





A TransCommunication Technical Letter

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Transcommunication For The Movice (and others)

INTRODUCTION

Throughout recorded History there have always been people who have claimed to be in communication with the dead. Known by many different names in different times and cultures, in modern times they have been known as "Mediums", or in more recent years as "Channelers". Such communication has always had and always will have, an inherent credibility problem. This is not to say all such communication is invalid. But like Preachers and Politicians, Channelers are most convincing to people who are already convinced. Humans are subject to error and self-deception, not to mention ulterior motives, and Channelers being human, are no exception. Considering that for every honest and talented Channeler there are probably ten who are self-deluded, untalented, or outright fraudulent, and it is easy to understand why it is impossible to convince the public at large and specifically the scientific community, that such communication is genuine, or for that matter, that such communication is even possible.

Only with the advent of 20th Century electronics has it become potentially possible through "Electronic Mediumship" to elevate communication from the unseen to a more sophisticated and credible Since tape recorders and radios have no intelligence, no subconscious, no ulterior motives, and faithfully reproduce the signals they receive, it is exceedingly difficult to argue that voices received through these devices are not genuine. Because of this there are an increasing number of people today who take seriously the possibility of survival and the possibility of communicating with those who have survived, who would never have seriously considered such possibilities on the strength of evidence from inherently suspect Channelers. A still in it's infancy, "Electronic Mediumship", The technology Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP), or Transcommunication as it is becoming internationally known, holds the potential of having a greater effect on our Civilization and the awareness level of humanity, than any other discovery in human History.

Although a considerable amount of information has been published in Newsletters and Books during the past three decades about various aspects of Transcommunication, little of this material has been directed specifically at helping the novice begin recording. Those of us who have written on the subject have for the most part written on those aspects that are most interesting to us personally and have

tended to ignore or forget the confusion, frustration, and unanswered questions encountered in first learning to record. By no means could all of the possible questions a beginner might ask, be answered in a paper such as this. Nor would it be possible to go into great detail about all of the various methods of recording voices from the great beyond, but it is the author's hope that enough basic information might be presented to help the beginner start on what can be an awesome, eye-opening journey.

IS TRANSCOMMUNICATION FOR REAL ?

The first question that comes to mind when first hearing about TC, is whether or not it is for real. Are we dealing with yet more New Age mythology which is interesting but unprovable, or are we dealing with verifiable fact? Is TC reproducible? Does it occur under carefully controlled conditions? Is this a new phenomenon?

To answer the last question first, the EVP is not a new discovery. Unexplained messages have been reported, on occasion, since as far back as the days of the telegraph. One of the books written on the subject is *Phone Galls From The Dead* by D. Scott Rogo and Raymond Bayless, detailing case histories of people literally receiving phone calls from "deceased" relatives. Radio receivers seem to have been especially subject to such unexplained messages. Although these early reports were mostly anecdotal in nature there is no reason not to believe most are valid.

The modern era of Transcommunication can probably be considered to have started with the use of recorders which for the first time made it possible to preserve such messages for repeated study. reported first here in the United States in an article by von Szalay and Raymond Bayless, the article drew little attention and was ignored by the Parapsychological community. Mr Friedrich Jurgenson who published a book in German and Dr Konstantin Raudive who published the book Unhorbares Wird Horbar, later translated into English under the most of the credit for title Breakthrough, deserve bringing Transcommunication into public awareness. Raudive who recorded over 50,000 such voices over a period of some years, proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the voices are real and that the phenomenon is producible under laboratory conditions in the presence of knowledgeable and reliable witnesses. Since this time probably hundreds of people have succeeded in recording such voices. Some of whom such as Raymond Cass and Gilbert Bonner of England, and Sarah Estep, Dan McKee, David Lothamer, and Bill O'Neal of the United States, just to name a few répresentative samples, have made tapes of voice samples for éxamination by others.

One could easily compile a list of several dozen Physicists, Electronics Engineers and Electronics Technicians, people who would not stake their reputation on something unless they were absolutely certain was true, who have investigated and experimented With Transcommunication and who have been willing to publicly state that such voices are real and that their existence cannot be explained by current scientific knowledge. The author has personally performed experiments in which the equipment was totally enclosed in an electromagnetically shielded container with no microphone used so that is was impossible from the standpoint of science for voices to have been recorded through reception of either radio or audio signals.

Nevertheless voices still appeared on the tapes.

WHO ARE WE IN COMMUNICATION WITH ?

This is a question each experimenter must answer for themselves based on their own work, reason and intuition, but thus far the consensus of opinion, which the author agrees with, is that by far the vast majority simply originate from people just like ourselves who have proceeded us through the transition we call "death".

A much smaller number of voices seem to be of non-earth origin. Sarah Estep and others, as well as the author, have been told on occasion that the person speaking is "from Space" Whether these space persons are embodied or "extraterrestrial". disembodied is not clear, but the author has reason to believe we are contacted at times by both. Dan Mckee and others, have been told on a number of occasions that they are from "other dimensions" or "parallel Universes", etc. Again it is not clear whether the persons or beings speaking are embodied or disembodied. Transcommunication is still very much in it's infancy and in certain areas such as this there is undoubtedly much more to be learned than is already known. Just who we are in contact with and what they have to say to us is enough to keep investigators busy for many years and provide the material for numerous books yet to be written.

WHY ISN'T THERE A MAJOR SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION ?

In a word the answer to this is that Transcommunication is simply too "far out". In theory scientists can study anything within their general field of expertise. In actual practice it is non-scientists holding the purse strings who make the decisions as to what subjects will be investigated. These committee members or boards of directors, etc., as the case may be, in turn must explain their decisions to whatever Government agency, University, or stockholders, etc., are actually supplying the funds. Because of the way the system works funding is granted only for those projects which are expected to yield financial dividends, or in the case of basic research only for those projects which are most conservative, orthodox and definitely non-controversial.

George Meek, founder of the Metascience Foundation, over a period of some years, left absolutely no stone unturned in an effort to light a fire under the Scientific/Cultural/Financial establishment in order to initiate a serious scientific investigation. Mr Meek, through the media, and personal contact and letters with individuals and institutions who could afford to fund such research, did everything humanly possible to either secure the necessary funding or generate the necessary interest for a serious scientific investigation. Unfortunately, although there were modest donations, the necessary funding and/or interest for a serious investigation simply did not materialize. Consequently to this day Transcommunication remains essentially a "grass-roots" movement in which researchers are still working on their own time and at their own expense, which in the case of those of us who are working on the electronics of the problem, can easily run into thousands of dollars.

In this same context we might ask why this subject is not being investigated by Parapsychologists. This is after all their field, is it not? There seems to be two reasons here why this is not being done.

First, with a very few exceptions such as Dr D. Scott Rogo who has investigated and even lectured on the EVP, most Parapsychologists, still trying to gain acceptance from the scientific establishment, consider it prudent to stay on "safe" ground such as playing with ESP cards and statistics. Second, since Transcommunication involves both electronics and an unknown type of energy, probably psychokinetic, it is actually in the field of Paraphysics rather than Parapsychology. That is it would be if any such field existed at this time. Parapsychologists are just that - they are psychologists, not technical Unless there were a team effort mounted which included at least a Physicist or Electronics Engineer on the staff, it would be exceedingly difficult for a Parapsychologist to prove what was and what was not electronically paranormal. It seems that rather than become involved in any such complications, Parapsychologists would rather just ignore the whole subject, even though it is by far the most important thing they could possibly study.

ISN'T TRANSCOMMUNICATION CONTRARY TO RELIGIOUS BELIEF ?

Obviously this is a question about which each Taper must make up their own mind. To quote a former President, the author would like to make it perfectly clear that the following is personal opinion and nothing more.

In essence every major religion has two things in common. First the teaching that there is a Supreme Being and second that the human spirit survives death, both of which we are ask to accept on faith alone. Nothing imaginable could be of greater benefit in verifying the theological position than absolute, incontestable proof that either one or both of these teachings is true. Since in the due course of time as reception improves, Transcommunication will prove to humanity in every corner of the World, that the human spirit does in fact survive death, it is the best thing that could happen to organized religion.

Although this is unlikely to happen smoothly or to happen without a great deal of hellfire and damnation controversy from the fundamentalists (may God save us from fundamentalists), it will in time lead to a far higher general level of enlightenment and a far more humane civilization. Although no one may agree with the author on this point, it would seem that religion is among many other things, a stop-gap measure initiated by higher intelligence, to point humanity in the right general direction until eventually we are able to prove to ourselves through science and technology, that what the theologians have been telling us since way back when is, generally speaking, the truth about the greater reality in which we live. The Bible tells us to know the truth and the truth will set us free. In few areas could this more aptly apply than in Transcommunication.

There is evidence that science, religion and philosophy are all gradually converging toward a single point that lays somewhere in the distant future. When this point is reached there will be an unimaginable body of knowledge about the Universe enabling a true concept of reality. What will we call this knowledge — science? — religion? — philosophy? Actually it will make no difference, we can flip a coin and take our choice, because it will all be the same body of knowledge.

At first glance it would seem this should be quite easy, It seems all one would have to do is have a quiet room, a recorder, request communication, record some tape and then play it back to see what has been said by whoever might be present. Unfortunately for all of us, and especially for the Novice, Transcommunication is not quite this simple. TC reception is a skill and like any other skill it requires determination, presistence and patience to acquire.

The primary difficulty is in the terrible signal to noise ratio encountered. That is, the voices are almost always so submerged in noise that they are very difficult to understand and often difficult to detect as being present at all. This becomes more understandable when we consider that our spirit friends are, at least from our standpoint, immaterial. They exist evidently, as a form of energy and as such they do not have a material voice box to create disturbances in air pressure which we perceive as sound waves. Nor is it possible for them to transmit radio waves to us, since such a transmitter (and every other electronic device) requires material electronic components and electrical energy to which they do not have access. The miracle is that they manage to get through to us by any means.

The question is just how do they get through if they can't whisper into a microphone or transmit a radio signal? By the process of elimination and through experimental results the answer to this seems to be by effecting our equipment mentally, that is through what we call psychokinetic energy. Since we here in the material world have not yet learned how to build a psychokinetic receiver, TC reception is still quite difficult primarily because of the unsuitable and inefficient electronic equipment we have available to us for this purpose.

As you probably already know there are a few individuals who's very presence during recording seems to facilitate exceptionally good quality voice reception. Why this is so even those fortunate few whom we might call Transmediums, cannot explain. For many of us however, reception is quite weak and requires determination, presistence, and patience in order to make initial contact and establish communication. And as with most skills, the most difficult part is in the beginning. Almost everyone of us who have succeeded in establishing communication have experienced an initial period which lasted anywhere from several days to several months during which we had to train our ears and minds to perceive the presence of, and learn to understand the voices that were recorded. It is most important to be persistent. Communication is difficult not only from our side but from the other side as well. It requires a great deal of work and patience from our spirit friends to come through to us, and they are not likely to make very much effort until a Taper has demonstrated through their presistence that they are serious and that it is not just a matter of passing curiosity. Although not a particularly easy thing to do, the results of establishing communication far outweigh the difficulties involved, just as the elation felt by a skier flying gracefully down a snow covered slope far outweighs the times they fell into a snow bank in learning to ski.

WHO CAN ESTABLISH TRANSCOMMUNICATION ?

In so far as is known to the author, almost anybody who has the patience is capable of doing this. I say almost because all of us know people who's attention span is so short that if they do not succeed

instantly at whatever they are trying to do , they immediately lose interest and go on to something else. Obviously people such as this are not going to succeed in TC or for that matter, probably in much of anything else. For the great majority TC may be difficult to a greater or lesser degree but there is no reason to believe it cannot be done.

As mentioned previously there are a few individuals, Sarah Estep being an outstanding example, who are strong Transmediums. These few are at the top of the scale in so far as TC reception quality is concerned, often receiving voices so loud and clear as to be readily understandable through speakers rather than earphones. On the bottom of the scale are persons such as the author who are definitely not Transmediums, who almost always have extremely weak reception and who's presence or absence during the recording process is totally immaterial to the quality of reception. Since there are probably at least hundreds and perhaps several thousand people who have already established communication, it seems probable that most people have at least some degree of transmediumistic ability and that probably everyone is somewhere on the scale between these two extremes.

As you learn to record you might be fortunate and find that you yourself are a strong Transmedium. It seems that hardly a year goes by without new people turning up who get quite good reception. And transmediumistic ability seems to have little or nothing to do with whether or not one is psychic or mediumistic in other areas. As an example, the author's Wife is psychic in several areas including direct or telepathic reception from the spirit world, but her TC reception is no better than the author's. On the other hand Bill O'Neal who is also psychic in other areas has had some of the best TC communication ever recorded.

If in time you find that you are not a Transmedium or that you do not have a particularly strong transmediumistic ability, do not despair. There is no reason you cannot establish communication, you will just have to work a bit harder. Also take heart from the fact that over a period of time reception quality seems to improve at least to some degree and with continued practice the Taper becomes more adept at discerning and understanding what is said.

CAN I CONTACT MY FRIENDS AND RELATIVES ?

This is a question that has no simple yes or no answer. Again we remind ourselves of the truly awesome nature to Transcommunication. We are not dealing here with a phone call made to a friend in another city, but rather with contact between two entirely different realities, which is something else altogether. For one thing the separation we call death is not at all the same thing to them as it is to us. When we lose someone dear to us we seem to have lost them entirely and permanently. We can no longer see that person or hear them talk to us, they are simply gone from our lives. This is not true in the spirit world. They can and often are literally right with US. They can see us, they can hear us, they know how we are doing, how we are feeling, even what we are thinking. Consequently they do not feel anything near the same sense of urgency to contact us as we do to contact them. From their standpoint they know that the separation that seems so permanent to us, is but a tick of eternity's clock and that very shortly the person left behind will join them in the hereafter. Often times it seems their most important concern is simply to reassure us they have survived, that they have died and it hasn't done them any harm.

In reality the great majority of spirit communicators are people who were unknown to the Taper, at least during the Taper's present lifetime. It seems that when someone begins taping and is persistent enough to demonstrate sincerity, that a group of spirits, probably volunteers, form in order to help that person with TC reception. As Mr Harold Sherman often said "like attracts like" and generally speaking this seems to be quite true where TC is concerned. Those spirits one hears from most often, the "regulars", seem to be individuals who pretty much share the Taper's general attitudes, beliefs, etc., in short just the kind of people the Taper may have as close friends were they here in the material realm. This group may or it may not include someone who was a friend or relative in the present lifetime. It probably will include a person or persons with whom the Taper was associated in past lifetimes.

Another thing to be considered is that just as there is a considerable variation in transmediumistic ability by persons here on our side, there also seems to be a variation in communicating ability among those in the spirit world. It is believed by the author that for the most part those who volunteer to help us record are individuals who have this ability to a higher degree. And as mentioned previously, this may or may not include friends and relatives.

To return them to the original question, the chances are quite good that you will hear from at least some of your friends and relatives at least on occasion. There could be one or more who speak to you often. There could be one or more who speak to you only once or on rare occasion, even though you would like to hear from them much more often. And there may be one or more whom you ask for often, who never speaks to you. In the latter case there may be a reason why they cannot, such as simply not having enough communicating ability to get through strong enough for you to understand, or they may have already reincarnated and no longer be residing in the spirit world. Again there seems to be a variation between the experiences considerable 0 f Some seem to hear from people they have known in this researchers. lifetime rather frequently, while others hear from friends relatives only rarely or not at all.

Perhaps the author's own experience along this line will serve to illustrate the kind of thing that might happen. I was raised from infancy to the age of 18 when I joined the service, by my paternal These people were dear to me and I tried repeatedly to Grandparents. Although I have recorded a great many voices over the contact them. years, I have not been able to identify any as that of either Grandparent. My Father with whom I was also very close has only come through less than a half dozen times, at least that I am sure about, in 16 years. The same is true of my younger Brother who was killed at the age of 20. My second ex-wife (the first two marriages were just practice) with whom I parted under lass than friendly circumstances, to put it mildly, and whom I never ask for, has come through on tape several times, the first time being quite a surprise as I did not know at the time that she was as we say "deceased". (Yes, we now get along just fine since we live in two different realities) On the other hand the two people who have been present and who have come through in almost every session during the whole 16 years, and who have helped tremendously in my work, are both people whom I have never met. One, Mr Harry Pointwel (with one 1) is an Electronics Engineer. The other, Hidie Schneider, is actually an Aunt, but one whom I have never met. However, according to what I am told, I did spend a previous lifetime with both of these people in Russia.

To summarize, the experience of each Taper seems to be different. There are many factors here, some known, some unknown. How many of your friends and relatives might contact you and to what degree depends to some extent on your ability and persistence, to some degree on their ability and inclinations, whether or not they have reincarnated, etc., and probably on other factors as well of which we are not even aware. In short the only way to find out for sure is to do it.

CAN THE SPIRITS TELL ME EVERYTHING I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ?

The answer to this is a flat no. There are several reasons for this, the first one of which is because the spirits simply don't know everything, even though from their position they know much more than we do and at times may even make predictions months or even years in advance that come true with astonishing accuracy. As an example, in 1976 Mary was told there was only one way and one way only that voice reception could be improved, but that there would be systems of voice reception developed about which a "big to do" would be made but which would not be the right way. At the time I was so certain Mary had misunderstood I did not write this message down as I usually do. After all how could a "big to do" be made about a receiving system that did not work? However, since that time there has indeed been several such systems developed about which a "big to do" was made because it worked well for the Transmedium who had developed the system. But at the same time these systems have obviously not been the right way because they have not worked for other people, even other Transmediums. prediction, which I was so sure was wrong in 1976, has indeed come true with awesome accuracy.

The second reason is that there are certain things they are not permitted to tell us. The Spirit World has it's own set of rules just as we have ours. The author knows of several such things and there are probably a number of others. On one occasion I ask, not being sure, whether or not it would be OK to ask for information on a certain Hidie and Harry both replied on tape "We can help you". Immediately following this response however, a very authoritative male voice, the likes of which ${f I}$ had never heard on tape before, cut in and said "there isn't time". About a week later when $I\cdot \mathsf{next}$ had an opportunity to record, I brought up the subject again and was then told by Hidie "Not permitted". On questions they are not permitted to answer there is usually no answer, the subject will be changed, an answer of such vague or generalized nature is given that it is actually no answer at all, or as in this case, we are simply told "not permitted". (The novice will probably find out for themselves what these subjects are by asking a lot of dumb questions just like the author did)

The third reason why they cannot tell us something we would like to know even when they know and are permitted to tell us, is that it is impossible to do so. This is simply because there are no words in our language or concepts in material reality they could use to hang new

information on. How could they tell us what light feels like, or how color sounds, or even something as simple as what the electromagnetic lines of force surrounding our power lines looks like? The answer is that they cannot and for the most part they don't try. If you knew a person who had been blind from birth, would you even attempt to explain to that person what a sunset looks like? Not likely. Where would you even begin?

ARE THERE ANY DANGERS INVOLVED ?

For the vast majority of people who approach Transcommunication with common sense, there is little to be concerned about. For that small percentage, perhaps 5%, who seem to have a talent for becoming carried away and getting themselves into trouble no matter what they are doing, the answer to this question is definitely yes.

The first of several potential problems is that of obsession. Transcommunication is one of the most interesting things one could possibility do and for this reason it is not very difficult to gradually begin spending too much time and resources in this activity to the point where it begins to become detrimental to other aspects of How much is too much depends on each individual Taper and one's life. their own circumstances. Obviously a single or retired person could spend much more time doing this than someone supporting a family, etc. In general, if you find yourself becoming preoccupied, putting off things you should be doing, not having time for your spouse, or in any other way find that TC is having a detrimental effect on your life, then it is time to record less frequently or to stop altogether for a while if necessary. All of which is realized in any case by those who approach TC with the same common sense they would use in any other matter.

The second potential problem is that of being harassed or misled. Even though satan and demons are mythological constructs that have no existence in reality (God does't create junk), there are unfortunately, a goodly number of depraved persons in the spirit world just as there are here, who on the rare occasions when they have an opportunity to do so, delight in harassing and/or attempting to mislead persons who are seriously trying to establish communication with the beyond. Usually the group of serious spirits who have gathered to help the Taper are able to prevent at least some of this from happening, but not always. If for example you are told "don't listen" or "be careful", someone is trying to warn you to disregard something you were told. harassment, such as foul language, strange sounds, mention of personal matters you would rather not hear about, etc., the best thing to do is simply stop recording until at least the next day, by which time who ever was trying to harass you will probably have gone away. obscene phone calls, continuing to listen only encourages the caller.

More difficult is the problem of being misled. Here we must take everything with a grain of salt. If there is no way to prove the information given then it must be considered as just that — unproven. Whatever it is, if it is told to you by someone whom you recognize as a "regular" communicator then it is most probably true, — but at the same time not something you would want to risk your bank account on. As a good rule of thumb, it is not advisable to take advice from your friends in the spirit world that you would be unwilling to take from your best friends here in the material world. One must bare in mind

that even though they have talked with certain individuals many times and found them to be persons of good intent and that what they say is true, one can never be absolutely 100% certain of just who they are actually talking with. The bright side of this is that it seems as time goes by and those who are trying to harass or mislead find that their harassment is not tolerated and their misleading statements are ignored, they tire of the game and go off to find someone else they can influence or upset.

Another potential problem is the possibility, however remote, of possession. There are no such cases personally known to the author, nevertheless the author believes this to be possible and therefore it deserves mention. As Sarah Estep mentioned in Voices of Eternity, possession is not necessarily bad as this is in essence what Channelers permit to happen in order to facilitate direct communication from the spirit world. It only becomes bad when it is without the consent of the person involved.

All of us very frequently carry on an internal or mental dialogue with ourselves and in this there is nothing in the least abnormal. Also thoughts in the form of words, frequently "pop" into our minds which we simply assume is our own subconscious "talking" to us, which is almost invariably the case. However what most do not recognize is that a tiny percentage of these voices are in fact telepathic communication from the unseen. This is simply not recognized because it does not fit the comfortable reality concept of the material world. When one hears such a voice that sounds different, even of the opposite gender, etc., it is automatically rationalized away as originating in one's own subconscious, if one even gives it this much thought. We protect ourselves by a "barrier of disbelief" as it were.

When one becomes seriously involved in Transcommunication, this barrier of disbelief begins to crumble. We become aware that reality extends far beyond what we can perceive with our feeble five senses, we become aware that survival is a fact of life and that those who have survived are able to contact us through electronics. In the end we become aware that they can also contact us, at least on occasion, telepathically. Whether or not this should ever become a problem depends on the intention of those communicating and mostly upon whether or not the person receiving such communication allows themselves to be influenced, especially if such communication should be negative. Again it is advised that if such telepathic communication should become disturbing, to stop recording and perhaps take up some more materialistic pursuit.

The author believes it is for precisely this reason that lower level spirits on occasion with various researchers over the years, have attempted in one way or another to impede Transcommunication research. According to fundamentalists evil spirits (less enlightened spirits) want to see Transcommunication expand because this would give them more opportunity to negatively influence humanity. The author believes, and the experience of various researchers indicates, that lower spirits do not want Transcommunication to expand, otherwise they would be trying to help instead of trying to harass and mislead. The fact of the matter is that lower spirits have been negatively influencing humanity for centuries through telepathic suggestion, just as good spirits have been influencing us in the same manner. Through Transcommunication

humanity's awareness level is raised, people become aware of survival and the existence of lower level spirits and being armed with knowledge are much less susceptible to such negative influence. Lower level spirits are against expansion of Transcommunication because they don't want to see their fun and games brought to an end.

Again perhaps the author's personal experience along this line may be helpful. Like most people I had probably heard such voices on occasion most of my life without recognizing their origin. After I became involved with Transcommunication it dawned on me that some of the voices I heard telepathically once in awhile, sounded remarkably similar to voices I had been hearing on tape. The clincher however, was the realization that on occasion I was told something there was no possible way I could otherwise know. As an example, one night while driving toward Oakland I was told "Red Cadillac". About an hour later still on the lockout for a car of this description, I saw a red Cadillac pull along side. Just as I started to slow down the car cut into my lane headed for an off ramp. The car was so close that had I not already had my foot on the brake there would have been a disastrous accident. There have been other times when I received a warning that I was thankful for and at times comments, sometimes serious, sometimes even amusing, about something I was thinking about. At no time however, has such telepathic communication ever been a problem. often does this happen? Sometimes several times within a week, at other times perhaps only once within several month, but at no time has it been frequent.

One other point might be mentioned in this context which is actually a benefit but which could at the same time, to a certain extent, be a problem for some. For lack of a better name we might call this "future shock" or the sudden realization of the reality of real reality, so to speak. We humans have a strong tendency to be comfortable with the familiar and like things to stay that way. We like the floor to stay in place while we walk on it. (Here in California we especially appreciate it when the floor stays in place) As we grow up and reach adulthood we gradually form a concept of reality, which although it changes, usually only in minor ways, remains with us throughout life. Whatever that concept is, it is a concept we are comfortable with.

Many of these concepts, especially among the religious, include the possibility of an afterlife. This afterlife however, is an abstraction. It is part of what people pay lip service to on Sunday morning but it has no real meaning or reality. If one becomes seriously involved in Transcommunication a point is reached where this attitude is no longer maintainable. At some point it hits home, like a fist in the gut, that these people are R E A L! Not only are they real but they are right here inside one's own home. There are people most of which one does not know and does not even know how many, people one cannot see, hear, or touch, walking around or floating around as the case may be, right here in the same room. During one recording when the author ask how many people were present the answer was "28".

One day during the course of recording, I ask someone I was talking with where they were, expecting an answer of "Heaven", or "space" or "Spirit World" or some such. The answer however was "here, by the recorder". (They have since proven on numerous occasions that

they are present and totally aware of everything in the room.) I think it was at this point that I began to get self-conscious about living in a house full of people, especially people I couldn't see. During this period of time I'm glad there wasn't anyone around, other than Mary, to see some of the things I did, such as carefully closing the bathroom door when I was the only one in the house, or putting on my robe even on hot summer nights, if I had to use the bathroom in the middle of the night. This all came to a head one night when in the course of searching in the dark for my misplaced robe, I managed to bump my head on the wall and stub my toe on the bed. At that point I thought to hell with the robe, if they don't like the way I'm dressed they can look the other way.

The point of all this is that through serious involvement with Transcommunication one places themselves in a position where they are forced to recognize that the material reality all of us have been so comfortable with, is in fact only a part and perhaps not a very important part, of what really exists. If one already holds spiritualistic beliefs then this is simply verification. But if, as the author once was, one is a materialist who believes that if something can't be put in a test tube or looked at through a telescope, it simply doesn't exist, the sudden realization that survival is a fact of life and that reality is something far greater than has ever been guessed, can be a shocking experience that requires a major reality concept readjustment. And this is something that not everyone can cope As mentioned, people like the reality floor to stay in place while they are trying to walk on it. In any case the end result is beneficial. As someone once said "A mind once stretched by a new concept, is never again capable of shrinking back to quite it's original size". And if Transcommunication is anything, it is a mine stretching experience.

HOW DO I KNOW THEY ARE WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE ?

If one receives a phone call and the person at the other end of the line identifies themselves as one's Mother, and one knows their Mother is still here in the material world, then one assumes they are in fact talking with their Mother even though they cannot actually see the person on the other end of the line. This is especially so if that person speaks with the same tone of voice one would expect their Mother to have, expresses the same attitudes they would expect their Mother to express, and is completely knowledgeable about all sorts of family matters that are known to no one else.

On the other hand lets suppose one's Mother is "deceased". And lets suppose one hears the same voice expressing the same attitudes and having the same tone and the same knowledge of family trivia, etc., only this time the voice appears on tape instead of through a telephone. Is one to judge the identity of the person speaking by the personality, character and knowledge expressed by the voice or is one to judge identity based on the means by which the voice arrives? Although as mentioned previously, we can never be absolutely 100% certain of whom we are talking with, it is the author's personal belief that the great majority of these people are in fact exactly who they say they are. But again this is something about which each Taper must make up their own mind, in each case, based on their own work, experience and intuition.

WHAT IS THE BEST TRANSRECEPTION METHOD ?

Not everyone uses the same method and certainly not everyone agrees as to what the best method is, so what we will talk about is the method which is no doubt the most used and which I believe as least the majority would agree is the best with present day equipment. This method is known as the radio method or more precisely as the airband method.

In this method a radio receiver capable of tuning to the airband, around 128 to 130 Mhz, is tuned to a quiet spot within this band where only static is heard rather than Pilot or control tower transmissions. It is this static that is recorded and then played back through earphones and examined for voices. The voices use the static as carrier energy from which to form words. Like all radio methods, this method has the drawback that actual transmissions from very distant aircraft or control towers can be mistaken for paranormal voices, although most Tapers soon learn to tell the difference. Paradoxicly, on occasion such an actual aircraft or tower transmission is used some way by our spirit friends to form different words of their own. That is, the energy in such a transmission is changed or remodulated to form the words the spirits are trying to say to us. This is one of the effects in transreception that must be heard to be appreciated.

WHAT OTHER TRANSRECEPTION METHODS ARE USED ?

There is a considerable variety of methods used and space does not permit a comprehensive description of all methods and it is doubtful if any one person knows of all methods that have been experimented with. Rather we will briefly describe several of the better known methods in order to get a feel for the kind of thing that is being done.

The first method that should be mentioned is the non-airband radio method. In essence this is the same as the airband method except that different frequencies are used which can vary from the regular AM broadcast band up to the shortwave amateur radio bands. In all cases one tries to tune to a quiet spot on the dial where there is only static. However on most of these other bands it is difficult to find such a spot because of the amount of broadcasting. (Some Researchers believe frequency has something to do with who we contact. That is that we would contact higher more enlightened spirits by somehow using high frequency equipment. Although this might eventually prove true, to this date there is no factual evidence to support this hypothesis.)

An often used method especially among those new to taping, is what is usually called the open microphone method. In this method the only piece of equipment used is the tape recorder. The recorder is simply set to record and the recording level(s) is set to maximum. (If there are no level controls on the recorder the internal automatic gain control will do the same thing.) In this method it is even more important to have a very quiet place to record than with other methods, although working in a quiet place is always important. Any noise loud enough for you to hear during recording will interfere with your examination of the tape on playback. In this method the spirits use the internal noise which is generated in all electronic circuits plus very low background sounds as carrier energy from which to form words. Generally speaking the open microphone method does not yield quite as good quality voices as does the airband method, although there have been many excellent quality voices received by this method. (It might

be noted that the highest frequencies generated inside a recorder is the erase frequency of about 40-80 kilohertz, which is well below even the broadcast radio band. Despite the fact that this frequency is lower by several orders of magnitude then the frequencies present in the airband method, it is exactly the same individuals who speak to us by either method. That is, there is no difference in the spiritual level of those contacted by these two methods which are so far apart in frequency.)

The next method is a variation on the open microphone method and is what we might call the sound source method. In this method a sound of some kind is deliberately supplied in order to supply carrier energy. This sound might be the sound of a gas flame, the sound of running water, the sound of the wind, background music, etc. These sounds should be relatively uniform and of course should not contain any interfering noises or voices from here on our side. A variation of this method is to use a second recorder which is used to play back a tape of running water etc., which was prerecorded. Sarah Estep and others however believe that live sound is better than "caned" sound. That is for example, that is is better to actually use running water during reception than to simply use a recording of running water as a sound source. This is most probably true. Music seems to work better if it is being received over a radio at the time of reception rather than using taped music as a sound source.

In conjunction with the radio and open microphone methods there are other methods which can be used at the same time. The first of these is the wireless microphone. In this method a wireless microphone which is actually a miniature radio transmitter, is used to pickup sound whether it be from an airband radio or some other sound source. The receiver unit of the wireless microphone is then connected to the input of the recorder. An AM wireless microphone is recommended. Unfortunately, almost all the wireless microphones now on the market are FM. (With the radio method the FM band does not work as well as the AM bands and there is every reason to believe this also applies to wireless microphones.)

Another combination method is actually a different way of playing back the tape for examination rather than a different way to record. This method which is called reverse taping can be used regardless of the method of recording. In this method which was discovered by Mr Dan McKee, the recording is made on a reel-reel recorder. After recording the reels are reversed as if to record the other side of the tape. The tape is then given a half twist before reaching the tape head and the tape is then examined in the usual manner. McKee, Estep and numerous others have received many good quality voices in this way. This method is most interesting for at least two reasons. First, the voices can be listened to from either side of the tape and can be saying one thing on one side and something different from the other. Second, since the tape is running backward when listened to from the reverse side it is necessary for the spirits to somehow say the last word they wish to speak first and the first word last. Not only does the word order have to be reversed but the words themselves must be reversed, nevertheless the spirits somehow do this and their voices are often as good quality as voices received in the normal manner. It's as if the spirits are capable of somehow reversing time itself while they talk to us in this way.

Another such combination method is to have an ultrasonic generator such as an intrusion alarm turned on during the recording by one or another method. It is felt the ultrasonic energy helps to supply the energy the spirits need to get through.

Another bit more technical method of recording is the transmitter method. In this method the ordinary radio method is used in combination with a very weak radio transmitter tuned to the same frequency. The transmitter is designed either to transmit a radio frequency carrier only or a carrier which has been modulated with some sound such as electronic white noise or the 13 tone Mueller-O'Neil carrier.

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO I NEED TO START ?

Fortunately for the novice, the quality of transreception depends much more on the Taper than on the equipment they are using. A mistake frequently made is to buy an expensive recorder in the anticipation of much improved reception. There are reasons for using better equipment after communication has been established but as far as quality of reception is concerned, any improvement is usually quite marginal, and does not justify a heavy outlay in order to make initial contact.

We will start out then with the absolute minimum necessary and progress to what it would be nice to have. The first thing needed is of course, a tape recorder. This can be anything from a battery powered portable to a stereo R-R tape deck. Regardless of the recorder type it must have two things in order to be usable. The first of these is a working tape counter that can be reset to zero. The counter should be fairly accurate, --you will be using it a lot. In order to test accuracy place a tape in the recorder, rewind the tape the whole way, then press the button to set the counter to zero. Next fast forward the tape to about count 100, then rewind the whole way. At this point the counter should have returned to zero or at least to within one or two counts of zero. (998-002)

The second thing required is an external microphone. Most portable recorders have a built in microphone which is fine for recording a lecture but does not work very well in Transreception. If you intend to use such a portable recorder, inexpensive plug-in microphones are available at Radio Shack and other electronics suppliers. The microphone(s) may be either of two types — dynamic or electret. Sarah Estep, George Meek and others believe the more sensitive electret works better. The author has found in simultaneous reception experiments that there were more understandable voices on the dynamic channel than on the electret channel. The choice is yours, either will work and in time you will probably want to try both.

The next thing you need and which many don't think about, is a head cleaner tape. Even with the best of tapes and recorders part of the tape coating has a tendency to rub off on the tape head. This induces unnecessary noise during recording and decreases fidelity on playback. This is an effect that probably would not be noticed in playing music but is very important in Transcommunication. The cleaner tape should be used as recommended and used after about each ten hours of use. If your recorder has been used for other purposes be sure to use the cleaner tape before attempting to record voices. If your

recorder is brand new it will be OK for at least the first ten hours.

The last piece of must equipment is a pair of earmuff type earphones. Avoid the lightweight phones often used with portables as they are simply unsuitable because they permit distracting background sounds to easily penetrate. In attempting to discern voices buried in noise it is necessary to shut out background noise and enter a world of your own where you can concentrate completely. The only kind of earphone that will do this is the earmuff type that covers the whole ear.

Another thing that is a must although not equipment, is a quiet place to work where you will not be interrupted. It is simply impossible to do this with the TV blaring away or the people in the next apartment shaking the walls with their stereo. If it is necessary wait until late at night or even until the wee hours of the morning until other family members or neighbors have retired. This makes absolutely no difference whatsoever to our spirit friends. They are just as inclined to talk with us at 3 AM as at 3 PM. Time to them is not at all the same thing it is to us. We might say they are on "Eternity time".

A piece of equipment that is nice to have from the beginning but is not essential in order to make contact, is an airband radio receiver. Sarah Estep and the author both have Radio Shack Patrolman receivers which I for one can certainly recommend, although the SW-60 which is the current model in the series is a bit more expensive than the earlier models. The new models most probably still have exactly the same circuits even through there are cosmetic differences.

Going further, it seems that most serious Tapers sooner or later go for stereo equipment with either a stereo cassette deck or a stereo R-R deck, in either case with a separate stereo amplifier and stereo speakers. Even though most listening is still done with earphones, occasionally even non-mediums such as myself receive voices which are understandable through speakers. Even though such equipment does not materially improve the actual quality of reception in most cases, it can help to a small extent in understanding what has been received. It seems for one thing that the voices are slightly easier to sort out from the noise if they can be listened to simultaneously on two different channels. This difference is very slight but can sometimes make the difference between understanding or not understanding a border line voice.

The second way in which stereo equipment is an asset is that being stereo it has a balance control so that playback can be "tuned" to the individual listener. No one, even the young, have ears that are perfectly matched in hearing sensitivity. There is always a greater or lessor difference. A stereo balance control allows compensation for this difference so that one perceives the same volume level with each ear which makes listening to anything, especially transreception, easier.

Most homes, at least here in the US, already have a stereo system. If such system has a tape deck it may be usable as is for transreception. The amplifier would have to have an earphone jack, which most do have. The recorder would have to be a tape recorder, not

just a tape player as some systems have. If the system does not have a tape recording deck it is probably still possible to use the stereo as an amplifier and just add the tape deck and microphones.

As to whether a cassette or reel-reel deck is better, again this is a matter of personal opinion. R-R decks are generally considered by audiophiles to be superior to cassette in reproduction quality. And there are probably more serious Tapers using R-R decks than cassette. The author uses a cassette deck because of the convenience in loading and storing tapes, but is probably in the minority. One thing that cannot be done with a cassette recorder is experimentation with reverse taping as was explained previously. In the author's personal experience in comparing reception quality between these two types of tape decks, there was not enough difference to mention.

HOW DO I BEGIN ACTUAL TAPING ?

It is perhaps late in the evening on a weekend. You don't have to get up early. The rest of the family has retired, the cat is out for the night, and your neighbor's stereo is in the repair shop. Now is the time, - but exactly what does one do? First of all, like most Tapers, you will probably want to keep a close record of your recordings. Either a fixed or loose leaf note book is ideal for this I prefer the loose leaf because if I later want to add PUCPOSE. additional comments, notes, diagrams, etc., or simply rewrite a scribbled page, it is easy to do so. A recording log consists of parts and as with recording procedure, there is One simply puts down any and all information one standardization. considers Might be pertinent for future reference. The first part usually consists of a description of circumstances and equipment, the second of a prayer (optional of course, but recommended), the third consists of an invitation, and the fourth is a record of the actual questions/comments and whatever replies you may receive. You may or may not also wish to add a fifth part in which the results of the session are analyzed. (The latter is mostly done in electronics research.)

In the first part of the log is recorded the tape number and the session number if different from the tape number. That is, if more than one session is recorded on the same tape. I personally prefer to use short tapes (C-30 or C-45) and record only one session on each tape, however this is of course up to the individual. If you do record more than one session on the tape include at this point the beginning count of the current session. In order to do this the tape is rewound to the beginning, the counter set to zero and then fast forwarded to near the end of the last session. After locating the last count of the last session leave about 5 counts of blank tape and then use that count as the starting point of the current session.

Also recorded in this first part of the log is the date, time of day, and whether there is anyone else present, etc. For future reference the exact recording method used should be included, whether open microphone, airband, etc. At least in the first session the exact equipment used should be listed, with a description and model number of the recorder, microphone, earphones, etc. In future sessions it might simply be mentioned that the same equipment is being used as was used in the last session, making note of course of any change you might make in method or equipment during future sessions.

For many of us the second part of the log consists of a prayer for help in opening up Transcommunication for the benefit of humanity and for protection against anyone who may try to harass or mislead. This may be said silently or spoken aloud when the rest of the log is read onto the tape. The author, and others strongly recommend a prayer at this point, but here again this is up to the discretion of the individual Taper. It is the author's belief that it is worth while doing this even if you are not a religious person, if for no other reason than that it irritates anyone who may be there intending to harass you.

The third part consists of a direct invitation to an individual in the Spirit World whom you would like to hear from and/or a direct invitation to any one who may be present and who comes in piece and goodwill, to speak to you through your recorder. This invitation is immediately followed by your statement that you will now leave the recorder run for ten counts to record anything they have to say. When actually recording, at this point when you have stoped talking, simply note the tape count, write this down, and leave the recorder run for ten more counts before shutting it off. Both the beginning and ending of the ten counts is written down, for example- "Count 110-120". (If you are using the airband method or a tape deck with manual record level controls see the end of this paper for additional notes on procedure.)

After you have written out your log to this point ending with the word "Count-", you are ready to make your first recording. Now if you are like most of us, at about this point you will have some second thoughts about what you are doing. Here you are sitting in a room by yourself and you are about to talk to people you can't see. Worse yet you are going to ask thin air to answer you through your tape recorder. How this is just too much! After all they put people away on the funny farm for talking to imaginary friends - don't they? This isn't the dark ages or the Eighteenth Century or even the Nineteenth Century when ghost stories and old wife's tales were still in vogue. Today we live in an age of Jet airliners, Fax machines, ICBMs, TVs, Computer networks, instant worldwide communication, and Technostress. A world in which for most people material reality is the only reality that can possibly exist.

The fact of the matter is that our five senses are so limited that what they tell us is real is mostly illusion and even then only a small part of what actually exists. It is for this very reason that there are more Physicists than Parapsychologists involved in Transcommunication Research. It is the Physicist, whom we would think of as being the most staunch of scientific materialists and least likely to become involved with the paranormal, who is the very person that realizes, more than anyone else, the illusionary and incomplete nature of five senses reality, and who realizes the probably of other dimensions and realities.

In any case when I made my first recording I felt so ridiculous and self-conscious I took the recorder outside to a small travel trailer we owned at the time. This despite the fact that Mary is Cherokee and has always believed the spirits are with us and saw nothing ridiculous whatsoever about what I was about to do. Her Father

in fact had told her when she was just a little girl, that someday we would be able to talk with the spirits through electronics, and she has always believed someday this would happen. So if you feel rather silly and self-conscious the first few times you record - join the crowd. I think most of us have. ---But do it anyway.

The procedure then in making your first recording is actually quite simple. First, write out your log, then place a blank tape in the recorder, make sure the tape is rewound and the counter is set to zero. Next, start the recorder, read your log onto the tape, let the recorder run for 10 more counts while you remain silent and then turn off the recorder and write down the count range of the 10 count segment. (If you have not already done so)

That was the easy part. The hard part is analyzing the tape. At this point is would be just great if when we play the 10 count segment back we would hear, in a nice clear voice, something like—"Hi, this is uncle Stan. Glad you called. I'ave been wanting to talk with you for a lone time." Unfortunately this simply does not happen. In fact when you play the tape back it is extremely unlikely that you will hear anything except noise. If such be the case, do not be dismayed, —this is quite normal, in fact it is all but inevitable. This is only the first tape segment in the first recording session. It may take 5 or 10 or 20 or even more such sessions, each with perhaps 5 or 6 tape segments recorded and carefully analyzed, before you are able to detect and comprehend even the first word.

When I first started there simply were no "How to" instructions available such as I am attempting to set down in this paper. The only thing I knew was that a few people were doing this and that it was rather difficult. Everything else I had to learn the hard way. the reader will find it considerably easier which is the purpose of At first I simply recorded segments of tape, some as long this paper. as 15 minutes, played them back 2 or 3 times, heard nothing but noise, and concluded there was nothing on the tape. After making a number of such recordings over a period of days I came to the conclusion there were no voices on the tapes and that the whole thing was a ridiculous waste of time. (As it turned out the first voices had appeared within 3 counts of the very first segment I had recorded, but I did not know this until months later.) Fortunately at the time I was only partly employed and had lots of time on my hands. After some time I realized I had not really done enough recording to prove to my own satisfaction that there actually were no voices on the tapes. Off and on during the following weeks I made more such recordings, listening closer and closer to what I had recorded. After a time I came to realize that there did indeed seem to be voices on the tapes but they were too weak to understand. Later, with continued practice, I gradually become able to understand what was being said.

I now think it likely that many, if not most people have at least some degree of transmediumistic talent, whereas I have none. For this reason and having a bit of information to work with, I think it likely that most people who attempt to do this will find it easier than I did.

In analyzing the segment of tape you have recorded, play it back repeatedly through earphones while concentrating carefully on what you are hearing. Each time you play it back slightly readjust the volume

or tone control so that you can listen to the tape under a wide range of volume and tone combinations. Voices which may be audible at one tone or volume setting can be inaudible, even undetectable at a slightly different setting. Under no circumstances however play the tape at a volume setting which is more than slightly uncomfortable. To listen constantly to quite uncomfortable sound levels can and will damage hearing.

While analyzing the tape listen especially for an "irregularity" in the noise. This irregularity may appear as a slight temporary unevenness or change of tone in the sound. Or in playing the tape back a number of times you may get the impression that at some point there is something else mixed with and buried in the noise. If on repeated playback you detect any such place, that is any point that for any reason does not sound exactly like the rest of the segment, note the Counter number of this point and write it down in your log. If there is a voice on this segment which is more likely than not, then it is exactly at this count that it will most likely be found. If you locate such a spot then concentrate your attention on this place just as you had concentrated on the whole segment. That is rewind to one or two counts before this spot and replay through this area repeatedly using different volume and tone settings. If after examining this spot 10 or 15 times with different volume and tone combinations you are satisfied that either the irregularity is not a voice or that it probably is a Voice but too weak for any combination of volume and tone to make it audible, then it is reasonable to discontinue work on this area. If you have detected more than one place on the first tape segment where there is such an irregularity then go on to the next spot and repeat this same procedure until you have carefully examined each such area on the recording.

After completing your examination of the first segment, regardless of the results, it is time to record the next segment. Your comment and next invitation or question should be first written down in your log. You might say that you have analyzed the first recording as carefully as you can and could not hear any voices or that you thought there may be voices but you could not understand what they were saying no matter how hard you tried. And then thank your friends for their efforts and invite then to try again. Or you might be lucky and actually understand one or more words, although this is much more likely to happen after several days or a couple weeks than in the first recording. If this should happen you might quote to your friends what you believe you heard and ask if you heard correctly.

In any case your next comment/invitation/question is first written down, the recorder is turned on in record mode, this part of the log is read onto tape, the recorder is left running for an additional 10 counts just as you did the first time and the count numbers are written down. After which the second segment is carefully analyzed just as you did the first. A word of caution. When you record your second question or invitation be sure first of all that you are beyond the last tape segment before you start recording. Otherwise you will overwrite part of your last recording which you may want to reexamine later. A good practice is to leave several counts of blank tape between the end of your last segment and the beginning of your next recording.

As you first begin to hear what is on your tapes you will most likely find that if there is more than one word in a statement that the words will not all be of the same volume. If this is so, and in most cases it is, you will hear the loudest word or part of the loudest word first. This word may be the first or the last word of the statement or someplace in the middle.

As an example what you first hear could go something like this: You have played a segment back several times and located a spot where there is an "irregularity" in the sound. You concentrate on this spot, replaying at different combinations of volume and tone settings and discern what seems to be a voice but too weak to understand. After several more replays you seem to hear a word that sounds like "er" or "ear". You keep working on it and the word begins to stand out as "hear" or "here". In the process you discern that there are one or two other words proceeding this word which you are not yet able to You then begin working on the proceeding word still understand. slightly changing the volume and tone settings. After several more replays you are able to make out the second word as "are" and the statement so far is then "are here". But there is still one more word in front of these two. After several more replays this begins to sound like "we" and yet this doesn't seem to be exactly right. You play it back a few more times and then the word stands out as "three" and the complete statement is "Three are here".

As you can imagine from reading the above, this work is quite time consuming. Even to this day it takes me 10-15 minutes to thoroughly analyze a single 5-10 count recording. In first starting to record it can easily take 15-30 minutes to examine a 10 count segment. To record and analyze perhaps 5 or 6 such segments can easily take 2-3 hours which is about the maximum length of time one can maintain the intense concentration necessary. I would not therefore recommend sessions longer than this, nor would I recommend more than one such session during any one day.

How many such sessions you will need to make contact is a matter of conjecture and varies with different individuals. In my case it involved a number of weeks of on and off recording. Sarah Estep, if I recall correctly, recorded approximately a week with two sessions a day before she heard the first word. Sarah, as everyone knows, went on from there to become one of the strongest Transmediums who has yet come to light. For the few others who's initial experiences I am familiar with, it seems that at least a week or two of constant effort has been required to make initial contact. Just why this should be so is not known for certain, but several factors can be surmised. First of all because of the terrible signal to noise ratio in most cases encountered, it is necessary for the Taper, by training their mind and ears, to develop the skill necessary to detect and understand what is being said. At the same time our spirit friends also seem to need a certain amount of practice to hone their skill at mentally projecting their voices onto our tapes. There also seems to be a third factor. One has a definite impression that the initial delay is partly deliberate in order to determine if the taper is serious or just doing Our spirit friends this out of casual curiosity, Transcommunication very seriously and they want it to be taken seriously here on our side as well. By deliberately delaying initial

contact they can separate the men from the boys, or the women from the girls, as the case may be. That is, they separate those who have the determination, patience, and persistence, from the idle curiosity seekers.

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT I HEAR IS NOT IMAGINATION ?

It is of course well known that the human mind has a tendency to form patterns where no such patterns actually exist. We look at a cloud and see a face, at a tile floor and see an animal, a face in the moon, a voice in the wind. Is it not then reasonable to believe that in listening repeatedly to the same noise that after a while our minds would begin to form "voices" where in fact none actually exist? We speak here of course, about non-mediumistic reception which is hard to understand. In mediumistic reception such as obtained by Sarah Estep and others, the voices are so loud and clear they could not possibly be mistaken for mental constructs.

If all Transcommunication were non-mediumistic it might be possible, by ignoring certain facts, to rationalize the voices away as However with the existence of strong mediumistic imagination. reception, which cannot be denied, we know such communication exists, and if it can be stronger than by the same token it can be weaker as well. The most important evidence however is not as much in the way they sound as in the verifiable things they tell us that we could not possibility otherwise know. As an example, I once heard a voice say "Pillow too small". As usual this voice was quite weak and I had had to listen several times to understand what was said. Even then I was sure I was mistaken because their comments are almost always meaningful in one way or another and I could see no meaning in this. listening another 5 or 6 times I was certain they were saying "Pillow too small", and nothing else. At the time ${f I}$ had my back to the room and Mary was reading on the sofa, or so I thought. When I put down my earphones and turned around to take a break, I found Mary, unknown to me, had turned on the TV and had moved to the floor so her earphone cord would reach the TV. Since the pillow she usually used was in the laundry, she had grabbed a novelty pillow from the sofa that was only 6 or 8 inches square. Even though Mary is a small person she looked quite amusing trying to sit on such a tiny pillow and it was this our spirit friends were referring to.

On another occasion while Mary was in town to do some errands and see two of her fimway customers, I ask if Mary had made any money that day. (This question isn't as dumb as it sounds because what I was really trying to find out was whether our spirit friends could discern events elsewhere while I was talking with them.) The answer on tape was "Twenty one dollars". About one hour later Mary came home and told me she had made 26 dollars. I said nothing to her about what I was told, but later that evening while I was still wondering how the spirits could have been mistaken about this, Mary said "Oh by the way, I put 5 dollars worth of gas in the car today".

Neither of these two events were earth shaking revelations, but they are quite typical of the kind of thing Tapers are told which they could not possibly otherwise know, and which prove at least to my satisfaction that these voices are not imaginary, even though buried in noise. On another occasion I received a message about Mr Harold Sherman who had gone through the transition some months previous. I

relayed this message to Mrs Sherman who replied that a non-taper on the other side of the Country, a person I did not know existed, had received the same unique message. In receiving such messages I have to presume that either I am being told certain things by entities I cannot see, or that my subconscious has some kind of super ESP that is capable not only of gathering up all sorts of information even from other minds on the other side of the Country, but also capable of projecting this information onto tape in the form of an assortment of voices. The latter I find impossible to believe. In science it is axiomatic when confronting a new phenomenon, that the simplest, most straightforward explanation, is the one that almost invariably turns out to be correct. Where Transcommunication is concerned, hands down the simplest and most straightforward explanation is that we are being contacted by disembodied human spirits.

There is another bit of evidence which I personally find most impressive although it is a subtle point. This is the fact that the subconscious takes everything literally while the conscious mind responds more to meaning than to words. For example if you were to ask a person the question "Can you tell me your name?", the person would likely respond by saying their name even though this is not what you ask. You ask of course not for their name but whether they were capable of telling you their name, to which the proper answer is either "yes" or "no".

The point is that the conscious mind responds to meaning, to implication, more than to actual words. The subconscious on the other hand is literal. If we were to take the person mentioned, hypnotize them so we could speak directly to their subconscious mind and then ask "can you tell me your name?", they would simply say "yes" and volunteer no further information because nothing else had been ask for. If we then wanted to learn the persons name we would have to ask directly "What is your name?".

What does all this have to do with Transcommunication? Just this, If these voices originated in the Taper's own subconscious mind and were then projected onto tape, then when we ask an implied question we would receive a literal answer instead of what we expect. This however does not happen, at least not in any case I know of. ""Can you tell me if there is anyone here with me today?" answer "Yes, there is.". you tell me if this recorder is easier for you to use than the other one?", answer "Yes, it is." "Can you tell me how many people are here today?", answer "28". In none of these instances has the actual question been answered. What they have answered is the implied question which requires a conscious, thinking mind in order to analyze the question for it's true meaning. I have asked dozens of such questions and in each and every case it was the implied question, not the literal question, that was answered. As mentioned in the beginning, this may be a subtle point, but to me personally it is most impressive.

ADDITIONAL NOTES - - - -

1) When using the airband or any radio method, place the radio within easy reach and place the microphone in front of the receiver facing directly toward the center of the speaker at a distance of 6 to 8 inches. If you are using a stereo recorder place both microphones side by side in this position about 3 or 4 inches apart. Don't be concerned

that the microphone(s) is now facing away from you, it will pick up your voice just as well when you are reading your log onto tape. Before you begin recording turn the radio on to the airband (or other) and find a quiet spot where you hear nothing but static. Set the volume to a soft listening level. This is the volume you will use to record. Now turn the volume off but do not turn the radio off. When you record as you say the words "I will now record for 10 counts" turn the volume back up to this soft listening level, leave it there for the ten counts and then after you have stoped the recorder turn the volume off again so you don't have to listen to it while analyzing the tape.

- 2) If you are using a tape deck with manual record level controls the idea is to operate at maximum amplification. To do this use a setup tape which can be any old used tape you don't want. If you are using the open microphone method you should be able to set the controls to maximum in a quiet room without red lining the needles. If you are using the radio method, set the microphones as described in the previous paragraph. In record mode with a setup tape and controls at max record, turn on the radio and gradually advance the volume (after locating a quiet spot on the dial) until the meters read between -3 and 0 DB. You probably will have to slightly readjust the record level control on one or the other channel to get both meters reading the same. Turn the volume but not the radio off, place a new tape in the recorder and you are now ready to record. As you say the words "I will now leave the tape run for 10 counts", advance the radio volume so that the meters again indicate between -3 to 0 DB.
- 3) There is an effect in reception which has been noted by a number of us which should be mentioned here. And that is that when the spirits make a statement, the less words there are in the statement the easier it is to understand. It seems as if when there are one or two words spoken they are louder than if there are a number. There is no doubt that it takes a great deal of mental energy to project their voices onto our tapes. If they can concentrate all of their energy into one or two words rather than spreading the energy out over a longer statement they can get through somewhat louder and thus easier to understand. This is easier to understand if we imagine someone trying to shout to friends on the other side of a river. First they draw as deep a breath as possible. Now if they put all of this breath into one or two words then obviously they can make these words louder than if they were to spread their breath out over a dozen words. Although in Transcommunication.we are dealing with mental energy rather than acoustic, the principle is the same.
- Because of the effect mentioned above we can help our friends to communicate by phasing our questions in such a way that they can be answered either yes/no or by a very short statement. Another good format to use is multiple choice. With a bit of thought even very complex questions about philosophy, religion, etc., can be put in this format by listing all the possible answers you can think of with the last answer simply "other". If you than number each answer you can ask your friends to give you the number of the answer that is closest to correct. If the answer you get is "other" then you need to think of more possible answers or rephrase the question. Asking questions that would require an essay to answer such as "what is it like over there?" does little good because you usually either get no answer or an answer such as "nice" or "different" etc., which isn't very informative. You

will learn more by asking specific questions that can be answered briefly, and specifically.

- 5) In the section on recording it was recommended to record tape segments of 10 counts. This may seem rather brief, at least until you go to analyze the results. Because of the intense concentration necessary and the repeated playbacks even 10 counts can come to seem rather long. The real reason for this however is that 5-10 counts seems to be about the most efficient length. If you get an answer at all on a given segment it will almost invariably be within this area, often within 2 or 3 counts of the beginning. This seems to hold true whether one records 5-10 counts or records 20 or 30 or 50 counts. I customarily record 6-7 counts with the last segment of the day being 10 counts because in this segment I usually ask a question and also invite any additional comments they may have.
- 6) A number of other researchers have stated that taping sessions, especially in the beginning should be done on a regular basis. Preferably once a day or on regular days of the week, etc., as your personal situation permits. This information I can only pass on, I cannot verify this from personal experience. My own work has been primarily in electronics and for the most part I have recorded only when I had the next circuit, device, or piece of equipment to be tested ready for recording. This was usually several days or weeks, sometimes several months. In any case the recommendation is to record on a regular basis in so far as it is possible to do so, especially in the very beginning.
- 7) An effect which has been noted by the author but not mentioned by anyone else to my knowledge, is that of mental blocks. analyzing tapes, before I had learned to perceive and understand the voices, I noted that at times my concentration would simply break for no reason and my mind would go blank for a fraction of a second. the time I gave this little thought and considered it simply an effect of repeated intense concentration. In retrospect I now believe this effect had something to do with the "barrier of disbelief" which was That is, I now believe that in those early days discussed previously. my subconscious became aware there were human voices on the tapes before my conscious mind did, but at first could not except their existence and therefore simply censored them out. This happened only in the beginning and is no longer a problem, but I am convinced it added at least several sessions to the length of time it took to make contact.

Just how powerful this effect can be was brought home to me several years later. A family friend was visiting and during the conversation she brought up the question of survival in which she was quite interested. I ask if she had heard of the Electronic Voice Phenomenon, which she had but knew little about. After explaining it to her I mentioned that I had a tape of voice samples which had been recorded by Sarah Estep, who was one of the strongest EVP mediums. Our friend was very enthused about hearing the tape, so I got out a recorder and earphones. I explained what to listen for and how each sample was played back three times, etc. After listening intensely for about 7 or 8 minutes, our friend put down the earphones and said "I can hear the lady (Sarah) talking, but I can't hear anything else but noise." Now anyone who has heard any of Sarah's voice sample tapes can

appreciate that I was absolutely dumbfounded. Until then I had thought that anyone who was not stone deaf could easily hear and understand these samples. The person in question was in her early thirties at the time and had no problem with her hearing. I was puzzled by this for days and finally reached the conclusion that either she was outright lying which I had no reason to believe, or that her subconscious could not except the voices of people who were "dead" and simply blocked them out. We all like to think we are in full control of ourselves, but the fact is that our subconscious has more influence over our thinking than we would like to believe.

So if while you are analyzing your tapes you should become conscious of an unexplained break in your concentration or your mind seems to simply "blank out" for a second, — be suspicious. If this does happen there probably isn't much that can be done about it. Although one might note the counter number where it happened and then play the tape back several more times and see if this effect happens at the same point on the tape each time. If it does there may be a voice at that count which your subconscious mind is simply not permitting you to hear.

- 8) On one occasion I ask the group I am working with, if it would help them judge how well they are getting through if I were to play the segment back through speakers. (They are quite capable of detecting physical sound waves even though they themselves are immaterial.) The answer was in the affirmative. Since that time I have made it a practice after each recording to play the segment back through speakers before analyzing it with earphones. I would recommend that you do this at least until you have established communication, as it may help your friends get through. Later you can ask them if they want you to continue this practice.
- 9) As you begin to hear what is on your tapes you may receive calls for help such as "Help me" or "Please help me" or Save me" or simply "Help". In fact probably the two most common things heard by the Novice in the very beginning are calls for help and their own first In the due course of time these requests seem to taper off and even eventually stop altogether. Just why any of this should be so is still unknown, although we are reasonably sure Why such requests are made. Generally these are people who were so submerged in materialism they did not except even the possibility of survival and now literally cannot realize that they are "dead". Because of their mental set these spirits who are usually referred to as "earthbound spirits", cannot be reached by their spirit friends who would like to help them. often wonder about for a long time, talking to people who are still embodied and wondering why everyone is ignoring them. I suppose we could say they have the ultimate mental block.

These are not really the people you want to talk with, you will learn nothing from them. In fact you can probably tell them more about their situation then they can tell you about the Spirit World. Nevertheless these are human spirits who are very much in need of help and certainly it is an act of kindness to try to help them. You can imagine the elation and hope that is generated in such a person when after wondering around in a fog for a long time being ignored by everyone, they happen upon this person with a tape recorder who actually understands what they say. When hearing such a request for

help, it does no harm to take a minute and explain to them aloud, that they are no longer in a physical body. (This of course should be apparent to them, but it is not.) And then explain that they should look around for a light, and then concentrate on the light and more toward it, and that there are others there who will help them. And then perhaps say a brief prayer on their behalf. Recognizing their existence in this manner does not encourage them to stay near you, Just the opposite, they are encouraged to go where they can get help and the chances are you will not hear from them in future sessions, although of course from time to time there may be others. Certainly if we found ourselves wondering about in such confusion we would appreciate any help we could get. And in any case it just might possibility be someone you have known either from this or a previous life.

- 10) It is advisable to save all of the tapes you have recorded, even if in one or more of your early sessions you think there is nothing on the tape. You may very well find after you have made contact and established communication that there were voices, perhaps many voices on these early tapes which you could not hear at the time.
- 11) In so far as is known to the author the conditions under which recordings are made have little effect on the results. These voices have been recorded night and day, indoors and outdoors, in sunny and rainy weather, in hot and cold weather, at any time of the week and month, at any phase of the moon, in dim light and bright light, when the Taper is alone or others are present, etc., etc. The only thing I know of that might have a certain inhibiting effect, is the presence of several strong closed minded sceptics who seem to generate a negative energy.

As far as location is concerned the only researcher I know of who believed reception to be location specific, was Raymond Cass of England. I believe most researchers have reached the conclusion, as have I, that location is immaterial. All that is required is a relatively quiet place where there is no interfering background noise. Voices have been recorded in a number of different parts of the World, in a large variety of locations, including homes in urban areas, our "haunted" (What an awful word) house here in the middle of the desert, modern high rise condominiums, in cemeteries, in sound studios, inside of acoustic and electromegnetically shielded containers and even at the Pyramids and tombs of Egypt. Although earthbound spirits often stay about a certain location, usually near where they went through the transition, the great majority are apparently able to be anywhere they wish, anytime they wish to be there, by the act of simply wanting to be there. (Think of the money they save on Airline tickets!)

12) In the section about recording it was described how to record a segment of tape, analyze that segment and then record the next segment and so forth. Because, at least if you stay on the same subject, your next question may be determined by the reply you receive to your previous question, just as in a normal conversation, we might call this the "conversation mode". There is another mode which we might call the "letter mode", which is used by some Tapers. In this mode one starts out the same way but rather than analyze the tape, a series of questions is ask, one at a time, recording a segment of tape after each

question. Only after all recording has been done are the segments analyzed. This is similar to writing a letter to a friend in which you might ask a half dozen questions. You do not of course know the answer to any of the questions until you receive a letter in return in which all of your questions are answered at one time.

Each of these modes has it's own advantages and disadvantages. With the letter mode one's friends do not have to wait around through the whole process if they do not wish to do so, although I think in most cases they do to see how much we have understood. But you will not be able to respond to their replies or ask the same question again if you have not understood the answer, until the following session. Also after you have finished recording you are faced with perhaps two solid hours of analyzing tape which can become tedious no matter how interesting it is.

In the conversation mode it is possible to carry on an actual conversation, although it is of course in very slow motion. This mode requires a considerable amount of patience on the part of our spirit friends who have little to do but twiddle their thumbs for 18-30 minutes between each recording while the tape is analyzed. They do not always have the patience to do this and on occasion may leave before one has finished recording. However most of the time they do stay, at least the group I am working with does, even on one occasion the whole way through a marathon 10 hour recording session. I normally use the conversation mode because so many of my questions are based upon previous replies. The information on a single subject which can be conveyed in one session with the conversation mode could require several sessions in the letter mode. I would recommend the Novice start out using the conversation mode, mostly because while you write out and read a new question and record a new segment, your ears get a break from analyzing tape. After you have established communication you can use either mode according to your preferences and the inclinations of your spirit friends.

- 13) In order to avoid channel "cross-talk" use only one side of the tape leaving the other side blank. Otherwise you may find yourself trying to understand a "voice" which is actually your own voice coming through backwards from the other side. This is especially important on stereo cassette recorders where the four tracks are very close together because of narrow tape width. (This is not the same effect as reverse taping where it is actually the reverse surface of the tape—that is being examined, not the opposite edge.)
- 14) If possible always use new tape since many recorders do not erase the tape 100% during the recording process. If you must reuse tape the following procedure is recommended: With no microphones connected to the tape deck and the recording level controls set to zero, run the tape through completely on both sides in the record mode. When the tape is recorded it will be erased a second time before reaching the recording head. The double erasure should eliminate anything audible that might have been on the tape. (This does not work if the recorder has a built in microphone.)
- 15) Never under any circumstances consider Transcommunication as "entertainment". To do so invites lower level spirits into your home who may "entertain" you in ways you are not ready for.

- 16) Accord your friends in the Spirit World the same respect and consideration you would your friends in this world. And remember most of humanity is over there. They are the main stream, it is we who are in the unusual circumstances. It is we who are trying to glimpse reality through a frosty window pane. In trying to open up Transcommunication it is they who are doing us a favor. not vise versa.
- Where earphones are concerned either the Radio Shack Nova-40 or 17) Nova-16 might be considered. Both are stereo headphones with a 1/4" phone plug. The Nova-40, which I have used for some time, has slightly larger ear speakers. The Nova-16 has a balance control which would be a considerable asset if used with a monophonic recorder. Both more than cover the required frequency range. If either of these phones are used with a home stereo amplifier they can be pluged directly into the phone jack. On many portable stereo recorders the phone jack is 1/8" rather than 1/4". This problem can be solved with an adapter (Radio Shack # 274-366) which has a 1/4" stereo jack on one end and a 1/8" stereo plug on the other. If you are using a portable monophonic recorder an additional stereo to mono adapter is required (Radio Shack # 274-368). This adapter has a 1/8" stereo jack at one end and a 1/8" mono plug at the other. With the use of one or both of these adapters you should be able to use full sized stereo earphones with almost any kind of recorder you might own.

REVISION

When the original version of this paper was written the first copy was sent to Sarah Estep who is one of the most experienced people in the field and who's opinion is to be respected. Sarah takes exception to the short recording time (10 counts per segment) recommended. To quote:

- --- "There is only one point that I have a rather strong disagreement with you--that is in limiting taping to just 10 counters. In my view (and experience) as well as the experience of many other successful tapers, that is a far too short period of time.
- --- I agree, tapings should be kept short. I always stress with new tapers in workshops, personal consultations and so on, that they should tape no longer than five minutes. Later, that can be extended somewhat, but should not exceed ten minutes.
- --- While it is true that many messages come through in the first minute, or even thirty seconds, which your ten counter suggestion would not cover, just as many messages (in fact more) will be received several minutes into the recording.
- --- Your method of ten counters obviously works for you, so you should certainly continue it. I suspect, though, that your contacts have become adjusted to your very fast tapings and so have learned to respond to them. My fear is, however, that with most tapers, especially those just starting out, a "hello" "good-by" approach will seldom work. The other side needs to learn how to channel in to the unique energies each person brings to his recorder, and with a recording lasting about 38 seconds (depending where you are on your tape) this won't happen."

As mentioned previously there is a difference between mediumistic reception in which the operator's energies are used by the spirits in order to project their voices onto tape, and non-mediumistic reception in which the spirits effect the equipment directly without using the operator's energies, which in this case have nothing to do with the reception process. For the most part the reception that results from these two different modes of communication, differs more in degree than in kind. That is, whereas mediumistic reception is louder and easier to hear, non-mediumistic reception is weaker and more difficult to understand.

There are however, other differences between these two modes. The most important of which is that you will have mediumistic reception only if you happen to be a Transmedium (which I hope you will turn out to be). On the other hand, non-mediumistic reception even though considerably more difficult, is available, at least in theory, to everyone because in this mode the operator's energies are not a part of the communication link and have nothing to do with the reception process.

As Sarah has pointed out in the quotation above, there is yet another difference between these two modes of reception that must be seriously considered. I had heard of long delays in response before, but had considered these to be abnormalities, since they were foreign to my experience. In writing this paper it has become apparent that I have had as little experience with mediumistic reception as Sarah has had with non-mediumistic reception. But this is a good thing because such comparisons of results and experience advances knowledge in the field.

This does however, present a bit of a dilemma. On one hand, in non-mediumistic reception there is approximately a 1 to 60 ratio between the time it takes to make a recording and the time it takes to thoroughly analyze the tape. That is, a recording of 10 seconds can be expected to require about 10 minutes to closely examine for non-mediumistic voices. This in effect means that a recording of 5 to 10 minutes would require 5 to 10 solid hours of intensive concentrated analysis, which would be impractical if not impossible to do. To just play straight through a recording as long as 5 minutes, even listening carefully for anything discernible, and even if it is done 2 or 3 times, practically guarantees that any non-mediumistic voices that may be present, will be missed.

On the other hand, as Sarah has pointed out, to record for only 18 counts is likely not to provide enough time for mediumistic voices to appear since in this mode the spirits need a certain amount of time to "tune in" to the Taper's energies, or for some other reason cannot respond immediately, which causes a delay that may be as long as several minutes. This delay, which I heretofore had thought to be an abnormality, is, according to Sarah who should know, quite normal to mediumistic reception.

Since none of us have any control over what kind of reception we have and the Movice has no way of knowing in advance whether or not the spirits will use the Novice's own energies as part of the communication link, I would recommend that initially both of these methods of

recording and analyzing tape be used. In one session the Taper may use the non-mediumistic method of recording only 10 counts and then analyzing closely for irregularities in the sound, etc., as recommended in that section of this paper. Then in the next session, perhaps the next day, record a segment(s) of 5 minutes length, as recommended by Sarah, and then listen to the recording as carefully as you can to a recording of such length, for any voices that may be discernible. Perhaps replaying the whole segment 2 or 3 times.

By using both of these methods in alternate sessions, you would have, as they say, "the bases covered" and would have the very best chance of making initial contact and establishing communication. Within the first few weeks you will most probably find out whether your reception is predominantly mediumistic or non-mediumistic and you can then adjust your technique and the length of your recordings accordingly. What works best for you as an individual, is the right technique for you to use.

AND A FEW FINAL WORDS

In reading back over this paper it seems that I have made transreception perhaps seem more difficult than it really is. But if I have errored in this respect I would rather error on the side of too difficult so that the Novice in first beginning to record would find it not quite as difficult as they expected, rather than give the impression that it is easy and have the Novice quit in discouragement when finding it to be more difficult than they had thought.

As mentioned I myself am not a Transmedium and I have nothing to do with the reception process other than to request communication and turn on the switchs. The reception I do get is the result of our spirit friends effecting the equipment with their own psychokinetic energy. In one case when I was home "alone" I explained what I was about to do, requested communication, started the recording and then got into my car and drove about a mile away. The next nearest person was a neighbor who was about 1/2 mile distant. When I returned I found that voices had appeared on tape when there were no embodied humans closer than 1/2 mile from the recorder, and also that these voices were of exactly the same quality as when I am sitting right by the recorder.

I believe this non-mediumistic level of reception is a "base" level. That is, I believe the spirits can get through at this level anywhere, anytime, under any circumstances, with any operator or with no operator at all. The only requirement being that a tape recorder be running in the record mode. For this reason I believe everyone is capable of recording voices at least at this base level. When someone then attempts to make contact and does not succeed in doing so, it is almost certain that either they did not have the perseverance necessary or that they were simply not aware of the difficulty involved and the techniques necessary in analyzing tapes.

As mentioned previously and repeated here because I think this an important point, I believe that many if not most people have some degree of transmediumistic talent. If one is a transmedium it appears the spirits are able to use one's psychokinetic energy to effect the signal level in the recording equipment to a greater degree than they are able to do using only their own psychokinetic energy. To do this they evidently contact the operator's subconscious mind via telepathy

and use the psychokinetic energy the operator's subconscious is capable of generating in order to effect the equipment. All of which happens completely without the operator's knowledge. The difference in reception quality between Transmediums probably depends on how much psychokinetic energy their subconscious is capable of generating and how accessible this energy is to the spirits.

I believe in the future there will be many more people who find they have this ability to a certain degree. Even though in the very beginning they still will no doubt have to go through a period in which they believe there is no reception (During which they probably are actually getting non-mediumistic reception.) as did even Sarah Estep, before their transmediumistic ability begins to manifest. I hope you will be one of these people. But even if you are not I am still confident that at the very least you will have non-mediumistic reception through which you can communicate almost as well, although it does require a bit more work.

BOOKS

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The Ghost Of 29 Megacycles 1981 John G Fuller Signet Books

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D. Scott Rogo and Raymond Bayless Berkley Books

Voices Of The Dead? 1977
Susy Smith Signet Books

Talks With The Dead 1975
William Addams Welch Pinnacle Books

Breakthrough 1971
Dr Konstantin Raudive Zebra Books

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