



Culver City-Foshay No. 467, F. & A. M.

TRESTLEBOARD

JUNE 2011



From the East

Masonic Ritual: Sometimes Different, Always the Same

I recently had the privilege of attending an Entered Apprentice degree worked by the Valle de France Lodge No. 329 in the Pasadena Masonic Temple. Seeing this degree gave me pause to think about several aspects of Masonry, and it also provides me with a chance to write about an upcoming event in our own lodge. The degree differed from our own not only in that it was conducted in the French language, but also in that the French Grand Lodge uses a Scottish Rite style of the First Degree, rather than the York First Degree used in most U.S. blue lodges. I was most struck by the fact that, even though its structure and imagery were very different, the degree was still completely familiar.

At the beginning of the event, a speaker outlined each step of the degree, so that those of us with little or no French would be able to follow the action. Having had some translation courses in French, I could pick up maybe a third of the dialogue. However, if I had known no French and had been given no overview, I still would have recognized the essence of the degree.

This familiarity illustrates the depth of continuity and universality of Freemasonry. Once a Mason has undergone the profound experience of initiation, that experience becomes instantly recognizable, moving, and meaningful, regardless of the language or form in which it is presented.

I would like to summarize some of the differences between the French degree and our own, but I do not want to spoil the newness of the experience for brethren who might want to see the degree in the future (it is opened to guests once every year or two). Therefore, I will limit myself to a few general details and observations.

To begin with, the French/Scottish version of the E.A. is populated with many more implements, devices, and images than what we are used to in English-speaking Blue Lodges. There are ramps and tunnels to be traversed, and tables upon which strange objects may be placed. The candidate undergoes, symbolically, several unsettling trials. Open flames are abundant. I never dreamed I would see a blowtorch used in a Masonic ritual, let alone three at once. (I will just leave that part to your imagination.)

The effect of all this unusual imagery is that the alchemical influences of Masonry become more apparent. Consequently, the initiatory concept of transformation from one state to another is reinforced more by this ritual than by our own, and our understanding of our version of the E.A. is enhanced and enlightened.

A final point that may be revealing: The candidate is called "the profane." In an archaic sense of the word, profane means before or outside the temple, as opposed to sacred, which refers to that which is in the temple. In this understanding of Masonry, a man is profane (of the earth) until he seeks initiation, enters the temple, undergoes transformation (through fire) and purification (by water) until he ascends to an exalted state of enlightenment (the soaring lightness of air). Although the concept of the Four Elements has long since become obsolete in our scientific understanding of the world, this is yet another example of how Masonry preserves many ancient, traditional concepts in a vital and powerful allegorical context.

Sometime in the next few months, members of Culver City-Foshay will have a chance for a similar

experience when we host the Grand Lodge of Iran in Exile for one of their degrees in the Farsi language. We will have a chance to see that, despite surface variations, all Masons everywhere are made brothers through the same core ritual.

Fraternally,

Curtis Scott Shumaker
Master



From the West

Greetings, Brethren!

With the writing of this article for the Trestleboard of June, I realize that half the year of 2011 has been nearly spent. As time is moving so quickly, it occurs to me how important it is that, once we make plans, we must act on them promptly.

To those brothers who are working at learning and memorizing their proficiencies, I would ask: Are you feeling successful? If so, keep up the good work and keep your coach advised about your progress! He will be pleased to advise me that you are nearing readiness for advancement. On the other hand, if you are having difficulty with the process of memorization and feel negatively motivated, please be assured that we understand and that it is not uncommon for candidates to experience some frustration. We know that at heart and mind, your goal is to excel within our honorable institution.

Based on my experience, here are some suggestions. Firstly, you must set your mind for “dignity and purpose.” I learned this from Worshipful Clive Revill, Past Master, who coached me while I was busy leaning my proficiencies and officer’s lectures. This exalts the goal, prioritizing it as though it were a New Year’s Resolution. This sort of thinking is not only useful in achieving our ritualistic goals, but is valuable in many other aspects of life.

Secondly, it is important to establish a pattern of time. This, I learned from Worshipful Mahmoud Ghaffari, Past Master whose talent seems to be to learn large amounts of ritual quickly. He knows the popular expression “No time at all.” Yet, his advice is to commit to a regular time of learning the ritual or proficiency. As one regularly takes a shower, so can he regularly go about learning his lesson or moving toward his goal! Whether this is done once a day or once a week, it must be regular. It becomes something that is part of one’s living cycle. Although (I must say) “please don’t tell me you take a shower only once a week!”

Let us see how this works out numerically. The traditional proficiency (the full form, which is optional) requires about 2,500 memorized words. The abbreviated form requires about 500. At 30 words per day, the result would be a memorized traditional proficiency 83 days. This translates to 2.7 months. Of course the abbreviated form would take less than two months. A shower takes the average person 20 minutes to

accomplish. I would say to the brethren who may question their availability of time that they can afford the time since they appear clean. Perhaps one could drill himself while showering.

The next issue of “From the West,” will examine another technique of memorization by a brother who claims that at first the task was difficult but eventually became enjoyable. For now, this brother will be known as Brother X.

Fraternally,

Masato Francis Taguchi
Senior Warden



From the South

Junior Warden’s Retreat

I had the honor of attending the Junior Warden’s Retreat, sponsored by the Grand Lodge of California, at the beautiful grounds of the Marriott Hotel in Newport Beach. Naturally, I enjoyed the opportunity to meet new acquaintances, but what most impressed me was the opportunity to observe the high degree of professionalism with which our lodges could be run. I thought to myself, Masonry within our lodge could be run as a business, methodically, with a strategy and tactic, planned and executed. All sessions were full of information that can be well used by lodge officers to enable them to perform more effectively. More importantly, they provided useful information that will aid me in the successive steps I take before becoming Master. I am convinced that if our Grand Lodge continues to showcase events such as that which I attended, we shall be attracting more professional men into our craft in the future. To congregate, to learn, to communicate and to network were the themes I notice that shaped this event. As such ideas are featured, our lodges will become more relevant to the environment and world in which we live. It is true that Freemasonry is very traditional and that while the rituals which give it prominence are changed minimally over the years, the business and administrative methods of the lodge must keep the pace with the changes in society. Perhaps other grand lodges will benefit by learning from our program.

As I attended the sessions and that our institution is attempting to modernize the way it conducts business, and in so doing, is now surmounting the obstacles that have often kept many men of recent generations from joining its ranks. My sincerest gratitude goes to the teams of people who worked diligently with the Grand Lodge and with committees locally to put this valuable program together for us.

Fraternally,

Mahmoud Ghaffari, P.M.
Junior Warden

Good News from Brother Blumenthal!

Recent communications with a brother in distress have produced good news. It may be recalled that two years ago, our Senior Warden at the time, Brother James Blumenthal was diagnosed with throat cancer. His fight, which has included both conventional and holistic methods, has been difficult, but he has maintained an optimistic disposition. Happily, Brother Blumenthal has learned that his cancer is now six weeks in remission and he desires that the brethren be so informed. He extends his best wishes to the lodge brethren and is gratified that he has been remembered. He is feeling well enough for a summer sailing trip! Bon voyage, Brother Blumenthal!

Fraternally,

Merrick R. Hamer, P.M.

DeMolay and Job's Daughters Lock-In

The event had a great turn out with an attendance of about 50 participants enjoying fun activities that included lots of laughter and bouncing around, as well as a tasty feast of Spaghetti, prepared by Merrick, which was happily devoured by the playful bunch.



Pictures from the Youth Order Lock-In, Saturday, May 14th. Fun, fun, fun!

BOOK REVIEW

The Reich of the Black Sun

Nazi Secret Weapons & The Cold War Allied Legend

By Joseph P. Farrell

READY TO BOMB N.Y. 21ST Army Group HQ. June 28:

RAF officers said today that the Germans had nearly completed preparations for bombing New York from a "colossal airfield" near Oslo when the war ended. "Forty giant bombers with a 7000 mile range were found on this base-The largest Luftwaffe base I have ever seen" one senior officer said. "They were a new type of bomber developed by Heinkel. They now are being dismantled for study. German ground crews said that the planes were held in readiness for a mission to New York."

ALLIED CAPTURE OF NAZI FACTORY Kiel, Germany Aug 8 (AP)

The largest heavy water plant in Germany, where Nazi scientists were working feverishly to perfect an atomic bomb, was captured almost intact by the allies 3 months ago in a heavily wooded section 4 miles from Kiel. Cobwebs of plastic pipes connected 8 huge vats holding thousands of gallons of plain water for processing into heavy water. I stumbled onto the factory two weeks after it was taken over by the American and British technicians. Although they gave me freedom to roam around the grounds, I was called on the carpet the next day for entering without authority from high officials and was required to pledge not to reveal what I had seen until it was released. Although the race to perfect the bomb was led by American and British experts, the Germans had made great strides and were catching up. The war against Germany ended just in time.

These minor news articles in the Washington Post on June 28, 1945 and by Charles Chamberlain on August 8, 1945 underscore how close Hitler was in his words, to snatch victory over the Allies "5 minutes after midnight". The Reich of the Black Sun is a fascinating book on Germany's technological prowess in developing atomic and other advanced weaponry and the Cold War Allied Legend to hide these facts from the public.

The book begins in Chapter 1 where according to the author, the end of WWII does not make sense. In Oct. of 1944, Hans Zinsser, a German pilot and rocket expert flew his Heinkel 111 over the province of Mecklenburg in Northern Germany. What he saw was proof the Nazis had the bomb.

His affidavit is within a military intelligence report of August 19, 1945. His report contained sighting of a multi-colored Mushroom cloud. His plane experienced electrical disturbances and the loss of radio communication from an electromagnetic pulse of the bomb. One English specialist, Sir Roy Fedden, sent to Germany after the war, did not mince words as to German development of advanced weaponry.

"In these respects the Nazis were not entirely lying. In the course of 2 recent visits to Germany, as leader of a technical missions of the Ministry of Aircraft Production, I have seen enough of their designs and production plans to realize that is they had managed to prolong the war some months longer, we would have been confronted with a set of entirely new and deadly developments in air warfare" What the Allies attempted to do was to whitewash Germany's advanced inroads into highly advanced weaponry as ravings from Madmen. Dr. Gobbels boasted in a speech near War's end that he had seen "weapons so frightening it would make your heart stand still". But the author notes the peculiarities on the Allied side. George Patton's 3rd Army is hell bent making a beeline for the Skoda munitions works at Pilsen, Prague, and a regions of the Harz Mountains in Thuringia known as the 3 corners. The Allied brass' version for the history books was that they believed the Nazis were planning to make a last stand in the Redoubt, on fortified mountains in the Harz and to cut off the escape routes of Germans feeling Berlin that were wanted. The author sites the problem of this theory is that aerial reconnaissance would have told Eisenhower that there were only a few strong points in the Redoubt. In the author's words, it didn't exist. Why the rush? And why did Patton mysteriously die within the year from a car accident? The Historical records say he was eliminated because he advocated turning the Germans "right back around" and invade Russia. Some believe he was aced because he knew of the Allies knowledge of Soviet Executions of Allied prisoners of war and threatened to go public. The author believes that neither reason seems sufficient to murder one of the U.S. Army's celebrities. Farrell believes Patton was silenced because he knew of Germany's advanced weaponry, including the bomb. Here Farrell's quotes from Top Secret: "Ralph Ingersoll, an U.S. liaison officer at S.H.A.E.F., gives a version of the facts much more in line with German intentions: General Bradley was complete master of the situation...in full command of the 3 armies that had broken through the Rhine defenses and were free to exploit their victories. Analyzing the whole situation, Bradley felt that to take Berlin would be an empty military victory...The German War Department had long since moved out, leaving only a rear echelon. The main body of the German War Department, including its priceless archives, had been transferred to the Thuringian Forest". So, what did George find there?

The truth was that there was fear on the Allies during the war regarding Germany's progress on developing an atomic bomb. The Battle of the Bulge scarred the scientists at Alamo working on the Manhattan Project half to death as they thought Hitler attacked the west to buy time to get the bomb operational. They were right. Fortunately for the Allies, the Panzer Units literally ran out of gas and were sitting ducks for U.S. planes. As the Allied advance went deeper into Germany, famous German scientists and engineers were captured or surrendered willingly. These

Nobel laureates were involved with various atomic bomb projects with the Nazis. They were: Werner Heisenberg, one of the founders of quantum mechanics, Kurt Diebner, a nuclear physicist, Paul Hartek a nuclear chemist, Otto Hahn, the chemist who discovered nuclear fission, and Walter Gerlach, who specialty was gravitational physics. He had written papers before the war on such abstruse concepts as spin polarization and vorticular physics. The allies were puzzled by Heisenberg's attempts to construct a functioning atomic reactor that were unsuccessful and inept.

This theory of Nazi ineptitude in basic bomb physics became a central component of the Allied Legend, which raises another mystery. Top German scientists, Heisenberg, Hartek, Diebner, Erich Bagge, Hahn, Carl Friedrich von Weizacker, Karl Wirtz, Horst Korsching, and Gerlach were taken to Farm Hall in England, kept in isolation and their cells were bugged. The celebrated "Farm Hall Transcripts" declassified in 1992 show that the German Scientists who suffered from dyslexia during the war, suddenly become laureates afterwards. Heisenberg gives a lecture a few days after Hiroshima on the basic design of the bomb, and would be the size of a pineapple, and not 1 or 2 tons as he said it would be.

Paul Hartek comes very close to the correct critical mass of uranium for the Hiroshima bomb. Books that came out such as Thomas Powers "Heisenberg's War" argued that Heisenberg had sabotaged the German bomb program. Laurence Rose countered with "Heisenberg and the Nazi Atomic Bomb Project" stating that Heisenberg was a loyal Nazi but had labored under massive misconceptions of the nature of nuclear fission, and over-calculated the critical mass needed to make a bomb during the war. The author counters with the Revelation that the Japanese tested their own atomic device in Konan, Korea. The Emperor overrode his Generals who wanted the war to go on as Japan had no viable means of delivering their bombs to any strategic target. This allegation constitutes another problem for the Allied Legend, as where did Japan get the uranium for the A-bomb to say nothing of the technology to build it. Then, another piece of the puzzle is thrown in. In 1944, a Junkers 390 bomber, flew within 20 miles of New York City, photographed the skyline of Manhattan, and returned to Europe. The book shows a map of the City with Circular Grids marking the destruction percentages of a Hiroshima type bomb dropped on the city. Chilling. This corroborates the news article on June 28 from Army HQ. To round out the legend, there are the odd details of the German surrender and the Nuremberg Tribunals. Why does Heinrich Himmler try to negotiate a surrender with the Allies? What did he have to offer? At Nuremberg, Admiral Donitz, the mastermind of the U-boat wolf packs, and Albert Speer, Hitler's Minister of Armaments were spared the noose. What did they give to the Allies for their lives?

Missing from the docks were Pennemunde rocket scientists Dr. Werner von Braun and General Walter Dornberger who were already on their way to the U.S. along with a bevy of German scientists, engineers and technicians via the then super secret Operation Paperclip. After developing the V-1 and V-2 prototypes early in the war, the Germans managed to produce only "paper rockets" during the war. Did they subterfuge the Nazis? Then, a bombshell. Farrell states that the bomb that was dropped over Hiroshima was never tested. The test at Trinity was for an implosion-plutonium bomb. The bomb on Hiroshima was a uranium bomb. As German author Friedrich Georg notes, this tears a hole in the Allied Legend:

"Also another question is of great importance. Why was the uranium bomb of the USA, unlike the plutonium bomb, not tested prior to being hurled on Japan? Militarily this would appear to be extremely dangerous...Did the USA simply forget to test it, or did others already do it for them?" Manhattan project chief General Leslie Groves put the Germans ahead of the allies in the race for the bomb during the war, but after the war it was stated that the Allies were consistently far ahead to help verify the Legend. The lie of Germany needing a functioning reactor is exploded as there were other methods of enriching and separating enough U235 to weapons grade purity and a stockpile of critical mass. A reactor is needed if Plutonium is desired, but not uranium. The Germans used isotope sluices and centrifuges to enrich uranium to weapons grade.

Other chapters go into the construction of the massive 'Buena' plant built by Auschwitz. Not a sheet of rubber was ever produced by I.G. Farben, (Infamous for producing the Zyklon-B gas) who footed the bill for the plant, estimated to be around 2 billion in today's dollars. The Buena plant was a ruse for a uranium enrichment facility. It was also a smart strategic decision, as the Allies decided not to bomb the plant, as they knew they would be bombing the concentration camp that supplied the labor as well. Whereas in Norway; the Allies were successful in blowing up the heavy water plant at Ryukon. This was a critical victory, as it deprived the Nazis of "element 94" that became essential for their A-bomb. In 1943, the German Army successfully tested a new type of weapon at Kursk. A few bombs totally destroyed the entire 19th Russian infantry. The Russians saw blisters on their soldier's faces and wrongly thought the Nazis were using a chemical weapon and threatened to use their chemical weapons if the Germans did not stop at once. Hitler, who was a victim of a mustard gas attack in WWI, capitulated to the Russians. A strategic mistake.

The Nazis split the atom by use of the Neuman disintegrator, and the atoms had a much greater specific gravity and allusions were made to the star Sirius. Their occult and magical beliefs and unorthodox means of investigation were vastly different in comparison to the scientific models of physics then in practice. The Germans thought outside the box and in addition to traditional atomic weaponry were working on experiments for Superbombs, Scalar Weaponry, and a weapon called, "The Bell". These programs were run by SS Obergruppenfuher Hans Kammler. His special SS Command ran these black budget and ultra secret programs for the Reich. The General was responsible for the Operational control of the V-1 and V-2 bombings of London, Paris and other cities: Operational control of all missile productions of the V-2 and the intercontinental ballistic Missile the A9/10. The underground construction of the Messerschmitt 262 jet engines; command of the SS Buildings and

Words Division and supply roads for invading German divisions in Russia: Design and construction of the world's first underground testing and proving range for missiles. Command, control and coordination of all the Third Reich's secret weapons research by war's end. His death was more peculiar than Patton's and there are 4 different versions of it, suicide included. His elite SS murdered the entire research team working on "The Bell" so they would not fall into Russian or Allied hands. The Nazis tried to cover their tracks on their programs, especially to the invading Russians, but allowed the Allies in.

The book ends with a rather weak chapter attempting to explain the crash at Roswell as Nazi technology. The author even admits the bodies that were discovered in the wreckage were probably extraterrestrial, but believes the design of the craft mimics German technology from the war. Perhaps the most astonishing statement in the book comes from Werner von Braun, who when asked about how the Germans were able to build the V-Rockets and make advancements in physics and missile development that would have left the allies in the dusk, replied "We had help". This book is extremely well researched by Farrell, and gives one pause to reflect how close the world came to oblivion.

Brother Rick Gorton
32 ° AASR
Culver City-Foshay Lodge #467



CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER

Let us not dwell in darkness.
Let us forever walk in the light of the Lord.
May we keep him in our hearts and minds.
Live by his precepts, and give due respect and honor to those around us.
Amen

Ed Calzaretto
Chaplain

June 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Dinner 6:30 pm Stated Meeting 7:30pm	2	3	4
5 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm	6 DeMolay 7:30	7	8 7:30 pm 1 st °	9	10	11 Grand Lodge Masonic Symposium Pasadena S.R.
12 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm	13 Job's Daughters 7:30	14	15 ° Lodge dark for Ionic Composite 75 th year pin 7:00 pm	16	17	18 Grand Lecturer 1 st ° Exemplification 8 am -2 pm
19 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm	20 DeMolay 7:30	21	22 Lodge dark for Ionic Composite 3 rd ° lecture 7:15 pm	23	24	25
26 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm	27 Job's Daughters 7:30	28 OSI at Ionic Composite 2 nd °	29 Saint's John Day Feast 7:00 pm	30		



Chef's MENU:
Stated Meeting Dinner

Rosemary Chicken Breast
Wild Caught Salmon
Mixed Vegetables
Green Salad
Strawberry Short Cake

George Wollin
Chef