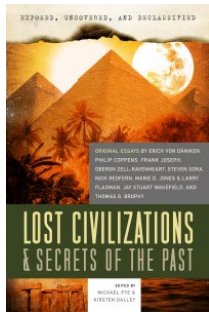


LOST CIVILIZATIONS

by Micah Hanks

CHAPTER SUMMARY



Hanks' essay in this third installment of the series deals with curious evidence found throughout parts of the ancient world that point to an unsettling reality: that humans in ancient times may have harnessed the ability to develop nuclear weapons. As incredible as such a notion sounds, evidence ranging from physical blast sites in excavated cities several thousands of years old, to references made in ancient Sanskrit epics of devastating explosives used in ancient warfare are detailed. Even the late J. Robert Oppenheimer, whose studies in nuclear physics led to the development of the first atomic bomb, may have alluded to such things existing in ancient times, prompting the frightening question: has the world already seen an apocalyptic "doomsday" long ago, and perhaps more importantly, are people today headed in that same direction yet again?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Micah Hanks



MICAH A. HANKS is a full-time journalist, radio personality, author and investigator of the unexplained. Since an early age, he has been fascinated with strange mysteries and “Fortean phenomena,” a field of study named for the pioneering researcher of all-things-strange, Charles Fort. Hanks’ exposure to Fort’s work, as well as the later writings of personalities such as zoologist Ivan T. Sanderson, cosmologist Carl Sagan, and several others helped establish an open minded—but inherently skeptical—approach to studying the unexplained, which Hanks maintains and continues to cultivate today, much like his numerous influences of past decades.

Throughout his many years studying the world’s mysteries, Hanks has visited a number of places collecting information about not only aliens and UFOs, but also cultural data, folklore, and reports of strange creatures like Sasquatch. From steep mountain passes in remote parts of Montana, to the rolling valleys where Ohio’s “Grassman” is said to trudge, Hanks has made a lifestyle of pursuing mysteries, often right to their sources. He also spent a number of years working with various scientists, historians, and film crews, particularly fellow researcher and friend Joshua P. Warren, attempting to solve the mystery of the Brown Mountain Lights. These strange “ghost lights” represent an atmospheric phenomenon specific to Western North Carolina, likened by many to be ufological in nature. His interest in the region and its many mysteries, as well as his ever-evolving methods of inquiry pertaining to the UFO phenomenon at large, remains underway.

Hanks has been featured as a guest on many television and radio programs, including History Channel’s *Guts and Bolts*, Travel Channel’s *Weird Travels*, CNN Radio, and *The Jeff Rense Program*. He is also a staff writer for *UFO Magazine*, *Mysterious Universe*, and regular contributor to *Intrepid Magazine*, with past articles appearing in *FATE*, *Mysteries Magazine*, and several other publications. The latest news about UFOs and unexplained phenomena, as well as information about Micah’s ongoing projects and appearances, are available at his website *The Gralien Report* (www.gralienreport.com). He can be contacted directly at info@gralienreport.com.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Ancient Mysteries

By Micah Hanks

- This article you've written deals with a very strange theory: That humans living more than 3000 years ago might have used nuclear devices in ancient times. What is the justification for this sort of claim?
- The ancient Sanskrit epics describe what some interpret to be advanced weaponry. Exactly what is described in these texts, and what about this seems to correlate so well with modern nuclear devices?
- It is said that J. Robert Oppenheimer, who was instrumental in the creation of America's first atomic weaponry, was interested in this possibility also. What sorts of things did Oppenheimer have to say about it?
- In terms of physical evidence, what has been found that indicates nuclear events occurred in ancient times?
- You aren't the only researcher who has taken interest in this subject. In fact, several scientists have claimed to uncover startling data that proves nuclear events occurred here on Earth long ago. Will you tell us about those?
- One interesting area of this sort of research deals specifically with a process called *vitrification*, in which sand or stone is fused by tremendous heat into a hard, glassy substance called "Trinitite." Can you tell us about this?
- Since you are known primarily as a ufologist, what about this area of research interested you in particular, and how does it tie in with UFOs?
- Your article begins by recounting the end of the Second World War, and the use of atomic bombs on the Japanese Empire that ultimately brought

the conflict to an end. Do you feel that World War II is a pivotal period in modern history, especially when it comes to the unexplained?

- What other evidence for advanced people, and especially advanced technology in ancient times, still exists today? Do things like the supposed “Baghdad Battery” indicate advanced technology the ancients may have had, or are their better examples of this?
- Do you think that we are, in modern times, headed in a similar direction that people did so long ago, if indeed a nuclear holocaust is what may have occurred?