Gee is still alive—or, at the very least, still undead.**

To learn more about the *Encyclopedia Horrifica* and Joshua Gee, please visit <http://www.joshuagee.com> ☯

ReView: *The Men Who Stare At Goats*, continued from page 14

which in reality were either never connected, or only were linked very tenuously. As one example, IRVA board member John Alexander is presented as being “one of Al Gore’s oldest friends,” when in fact what Alexander actually told the crew in an interview was that he had once decades before been briefly introduced to Gore and shaken his hand—and that Gore would not know him from Adam today. Alexander’s real quote, of course, never made it into either book or documentary.

As another example, the book claims that General Bert Stubblebine actively recruited Ed Dames to become a government remote viewer. It then goes on to imply that, through a very convoluted chain-of-events, Stubblebine thus became responsible for the eventual deaths of 39 Heaven’s Gate cult members (I won’t take space here to tell you how this is alleged to have occurred—read the book!). The real facts are that Stubblebine had nothing to do with Dames until the latter was already well entrenched in the remote viewing program. [In a subsequent exchange I had with Ronson, he refused to acknowledge the error of his position, even when presented with extensive evidence to the contrary.]

A further take on Stubblebine—one used widely to promote the book—has Stubblebine walking smack into solid walls over and over again, trying to cause his molecules to pass through those of the wall and allow him to emerge into the next room without having to use the door. Many think the portrayal makes the general look like a buffoon and, by extension, makes the remote viewing effort look silly. However, General Stubblebine told me in a telephone conversation after the book was published that he had only ever tried the “walking-through-walls” trick once, after reading about the relative emptiness of the spaces between molecules in physical objects and after hearing stories of people who claimed to have adjusted their mental states to allow it. Stubblebine tried it merely as an informal experiment, but concluded upon the one failure that it didn’t work. The general’s real mistake was in even mentioning it to Ronson and his crew. The claim that Stubblebine tried it several times seems clearly to be

hyperbole by the book’s authors.

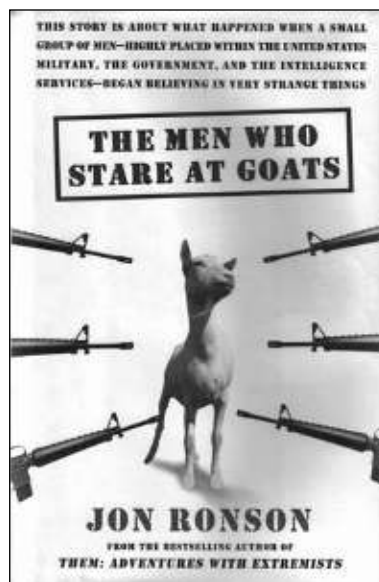
*Goats* oddly mixes in the ‘psychic’ operations represented by the military remote viewing program together with psychological operations, or ‘psyops,’ neither of which had anything to do with the other. But it goes beyond that. After beginning with remote viewing, the book connects RV to an odd little informal project at Fort Bragg, N.C. aimed at testing whether Special Forces soldiers with the right training could psychically stop the heart of a live goat (the results were mixed—and debatable).

Not many pages pass, though, before *Goats* has the remote viewing program further indirectly hooked up with the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, Guantanamo Bay, and other alleged excesses of the Global War on Terror.

Serving as the connecting thread is a colorful figure, retired Army lieutenant colonel Jim Channon, author of *The First Earth Battalion* manual (available on the Web with only a brief Google search). *The Men Who Stare at Goats* claims on very thin evidence that Channon, writing or not, and his First Earth Battalion was the cause of it all (though Channon himself acknowledged that he was never a part of nor had any connection to the remote viewing program).

I first heard Channon’s name long ago, even before my being recruited into the remote viewing program in 1983. But I had never met nor spoken with him until *Goats* was published. Shortly after that he and I had a few lively phone conversations, and I found him an interesting and delightful man. But one thing became clear—like Stubblebine and Alexander, he also had been mis-edited and mis-quoted in *Goats*. The conglomerating of all these stories amounted to a fanciful work of journalistic excess.

But back to remote viewing. Missing from the book is any account of the successful intelligence work done by the military remote viewers (and there is plenty of authentic documentary evidence available to show this, that Ronson and his crew could easily have availed themselves of), or the extensive scientific research that grounded it. Many important figures are left out altogether, perhaps because their presence would fail to



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ReView: *The Men Who Stare At Goats*, continued from page 15

move the story in the direction the authors intended. Surprisingly, John Alexander, Bert Stubblebine, and even Jim Channon at first denied having even met Jon Ronson, the purported author of the book. They reported to me that they had all been interviewed by a John Sergeant. They had no idea who Ronson was. It turned out that they had indeed been interviewed by Mr. Sergeant, but that Ronson had been present as well, and had perhaps a time or two even asked a couple of questions. But Ronson had not presented himself in a way that made him memorable as the interviewer or main figure in the project. Sergeant seems to have done all the heavy lifting, while Ronson got the credit.

John Ronson did attend the 2002 remote viewing conference, and together with a few of his crew interviewed several remote viewing figures there, including myself. But he was even more selective with

the results of those interviews (which mostly appeared in the documentary version of the story, rather than in the print edition of *Goats*), choosing once again to focus on only the most controversial, sensational, or titillating elements of the story.

It's not possible to cover all the literary crimes of *Goats*. The carnival-esque imagery with which the book paints what became known as the "Star Gate" remote viewing program is merely a caricature (and a very rough one at that) of a program that, while not perfect, was indeed successful and valuable despite what its detractors might prefer to believe.

I don't want to be only negative. I found the book engaging, amusing, and well written. And to be fair, there are others with different takes on *Goats*. Bob Durant, a past-contributor to *Aperture*, had this to say in an e-mail he sent me shortly after the book was published:

"To me, it is a fascinating trip through the

history of innovative thinking applied to military and intelligence matters. For once I am happy to see how my tax money has been spent...The people I know, like Stubblebine and Alexander, are treated with respect, and come off as sympathetic figures. They most certainly are not portrayed as buffoons, as Ingo [Swann] seems to think. (I have a high opinion of John Alexander... [and] Stubblebine is, in my opinion, a truly heroic figure.)"

In an e-mail conversation Ronson himself told me his intent was not to poke fun, but to paint the characters in a sympathetic light. Perhaps I view the book more harshly than it deserves. But if so, that is likely because my interpretation seems to match what was taken away from it by the mainstream media who

**So once again, I say—don't trust anything that you read in this book. But do read it...really!**

declared, for example:

"At the start of the twisted treasure hunt that is *The Men Who Stare at Goats*, the journalist Jon Ronson appears to be looking for furtive, paranoid quacks who play mind games. He seems to have hit the mother lode." (The New York Times);

"Very funny, and packed with oddities. If Ronson doesn't manage to expose this official hall of mirrors entirely, he still makes an admirable effort, entertaining and alarming in equal parts." (*Kirkus Review*);

"There are many weird and not so wonderful characters in his book who support the theory, but they are all liars or fantasists to some degree..." (London *Daily Telegraph*).

So once again, I say—don't trust anything that you read in this book. But do read it...really! The amusement value is worth the price alone. We'll have to wait to see if the movie turns out as engagingly. Stay tuned. ☺

The opinions and views expressed in **Aperture** are those of the writers. They do not necessarily reflect the position of the International Remote Viewing Association. We invite your letters and comments on all matters discussed herein.





*News items of interest about or related to remote viewing and the remote viewing community.*

### **Get Your Kids (or yourselves!) Playing a Video Game that Isn't a Waste of Time! IONS 'Psi Arcade'**

**Psi Arcade** is a suite of free online psi tests set up as Web-based games, conceived and designed by research scientists Dean Radin and Marilyn Schlitz of the Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS). The games blend scientific research with Internet technology: participants in the games not only have fun, but contribute useful data for IONS' consciousness research program. The tests are designed so they can be automatically adjusted to match the performance level of each user, thus providing a constantly challenging game that may be useful in training intuitive skills. One of the test suites, "Garden of Dreams," is embedded within an adventure-type game that allows web users to test and explore their psi abilities. The game tracks individual performance and provides a Hall of Fame with which to compare each person's ability against all other players.

The "Halls of Healing," on the other hand, are three free online games that test the roles of intention, attention, and intuition in intentional healing. The intention game asks you to mentally "heal" a cartoon person. The attention game tests your ability to perceive when and where something happens, or is about to happen. The intuition game sees how well you can guess a cartoon patient's "medical condition"

The tests are free, and can be accessed at <http://www.psiarcade.com/>

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### **RV in the United Kingdom – a New Remote Viewing Virtual Community Established**

A move is afoot to create a new online and in-person remote viewing community aimed at developing and organizing the burgeoning remote viewing interest in Scotland, England, and Ireland. **Andrew**

**Usher**, the impetus behind the effort, has already created a website and an online forum available to any RV-interested person with a computer and an internet connection in the United Kingdom. Andrew says that even if you *don't* reside in the UK, you're welcome to join! He has already established an early relationship with the UK's academic parapsychology community, and has plans to sponsor remote viewing related events and workshops. One goal he hopes to realize as part of his community-building work is to establish a research program studying remote viewing correlated with EEG and QEEG in conjunction with clinical trials. Usher, a complementary medical practitioner, tutor and lecturer with ties to the martial-arts community, has appeared in several newspaper features, *Martial Arts Illustrated* magazine and on the television show, *North Tonight*.

Andrew's UK-RV site can be accessed at <http://www.uk-rv.co.uk>

The UK-RV forum can be joined at <http://www.uk-rv.co.uk/forum/>

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### **A 'Star Gate' Docs Connoisseur**

Another remote viewer of note in the United Kingdom is **Darryl "Daz" Smith**. Daz has been involved in remote viewing in the UK since the early days of 1997, and has been a prolific poster on all the big RV-related e-mail lists and forums since that time. His formal remote viewing training is in controlled remote viewing (CRV), but he has an interest in the field overall. Daz's massive remote viewing-related website contains many of the more interesting and useful STAR GATE documents released by the Central Intelligence Agency through its Freedom of Information program, and he continues to add interesting documents as he comes across them. You can access Daz's site at <http://remoteviewed.com/>

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RV News, continued from page 17

## George Clooney Gets the Goat....

Jon Ronson's remote viewing-connected book *The Men Who Stare at Goats* (see review in this issue) appears to be headed for the silver screen, with none other than **George Clooney** in a leading role. Ronson's book ties together remote viewing, a hypothetical US military unit called the First Earth Battalion, psychological operations in Iraq, and an alleged program at the Fort Bragg military base that investigated whether it was possible to kill just by staring at things. According to *Variety* magazine, British writer Peter Straughan wrote the adaptation, which last year was voted best unproduced British screenplay—an honor it appears won't hold for long, if plans for the film move forward. So far there's no word on which character Clooney will play. (Some material taken from a report on the [www.newKerala.com](http://www.newKerala.com) website)

See <http://movies.about.com/od/clooneygeorge/a/goats051808.htm> ☺

## Advertise Now In *Aperture!*

Do you have a product or service that people in the remote-viewing community should know about? If so, you can advertise it in the pages of *Aperture!* Advertising space is now available for any products or services that pertain in some way to remote viewing. By offering such space, not only does IRVA defray some of the costs of printing and mailing its publication, but readers are introduced to commercial offerings that may enhance their experience, skills, or understanding of remote viewing. If you or someone you know may be interested in placing an advertisement in the pages of upcoming issues of *Aperture*, please contact Janet at [info1@irva.org](mailto:info1@irva.org), or call her toll-free at (866) 374-4782 for rates and guidelines.

## This issue's Website Quick-Reference Guide

International Remote Viewing Association	<a href="http://www.irva.org">www.irva.org</a>
Col. Handley's book, <i>Nickel in the Grass</i>	<a href="http://www.nickelonthegrass.net">www.nickelonthegrass.net</a>
<i>Encyclopedia Horrifica</i> and Joshua Gee	<a href="http://www.joshuagee.com">www.joshuagee.com</a>
Psi Arcade	<a href="http://www.psiarcade.com">www.psiarcade.com</a>
Scottish Society for Psychical Research	<a href="http://www.sspr.co.uk">www.sspr.co.uk</a>
Society for Scientific Exploration	<a href="http://www.scientificexploration.org">www.scientificexploration.org</a>
Andrew Usher's UK-RV	<a href="http://www.uk-rv.co.uk">www.uk-rv.co.uk</a>
UK-RV forum	<a href="http://www.uk-rv.co.uk/forum">www.uk-rv.co.uk/forum</a>
Darryl "Daz" Smith	<a href="http://remoteviewed.com">http://remoteviewed.com</a>
<i>The Men Who Stare at Goats</i> (Movie)	<a href="http://movies.about.com/od/clooneygeorge/a/goats051808.htm">http://movies.about.com/od/clooneygeorge/a/goats051808.htm</a>
Steve Hammons's blog site	<a href="http://jointreconstudygroup.blogspot.com">http://jointreconstudygroup.blogspot.com</a>
Kathryn Harwig	<a href="http://www.harwig.com">www.harwig.com</a>

# Taskings & Responses

**T&R question:** “What do you think of the way applied psychic behavior is used in the latest Indiana Jones movie? Will that help or hinder wider acceptance of remote viewing?”

## Indiana Jones Discovers Remote Viewing

by Steve Hammons

While watching the new Indiana Jones movie I, too, was surprised about the significant emphasis on “psychic warfare” and anomalous cognition.

I really didn’t know what to expect, but figured it would be a good movie considering the talents and track records of Steven Spielberg, George Lucas and their organizations and associates.

As Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull begins, we find ourselves on a Nevada road in 1957 as an Army convoy turns into a U.S. military base, two decades after Indie’s first screen adventure fighting the Nazis in the late 1930s in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981).

But these are not U.S. Army personnel. They are Soviet agents in U.S. uniforms. It is the Cold War and this Soviet espionage team has Indiana and an associate with them as prisoners.

Soviet scientist Dr. Irina Spalko (Cate Blanchett) explains to Indie that she is on the hunt for secrets of psychic powers, as well as answers to other mysteries that many people today are interested in.

Throughout the movie, various elements of anomalous cognition are key parts of the plot.

Real-life Soviet efforts regarding ESP were reportedly the motivation for counterintelligence research by the U.S. military and intelligence communities: to look into Soviet activities and defend against them.

Over the decades of the 1970s, ‘80s and ‘90s, fascinating discoveries were made. Remote viewing proved to be a valuable tool that uses an apparently very natural human ability as well as connections with aspects of physics and Nature that are still being explored.

Now this major movie is also exploring anomalous cognition.

An interesting element of public reaction is a call for a boycott of the movie by communist groups in Russia. They complain that the portrayal of Soviet operatives in the film makes it an anti-Russian propaganda piece.



They feel the image of the Soviets as the “bad guys” paints a negative picture of Soviet-era activities, including, I suppose, activities involving Soviet ESP and psychic research.

The complaints by today’s communists in Russia, as with many kinds of publicity, will probably help send Russians and others around the globe to movie theaters to see for themselves what the controversy is all about.

Then, people internationally will get a chance to watch a Hollywood adventure involving anomalous cognition and other mysteries.

The result will probably be, in part, a greater awareness by the international public about psychic research by scientific and defense communities, as well as individuals.

Kids and adults world-wide just might open their minds more and more to the ideas of ESP and remote viewing after seeing Indie, his friends and adversaries in their latest adventure.

And this may help motivate people to learn more about the real history and science of anomalous cognition as well as the potential it holds to help the human race.

*(Steve Hammons is the author of two novels about a special research team investigating unconventional topics, Mission Into Light and the sequel Light’s Hand. For more information, visit his blog site: <http://join-treconstudygroup.blogspot.com>.)* ☯

## George McMullen—A Legendary Figure in Remote Viewing Dies

by Stephan A. Schwartz

In the early morning hours of 5 June 2008, one of the most extraordinary figures in the history of Remote Viewing, George McMullen, died in Vancouver, British Columbia surrounded by his adult children. George was a widower. The cause of death was mostly old age; he was late into his 80s.

I first met George over 30 years ago, introduced to him by the late Norman Emerson, the father of Canadian Archaeology, and a professor of Anthropology at the University of Toronto, whose strictly materialist view of how the world worked was forever changed by watching George reconstruct the history of artifacts, and locate archaeological sites using a technique that, in those days, we called Distant Viewing. George and I come out of a completely different tradition, one that began independent of the classified government research of Stargate and SRI, and whose roots and protocols trace back to the early years of the last century, with no reference to the government programs.

George McMullen specialized in archaeological research, and no one has ever equaled his prowess in his chosen area of exploration. I will forever cherish the memory of walking out with George into the harsh and barren world of the Egyptian desert trailed by an Egyptian archaeologist completely contemptuous of this weird business of Distant Viewing, who was determined to embarrass both George and myself. He had told George to locate in the barren desert a buried building in the buried city of Marea, stipulating it must be one with a mosaic marble floor. Out of a search area of 1500 square kilometers George, in conjunction with the late Hella Hammid, another of the legendary early remote viewers, would go on to locate the building, and describe exactly what would be found and at what depth, along the way providing the history of the building, and descriptions of its

contents. As an added grace note George would put stakes in the ground at each of the building's corners, and describe in detail the rare tiles we would discover, which had once made up a mosaic floor. To the astonishment of the entire department of archaeology at the University of Alexandria, every one of the predictions, and there were many of them, were validated over the following weeks by the test of the spade. It is one of dozens of memories of George that amaze me to this day.

Several years ago George came down to speak at an IRVA conference, and grew to cherish the friendships he made there. I think he responded so strongly to the friendships he found with the IRVA community because, for the first time in his life, he had just that, a community of individuals who cared about many of the same things that fascinated him, and who treated him as the elder he had become. In our last conversation, two days before he died, he told me how much he appreciated his IRVA friends. I will miss him greatly, and I know many others feel the same.

### Note:

Those interested in George's writings should take a look at his several books, both fiction and non-fiction: *One White Crow*, *Born Many Times*, *Two Faces: Walking in Two Worlds*, *Red Snake*, *Running Bear: Grandson of Red Snake*.

Lengthy descriptions of George's remote viewing work can be found in Stephan A. Schwartz's books, *The Secret Vaults of Time*, *The Alexandria Project*, and *Opening to the Infinite*. ☯



George McMullen  
in Egypt in 1979

***“If you wish to upset the law that all crows are black,  
it is enough to prove that one single crow is white.”***

~ George McMullen

# Taskings & Responses

*Editor's note: Jed Bendix eagerly approached IRVA and asked to be a contributor to Aperture. He has some background studying Parapsychology so we gave him a tentative go-ahead. He came back to us with the idea of presenting a series of interviews with people directly or indirectly involved in remote viewing. This is the first of those interviews and it features Kathryn Harwig, who is among other things a police psychic. We think you will enjoy this interview and getting to know a person who is unknown to most of our readers.*

**Kathryn Harwig is a former Minnesota attorney who is a practitioner and teacher of intuition. She has appeared on several television networks including A&E, Court TV and the Discovery Channel. In the past Kathryn has worked remote viewing projects with Stephan Schwartz and Joe McMoneagle. She is the author of several books including *Palm Visions: Your Life is Still in the Palm of Your Hand*, *The Intuitive Advantage*, *The Angel in the Big Pink Hat*, and *The Millennium Effect*.**

JB: Were your parents supportive of your (interest in the paranormal) or your family as a whole?

KH: When I was a kid, my older sister would take a deck of playing cards, and have me guess which card she was holding up. I also used the Ouija Board. In fact, my mother purchased several, realizing that there was something to my abilities. However, if I told her something that would scare her, she would burn the board, later purchasing another one. But, my maternal grandparents were fundamentalist Christians; they had a love-hate relationship with my interests.

JB: Were there any historical figures or someone else like a relative that inspired you to develop a deeper interest into these areas?

KH: I used to get books on Nostradamus, Edgar Cayce, and Seth, from my mother's cousin, who lived in New York City. He knew I was "gifted," so I give him credit for helping me open my eyes to other belief systems.

JB: What event in your life brought about your awareness of your psychic ability?

KH: In my thirties, I had a near death experience. Up to that point in my life, remote viewing didn't fit in with my career, first as a probation officer and later as an attorney. So the near death experience pushed me toward remote viewing.

JB: Did you ever take any remote viewing classes

from any of the former Psychic spies?

KH: Years ago I attended a workshop on a cruise ship taught by a former Psychic Spy. The cruise was called the "Inner Voyager." The former Psychic Spy and I were both doing lectures and workshops on the ship. His lectures were on remote viewing. My lectures were on developing intuition.

JB: How many years have you been doing psychic readings professionally?

KH: I've been doing this on a professional basis for 25 years.

JB: What would you describe as the difference between a psychic reading and remote viewing?

KH: I view psychic to cover things like, precognitive dreams, dowsing, and the Ouija board. My definition of remote viewing would be using the mind's eye to see what the physical eyes cannot see; because the target is too far away or it is in the future or in the past or on another planet. You cannot use your physical eyes for it but you can use your intuitive eyes for it.

JB: How many years have you been doing remote viewing for law enforcement?

KH: Back in the late 1980s and early 90s, I did some training for law enforcement, but I don't do a lot currently.

JB: What agencies did you train? Like sheriff departments, police or FBI?

KH: I trained all the rookies for the St. Paul Police Dept., for several years and Maplewood PD, Sherburne County Sheriff's Dept. and some training for the FBI Academy.

JB: Over the years have you seen an increase or decrease in the request for remote viewing coming from law enforcement?

KH: As a result of 9/11, I believe there has been a decrease in interest for remote viewing. More money is being put into security systems and there is some

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hesitation by law enforcement, not wanting to get involved with something that looks “crazy or whacky.” I still get calls from the media requesting collaboration on cases with police departments, but the police don’t call me anymore. “There’s a terrible seriousness following 9/11.”

JB: What were the typical types of cases you worked on, like homicides, missing persons or thefts?

KH: Missing persons and homicides are typical cases. For example, not too long ago, I was contacted by a family to locate a murder victim, going back 15 years to 1993. Unfortunately, after using remote viewing to locate the body in a swamp, there were no resources available either by the family or law enforcement to excavate the area.

JB: Is there any case that really stands out where you got it right on and it helped?

KH: A couple of cases: one involves a person, who was in hiding, but not in harm’s way. Just as I had believed, she eventually returned to her home. And there was another case involving a missing hiker in Colorado. Later the family found their loved one after I told them where the family member could be found; unfortunately, the individual was dead.

JB: Have you ever worked cases with other remote viewers?

KH: I worked on a case with Stephan Schwartz, about 6 years ago, when he was looking for a sniper in the Washington D.C., area. There were a number of other remote viewers working on the case as well. The sniper, later called the Beltway Sniper, was terrorizing motorists on the highway, and I was able to make the car model a Chevrolet Caprice. But, I struggled with other details, thinking the person was white. Eventually the case was broken, and it involved an older black man and a younger African-American man.

JB: Did Stephan give you what the target was like, “The target is the Beltway sniper?” Or was he more ambiguous?

KH: No he did not refer to it as the Beltway sniper but we knew it had something to do with it. So we did know that. He would e-mail us questions like, “What is he wearing? What is he doing? What does he look like?”

JB: Did Stephan Schwartz ever set up a protocol when you were looking for the Beltway sniper?

KH: He had actual questions he would ask us and a time frame for us to do the remote viewing. For example,

he would say something like, “At ten o’clock on Tuesday morning can you look and see what color eyes, or what is he wearing, or where is he sitting?”

JB: Have you found any formula that works when dealing with difficult clients or skeptics?

KH: People expect me to be correct a hundred percent all of the time, but I let them know upfront, that I’m not infallible. I’m just a human being and if I can solve a case seventy-five percent of the time or even sixty percent, that’s really good for me.

JB: What do you usually tell people to support your claims of remote viewing?

KH: Really, it’s by word-of-mouth, from positive experiences people have had from my services. It’s not so much from police, but the general public. For example, businesses have requested the use of remote viewing to examine their business models. It’s not police work, but....

JB: Have you seen an increase or decrease in the amount of business people wanting readings?

KH: Yes, it’s phenomenal. I have contracts with four companies, but unfortunately, I can’t say their names. They rely on me for evaluating the stock market, dealing with personnel questions, and looking at the value of the dollar versus the Euro. Many of the business people are highly successful. There’s also a large clientele of women who generally want to know more about their personal relationships.

JB: With the strong interest by major corporations, it sounds like there’s more of a mainstream acceptance. Is that true?

KH: There’s a direction toward more practical information. For example, I used remote viewing to locate an oil well in California: an investor flew me out there to take a look at the area. He actually hired two other remote viewers to locate the oil well, also. All three of us confirmed the location. As a result of our work, he has hired us to look for sunken treasure off the coast of Florida. I believe this is the direction remote viewing is headed, with less time on murders and missing persons.

JB: How many readings do you do in a typical week?

KH: I’ve cut way back on the amount of readings I do because I teach more and lecture more. At one point I was doing two or three a day, now I do five or six a week.

JB: From your website I see that you were on *Court*

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*Taskings & Responses, continued from page 22*

TV, A&E and the *Discovery Channel*. Can you describe what that entailed?

KH: A&E did an episode on how one of my students, a police officer from the University of Minnesota, was able to catch an arsonist using remote viewing. He demonstrated the remote viewing method, and then A&E did a mock drama of how the person was caught. A few years later, *Court TV* showed an episode on how I trained police officers from all over the Twin Cities area. The episode consisted of using remote viewing to sketch an unknown photograph I had sealed in an envelope. An officer, now with the Maplewood PD, was able to identify the photo perfectly, sketching it on a piece of paper. It was a pagoda! (A pagoda is a Buddhist temple.)

JB: Did the University of Minnesota officer who caught the arsonist have to testify in court that he used remote viewing to help apprehend the suspect?

KH: I never asked him how it turned out. But the officer did get the arsonist on video setting the fire. Prior to the arsonist setting the fire the officer used remote viewing to foresee where the arsonist would strike next. Using the vision from his mind's eye he set up a video camera to where the crime would occur next. Shortly after which he was able to film the arsonist setting the fire. The way I would say it is the officer saw it happen in his mind's eye before it happened so it was more precognitive.

JB: When doing a reading how do you identify or deal with those thoughts and feelings that are not part of the correct information? Or how do you handle extraneous thoughts?

KH: I first need to relax myself and focus on my target, maybe like a person. Whatever I come up with, I trust that it is correct. There aren't a lot of extraneous thoughts.

JB: Do you visualize, feel or hear, what is your main type of reception?

KH: Generally, it is visual, but a larger part is about knowing. For example, it is like my ears hear, but it is really about . . . a sense of knowing a particular thing.

JB: So you really don't have a sense of when you are on target or off target?

KH: It's really a matter of seconds for me. If it doesn't happen quickly, it's not going to happen at all. That is in stark contrast to Joe McMoneagle; he has an entire protocol. That's not my style; I get (information) instantaneously.

JB: Do you ever find yourself "tapping out"? Some of the former spies talk of "tapping out" where their energy level has drained away. Do you ever experience that?

KH: Yes that can happen if I do it for any length of time. The military, according to Joe's book, extended their sessions for up to eight hours at a time. My limit is about an hour, about twenty questions, and then I take a break.

JB: Do you do anything special to re-energize yourself?

KH: I always wash my hands; it kind of gets my energy cleared out. If I'm really tired, then I'll take a bath. Water is relaxing and cleansing to me. And I'll try to do something "physical" like eating or walking. Taking a walk is really important to me.

JB: How can people develop their intuition?

KH: You really have to quiet your thoughts, to avoid extraneous thinking, like you mentioned. Then, ask a good question: the better the question, the better the answer. At that point, get the information quickly and then analyze it. I wrote a book, *The Intuitive Advantage* which might help interested students, of remote viewing, develop this method.

JB: What type of classes do you typically have? Do you have classes for more advanced students?

KH: There are classes for different skill levels. There's a beginner's class which teaches the basics, called *Intuitive Mastery Program*, and there's several advanced classes. One is channeling and of course remote viewing, but I haven't taught that in years. There's monthly groups to reinforce the teachings; it's like practice groups. If people don't practice their intuition, they won't improve.

JB: I learned that myself; in fact, doesn't a person regress?

KH: Oh yes, you can regress a lot but you can always get it back. Still, it is practice that makes perfect or semi-perfect.

JB: How can people contact you to enroll in classes?

KH: The best way to reach me is through my website. If you go to my website and click on *Intuitive Mastery* it will tell you a lot about my classes and my book. My book is called *The Intuitive Advantage*. This is really a step-by-step guide on how to enhance your intuitive abilities.

You can learn more about Kathryn Harwig by going to her website at [www.harwig.com](http://www.harwig.com) ☯

## About The International Remote Viewing Association

The International Remote Viewing Association (IRVA) was organized on March 18, 1999 in Alamosordo, New Mexico, by scientists and academicians involved in remote viewing since its beginnings, together with veterans of the military remote-viewing program who are now active as trainers and practitioners in the field. IRVA was formed in response to widespread confusion and conflicting claims about the remote-viewing phenomenon.

One primary goal of the organization is to encourage the dissemination of accurate information about remote viewing. This goal is accomplished through a robust website, regular conferences, and speaking and educational outreach by its directors. Other IRVA goals are to assist in forming objective testing standards and materials for evaluating remote viewers, serve as a clearinghouse for accurate information about the phenomenon, promote rigorous theoretical research and applications development in the remote-viewing field, and propose ethical standards as appropriate. IRVA has made progress on some of these goals, but others will take more time to realize. We encourage all who are interested in bringing them about to join us in our efforts.

IRVA neither endorses nor promotes any specific method or approach to remote viewing, but aims to become a responsible voice in the future development of all aspects of the discipline.

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