

Aperture

The Official Publication of the International Remote Viewing Association

Feature Article

2007 Remote Viewing Conference Review

by the Editors of *Aperture*

By all accounts – attendance numbers, presentation quality, vendor feedback, and the raves from those attending -- the 2007 Remote Viewing Conference sponsored by the International Remote Viewing Association was an unqualified success. As presenters, it brought together a diverse collection of leaders, academics, and practitioners focused on the current applications of remote viewing, its various protocols, the nature and feasibility of establishing a code of ethics, and the future goals of the community.

Designed to be all-inclusive in scope, the conference featured a host of methodologies and approaches that enable the practice of “remote viewing” (which can be generally regarded as a perceptual discipline for gaining information not available to the ordinary physical senses) to be achieved and utilized.

Regardless of whether one agreed with any given presenter’s point of view, the conference was regarded by many attendees as an open and robust forum for remote viewers and trainers to meet and discuss the increasingly wide-ranging potential for this fascinating mental skill.

It was particularly exciting to see so many people staunchly interested in remote viewing, some for the first time and others renewing or

continuing a long-standing engagement with the discipline. Especially interesting was to hear their personal “war stories.” Many have found previous remote-viewing conferences to be not only interesting and educational but an enjoyable social event; this conference was no exception. What follows is a blow-by-blow account of the proceedings.

Day 1

Stephan Schwartz, author, researcher and IRVA board member, started off the gathering on Friday with a thought-provoking presentation. He proposed this idea: That moments of genius, special epiphanies, great achievements of creativity, and certain aspects of remote viewing are all aspects of the same phenomenon - nonlocal consciousness. However, remote viewing is an especially important aspect because, unlike the others, it can be engaged in and demonstrated at

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Aperture

Ap - er - ture (ap'ēr-chēr) 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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President's Message

IRVA's 10th Anniversary

It has been ten years since a small group of people gathered in the front room of Lyn Buchanan's home in Alamogordo, New Mexico, to form a new organization in hopes of bringing peace, or at least a voice of sanity, to the fledgling remote-viewing community. At the time, remote viewing was a battleground of wild tales from late-night talk radio denizens and of squabbles on the newly hatched World Wide Web. Fresh new faces flocked to the topic by the hundreds, seemingly on a daily basis, only to be greeted by a welter of confusing voices trying to lure these newcomers in one direction or another with promises of miraculous powers easily gained by sending money, or attending a class, or reading some book or other.

Present in that front room were some of the leading pioneers of the remote-viewing field – Dr. Harold E. Puthoff, Russell Targ, and Stephan Schwartz. Then there were the next generation of military managers and viewers: John Alexander, F. Holmes "Skip" Atwater, Lyn Buchanan, and myself. Civilian remote-viewing research was represented by Angela Thompson Smith, and we had our token skeptic, the late Dr. Marcello Truzzi, who was there to keep us honest. Rounding out those gathered around the table was the organization's benefactor, David Hathcock, who had made the gathering financially possible and originated the idea, and had given us the impetus to come together and share our thoughts. We were also honored with the presence of legendary music-industry photographer Robert Knight, who documented the event in

pictures. And there to keep a written record of the historic event was William Eagles, now a present-day director of the Association.



As we celebrate our tenth anniversary with our conference this June in Las Vegas, Nevada, it seems appropriate to reflect on what we set out to achieve in forming the organization, and how far we have come in achieving it. At the end of that day in Lyn's house, we drafted four objectives that we decided our new Association should try to aim for:

- 1) Promote objective, science-based testing and evaluation of remote-viewing performance.
- 2) Provide encouragement for and promote participation in remote-viewing research, applications, and theory development.
- 3) Promote accurate public education about remote viewing.
- 4) Promote ethical and responsible standards for remote viewing.

We have not yet achieved all those goals. But what is amazing is how much progress we *have* made for an organization formed by only a handful of committed practitioners, teachers, researchers, and students, and aided by just a small core group of volunteers working on a much-less-than-modest budget. We have had the most success in achieving our education and community-building mandate:

- Three informative and voluminous websites, including an extensive library of remote-

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RV Training

Remote-Viewing Analysis

by Dick Allgire

When I learned the first and most basic lesson in remote-viewing analysis, it was a realization more profound than my first “hit” as a remote viewer. The students had worked a target in class, but were not immediately given feedback; naturally, we were righteously indignant and pouting profusely, but our pain was for good reason, and the feedback would come later. A dozen of us had worked the target and twelve ostensibly very different sessions were collected. A week or so later, our instructor, Hawaii Remote Viewers’ Guild (HRVG) president Glenn Wheaton, spread our work out on the floor, creating a carpet of remote-viewing sessions. “So what was the target?” we asked him impatiently. “What do you see in the work?” he asked us calmly.

This was a watershed moment at HRVG. Up until that point, we had worked targets, turned them in, received feedback, and then looked at each session *individually* to simply determine if the data in the session matched the target. It was easy, because the envelope had been opened; we knew what the target was. It is not too difficult to judge remote-viewing data when you have the feedback, but this was different. In this instance, we had a number of sessions, the data was all over the place, and we had no idea what the target was.

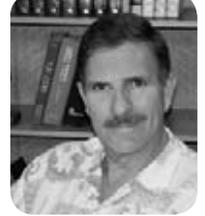
We looked from session to session, paying close attention to the sketches of shapes, various gestalts, and descriptions of sounds and smells -- the raw data of remote viewing. Our untrained eyes could find nothing conclusive in what we perceived as a morass of widely divergent data, and not one of us could stand up and make a confident declarative statement about the target.

We wanted feedback! We had produced the remote-viewing sessions – we had done our job – now, how could anyone *judge* all this? We expected to be told what the target was and whether what we had produced was any good. As it turned out, it was not that simple. “I don’t know what it is,” replied Glenn Wheaton. “We were all blind to the target. It was a test published by the University of Texas Skeptics Society, and only the skeptics know what the target is.”

We were going to *analyze* the sessions and find *consensus low-level data* to report to the skeptics.

Wheaton began the analysis by pointing out similar basic gestalts in the sessions. Several viewers had drawn round things, either shapes or structures or circular path-

ways. Viewers with seemingly opposing sessions had each described and drawn groups of people. There was so much conflicting data, but if one carefully noted the sounds described at the target, several viewers agreed on “engine noise.”



As we watched in amazement, Wheaton extracted comparisons in the data without interpreting it, or giving it greater meaning. He simplified it to its most basic, lowest level. We took notes and then wrote down the simplest possible declarative statements. In a few minutes, we had boiled it down to a few concise and descriptive sentences. This is the summary sent to the University of Texas Skeptics Society.

- The target is a location that seems to have a circular layout.
- The location also facilitates the presence of large numbers of people.
- Some sounds associated with this target include engine noise.
- In addition, sounds associated with fluttering of cloth or nylon were sensed. It was felt that this was a result of the wind.
- There was a sense of something dropping at this target that was under observation by people. (An image of parachutes landing or some other circular inflated object was noted.)
- Sensations of floating, suspension, and rushing wind combined with adrenaline seemed to prevail.
- A sense of “in formation dropping to the ground” was very strong.
- The structure associated with this target seemed to be like a park or stadium. A strong sense of circular design.

The target was later published on the skeptics’ website. The feedback revealed the target to have been the Leader Board at the Indianapolis Speedway during the running of the Indianapolis 500 race. Collateral research determined that a parachute skydiving team often opened the event. Our summary described the target quite well, and the skeptics’ test was curiously cancelled soon after. The skeptics at the University of Texas never challenged the remote viewing

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community again.

Trained remote viewers work sessions using a structured and disciplined method. They displace their awareness to the target. They invest their time, energy, and talent to collect data. But what is it for? What can be done with the information they have assembled, and what can authoritatively be said about the target? *How do you handle the data?*

First, an analytic method is needed to determine what the viewers have collected, but unfortunately the remote-viewing community as a whole lacks analytic models or skills. This lack of a formal protocol for analysis of data has doomed several public displays of remote viewing, from early demonstration projects to challenging famed debunker James Randi, and particularly the infamous Elizabeth Smart-kidnapping fiasco. Remote viewing has been deemed a failure by some, not because of a lack of remote-viewing skill, but because of the failure to establish a protocol for proper analysis. Just about all of the “black eyes” suffered over the years by the remote-viewing community can be directly attributed to a lack or failure of analysis, rather than viewer failure.

In the world of remote viewing, a single session by a viewer or a batch of sessions by different viewers that is 100 percent accurate and true to the target is indeed rare. All remote-viewing sessions consist of good data, bad data, and contamination; it is simply the nature of the subconscious “beast” that we endeavor to train.

“Good data” is data that shows evidence of being congruent with the target, or “gray” to the target. For example, if a viewer sketches and describes a tall, pointed stone obelisk, and the target happens to be the Washington Monument, then that data would be considered “good.” If the viewer reported “air” at the target, then that data is considered “gray.” Although certainly congruent, it would also fit just about any other target.

Unhappily, viewers often produce just plain bad data. Bad data is not congruent with the target, and bad data usually has its origins in bias.

“Contamination” appears in many sessions for a number of reasons. For example, the viewer may have just seen a

compelling or influential television broadcast. Or, she may draw conclusions about the target and color the data to fit her own suppositions. Or, the viewer will often present the data in the form of a metaphor. Or, he might hear a lawn mower down the block.

To separate the wheat from the chaff, the viewer needs to clearly define and understand three important terms: Analysis, Interpretation, and Bias. Without a thorough comprehension of these terms, and an appreciation of the concepts they represent, the skill of remote viewing may well continue to take unnecessary beatings.

Before proceeding, perhaps we should familiarize ourselves with how the Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines these three important words:

analysis

1: separation of a thing into the parts or

elements of which it is composed.

2: an examination of a thing to determine its parts or elements.

interpret

1: to explain the meaning of.

2: to understand according to individual belief, judgment, or interest.

bias

1: an inclination of temperament or outlook; *especially*: a personal and sometimes unreasoned judgment: PREJUDICE:

2: an instance of such prejudice.

3 (a): deviation of the expected value of a statistical estimate from the quantity it estimates (b): systematic error introduced into sampling or testing by selecting or encouraging one outcome or answer over others.

Interpretation and bias will affect remote-viewing analysis. “Interpretation” is judgment, and judgment invites “bias.” “Analysis,” on the other hand, is an unbiased examination of a thing to determine its parts or elements. “Interpretation” is not analysis, and analysis does not involve or permit interpretation. Some individuals mistakenly, albeit with good intentions, believe they are conducting analysis when they review a single remote-viewing session and attempt to *explain, judge, or understand* the data. In fact, however, they

**“Good data” is data that shows evidence
of being congruent with the target,
or “gray” to the target.**

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will under controlled circumstances. Remote viewing suggests that an aspect of human mentality exists independently of time and space. Schwartz elaborated on his thesis by addressing how near-death experiences, reincarnation studies, the research into therapeutic intent, precognition, and the power of the placebo effect are all evidence for the reality of nonlocal consciousness - and are all directly linked with the enigmatic nature and power of remote viewing.



Nick Seferlis and volunteer
Remote Diagnosis and Healing exercise

A therapeutic application of remote viewing was presented by Nick Seferlis, a practitioner and trainer of cutting-edge psychological healing modalities for over 30 years. Seferlis discussed how remote viewing and many other non-traditional modalities use intuition, energy, and thought forms to work their healing “magic.” Having developed his own intuition-based healing method, a treatment that merges these diverse techniques, he engaged his listeners in direct participation throughout his presentation, to show how they are used for remote diagnosis and healing.

The uninitiated often ask, “Is remote viewing just another curious parlor trick, or does it have actual value in the real world?” Marty Rosenblatt helped to answer this question by presenting on “applied precognition,” a special form of remote viewing generally known as “associative remote viewing” or ARV. He and other members of an investment club he has formed have used ARV techniques to correctly predict changes in the stock market over 60 percent of the time, making money for participants in the process. In addition to being a useful approach to making money, Rosenblatt explored how ARV can also be a special tool for personal growth. Explaining first how both ARV and his investment club work, he pointed out to those who have ethical concerns about the use of paranormal mental powers for monetary gain

that, in our society (and most others), money is power and thus important to all aspects of life. He persuasively argued that the only way for remote viewing and other forms of ESP to ever be widely accepted is through the use of ARV for financial gain and the embrace of other successful applications at the grassroots level.

The whole day featured a strong spotlight on psi abilities and intuitive skills, and finished with forensic psychic Pam Coronado, star of the Discovery Channel’s program, *Sensing Murder*. Coronado rejected any hint of the hocus-pocus with which some media psychics surround themselves, and explained what life is really like for a successful psychic detective. Her down-to-earth presentation style let the stories and the details speak for themselves. She told how she learned her skills, the do’s and the don’ts of forensic ESP, what to watch out for, and the principles to practice. She also offered juicy insights into a number of fascinating cases that she has successfully taken on – who knew, for example, that the infamous 2002 Washington, D.C.-area sniper Lee Boyd Malvo “spilled his guts” during his interrogation when a suggestion she gave the FBI agent-in-charge triggered Malvo to start talking about the movie, *The Matrix*? She went on to discuss recurrent issues in the use of psi abilities, such as whether making money with ESP is ethically wrong, how to deal with the well intentioned but troublesome attempts by police to frontload the case, and how to handle the emotional impacts often experienced by psychics when investigating violent crimes.

That evening, conference attendees were treated to another edition of the ever-popular

“PK Party,” a truly “hands-on” psychokinesis event enthusiastically and graciously led by IRVA director Lyn Buchanan. Spoons and forks were bending in every direction as Lyn



Patricia and Russell Targ
Friday Night PK Party

led the participants in using collective energy to create a “peak emotional event.” Everyone there was having such a grand and exhilarating time that the hotel was finally forced

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to close the event down at 12:30 AM because the meeting hall had only been reserved until midnight!

Day 2

On Saturday, Dr. Jessica Utts, IRVA board member and professor of statistics at the University of California at Irvine, discussed the mistakes that can be made in conducting remote-viewing research and how to avoid them. She started off with a brief history and explanation of the Ganzfeld and remote-viewing experimental formats, and then engaged her listeners through audience-participation exercises that go right to the heart of the problems encountered with and during experiments, and how to solve them.

Another, unique, remote-viewing protocol was presented by Dick Allgire, who serves as the vice president of the Hawaii Remote Viewers' Guild (HRVG). Dick gave a fun and exciting look at the HRVG, its history, and some of its better-known personalities. His main focus, though, was a detailed walk-through of HRVG's remote-viewing methodology, which included actual remote-viewing sessions performed



Dick Allgire & Jean Millay

es turned out to be the next best thing.

With wry humor, famed Canadian psychic archaeologist and author George McMullen shared fascinating tales of his long and storied career locating and identifying antiquities and artifacts from ancient civilizations. He even brought along some of the artifacts from his own collection, so that attendees could personally handle and examine them. George challenged everyone to try to remote view the artifacts themselves. Sadly, after a very long and eventful life (he was 88), he passed on to the next world late last year. But IRVA should be proud to have hosted George for his last public appearance.

Ethics is an important but often overlooked topic, and the panel that was convened to discuss relevant issues concerning

the subject proved to be illuminating indeed, capturing the attention of all in the audience. From how remote-viewing skills and ESP talents should be applied in police work, to the



(L to R) Glenn Wheaton, Dick Allgire, Jason Bacera, Ed Dames, and Paul H. Smith discuss remote-viewing methodologies.

ethics of accessing other people's secrets, an eclectic diversity of topics was considered, debated, and generally held up for public scrutiny. Whether the focus was Lyn Buchanan's definition of what ethics is, the perspective of Paul H. Smith as someone who teaches ethics at the university level, the views of former military signals-intelligence expert Glenn Wheaton on eavesdropping, the psychological experiences of Pam Coronado with murder cases, or the theories of Marty Rosenblatt, the exchanges between the panel members were lively, humorous, and informative.

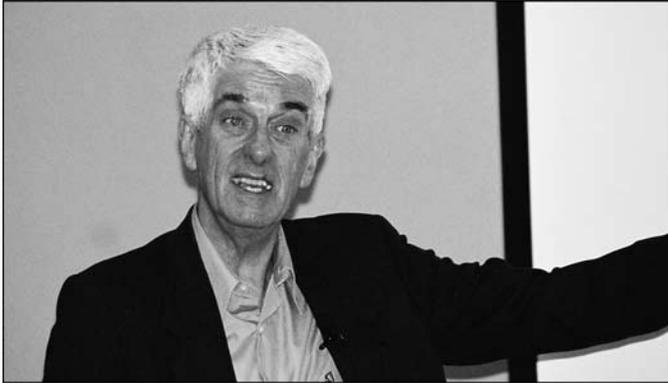
Dr. Courtney Brown, professor at Emory University, author, and the founder of the Farsight Institute, gave an entertaining account of his theories of how remote viewing works and his views on how to deal with some of the more annoying problems that hinder remote-viewing success. He also rendered a detailed opinion as to what causes the phenomenon of target displacement, proposing as a possible explanation that a telepathic link between the remote viewer and the tasker may be at work. Based on his own experiences, he offered suggestions on how to properly do public demonstration sessions. He went on to explain the characteristics of good remote-viewing targets versus suboptimal ones, and finished with an explanation of "SAM," a computer program designed and used to enhance the evaluation and management of remote-viewing session results.

Following the Speakers Reception in the early evening, the invited keynote speaker, Dr. Jacques Vallee, gave a long-awaited presentation. Dr. Vallee, a legendary computer scientist, trained astrophysicist, and highly respected

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investigator of unidentified aerial phenomena, unveiled some of the computer-science roots of remote viewing. He told of his role as consultant and advisor to SRI International's human-consciousness program and his interactions with Dr. Hal Puthoff, Russell Targ, and particularly Ingo Swann throughout a long portion of the program's development. Dr. Vallee was a senior researcher at SRI when the remote-



Jacques Vallee, Ph.D.
2007 IRVA Conference Keynote Speaker

viewing program was initiated there in 1972. He became informally associated with the program and is credited by Ingo Swann with suggesting the approach (based on information addressing) that led to the original "coordinate remote viewing" protocol. A decade later, Dr. Vallee returned to SRI as a consultant and underwent formal RV training with Ingo Swann.

As his talk continued, he delved into some of the perplexities he perceives, as a scientist, about the nature of time. He also revealed a surprising trend that he and his colleagues observed as they created "ARPAnet," the forerunner of the Internet. As computer scientists tried to cope with the relatively primitive computer-communications processes then available, they noticed that what can only be described as "psychic augmentation" to the communications was filtering in to help the process along. Dr. Vallee further presented a fascinating description of a combined telepathy/remote-viewing experiment done with Ingo Swann, Richard Bach, and others. During the extensive Q&A period that followed his talk, Dr. Vallee answered questions about computers and consciousness, the watershed Comida UFO report, and other controversial UFO topics.

Day 3

Sunday's activities began with a presentation by IRVA's President Paul H. Smith. He described how dowsing was

adopted and used in the U.S. military's Star Gate program, and the techniques that were employed. He showed examples from the CIA's recently released archives of some of dowsing's amazing success stories. In the hunt for Cold War "bad guys," remote viewing was often called upon as a last resort, when every other conventional means of intelligence collection had come up short. Although remote viewing did sometimes help, that was not always the case. Smith explained the following reality: While remote viewing allows one to access a target with his or her mind and then verbally and via sketching to describe it, the ability usually cannot disclose a target's actual location unless another person later happens to recognize a landmark that the remote viewer has described. To try to solve this problem, remote viewers in the military's program developed techniques for dowsing -- that is, finding the unknown location of a person, place, thing, or event through the interaction of the dowser's subconscious mind with a rod or pendulum held in the dowser's hand. Illustrated with actual results from the military program, Smith related a number of cases where dowsing had helped accomplish important missions, including a now-famous case of how a military remote viewer used dowsing techniques to help U.S.-friendly forces successfully find the wreckage of a Soviet Tupolev reconnaissance jet that had unexpectedly crashed in the wilds of Africa.

IRVA director Lyn Buchanan, one-time trainer of military remote viewers, dug into the heart of the "standards" issue during his presentation. Who counts as a remote viewer? How can anyone tell who really has credentials as a remote viewer and who does not? Is certification of remote viewers and training companies possible? How can a remote viewer manage to become credible to clients in the business world? Buchanan asserted that these and similarly vital questions will eventually have to be addressed by the remote-viewing community. In the process, he discussed the classes that his training company, P>S>I, offers, and announced an organization



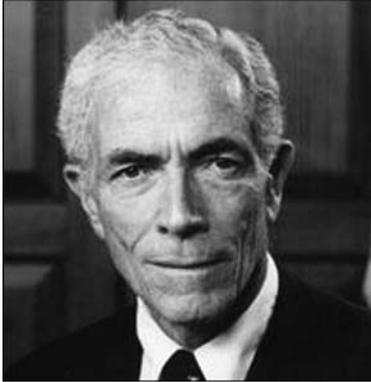
Lyn Buchanan, P>S>I Executive Director

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Obituary

Senator Claiborne Pell

by Paul H. Smith
(with contributions from Dale E. Graff)



Senator Claiborne Pell

On the first day of 2009, remote viewing lost a long-time, influential friend when six-term U.S. Senator Claiborne Pell (D-RI) passed away of Parkinson's Disease at the age of 90. Senator Pell is famous to the rest of the world for his strong backing of what came to be known as "Pell Grants," which have

aided thousands of Americans in receiving college educations they might not otherwise have been able to afford. He also served as chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee and, among other things, was the main sponsor of the bills that created both the National Endowment for the Arts and for the Humanities.

But Senator Pell is most important to remote viewers not for his valuable contributions to many social and political goals, but rather for his committed support of the U.S. Government's remote-viewing program over many years. Although his leadership in the foreign-affairs arena kept him from having any direct influence on the budget cycles and policymaking that impacted remote-viewing, he was still able to render great service as a "lobbyist," in the best sense of the word, helping the remote-viewing (RV) program to survive and its proponents to persevere in the face of bias and determined opposition.

Through his own personal connections, Senator Pell would give support wherever he could, attempting to persuade those with influence as they took actions involving both the research and the operational sides of the RV program. There were times when measures important to remote viewing hung in the balance, and his good word and influence were instrumental in pushing them over the top.

Senator Pell routinely wanted to be kept informed of the Star Gate program's progress and insisted on receiving regular updates, for which he sometimes would personally come to DIA headquarters in the company of his aides. On rare occasions, he would even show up at the ramshackle

buildings that housed the government's remote viewers at Fort Meade. During one such visit, as he walked up the rickety front steps of the main office past the chipped paint and splintery siding, he humorously remarked, "Where are all the winos?" He was even known, every now and then, to "drop" his own little project onto the remote viewers as an informal "test" of their abilities.

Unfortunately, with his death came one last controversy. In writing his obituary, the Washington Post dusted off and used a file story written by a reporter who himself was now deceased, and added to it mention of Pell's support for ESP



Senator Pell and Dale E. Graff, outside the Star Gate offices, 1992
Courtesy of Dale E. Graff

research. Also included in the Post's obituary was a long-since discredited TIME magazine story that described Pell as "Senator Oddball." The story involved a supposed case where Senator Pell had allegedly much-too-credulously passed along to the secretary of defense questionable information derived from reverse-speech recordings. (See the tribute from C.B. Scott Jones in this issue for the full story.) Objections from several sources, most notably IRVA director Dr. John Alexander, caused the Post to quickly replace the dubious obituary with one more respectful of Senator Pell's life and accomplishments, though this time leaving out altogether any mention of his support for ESP.

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Senator Pell, but cheered by the legacy he left behind in his achievements for our nation and the world as a whole, and especially for the long, strong friendship and support he showed towards the development of remote viewing. ☯

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that he has founded to develop the professionalism of his graduated students. He presented an intriguing treatment of some of the problems that have dogged the remote-viewing community for years.

Ed Dames, founder of PsiTech and former member of the military's RV unit, delivered the final presentation. Basking in his carefully cultivated status as the most controversial of the former military remote viewers, Dames entertained the audience with an alternating display of chutzpah and charm. Obviously delighting in his listeners' general fascination with him, he revisited many of his recent projects and topics of inquiry, including the search for downed American adventurer Steve Fossett, hunting for the now nearly century-old wreckage of missing French aviators in New England, his view on the metaphysics of a remote-viewing theory, his new "Geofix" program, his failure to predict the outcome of the SuperBowl, and how he teaches students to use associative remote viewing to beat the odds in Las Vegas. During an extensive Q&A period following his main talk, Dames also touched on topics such as UFOs and the infamous "Killshot." Whether you think him famous or infamous, everyone present to hear him was clearly paying rapt attention to his various ruminations and opinions. Of course, of equal or greater interest to many attendees were the many questions that hung in the air unanswered after he left the podium.

In the aftermath of the 2007 Remote Viewing Conference, many people have expressed a desire for IRVA to



John Stahler (center), IRVA Secretary, and audience members

provide a refined definition of the remote-viewing process and thereafter to extend some form of official recognition to those entities or organizations that are conducting remote viewing within approved protocols, regardless of methodology. However, to come to a community-wide specification as to how remote viewing should be done, acceptable to all

or even the majority, will not happen overnight for many reasons. Some scheme of objective criteria will eventually have to be developed by which to effectively evaluate (and offer accreditation to) the skill of any remote viewer, while still accommodating the use of whatever protocol or format



Raffle Prizewinners

he or she was trained in. Ultimately, it will be essential to the continuing, science-based evolution of the remote-viewing phenomenon to do so. While IRVA is not in the business of endorsing any one individual or business, it remains very interested in the continuing evolution of the remote-viewing process. Perhaps one or more presenters at IRVA's upcoming 10th Anniversary Remote Viewing Conference will take up the challenge and address a few of these and other topics that many IRVA members have a clear interest in pursuing. ☸

IRVA's 2009 10th Anniversary Remote Viewing Conference will be held in Las Vegas over the weekend of June 19-21, at the Green Valley Ranch Resort and Spa. The program will allow attendees to assess the progress made by IRVA and the remote-viewing community as a whole over the last 10 years. For up-to-date information on the 2009 Remote Viewing Conference, please visit www.irva.org. To buy DVDs of the 2007 (and also the 2004 and 2006) Remote Viewing Conference's presentations, please visit <http://shopirva.org/>.

Be sure to check out the enclosed conference flyer on the upcoming IRVA Conference in June!

IRVA News

IRVA Announces New Secretary

John Stahler has recently been chosen as the new IRVA Secretary. Over the last two years, John has donated a considerable amount of time to re-organizing IRVA's audio/video recording archives and helped the Association be more efficient in fulfilling orders. John made his success in the electronics industry, giving him both the time and business talent to be a huge asset to IRVA. He is clearly committed to helping IRVA move forward.

John studied remote viewing through PsiTech's online courses, David Morehouse, Ed Dames, and Paul H. Smith. He recently participated in the CRV-REG Study as a researcher and administrator.

David Eagles

Our deepest condolences go out to current director, former IRVA Secretary, and *Aperture* Managing Editor William Eagles on the recent passing of his father, David "Dave" Eagles. Born in New York City, he was a 1943 graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and served in the Atlantic and Pacific theatres of the Second World War, and during the Korean War as well. A humorous raconteur and philosopher, Dave was a loving father to William and a successful businessman.

Jessica Utts, Ph.D. Accepts New Position At UC Irvine

Dr. Jessica Utts, IRVA director and chair of the Association's research committee, has recently left her long-time position at the University of California at Davis and accepted a professorship at the University of California at Irvine. One of the leading statisticians in the country, Jessica is widely respected in the remote-viewing community for her work in the statistical analysis of remote viewing and other psi-based research, and for her expert input on experiment design in the field of parapsychology in general. She was recently interviewed on an online science blog, at <http://sciencedude.freedomblogging.com/2008/10/05/expert-on-psi-phenomena-joins-uci-faculty/5085/>.

Bill Tompkins

Our deepest regrets also go out to former IRVA Secretary Cynthia Tompkins on the recent passing of her husband of 11 years, William Burton "Bill" Tompkins. A Colorado native, ex-Marine, and Vietnam veteran, Bill was a warm and generous man who is now sorely missed by Cynthia and their extended family. We wish them all the best as they deal with their loss. Memorial contributions may be made to the Tompkins Memorial Fund at The Bank at Broadmoor in Colorado Springs for wildlife care, planting trees, shrubs, and flowers in Bill's name, to add some enduring beauty to the world.

John B. Alexander and Paul H. Smith Speak at the Society for Scientific Exploration

IRVA directors John B. Alexander and Paul H. Smith were invited speakers at the annual conference of the Society for Scientific Exploration, held this past May in Boulder, Colorado. Dr. Alexander spoke on the topic of UFOs and was also a panel member on the same general topic. Paul H. Smith gave a presentation entitled, "Why ESP is Consciousness's Only Hope," which used remote-viewing evidence to argue against the idea that human mentality is merely a product of physical systems. Along with other remote-viewing notables, including Courtney Brown, Simeon Hein, Dale Graff, and SSE president Dr. Garrett Moddel, Paul was also on a panel addressing "Remote Viewing the Future: Hot Controversies." Further information, including abstracts of the presentations, can be accessed at http://www.scientificexploration.org/meetings/program_27th_annual.pdf.

Prior IRVA Remote Viewing Conference DVDs Are Now Available!

We are excited to announce that the 2004 IRVA Remote Viewing Conference presentations, long unavailable, are now available on newly re-mastered DVDs.

Choose presentations from the 2004, 2006, and 2007 Conferences. A further benefit "is one-click" ordering through our website at <http://irva.org/DVDs.html>.

Remote-Viewing Analysis, continued from page 4

are conducting “interpretation” and not analysis. When a person *explains* or *judges*, or tries to *understand according to individual belief or interest*, he is by definition allowing “bias” to contaminate the final product.

Bias is the enemy of analysis and obscures the true nature of the information. Again, “bias” is a subjective viewpoint or preconceived notion and/or prejudice. There are many types of bias, three of the most important being:

Cultural Bias – For example, a viewer might perceive a group of humans gathered around an animal while yelling and slitting its throat. Many people would consider this sadistic or barbaric, but in some cultures it can be a celebration of great joy, a holiday, or a religious event.

Organizational Bias - Does the viewer look for the best-case or the worst-case scenario? For example, if a group of remote viewers describes a

bright light in the sky, one viewer might see it as an impending nuclear attack while another might see it as a being of light heralding a new age for mankind.

Personal Bias - Personal bias comes from one’s past experience. If a previous thought pattern or conclusion has led to success, a viewer is always tempted to follow the same pattern, even if the situations or data have nothing in common. Another such bias common to remote-viewing interpretation is that a person may just like or trust one viewer more than another. Vividness in the data received can also inject a type of bias, in that seemingly clear and concise information has a greater impact than that which is vague and abstract.

Analysts are the puzzle masters; they are given all the pieces and charged with reassembling the data into coherence. The analyst should not be stripped of his intellect or mentality, but it needs to be regulated so that the work becomes a task of assigning “yes” and “no,” and the “maybes” are eliminated. To correctly analyze remote-viewing data, a protocol is needed that eliminates bias, that is, a set of rules that prohibits the analyst from consciously or unconsciously injecting bias into the remote-viewing product.

The analyst should never be the remote viewer or the tasker. If the viewer or tasker were also to perform the analysis, it would serve to invite in almost every possible type of bias. If the method of analysis is not protected from bias,

the analyst could come up with any desired assessment of the work. The analyst, like the viewer, must therefore always be blind to the target. If analysis is not conducted properly, it is impossible for the analyst to be able to speak about the target with competence and authority.

At HRVG in Hawaii, low-level analysis involves the following four steps: (1) Extraction of data, (2) Reduction, (3) Consensus examination, and (4) Reporting. When conducting analysis using this protocol, the analyst has no opportunity to inject her opinions, beliefs, or judgment. She constructs a Data Extraction Matrix and meticulously compares each and every bit of data in multiple sessions against all the other

data collected. Only consensual data makes it through this filter. The data that makes it this far evolves into a series of working notes, which lay the foundation for plausible scenarios at the

Analysts are the puzzle masters; they are given all the pieces and charged with reassembling the data into coherence.

target. This culmination of the data gives the analyst his only voice in regards to the target, a voice that can be audited back to specific tracks of data in the session and not the bias of speculation.

For remote viewing to progress farther in the coming years, individuals who remain committed to the field must have greater opportunities to make meaningful contributions to it. Enhancing the level of analytical skills in the community would be an important step in that direction. To enable remote viewing to produce a product that is consistently useful, a strict analytical protocol -- and properly trained analysts to employ it -- is urgently needed. While it is always amazing that humans can perceive accurate sensory data across space and time and report it, it is equally remarkable when analysts can make accurate sense of it. ☯

Dick Allgire is a skilled and talented remote viewer who has trained under Glenn Wheaton at the Hawaii Remote Viewers’ Guild (HRVG) in Honolulu for over ten years. He is an HRVG-certified instructor and the Vice President of HRVG. He has presented at several IRVA Remote Viewing Conferences, and has lectured and trained students internationally at scientific symposia. Dick is a veteran television journalist with over 26 years experience as a reporter, anchor, and producer. Dick has worked in Hawaii since 1985, and has been at KITV since 1988.

Tribute

Senator Claiborne Pell

by C.B. Scott Jones, Ph.D.,
Commander, USN (Ret.)

My first contact with Senator Claiborne Pell from Rhode Island was a telephone call from him inviting me to lunch at the Senate Dining Room on Capitol Hill. I was in my Kaman Tempo office in Alexandria, Virginia, where I was managing a contract with the Defense Nuclear Agency, researching and writing histories of each oceanic nuclear-test operation.

The invitation from Senator Pell had nothing to do with that work. I had returned to Washington, D.C. following my retirement from the Navy, and teaching political science at Casper College and the University of Wyoming. My recruitment to join the community of “Beltway Bandits” was sweetened by a contract agreement that I would be given ten percent of my time to market “Applied Psychic Phenomena.” This was a generic term I used to describe the spontaneous and completely unexpected success I had in India during a Naval Intelligence assignment.

Senator Pell had an eye and ear for such activity, and from his sources had learned about the work my small team of psychics had done for the Secret Service. With input from my team, the Secret Service had successfully captured a person whom they considered to be a highly dangerous threat to President Reagan.

The luncheon meeting went very well. Senator Pell was most interested in my psychic activity and focused his questions on how it worked. It was unsatisfactory to both of us that I had no reasonable explanations, and he noted my frustration that, while the intelligence community was willing to modestly fund specific applications, they showed no interest in some basic research I had proposed. His last comment at that meeting was, “What research are other countries doing in this area?”

From that first meeting a warm personal relationship grew. Less than a month later, in the living room of his Georgetown home, he described the type of person he wanted on his staff to find out the answers he sought. That particular short oration was somewhat different from the normal directness that was his style. I remember with precision the conversation that followed.

Jones: “Are you offering me a job?”

Pell: “Yes.”

Jones: “I accept.”

Six years later I left a most extraordinary position. It

was extraordinary because of the opportunities it provided, extraordinary because of the man who made it possible.

Senator Pell has publicly acknowledged that his most important legislative achievement in 36 years in the U.S. Senate was the Basic Education Opportunity Grants program (known as “Pell Grants”), which have aided close to 60 million low- and middle-income Americans. But Senator Pell’s view of education was strongly that of a process. He agreed with Herbert Spencer: “The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.”

When I joined Senator Pell’s staff as Special Assistant, in 1985, he was beginning his fifth term. He gave me three days to settle in and then asked me over to his office for a talk. The conversation that started that morning never ended. It covered a number of subjects, few of which were comfortably settled in the current box of science, or normally raised. For example: “What happens at physical death? What, if anything, survives?” I responded with my speculation and Senator Pell said, “Why don’t we try to find out? Are you interested in doing that? Please give me an action plan in a few days.” The result of that was an October 1985 symposium on *Consciousness and Survival* held at Georgetown University’s storied Gaston Hall.

As I departed his office that morning, he gave me another challenge. “I start each new year asking my staff to come up with new legislative ideas. We really haven’t come up with a big one since establishing the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Please give me your ideas.”

My first round of ideas failed to survive the withering critique of Senator Pell’s respected Legislative Assistant. The next round went better as I was then familiar with office politics, and the shock of the senator hiring a full-time staff member to cater to his more esoteric interests had considerably diminished.

The one idea that got grudging staff agreement to advance to the legislative stage was designed to establish a National Commission on Human Potential. Senator Pell wanted this to become a reality and carefully guided the process. His Committee on Human Resources held hearings, and a bill was moved to the Senate floor. We had cultivated bipartisan support for the measure, but Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) and

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Tribute to Senator Claiborne Pell, continued from page 12

other “neocons” placed a moving secret hold on the bill and it failed to come to a vote.

Concurrent with this Senate floor action, radio evangelists of the Religious Right exhorted the faithful to call Senator Pell and his staff member and express their views on this Devil-inspired idea. The senator told me that I would handle all the calls, but could stop taking them after five o’clock. After five, we would discuss the day and he would assure me that this was all part of the game. I responded that I learned, when flying combat missions in Korea, that the flak is heaviest when you are over the target. He replied, “Yes, the good folks calling you are not dumb. Many of the prayers they offer you are in fear.”

Some members of the intelligence community had opportunities to meet Senator Pell; so they met with him in order to brief him on official and semi-official activity. These meetings were very important to him and he looked forward to them. Many of them sparked continued discussions between us on the subjects covered.

He sought input and dialogue, and he was willing to push for additional information in an attempt to bring clarity and clear confusion. An example of this followed a briefing that Army Col. John Alexander, currently an IRVA Board member, gave him on what he was discovering in an attempt to determine who and what level in government might be involved in the UFO/ET enigma. Senator Pell asked me if I believed it were possible that not every president was formally briefed on this subject. My response was that that appeared to be the case. He then told me to draft a letter to be sent to President Carter, offering an unclassified briefing from Col. Alexander and me on the subject. The letter was mailed to the ex-president in Atlanta, just as I drafted it.

After three weeks, Senator Pell asked me if we had received a reply. I told him that, if a reply had been received, it would have gone directly to him. He replied, “Call Carter’s chief of staff and ask if they received my letter.” He was upset by what appeared to be a breach of protocol and common courtesy between friends. I called the Carter Center and asked to speak to the chief of staff. When he answered, I asked if President Carter had received Senator Pell’s letter. His reply was, “The letter was received, and there will be no reply.” I could not provoke any explanation, only a repeat of the first response.

Senator Pell was puzzled by the way this turned out and asked what I thought was going on. I replied that the benign reason could be that he did not want to put the sitting president

in an embarrassing position, and that the response said nothing about Carter’s interest in or knowledge about the subject. A less benign explanation was that Carter had received some level of briefing on the subject that included a requirement that he would never make a public statement about it.

Senator Pell was also concerned about and supported the government’s classified remote-viewing program. As one of the strongest Senate supporters of the program, he received regular formal DIA briefings during the time that the agency ran the program. Senator Pell asked me if I wanted to sit in on these briefings, and I told him that this presented a problem. First of all, I told him, my psychic team had been briefing me on the activity at Fort Meade for some time, and the Russians enjoyed talking about penetrating the unit when I visited their research facilities in the Soviet Union. The issue was, if I were to receive a formal briefing on the program, it might serve to restrict my traveling to the Soviet Union and the People’s Republic of China, two countries I visited with some frequency. A compromise was reached that allowed me to support Senator Pell during his briefings, and my travels were not restricted.

When the program was “outed” under pressure to “evaluate its value,” and then predictably terminated following the recommendation of a stacked committee, I suggested to Senator Pell that we not fight this outcome. We had made a suggestion to DIA to establish a new research-and-application organization that would accommodate remote viewing and other human-sensing techniques well known to aboriginal cultures. The senator looked at this as reasonable, a logical use of consciousness that modern culture had allowed to atrophy. It appears, however, that there was no will at DIA to follow this track.

Senator Pell asked me if the remote-viewing program might survive as a “black” program. I suggested that, if he wanted that to happen, we should not ask questions about the possibility. He introduced me to Laurence Rockefeller, and the two of them agreed that, while I was traveling around the world to investigate consciousness research for the senator, I would also ask questions about UFO and extraterrestrial research for Mr. Rockefeller. The *quid pro quo* was that Rockefeller would pick up part of the travel expenses and thereby reduce some of the costs borne by the taxpayers for what the premier debunking organization, the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP), considered pure foolishness.

The way this actually happened was: I noted in my trip

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ReView

The Men Who Stare At Goats

by Glenn B. Wheaton

By Jon Ronson (Simon & Schuster, 2005)
259 pp. + author note (no index or pictures) \$24.00
[First published in 2004 by Picador, an imprint of Pan Macmillan, Ltd., 20 New Wharf Road, London, UK NI 9RR]

Ed. Note: This article provides another viewpoint on the book, The Men Who Stare At Goats, which was first reviewed by Paul H. Smith in the last issue of Aperture (4:2).

It was in January of 2003 that I received a message from John Sergeant asking me to give him a call. Sergeant was in the early stages of developing a documentary for Britain's Channel 4 TV and wanted to discuss an interview. Titled *Crazy Rulers of the World*, the documentary, when completed, would air in the United Kingdom over three nights. A companion to the documentary was a book titled *The Men Who Stare At Goats*, written by Jon Ronson. It was the producer's intent to release the book simultaneously with the broadcast debut of *Crazy Rulers of the World*. This article is about *The Men Who Stare At Goats*, but you need to keep in mind that it is a companion publication to a larger body of work that took years to produce, and was prepared and presented primarily to a European audience.

I read Paul H. Smith's review of *The Men Who Stare At Goats* in the last issue of *Aperture*, and since I am a bit more knowledgeable about some of the events in the book, I decided to fill in a few of the missing pieces.

Sometimes we forget that every person does not see things the way we do, and that everyone does not share our perspective; this is exactly the case with *The Men Who Stare At Goats*. We can read the book and see its flaws, and pounce on them easily enough because our truths are a bit different from Ronson's truths, but that doesn't make them any less valid. What John Sergeant and Jon Ronson encountered in the making of the broadcast and the book is what they filmed and wrote about. We need to remember that it was their perspective, and how we appeared to them as they looked into our world.

The book begins with, "This is a true story," and after viewing *Crazy Rulers of the World* and reading *The Men Who*

Stare At Goats, I must agree with Ronson. There is no need for "damage control" at any level regarding the publication of the book or the broadcast program's contents, because we have kept some of our secrets very closely held, and Ronson's reality is limited by the access he had to the complete truth during the interviews for his film and book.

Ronson begins with a look at Major General Albert N. Stubblebine III. What astonished him was that General Stubblebine was discussing matters that one is not accustomed to hearing about from a two-star general, subjects such as metal-bending and walking through walls. For example, Stubblebine states in *Crazy Rulers of the World*:

You know the electron, or the atom, is made up mostly of space. OK. Well, my space is made up of atoms, the wall space is made up of atoms. All you got to do is merge the spaces. I didn't master it. John, I never got there, I didn't do it. I just haven't figured out how my space fits through that space because I kept bumping my nose. . . . I didn't, couldn't, wouldn't; no, "couldn't" is the wrong word. I never got myself in the right state of mind, and if you really want to know, it's a disappointment, it's a disappointment.

Ronson uses these quotes for the basis of his truth. It is important to note that General Stubblebine did not informally attempt this feat. He reasoned it out, he considered the possibility, and tried to achieve what he rationalized. In my opinion, this took a certain amount of courage – not only to attempt it, but to talk about it publicly. This is why Ronson believed General Stubblebine did in fact make an effort to achieve the skill.

I have seen this type of innovation rise before. Lieutenant Colonel Jim Channon's *First Earth Battalion* proposal was far too large in scope to be considered achievable or viable, but it planted a seed. In 1980, Colonel John Alexander wrote an article titled *The Mental Battlefield*, which brought more focus onto the individual soldier and his intellect, and Project Jedi (Trojan) brought extreme focus on the Special Forces soldier and what he could accomplish. The Army, after so many years, was finally beginning to test the logic of certain unconventional ideas. For example, Stubblebine states in *Crazy Rulers of the World*:

If you think about the Special Forces, they are massively oriented on the ability of an individual, first, okay? To do things that an ordinary man can't do. I made trips down to Fort Bragg to try and energize people.

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

In meetings with the Special Forces commanders and key staff at Fort Bragg, General Stubblebine encouraged them to consider several ideas and areas of possible training within Special Forces; some of these included intuition as well as self-healing. General Stubblebine may have felt he was not well received, but he was not one of them, after all: He did not wear the Green Beret. He got the same treatment everyone who visits Special Forces gets, which can best be characterized as uncooperative indifference. General Stubblebine did have his own people within Special Forces, people he commanded in the Special Operations Detachments (SOD), Intelligence Green Berets. As a result, the impact of his visits were more significant within the activities of SOD, or the “Military Intelligence Companies” as they later became known. It is here that the path finally leads to the namesake of Ronson’s book, “The Goats.”

When General Stubblebine suggested that a person might be able to disrupt the blood flow of a test animal, such as a goat, at least one SOD commander cringed. That possibility hit too close to home because, some years before, Special Forces had investigated an incident in which a Green Beret killed a goat during a hand-to-hand combat training class without any visible contact with the animal. It was not a “psychic” killing, but rather one that employed the unseen moving force of a Chinese martial art called “Gi Gong.” I was present at that event, and it was rather unnerving. In a subsequent demonstration, the same individual caused three ink filled balloons, which were submerged in an aquarium, to rupture without any physical contact. This is the true origin of *The Men Who Stare At Goats*, and although Ronson takes a detour from this fact, he nonetheless almost got it right. By the time General Stubblebine broached the subject, an order had already been given to cease this activity due to medical issues raised by the Group Surgeon.

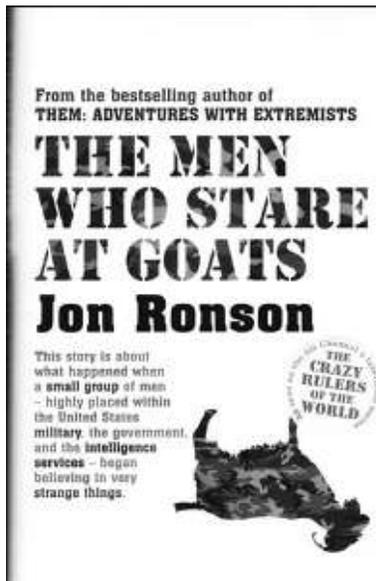
Col. John Alexander put Ronson onto the trail of Guy Savelli, as the assassin of the goat, and he began to track him down. Savelli, who had become a civilian martial-arts trainer, had begun to claim about ten years earlier that he was the goat-killer. However, the man who dropped the goat in the Bear Pit at Fort Bragg was actually Michael Echanis.

This is the major flaw in both the documentary and the book, and whatever Guy Savelli’s intentions were, it was simply not his story.

The trail then leads to my friend, Lt. Col. Channon, who tried to help the Army shape its thinking and training after a very disturbing period during the Vietnam conflict. He was given permission to investigate new modalities of intellect emerging in the civilian world and bring them back for the Army to evaluate and utilize. But a problem soon emerged as Lt. Col. Channon began to change: He came to understand how people interacted on a much more global level than the Army could understand. It was from Lt. Col. Channon that Ronson obtained the clues that led him to the world of “Psychological Operations” (PSYOPS) and the techniques used in the infamous interrogations at Abu Ghraib, sensationalized by Barney the purple dinosaur singing the *I Love You* song endlessly. I spent an afternoon discussing PSYOPS with Ronson, how they are employed in the real world, and why I believe in the basic need for it. He seemed to understand the concept, but I don’t think he was ready for what it really looks like in action, at or near the battlefield.

Ronson’s next step was to open the door marked “Remote Viewing,” by visiting an IRVA-sponsored Remote Viewing Conference. As his investigation continued, the players began to emerge. He interviewed, among others, Ray Hyman, Joe McMoneagle, Skip Atwater, Paul H. Smith, Lyn Buchanan, and Prudence Calabrese. In meeting with the “others,” however, things began to get murky for him as he attempted to reconstruct the circumstances surrounding the Heaven’s Gate suicides that coincided with the arrival of the Hale Bopp comet. Keep in mind that he was on the outside looking in, and at that time our small community was reeling from the unwanted exposure of remote viewing to this tragic, high-profile incident.

Paul H. Smith and I share the belief that Ronson never had the chance to investigate the viability of remote viewing on a strategic scale because he was distracted by the incredulous reports that were being discussed on late-night talk-radio shows. This is perhaps the real tragedy for our community: That anyone who wants to look at us must deal with the fringe element before they reach our core. The



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

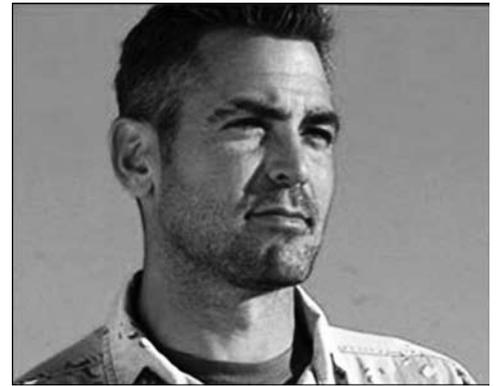
leap from Heaven's Gate to Waco was easy for Ronson to make as he tried to find something on a scale equal to the remote-viewing fiasco. He used the events at Waco to show how some of the same tactics employed by the military have filtered down into the civilian world, and to try to validate his perspective that America is slowly shifting from the "real" towards the "surreal."

Readers of this book will get their money's worth because there is a wealth of information in it that most people simply do not know. The book is best read after viewing the three-part documentary, *Crazy Rulers of the World*.

The book has recently become the basis of a Peter Straughan screenplay by the same name. It is being made into a feature film directed by Grant Heslov, and starring George Clooney, Ewan McGregor, Kevin Spacey and Jeff Bridges. Several months ago I received an advance copy of the script, and I predict it will be an entertaining movie. There are a lot of hidden secrets, and remote viewing should be represented well, although it will not be the main focus of the movie. You may recognize characters in the film, but the movie will not necessarily parallel the documentary or the book. It has a great and memorable sound track, with music by the Doors, Deep Purple, Meatloaf, and – believe it or not – the Osmonds. The movie will be released in

2010. ☺

Glenn Wheaton is the co-founder, president, and principal trainer of the Hawaii Remote Viewers' Guild in Honolulu, Hawaii. Glenn is a retired Sergeant First Class who began his intel-



George Clooney
The Men Who Stare At Goats

ligence career in the Army Security Agency (ASA), serving at various early-warning stations around the world as well as the National Security Agency (NSA). With the closure of the ASA, Glenn moved to Special Forces and served for 15 years as an operator in the Special Operations Detachments Alpha (SOD). Glenn retired in 1993 as the Senior SIGINT Advisor for the 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne). Glenn received his remote-viewing training while in the military.

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

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.

Tribute to Senator Claiborne Pell, continued from page 13

reports to the senator that, in both China and the Soviet Union, psychic research and UFO/ET research came under the same administrative structure and that, in the Soviet Union, one of the research institutes I had visited had specific responsibility for both subjects. The director there told me that so much of what they see in ET phenomena is psychic in nature; thus, it made sense to look at these areas together.

Senator Pell made repeated declarations about his specific concern: "I am interested in consciousness/psychic research, not UFOs/ETs." That being said over and over again, he never failed to ask detailed questions about both subjects following my travels. Part of this was due to the intense interest his very close friend, Hans-Adam von Liechtenstein, had about UFO/ET phenomena; the rest was covered in a reply given me to a direct question about why he professed no interest in UFO/ET phenomena: "I am very far out on a limb with my public interest in psychic phenomena. I don't think my staff would survive seeing me out on another limb with so little support."

During the last year that I worked for the senator, my interests turned more and more to a subject about which we both felt very strongly: Global peace. From the beginning, I was asking questions about this of the scientific, military, intelligence, religious, legislative, and business leaders that I met with for Senator Pell's and Rockefeller's other interests. The senator approved of this, and we both realized that my time on his staff was coming to an end. Neither of us anticipated that it would end the way it did, however.

The issue was "Simone," a word heard by David Oates, the pioneer investigator into reverse-speech phenomena. Oates told me that, in speeches by President George H.W. Bush, Secretary of State Baker, and Secretary of Defense Cheney, the same word that sounded like "Simone" was heard in reverse speech when they were talking about Desert Shield, the deployment of U.S. forces to the Arabian Gulf from August 1990 to January 1991.

Secretary of Defense Cheney was a personal friend, and I wrote him a short letter informing him about this discovery. Oates was in the process of publishing the information on his internet website, and if what he was hearing was an

operation codeword, it was important to give Secretary of Defense Cheney a heads-up.

My first mistake was to inadvertently print my letter on Senator Pell's letterhead. When I discovered the error, I decided that, since the correspondence had to pass a number of "spearholders" in order to reach Secretary of Defense Cheney, I would let Senator Pell's name do the job.

My second error was to overestimate the value Secretary of Defense Cheney put on our friendship. Senator Pell was up for reelection, and his opponent was Rhode Island's popular Republican representative, Claudine Schneider. Secretary of Defense Cheney thought it would damage Senator Pell if he made the "Simone" letter public, so he sent copies of it to the media in Rhode Island.

Understandably, Senator Pell's staff was furious at my gaffe. What they didn't know was that Schneider's interest in all aspects of consciousness (including psychic phenomena) matched that of Senator Pell. A subsequent reverse-speech analysis of their one campaign debate clearly

**The issue was "Simone,"
a word heard by David Oates,
the pioneer investigator into
reverse-speech phenomena.**

indicated she lacked the will to go for his jugular on that particular issue.

Secretary of Defense Cheney's lack of success and duplicity must be noted. The first poll taken after the "Simone" letter was published indicated that Senator Pell had increased his lead by two points. Apparently the public already knew he was unique, and they wanted him on the job. I was preparing for a trip to China when Senator Pell called me regarding the results of the poll. I said, "If you had lost two points, I'm sure I would have been blamed. Since you gained two points, do I get the credit?" With a smile in his voice, he replied, "No, enjoy your trip to China."

There was clearly something important to learn from "Simone" and so, when I returned from China, I visited the Middle East Desk at the Library of Congress to follow a hunch. I told the "Simone" story to an Arabic-speaking staff person. His immediate response was that the word we had heard was probably, "simoom," a hot desert storm." Indeed, Desert Storm was the 43-day First Gulf War following the five-month Operation Desert Shield.

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Tribute to Senator Claiborne Pell, continued from page 17

I sent a memorandum to Senator Pell about Simone/simoom, noting its validation of reverse speech as a mechanism of nonlocal consciousness expressing itself. He replied, "Will we ever learn how this works?" The answer is yes, but only when men and women with the courage and vision that the senator demonstrated throughout his service to the nation are also willing to get out on a limb and speak their truth.

Senator Pell was one of the few futurists serving on Capitol Hill. He recognized that discoveries in the physics of consciousness would be a key to the expansion of the knowledge needed to save civilization. Those who were mentored by this most special person vouchsafe his legacy to the future. ☸

C.B. Scott Jones holds a Ph.D. in International Studies, an M.A. in Government & Politics, and an A.B. in Government. He is a retired Navy commander, who spent half of his 30-year career in intelligence work. Post-Navy careers have included teaching at the university level, and research and development in U.S. government-sponsored projects for the Defense Nuclear Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, and other organizations.

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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, or call her toll-free at (866) 374-4782 for rates and guidelines.

This Issue's Website Quick-Reference Guide

International Remote Viewing Association	www.irva.org
IRVA's 2007 Conference	www.rvconference.org/Speakers07.html
IRVA's 2009 10th Anniversary Conference	www.rvconference.org
Remote-Viewing Analysis	www.hrv.org
Senator Claiborne Pell	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claiborne_Pell
Jessica Utts, Ph.D.	http://sciencedude.freedomblogging.com/2008/10/05/expert-on-psychic-phenomena-joins-uci-faculty/5085/
Society for Scientific Exploration	www.scientificexploration.org/meetings/program_27th_annual.pdf
IRVA Conference DVDs	http://shopirva.org/
The Men Who Stare At Goats (Book)	www.amazon.com
The Men Who Stare At Goats (Movie)	www.imdb.com/title/tt1234548/

President's Message, continued from page 2

viewing information that has become an important destination for anyone interested in the field.

- A substantial number of issues from our professionally rendered flagship publication, *Aperture*, which explores all aspects of the field.
- Nine significant public conferences, featuring stellar presenters such as astronaut Dr. Edgar Mitchell, psychologist Dr. Charles Tart, remote-viewing creator Ingo Swann, plus scientist Dr. Bill Tiller, forensic psychic Noreen Renier, pioneering military remote viewer Mel Riley, and archaeological remote viewer George McMullen, to name just a few.
- An often lively and always interesting e-mail discussion list where all members from every level of RV experience, representative of every RV school or method, from many walks of life, and with diverse backgrounds can come and discuss pertinent issues on a level playing field.
- IRVA directors and officers presenting in many venues around the world, giving IRVA an impact much greater than its size.

We look forward to making still more progress in the coming years by continually improving our website, presenting high-quality conferences, and increasing IRVA's active outreach in the field of remote viewing and related phenomena.

Through a happy turn of events, which will be detailed in the next issue of *Aperture*, IRVA has recently been able to make a significant step forward by sponsoring its first-ever formal remote-viewing experiment. The purpose of the experiment was twofold: (1) to produce and analyze real scientific data with the promise of moving remote viewing forward, and (2) to generate useful research formats that could be posted on an IRVA website as examples of what a formal remote-viewing experiment should look like; these we will offer as a model for others to follow in designing and conducting their own experiments. We hope that our experiment will be just the beginning of many research opportunities that IRVA can support. We also see it as a major step in making IRVA the essential starting point for anyone wanting to undertake legitimate remote-viewing research.

One area where we are not as far along is in promoting objective, science-based testing and evaluation of remote-viewing performance. The problem is that, at least for now, remote-viewing performance can only be evaluated by

subjective measures: How closely the written and graphical information generated *appears* to match the target.

Because each viewer is an individual, and accesses the target differently than others, each session is in many ways unique and somewhat hard to judge based even on subjective measures. The time-honored approach is the double-blind judging procedure. But this is a blunt instrument that often misses levels of quality that exist in individual sessions. There may be a glimmer of light at the end of the long tunnel of remote-viewing-quality evaluation, but it is too soon to say much about that. Fully aware that further progress remains to be made here, we intend to seize that challenge with enthusiasm.

Establishing responsible ethical and professional standards in the field is another area that needs attention. Fortunately, we have made some progress towards accomplishing this goal. In 2006 we formed a Standards Committee, with Lyn Buchanan as supervising board member, with the charter of proposing ways that standards could be set and a code of ethics formulated. At the 2007 meeting of IRVA's Board of Directors, new momentum was infused into the committee's agenda and we expect that it will shortly bear fruit.

As a step in that direction, our annual conference in 2007 featured a panel (moderated by Dick Allgire of the Hawaii Remote Viewers' Guild) of remote-viewing proponents and practitioners Lyn Buchanan, Marty Rosenblatt, Glenn Wheaton, Pam Coronado, and myself. We discussed some of the considerations relevant to developing remote-viewing ethics, identifying both problems and possible directions to take. This was a very helpful starting point for IRVA's serious progress on this score, which, I am pleased to report, will soon result in a proposed code of ethics. Particular thanks in that effort must go to Ethics Committee and Board member William Eagles.

Remote viewing's future looks very bright, and IRVA remains the most credible and creditable vehicle for moving RV into that future, and on into serious acceptance by the mainstream. I enthusiastically predict that we will soon accelerate in achieving our goals in the coming decade. The report that IRVA's president will give in 2019 will have to contain some new goals, since much of what is still on our plate today will have long been completed by then. In the meantime, there is still much to do, and we invite and welcome your help and support in accomplishing it.

Paul H. Smith

About The International Remote Viewing Association

The International Remote Viewing Association (IRVA) was organized on March 18, 1999 in Alamogordo, 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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