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UNKNOWN SUBJECTS. [REDACTED] EXPERIMENTS AND TESLA, DECEASED. ESPIONAGE - M. NIKOLA TESLA, ONE OF THE STANDING SCIENTISTS IN THE ELECTRICAL FIELD, DIED NINETEEN FORTY THREE AT THE HOTEL NEW YORKER, NEW YORK. DURING HIS LIFETIME, HE CONDUCTED MANY EXPERIMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRANSMISSION OF ELECTRICAL POWER AND [REDACTED] THAT [REDACTED] THE DEATH DAY. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FURNISHED [REDACTED] THREE SIX FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, THE NOTES AND EXPERIMENTS AND FORMULAE TOGETHER WITH DESIGNS OF [REDACTED] TO VITALIZE THEM ARE AMONG TESLA'S PERSONAL EFFECTS, AND [REDACTED] TAKEN TO PRESERVE THEM OR TO KEEP THEM FROM FALLING INTO [REDACTED] UNFRIENDLY TO THE WAR EFFORT OF THE UNITED STATES. ACCORDING TO SPANEL, A DISTANT RELATIVE OF TESLA, NAMED [REDACTED] WHO WAS INTENSELY DISLIKED BY TESLA, IS TAKING STEPS TO THE SEIZURE OF THESE IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS AND PLANS. SPANEL BELIEVES THERE IS A STRONG LIKELIHOOD THAT KOSANOVICH WILL MAKE THIS MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO THE ENEMY. SPANEL ADVISED TWO HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, AS WELL AS MR MORRIS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN WASHINGTON, CONCERNING THE ABOVE. SPANEL WAS ALSO IN TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION WITH [REDACTED] DR E LOZADO, ONE OF THE ADVISORS TO VICE PRESIDENT WALLACE CONCERNING THIS MATTER, AND LOZADO TOLD SPANEL [REDACTED] THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS VITALLY INTERESTED IN THE EFFECTS OF TESLA AND REQUESTED SPANEL TO LOSE NO TIME IN DOING ALL HE COULD TO PRESERVE [REDACTED] THEM. ELOYCE FITZGERALD, AN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER WHO HAD BEEN QUITE CLOSE TO TESLA DURING HIS LIFE TIME, ADVISED THE NEW YORK OFFICE THAT ON JANUARY SEVENTH, NINETEEN FORTY THREE, SAVA KOSANOVICH, GEORGE CLARK, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE MUSEUM AND LABORATORY FOR RCA, AND KENNETH SWEZEY OF ONE SIX THREE MILTON STREET, BROOKLYN, NY, WENT TO TESLA'S ROOMS IN THE NEW YORKER, AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A [REDACTED] LOCKSMITH BROKE INTO A SAFE WHICH TESLA HAD IN HIS ROOMS IN WHICH HE KEPT SOME OF HIS VALUABLE PAPERS, INCLUDING IMPORTANT [REDACTED] ELECTRICAL FORMULAE, DESIGNS, ET CETERA. WITHIN THE PAST MONTH, TESLA TOLD FITZGERALD THAT HIS EXPERIMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WIRELESS TRANSMISSION OF ELECTRICAL POWER HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND PERFECTED.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. McGuire  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

100-2237-3

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PAGE TWO

FITZGERALD ALSO KNOWS THAT TESLA HAS CONCEIVED AND  
 A REVOLUTION-  
 ARY TYPE OF TORPEDO WHICH IS NOT PRESENTLY IN USE  
 THE NATIONS.  
 IT IS FITZGERALD'S BELIEF THAT THIS DESIGN HAS NOT  
 AVAILABLE  
 TO ANY NATION UP TO THE PRESENT TIME. FROM STATEMENTS  
 TO FITZ-  
 GEARLD BY TESLA, HE KNOWS THAT THE COMPLETE PLANS,  
 CATIONS  
 AND EXPLANATION OF THE BASIC THEORIES OF THESE THINGS  
 ONE PLACE IN  
 THE PERSONAL EFFECTS OF TESLA. HE ALSO KNOWS THAT  
 A WORKING  
 MODEL OF TESLA'S WHICH COST MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS  
 TO BUILD IN  
 A SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX BELONGING TO TESLA  
 GOVERNOR  
 CLINTON HOTEL, AND FITZGERALD  
 THIS MODEL  
 WAS TO DO WITH THE SO CALLED DEATH RAY OR THE WIRE  
 TRANSMISSION OF  
 ELECTRICAL CURRENT. TESLA HAS ALSO TOLD FITZGERALD  
 CONVERSATIONS  
 THAT HE HAS SOME EIGHTY TRUNKS INDIFFERENTLY  
 HIS CONTAINING  
 TRANSCRIPTS AND PLANS HAVING TO DO WITH EXPERIMENTS  
 BY HIM.  
 BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE IMMEDIATELY WHAT, IF  
 ANY ACTION SHOULD  
 BE TAKEN CONCERNING THIS MATTER BY THE NEW YORK FIELD  
 DIVISION.  
 FOXWORTH

CORRECTION- THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE TELETYPE THE NAME THAT SHOULD APPEAR  
 IS FITZGEARLD - NOT FITZGERALD AS IT SOMETIMES IS  
 SPILLED

HOLD

[The Missing Papers Index](#)

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REDACTIONS ON THIS PAGE ARE  
NOT FOIA DELETIONS

PAGE TWO

AFTER THAT TIME IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR WILL BE APPOINTED FOR THE PROPERTY WHO MAY TAKE THE PROPERTY INTO HIS CUSTODY. TESLA ALSO HAD SOME PROPERTY, [REDACTED] ALLEGED BY INFORMANT FITZGERALD IN THIS CASE, TO BE A WORKING MODEL OF AN INVENTION IN A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX IN GOVERNOR CLINTON HOTEL IN NY. INQUIRY SHOWS THAT THIS WAS PLACED HERE BY TESLA IN NINETEEN THIRTY TWO AS SECURITY FOR FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS OWED HOTEL. THIS BILL IS STILL OWED AND HOTEL APPEARS UNWILLING TO RELEASE THIS PROPERTY TO ANYONE AT LEAST UNTIL [REDACTED] DEBT IS PAID, BUT THIS OFFICE WILL BE ADVISED IF ANYONE ATTEMPTS TO PAY BILL AND OBTAIN PROPERTY. CONCERNING TESLA HOTEL MANAGERS REPORT HE WAS [REDACTED] VERY ECCENTRIC IF NOT [REDACTED] MENTALLY DERANGED DURING PAST TEN YEARS AND IT IS DOUBTFUL IF HE HAS CREATED ANYTHING OF VALUE DURING THAT TIME, ALTHOUGH PRIOR TO THAT HE PROBABLY WAS A VERY BRILLIANT INVENTOR. THEREFORE, ANY NOTES OF VALUE WERE PROBABLY THOSE MADE PRIOR TO THAT TIME. KOSANOVICH IS A NEPHEW OF TESLA WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS FORMERLY QUOTE YUGOSLAV MINISTER OF STATE UNQUOTE AND NOW QUOTE [REDACTED] PRESIDENT OF EASTERN AND CENTRAL PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTING YUGOSLOVIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, POLAND AND GREECE, UNQUOTE. SWEZEY IS A WRITER FOR POPULAR MECHANICS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS WHO IS [REDACTED] DESIROUS OF PUBLISHING A BIOGRAPHY OF TESLA AND THEREFORE WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN CONTROL OF HIS NOTES FOR THIS WORK. CLARK IS EMPLOYED BY RCA AND WOULD ALSO PROVIDE STORAGE ROOM FOR TESLA'S EFFECTS IN ORDER TO USE THEM IN WRITING A BIOGRAPHY. TESLA AT ONE TIME REPORTED TO BE WORKING ON EXPERIMENTS FOR YUGOSLAVIAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE. IT IS DESIRED THAT BUREAU ADVISE IMMEDIATELY WHETHER IT IS INTERESTED FURTHER IN THIS PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OF TAKING CONTROL OF IT. SUGGEST THAT, IN VIEW OF FACT THAT THE NOTES AND OTHER MATERIAL WOULD BE HIGHLY TECHNICAL IN CHARACTER AND FOR THAT REASON [REDACTED] COULD NOT BE REVIEWED [REDACTED] EXCEPT BY A TRAINED PERSON THE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DEVELOP-

OPMENT MIGHT BE INTERESTED.  
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## Life and Legacy - The Missing Papers

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: Jan. 30, 1951

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-22-81 BY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] called yesterday and said he would be in town for the next two or three days and wanted to see me. I told him I would be glad to see him late yesterday or today at his convenience. He is coming in today at 2:30 p.m.

I asked him if there was anything special which would require my doing any checking. He stated there were two things he wanted to discuss.

1. The case of Nikola Tesla and Abraham N. Spanel, President of International Latex Corporation

Our files reflect that Nikola Tesla was one of the world's outstanding scientists and in fact designed the generators installed at Niagara Falls. He died in New York on January 7, 1943, and is supposed to have left details and plans for a so-called death ray.

Our files also reflect that Colonel Erskine of Military Intelligence called us on January 9, 1943, advising that Tesla had died, that A. Spanel had communicated with the War Department regarding this death, that Tesla had a nephew named Sava Kosanovich who had taken possession of Tesla's papers and Spanel thought the papers might be used against our Government.

We made an immediate inquiry in New York and the first report was that Kosanovich and others entered Tesla's room with the aid of a locksmith, broke into a safe containing some of Tesla's valuable papers including formula.

Coincident with this, on January 6, L. M. C. Smith called Mr. Tamm regarding the death of Tesla and Smith stated he was talking to the Alien Property Custodian about seizing these items.

We interviewed Spanel who expressed concern over Tesla's effects and Spanel stated that Kosanovich had turned over the effects of Tesla to the Alien Property Custodian. Spanel further stated the day before Tesla died, he tried to get in touch with the War Department to make available certain papers.

56-4195

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RECORDED - 18

EX - 8

INDEXED - 18

MAR 2 1951

SE 2-100-346930-1

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

In 1943, we talked to a Private Bloyce Fitzgerald, who stated he had been associated with Tesla, and that the Army believed that Tesla's "death ray" is the only defense against atom bombs.

It was very clear we had no responsibility for Tesla's effects, that the Alien Property Custodian seized them and we learned later that Naval authorities made microfilms of all his papers.

Kosonovich communicated with the Bureau on March 29, 1950, and under date of April 3, 1950, in response to his request for the microfilms of the papers of Tesla, who was a relative of Kosonovich, we advised Kosonovich that this Bureau had never been in possession of Tesla's papers.

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

Senator [REDACTED] furnished the Bureau five communications received from a [REDACTED] which pertained primarily to Abraham Spanel. This individual mentioned the FBI at length in these communications, pointing out that Mr. Foxworth had been called in on the Tesla case but was killed shortly thereafter. He further stated that he was associated with Fitzgerald and as such came in touch with Tesla. He stated the FBI investigated this matter but their hands were tied, that there was nothing the FBI could do as they had been stopped from a higher level, that [REDACTED] the FBI Agent he dealt with, resigned and requested [REDACTED] never to discuss the matter with him again, that he had a wife and family to consider and that the last hope was Congress. These communications were furnished to the Department on September 19, 1950. (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)



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## Life and Legacy - The Missing Papers

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 April 20, 1976

Mr. Clarence Kelly  
 Director  
 F.B.I.  
 Washington, DC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 7-3-80 BY SP4 JPC/ste

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Mr. Allen and Mr. Ruchlehaus, former acting Director of the FBI, contacted me in 1973 regarding the unavailability of American microfilm records of Nikola Tesla's unpublished diary (now in the Belgrade museum, arranged by month per folder).

At the time I discounted the possibility that these unpublished discoveries had military significance. But because of experiments now under way at Hill AFB, I now suspect such military applications exist and feel it imperative that you be notified, particularly in view of the fact that the Soviets have primary access to the entire collection.

Two photos of each page exist.

After Tesla's death, scientists from the Navy and OSS performed a cursory examination of the diary and notes, which if my memory serves me correctly, was one month long, hardly enough time to decipher Tesla's torturous handwriting. Though Tesla wrote in English, his penmanship was small, blurred, and as difficult to translate as a foreign language.

According to the museum director (1971), the Soviets had made copies of some portions, but not the Colorado Springs diary, which numbers 500 pages, 20 that directly pertain to ball lightning, and 20 or so relevant to the equipment construction. (We copied the most significant portions, but feel more exists).

EX-115 REC-52/00-2237-29

an article,                      magazine, EDN (an electrical engineering magazine), but only with the very recent receipt of an unpublished manuscript from John J. O'Neill's book (PRODIGAL GENIUS) did I place credence on Tesla's later claim to military applications. Incidentally, some of O'Neill's descriptions were inaccurate and exaggerated, as we have exceeded Tesla's results and are familiar with the experiments. At any rate, there are three possible military applications.

MAY 8 1976

First, Tesla claimed that the lightning balls (which destroyed his equipment) could be used to destroy aircraft. I have talked to AF personnel --such as [REDACTED] who saw one inside his plane in flight--and found AF personnel fear these "rf balls," as they call them.

Second, it is a suspicion of mine that ball lightning, if injected with lithium, could produce a cheap fusion bomb.

Third--and this may be no more than a suspicion--the propulsion mode of ball lightning involves electro-gravitic interaction, by which means air vehicles of revolutionary configuration may be constructed. There are no presently-known laws of physics that can account for the propulsion (400 mph or so when following an airliner). Other hitherto unsuspected applications may exist.

None of these applications were the goal of Project Tesla, which centered on producing ball lightning as Tesla did and studying it as a plasma confinement technique for fusion reactors. Incidentally, Tesla's claim to setting up standing waves on the earth's surface (wireless power) was erroneous and involved techniques similar to Project Sanguine, that is, using the earth's atmosphere as a waveguide ([REDACTED] is aware of our research).

Cordially,

[REDACTED]

P.S. By a copy of this letter, along with the enclosures, I am notifying the C.I.A.

Enclosures: 2





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## Life and Legacy - The Missing Papers

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RESEARCH AND  
ENGINEERING~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

~~FEDERAL GOVERNMENT~~

9 FEB 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: Papers Recovered on the Death of Nicola Tesla (U)

(U) We understand that the FBI may have possession of a number of papers found after the death of Nicola Tesla in 1943. Nicola Tesla was a brilliant electrical engineer (i.e. the Tesla Coil) who was a pioneer in various aspects of electrical transmission phenomena.

(C) We believe that certain of Tesla's papers may contain basic principles which would be of considerable value to certain ongoing research within the DoD. It would be very helpful to have access to his papers.

(U) Since we have really no idea of the possible volume of these papers, we would be happy to provide a researcher who could assist you in reducing the magnitude of the search. If there are further questions, I am the point of contact within the DoD and can be reached at 695-6364 or 695-7417:

*Allan J. MacLaren*

Allan J. MacLaren  
LtColonel, USAF  
Military Assistant  
Strategic and Space Systems

REGISTERED

1059638

FBI  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4-2-93 BY 9803

FOIPA No. 356,608

362,001

b7C

100-2237-33

Per DOD letter dated 3-29-93  
with Enclosures 1 and 2  
All DOD info is unclassified  
DOD referenced FOI/PA #s 356,608 and 362,001

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-14-97 BY 5704/AMC

4/8/93 9803

b7C

Classified by: DUSDRE/S&SS  
Declassify on: February 1987

DECLASSIFIED BY 1049

ON 1-21-93

Per Army letter 5-25-89

241760

CORRESPONDENCE

50 MAR 30 1987

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## Life and Legacy - The Missing Papers

FD-36 (Rev. 8-28-83)

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

- ☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

- ☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

- ☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 8/18/83

**SECRET**

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 ATTN: INTD. SUPERVISOR [REDACTED]

FROM: SAC, CINCINNATI [REDACTED] (F)

NIKOLA TESLA

(OO: CI)

This communication is classified "Secret" in its entirety.

Re telephone call of SA [REDACTED], Cincinnati Division, to Supervisor [REDACTED] FBIHQ, on 8/11/83.

Enclosed for the Bureau and New York is one copy each of pertinent pages from the 1981 book titled "Tesla: Man Out of Time" by Margaret Cheney, with important passages underlined.

For information of Bureau and New York, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also at WPAFB, have both been in contact with SA [REDACTED] at the Dayton, Ohio RA regarding possible FBI [REDACTED]

SECRET

Classified by: 8262  
 Declassify on: OADR

Classified by: [REDACTED]  
 Declassify on: OADR

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 1)  
 2 - New York (Enc. 1)  
 2 - Cincinnati

(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 11/11/00 BY [REDACTED]

17 AUG 22 1983

Approved: [REDACTED]

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

53 NOV 1983

CI [REDACTED] (S) (b)(1)

~~SECRET~~

involvement in the seizing of Nikola Tesla's research papers and other documents and scientific instruments after his death on January 7, 1943.

1943  
They both explained that Tesla was a scientific genius and experimenter who was born in Yugoslavia of Serbian parents on 7/10/56, went to school later in Grets, Austria, Prague, Czechoslovakia and Paris, France. He immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1880's, worked for Thomas Edison's laboratory for a couple of years, then started his own lab after being paid \$1 million dollars for rights to his patents on his polyphase systems of alternating current dynamos, which lead to the harnessing of Niagra Falls for producing electricity and then the power system of the whole country. He was naturalized in 1889. He predicted wireless communication (radio). His later experiments in Colorado and elsewhere led to his producing artificial lightning in the millions of volts. He also had patents on the concept of neon and flourescent lights, but he later made little money on his later inventions, although he continued to do experiments leading to devices of great potential worth, which he never patented. He became more reclusive in his later years, living in various hotels in New York City. In the 1930's he claimed he had developed the concept and method of building a "death ray", which could destroy planes at many miles distant, for defending America. Also, there are reports of resonance machines or devices whereby he could shake one or many large city buildings from some distance away.

Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said that Tesla donated "some" of his papers (or copies thereof) to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia; set up in the 1930's in his honor by their government. Biographies on Tesla claim that either the custodian of Alien Property and/or the FBI seized his papers and other personal effects, including a safe or safes, and other property immediately after his death in 1943. This is elaborated on in the enclosed copies of certain pages of Margaret Cheney's book, "Tesla: Man Out of Time".

[REDACTED] said that after World War II Tesla's papers were shipped to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, by his nephew, Sava Kosanovic, who had become Tito's Ambassador to the U.S. There were reports that some microfilming of Tesla's papers by government agents while they were still in storage in New York under Kosanovic's custody.

~~SECRET~~

CI [REDACTED] (S) (b)(1)

~~SECRET~~

Also, the Soviet Union has allegedly had access to some of Tesla's papers, possibly in Belgrade and/or else where, which influenced their early research into directed energy weapons, and [REDACTED] feels access to much of Tesla's papers on lightning, beam weapons and/or "death rays" would give him more insight into the Soviet beam weapons program. This is Butler's area of expertise and responsibility. He has been unable to locate any Tesla papers or copies of same in the classified or unclassified libraries at WPAFB. However, there are reports that some portions of them were shipped by the Custodian of Alien Property Office in Washington, D.C. to a technical research lab at WPAFB, possibly the "Equipment Lab", now closed for some years or reorganized into another organization.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are both desirous of learning the locations of such papers of Tesla as now exist in the U.S. for both intelligence and research purposes. Therefore, [REDACTED] would like to examine FBI files relating to Nikola Tesla and possibly any on Sava Kosanovic, his nephew who received the bulk of his papers after Tesla's death, and may possibly have been the subject of FBI investigation.

[REDACTED] travels to the Washington, D.C. area on FTD business periodically and can review FBI files at FBIHQ relating to Tesla and Kosanovic.

#### REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

The Bureau is requested to conduct full indices checks on both Nikola Tesla and Sava Kosanovic.

Should there be such files at FBIHQ, as well as at New York, it is requested that Bureau consider granting the above [REDACTED] of FTD, official access to same, in the interest of national security.

#### LEADS

##### NEW YORK

##### AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will conduct same indices check as requested of Bureau and advise the Bureau and Cincinnati of results and confirm such files and references still exist there.

-3-

~~SECRET~~

CI [REDACTED] (S) (b)(1)

~~SECRET~~

##### CINCINNATI

##### AT DAYTON, OHIO

Will maintain contact with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

## Chapter One

### The Secret Life Of Nikola Tesla

Nikola Tesla was beyond a doubt the greatest genius of the 20th century. Our way of life today, the technology that we take for granted, is all possible because of this one incredible man from Europe.

However, despite all of his contributions to science, his name is little remembered outside the field of electronics and physics. In fact, Thomas Edison is often mistakenly credited in school textbooks **with inventions that were developed and patented by Tesla**.

Most scholars acknowledge that Tesla's obscurity is partially due to his eccentric ways and fantastic claims during the waning years of his life, of communicating with other planets and death rays. It is now known that many of these fantastic inventions of Tesla are scientifically accurate and workable. It has simply taken mankind this long to catch up to the astonishing ideas of a man who died in 1943.

It is known that Tesla suffered from financial troubles throughout his adult life. Because of this, Tesla had to move several times when he could no longer afford his surroundings. The Waldorf Astoria in New York had been Tesla's residence for twenty years, yet he had to move in 1920 when he could no longer afford it. Tesla then moved into the Hotel St. Regis, but again was forced to vacate due to lack of financial support.

Forced to move from hotel to hotel, he would often leave trunks of documents behind as security for his debts. These trunks, which were eagerly sought after Tesla's death, have become the key to unlocking the mystery of who Nikola Tesla really was, and the incredible life that he secretly lead.

When Tesla died on January 7, 1943 at the age of 86, representatives of the *Office of Alien Property*, at the request of the **FBI**, went to the Hotel New Yorker and seized all of Tesla's belongings. Two truckloads of papers, furniture and artifacts were sent under seal to the Manhattan Storage and Warehouse Company.

This load was added to the almost thirty barrels and bundles that had been in storage since the 1930's, and the entire collection was sealed under orders from the OAP.

Strange behavior, considering that Tesla was a legal American citizen.

### The Forgotten Papers of Nikola Tesla

After Tesla's death, there was a scramble by the United States government to find all of his papers, notes and research before other foreign powers could find them. Tesla's nephew, **Sava Kosanovic**, reported that before the OAP had arrived, someone else had obviously gone through Tesla's belongings and took an unknown amount of personal notes and papers.

It was known by the FBI that German intelligence had already spirited away a sizable amount of Tesla's research several years before his death. This stolen material, it is thought, would eventually result in the development of the Nazi flying saucer. The United States was going to make sure that this would not happen again.

Anything even remotely associated with the great man was quickly confiscated and lost within the secret networks of pre-World War II America. Nevertheless, more than a dozen boxes of Tesla's belongings left behind at hotels like the Waldorf Astoria, the Governor Clinton Hotel and the St. Regis had already been sold to salvagers to pay off Tesla's outstanding bills.

Most of these boxes and the secrets they contained have never been found. In 1976, four undistinguished boxes of papers were auctioned in the estate sale of one **Michael P. Bornes**. Little is known about Bornes except that he had been a bookseller in Manhattan. This auction took place in Newark, NJ, with the boxes and their contents being bought by **Dale Alfrey** for twenty five dollars.

Alfrey had no idea what was in the boxes when he bought them on a whim. When he later went through them, he was surprised to find what appeared to be lab documents and personal notes of Nikola Tesla. Some of the lost papers of Tesla had once again resurfaced. However, due to ignorance they were almost lost once again.

In 1976, the name Nikola Tesla was not widely known. Alfrey had little idea of the importance of the papers he now owned. Going through the incredible amount of material, Alfrey at first thought he had uncovered the notes of a science fiction writer. What he read was so incredible that it seemed impossible that any of it was true.

Having little interest in what he had bought, Alfrey stashed the boxes away in his basement thinking that he would go through them again later when he had more time. Twenty years passed before Alfrey would once again find the time to open the strange boxes. Unfortunately, time had not been so kind to the precious contents contained within.

The papers by now had mildewed badly and the ink had faded from the years of neglect in the damp basement. Alfrey was determined not to let this material disappear forever and started the laborious effort of trying to transcribe the information before it was too late.

However, Alfrey soon found himself caught up in reading the remarkable papers. Tesla's notes are shocking in their revelations of the scientist's secret life. A life, that up until this time, had never been mentioned by Tesla, or documented by biographers after his death.

These lost journals revealed that in 1899, while in Colorado Springs, *Tesla intercepted communications from extraterrestrial beings who were secretly controlling mankind*. These creatures were slowly preparing humans for eventual conquest and domination, **using a program that had been in place since the creation of humankind**, but was now accelerating due to Earth's increased scientific awareness.

Tesla wrote about his years of research to interpret the strange radio signals, and his attempts to notify the government and military concerning what he had learned, but his letters apparently went unanswered.

Tesla spoke in confidence to several of his benefactors, including Colonel **John Jacob Astor**, who owned the Waldorf Astoria hotel. These benefactors listened to Tesla and secretly funded what was to be the start of *mankind's first battle to regain control of its own destiny*. A battle set in motion by Nikola Tesla.

While this information seems absolutely incredible, Tesla did give occasional hints to his predicament in various newspaper and magazine interviews.

Tesla may have elaborated on the subject in an article called:

**Talking With the Planets**  
in *Colliers Weekly*  
(March 1901)

"As I was improving my machines for the production of intense electrical actions, I was also perfecting the means for observing feeble efforts. One of the most interesting results, and also one of great practical importance, was the development of certain contrivances for indicating at a distance of many hundred miles an approaching storm, its direction, speed and distance traveled.

"It was in carrying on this work that for the first time I discovered those mysterious effects which have elicited such unusual interest. I had perfected the apparatus referred to so far that from my laboratory in the Colorado mountains

I could feel the pulse of the globe, as it were, noting every electrical change that occurred within a radius of eleven hundred miles. I can never forget the first sensations I experienced when it dawned upon me that I had observed something possibly of incalculable consequences to mankind.

"I felt as though I were present at the birth of a new knowledge or the revelation of a great truth. My first observations positively terrified me, as there was present in them something mysterious, not to say supernatural, and I was alone in my laboratory at night; but at that time the idea of these disturbances being intelligently controlled signals did not yet present itself to me.

"The changes I noted were taking place periodically and with such a clear suggestion of number and order that they were not traceable to any cause known to me. I was familiar, of course, with such electrical disturbances as are produced by the sun, Aurora Borealis, and earth currents, and I was as sure as I could be of any fact that these variations were due to none of these causes.

"The nature of my experiments precluded the possibility of the changes being produced by atmospheric disturbances, as has been rashly asserted by some. It was some time afterward when the thought flashed upon my mind that the disturbances I had observed might be due to an intelligent control. Although I could not decipher their meaning, it was impossible for me to think of them as having been entirely accidental.

"The feeling is constantly growing on me that I had been the first to hear the greeting of one planet to another. A purpose was behind these electrical signals."

Decades later on his birthday in 1937, he announced:

"I have devoted much of my time during the year past to the perfecting of a new small and compact apparatus by which energy in considerable amounts can now be flashed through interstellar space to any distance without the slightest dispersion."  
(New York Times, Sunday, 11 July 1937.)

Tesla never publicly revealed any technical details of his improved transmitter, but in his 1937 announcement, he revealed a new formula showing that:

"The kinetic and potential energy of a body is the result of motion and determined by the product of its mass and the square of its velocity. Let the mass be reduced, the energy is reduced by the same proportion. If it be reduced to zero, the energy is likewise zero for any finite velocity."  
(New York Sun, 12 July 1937, p. 6.)

Why is it that there has been little written about Tesla's belief that he had listened in on alien radio signals?

Perhaps the truth has been kept secret.

## The Men-In-Black Pay a Visit

By the summer of 1997, **Alfrey** had finished reading the entire contents of the four boxes and was ready to start scanning the papers on to computer disks. Alfrey had been more than a little surprised that the voluminous notes and journals contained no drawings or blueprints. It was not until later that Alfrey discovered that Tesla detested illustrating his ideas owing to the fact that his own mental blueprints were all that he required to build his inventions.

Alfrey also noticed that Tesla's journals were often incomplete. There were numerous gaps consisting of days, months and even years. Alfrey surmised that other journals could exist somewhere, hidden away either by the government, or by ignorance in forgotten warehouses and attics.

Because of these gaps, Alfrey started to make inquiries over the Internet hoping that others may have additional information concerning the missing sections. These inquiries obviously attracted the attentions of those who were also interested in the lost journals. Someone who wanted the journals to remain lost forever.

In September 1997, Alfrey was home continuing his research while his wife and children were gone for the day to Manhattan. As Alfrey remembers, the phone rang and the caller identified himself as Jay Kowski who was interested in Tesla and the papers that Alfrey had discovered.

Alfrey had spoken to the caller for only a few minutes when suddenly the line went dead. Almost immediately the front door bell rang, Alfrey recalled.

"When I went to answer the front door, I found it already open with three men standing in the foyer."

Before Alfrey could speak, the man closest addressed him by his first name.

"The door was open John, I hope you don't mind that we let ourselves in?"

The three men were all dressed in identical black business suits with white shirts and black ties.

"They looked just like undertakers," Alfrey said.

However, Alfrey could tell that these men were not undertakers, or simply there for a friendly chat. The man who had first spoken continued to address Alfrey by his first name:

"Like he knew me personally or something. But I had never seen these men before in my life. I was afraid that maybe they were criminals. There was a palatable air of menace around these three that I had never experienced before, or after."

The other two men remained close to the door and never spoke. Their eyes remained fixed on Alfrey throughout the entire experience.

"We understand that you have in your possession some old boxes and papers," the first man said. "We would be very interested in buying these from you."

"Well, they're not really for sale," Alfrey answered. "Anyway, how do you know about them?"

The first man chuckled. "We know a lot about you and your papers. They don't belong to you, but we would be willing to pay you for your troubles. They're of no use to you, in fact, you could be in a lot of trouble for having them in the first place."

By now, Alfrey realized that the men were not asking to buy his boxes, they were demanding them. He could tell that they meant business and this frightened him.

The first man now slowly moved closer to Alfrey, speaking in a slow deliberate way. He carefully enunciated each word so that Alfrey understood perfectly where he stood.

"It's no use you know, the man said. We're going to get these boxes no matter what you do. You can't stop us. It would be much easier for you and your family if you just gave us what we want. People have disappeared forever over much less than this. I would so hate to see this happen to you, or your wife and kids."

The man now stood directly in front of Alfrey, his dark eyes fixed and cold. It almost seemed that they had some kind of hypnotic power over Alfrey as he stood there unable to speak.

Suddenly, all three of the strange men turned in unison and walked out the front door. Nothing further was said, it wasn't necessary, Alfrey understood their message clearly. He was to give up the boxes, his research, even his interest in Tesla if he wanted to remain out of harm's way.

It was as if Alfrey was coming out of a trance, he realized what had happened and he rushed out the door to confront the men. But, they were nowhere to be seen. There was no car in the driveway and the street was completely empty. In fact, the entire neighborhood was eerily quiet. Even the birds had fallen silent. It was as if the world had paused for a moment, then continued on as if nothing had happened.

Alfrey rushed back into his house and locked the doors. He then went into his study where he kept the boxes and computer. The room was located at the back of the house and had no separate entrance to the outside. It obviously wasn't needed, because all four boxes, the papers contained within and the computer disks were now all gone.

It was obvious that the three men were only a distraction while someone else silently entered the house and ransacked the study, removing everything that pertained to Nikola Tesla. This included separate books and magazine articles that Alfrey had collected while he was doing research on the matter.

Worse yet, not only were his papers missing, but his computer hard drive had been completely erased. Everything that he had on it, including items not related to Tesla, were destroyed.

All evidence that he had on Tesla and his missing journals were now gone forever. Alfrey refused to speak



about his frightening incident for several months. He told no one what had happened, not even his wife. It was as if he was in a state of mental shock that perpetually clouded his mind.

Slowly he began to regain his senses and remember the details of that day. He recalled that the three men dressed exactly alike, were almost the same height, and all three had their hair cut short with odd looking long bangs that covered their foreheads.

The three men also had unnatural looking tanned skin. Almost like they had used a bottled tanner that dyes the skin a dark brown. Other than these peculiarities, the men appeared to be normal. It had not occurred to Alfrey that they could be something other than what they seemed. It was not until later, when relating this strange story that someone remarked about the MIBs.

Alfrey had never heard about the *Men-In-Black*. He had heard about the movie, but had not made the connection. After doing a little research and reading several books by the authors John Keel and Commander X, Alfrey was certain that he had received a visit from the Men-In-Black, or at least someone who wanted to look like the Men-In-Black.

This is where **Dale Alfrey's** strange story comes to an end. Everything that he had done connected to Nikola Tesla has been taken away from him. Fortunately, due to his spending hours reading the Tesla papers, he has retained a good memory of their contents. Not a perfect recollection, but sufficient to relate for this book.

Alfrey wonders if his boxes were the last of the missing belongings of Tesla. Or could others still remain forgotten somewhere, waiting to be rediscovered.

## What Tesla Believed

Newspaper articles from the time of Tesla's death relate that possibly over a dozen large boxes of Tesla's notes were never found by the government. These could still be out there somewhere, waiting for some lucky individual to rediscover their lost secrets.

It can only be speculated on what would be found inside other forgotten boxes of notes and personal belongings, possibly the missing information concerning Tesla's secret battle with the government and his knowledge of alien life forms.

The papers that Dale Alfrey found revealed a side of Tesla not known to the public. Tesla apparently had spent a number of years trying to translate the mysterious signals he first heard in 1899.

His basic interpretation of these signals was that creatures from another planet, "Martials" as the slang of the day called them, were secretly here on Earth - They had infiltrated humankind for centuries - They had controlled events and people in order to lead mankind on a path of evolutionary development and essentially were responsible for human's being on the planet in the first place.

As well, Tesla discovered that the planets overall temperature was slowly increasing, what we know today as *global warming*. Tesla thought that this was being brought about by natural conditions, as well as manmade and extraterrestrial interference.

With this in mind, we can now see some of the reasons for Tesla's eccentric behavior in the later years of his life. Tesla became obsessed with creating devices to end warfare and join mankind against what he perceived as the common enemy of extraterrestrials. He often spoke about "Death Rays" and "Wingless Torpedo's" that could fly through the air without propellers or jets, possibly one of the earliest mentions of flying saucers.

Tesla also became interested in developing methods to create free energy from sources other than burning wood or fossil fuels. Tesla was obviously the first to realize the dire consequences that could await us if the greenhouse effect was to take place.

Unfortunately, Tesla's attempts to elevate humankind with new technology were met with laughter and derision. His letters about his concerns, sent to his friends in the government, were ignored.

Tesla must have felt that he knew the biggest secret in the world concerning the fate of mankind, and nobody cared.



# The Greatest Inventions Nikola Tesla Never Created

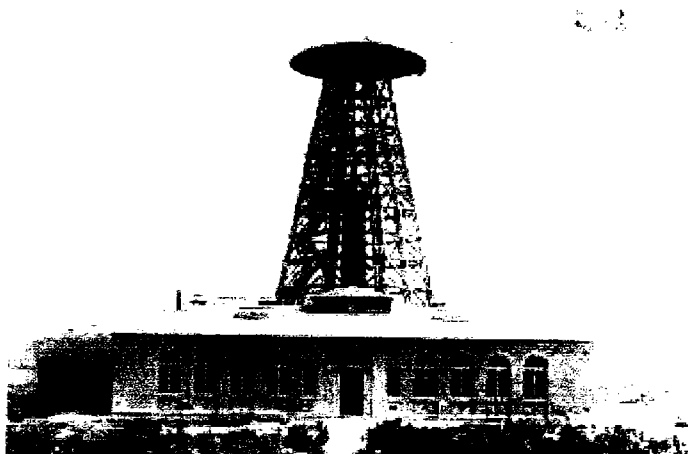


Lauren Davis

Filed to: TRIVIAGASM 1/09/09 10:40am



Inventor Nikola Tesla invented the radio, experimented with wireless electricity, and designed a death ray. In science fiction, his work goes even further. We list Tesla's greatest fictional inventions and the facts behind the fiction.



**Long-Range Wireless Energy Transfer:** Tesla explored the wireless transmission of energy through his work with radio and microwaves and his creation of the Tesla coil and the magnifying transmitter. But he sought to create a system where energy could be broadcast across vast distances. To that end, he constructed Wardencllyffe Tower in Shoreham, Long Island, which was to function as a wireless telecommunications facility and broadcast electrical power. But JP Morgan, who financed the construction of the tower, eventually pulled Tesla's funding. Unable to find additional backers, Tesla was forced to abandon construction of the tower, and never fulfilled his dreams of creating a worldwide wireless electrical energy system.

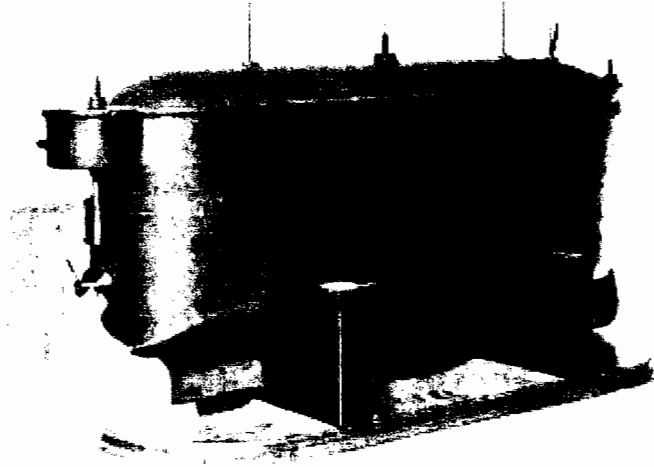


*The Witches of Chiswick by Robert Rankin:* In an alternate timeline, Tesla teams up with mathematician Charles Babbage and create a highly advanced version of the 19th Century. Tesla's perfection of wireless energy transfer combined with Babbage's computer programming enable the pair to create autonomous robots, airships, and space-bound rocketships.



*The Prestige by Christopher Priest:* Tesla invents a device resembling the magnifying transmitter, but it succeeds in transmitting not just energy, but matter. The problem is that, while the machine transports matter to another

location, it leaves the original matter behind, creating duplicates of objects, animals, and even human beings, with their memories intact.



**Humanoid Robots:** In 1898, Tesla demonstrated his radio-controlled boat, which he was able to control remotely. He presented it as the first of a future race of robots, which would be able to perform labor safely and effectively, and many credit the event as being the birth of robotics.

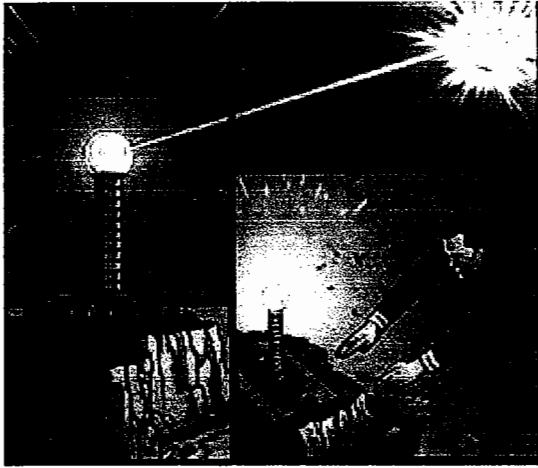


*Five Fists of Science by Matt Fraction:* Real-life friends Nikola Tesla and Mark Twain team up against Thomas Edison, JP Morgan , Guglielmo Marconi, and Andrew Carnegie to bring about world peace. Tesla's plan is to develop a series of super-powered robots operated through a virtual reality system and then gifting each country with such an automaton, ensuring that each nation has equivalent firing power.



*Atomic Robo by Brian Clevinger and Scott Wegener:* Nikola Tesla creates Atomic Robo, a wisecracking robot, war hero, and paranormal investigator. Together with the Action Scientists of Tesladyne, Robo battles supernatural forces and Nazi scientist Baron Heinrich Von Helsingard.

**Death Ray:** In the 1930s, Tesla claimed to have invented a particle beam weapon, or, as some called it, a "peace ray." The device was, in theory, capable of generating an intense, targeted beam of energy and sending it across great distances to demolish warplanes, foreign armies, or anything else you'd rather didn't exist. Tesla shopped the plans around to various national militaries, but never found anyone to finance its construction. It isn't known if Tesla ever developed a working prototype, and the plans for his death ray were never found after his death.



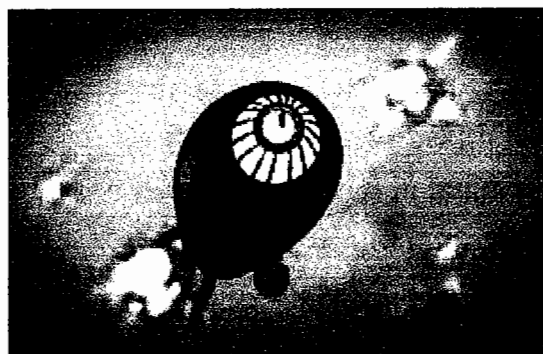
*JLA: Age of Wonder:* After laboring for Thomas Edison, Tesla strikes up a partnership with the Superman Clark Kent to develop inventions for the betterment of mankind. But during World War I, he joins forces with former Edison bookkeeper Lex Luthor to create a death ray to battle the Germans.

*Area 51 by Robert Doherty:* Various theories have swirled around the Tunguska Event, a powerful and mysterious explosion that knocked down a swath of trees in Siberia in 1908. Some have suspected Tesla's experiments were responsible for the blast; others blame a UFO crash. Doherty's series explains that it was a little of both: Tesla deployed his death ray to knock down an alien spacecraft.

draw their power from the very atmosphere, never needing to stop for refueling. Unmanned airships might even be used to transport passengers to a preselected destination or for a remote aerial strike.



*Barnum!:* As an evil Tesla threatens the United States, he evades the forces of American spy PT Barnum in his marvelous airship, where he sometimes hides Charles Babbage's stolen thinking machine. He's also got an armory of technological achievements at his ingenious fingertips, including a gyrocopter and a wearable device that lets him electrocute victims with a handshake.



*The Venture Bros.:* Rusty Venture's ancestor, Colonel Lloyd Venture, protects a mysterious Orb with Mark Twain, Oscar Wilde, and Aleister Crowley, all members of a Guild, aboard an airship. But Tesla and the Avon Ladies launch an aerial assault against the Guild. Incidentally, the Sovereign of the later Guild of Calamitous Intent is David Bowie, the same man who portrayed Tesla in the film adaptation of *The Prestige*.

*Wonder of the Worlds by Sesh Heri:* Tesla creates an airship that not only sails through the skies, but also travels into space. In fact, Tesla's inventions are so impressive that Martian agents steal from him a powerful crystal engine, compelling Tesla to travel to the Red Planet with Mark Twain and Harry Houdini.

race using his own blood and a portable electrical device. Incidentally, the same device results in deep brain stimulation, and can heal psychosis-inducing brain damage.



*Generation Tesla:* This version of Tesla also manages to escape death, in this case by transferring his consciousness to another plane of existence. His superhuman creations have also similarly come back from the dead, transformed as he resurrects them to battle evil.



Hotscot Lauren Davis  
1/09/09 1:14pm

Nikola Tesla was also one of the characters in a comic book from 1988, "The Light and Darkness War" where Vietnam vets, after dying, find themselves in another dimension fighting the forces of evil. Tesla provided technology of course.

It was very good. I suggest you Google and check it out.



bonniegrl Lauren Davis  
1/10/09 6:25pm




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## Life and Legacy - The Missing Papers

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One of the more controversial topics involving Nikola Tesla is what became of many of his technical and scientific papers after he died in 1943. Just before his death at the height of World War II, he claimed that he had perfected his so-called "death beam." So it was natural that the FBI and other U.S. Government agencies would be interested in any scientific ideas involving weaponry. Some were concerned that Tesla's papers might fall into the hands of the Axis powers or the Soviets.

The morning after the inventor's death, his nephew Sava Kosanovic hurried to his uncle's room at the Hotel New Yorker. He was an up-and-coming Yugoslav official with suspected connections to the communist party in his country. By the time he arrived, Tesla's body had already been removed, and Kosanovic suspected that someone had already gone through his uncle's effects. Technical papers were missing as well as a black notebook he knew Tesla kept—a notebook with several hundred pages, some of which were marked "Government."

P. E. Foxworth, assistant director of the New York FBI office, was called in to investigate. According to Foxworth, the government was "vitally interested" in preserving Tesla's papers. Two days after Tesla's death, representatives of the Office of Alien Property went to his room at the New Yorker Hotel and seized all his possessions.

Dr. John G. Trump, an electrical engineer with the National Defense Research Committee of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, was called in to analyze the Tesla papers in OAP custody. Following a three-day investigation, Dr. Trump concluded:

His [Tesla's] thoughts and efforts during at least the past 15 years were primarily of a speculative, philosophical, and somewhat promotional character often concerned with the production and wireless transmission of power; but did not include new, sound, workable principles or methods for realizing such results.

Just after World War II, there was a renewed interest in beam weapons. Copies of Tesla's papers on particle beam weaponry were sent to Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. An operation code-named "Project Nick" was heavily funded and placed under the command of Brigadier General L. C. Craigie to test the feasibility of Tesla's concept. Details of the experiments were never published, and the project was apparently discontinued. But something peculiar happened. The copies of Tesla's papers disappeared and nobody knows what happened to them.

In 1952, Tesla's remaining papers and possessions were released to Sava Kosanovic and returned to Belgrade, Yugoslavia where a museum was created in the inventor's honor. For many years, under Tito's communist regime, it was extremely difficult for Western journalists and scholars to gain access to the Tesla archive in Yugoslavia; even then they were allowed to see only selected papers. This was not the case for Soviet scientists who came in delegations during the 1950s. Concerns increased in 1960 when Soviet Premier Khrushchev announced to the Supreme Soviet that "a new and fantastic weapon was in the hatching stage."

Work on beam weapons also continued in the United States. In 1958 the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) initiated a top-secret project code-named "Seesaw" at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory to develop a charged-particle beam weapon. More than ten years and twenty-seven million dollars later, the project was abandoned "because of the projected high costs associated with implementation as well as the formidable technical problems associated with propagating a beam through very long ranges in the atmosphere." Scientists associated with the project had no knowledge of Tesla's papers.

In the late 1970s, there was fear that the Soviets may have achieved a technological breakthrough. Some U.S. defense analysts concluded that a large beam weapon facility was under construction near the Sino-Soviet border in Southern Russia.



Tesla's sons at the hotel New Yorker following his funeral, 1943



Articles in Tesla's hotel room after his death



Model of Tesla's remote-controlled boat



Library archives at the Tesla Museum in Belgrade, Yugoslavia



Suspected aerial beam weapon installation



Death mask of Nikola Tesla

### Samples of Documents from Tesla's FBI File

Document1  
Document2  
Document3  
Document4  
Document5  
Document6

The American response to this "technological surprise" was the Strategic Defense Initiative announced by President Ronald Reagan in 1983. Teams of government scientists were urged to "turn their great talents now to the cause of mankind and world peace, to give us the means of rendering these nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete."

Today, after a half-century of research and billions of dollars of investment, the SDI program is generally considered a failure, and there is still no realistic means of defense against a nuclear missile attack.

For many years scientists and researchers have sought for Tesla's missing papers with no apparent success. It is conceivable that if Nikola Tesla knew a means for accurately projecting lethal beams of energy through the atmosphere, he may have taken it to the grave with him.

[Life and Legacy Index](#)

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# the desert sun power the world?

y generated by Sahara solar panels is being hailed as a solution to the climate change crisis

er 2011 20.30 GMT

the summer of 1913, in a field just south of Cairo on the eastern bank of the Nile, an engineer called Frank Shuman stood before a gathering of Egypt's colonial elite, including the British consul-general Lord Kitchen<sup>er</sup>, and switched on his new invention. Water soon spilled from a pump, saturating the soil by his feet. Behind him stood rows of curved mirrors held aloft on metal cradles, each directed towards the fierce sun. As the sun's rays hit the mirrors, they were reflected towards a thin glass pipe underneath. The now super-heated water turned to steam, resulting in enough pressure to drive pumps used to irrigate the surrounding fields where Egypt's lucrative cotton crop was an invention, claimed Shuman, which could help Egypt become far less dependent on coal being imported at great expense from Britain's mines.

"We must finally utilise direct sun power or revert to barbarism," wrote Shuman in Scientific American magazine the following year. But the outbreak of the first world war a few months later abruptly ended his dream and his solar troughs were soon scrapped, with the metal being used for the war effort. Barbarism, it seemed, had won.

Twenty years later, a convoy of air-conditioned coaches sweeps through the affluent suburb of Heliopolis - where Shuman had demonstrated his fledgling solar panels - continuing on towards Kuraymat, an area of flat, uninhabited desert near the city of Beni Mazar. A high-level international delegation of CEOs, politicians, financiers and scientists has gathered for a brand new "hybrid" power station that uses both natural gas and solar panels to generate electricity. Before the coaches reach the facility's security gates, its 6,000 parabolic mirrors, six metres tall with a combined surface area of 130,000sq metres - are already visible from the perimeter road. Even though the panels account for just one seventh of the station's 150MW generating capacity, the Egyptian government, which has been pushing for the site since 1997, hopes to prove to the delegation that it is the desert sun - not fossil fuels such as gas, coal and oil - that should be used not only to generate far more of the electricity for the Middle East and North Africa (Mena), but, crucially, for neighbouring

Germany. Hans Knies, a German particle physicist, was the first person to estimate how much solar energy was required to meet humanity's demand for electricity. In 1986, in direct response to the Chernobyl nuclear accident, he scribbled down some figures and arrived at the following conclusion: in just six hours, the world's deserts receive more energy from the sun than humanity consumes in a year. If even a tiny fraction of this energy could be harnessed - an area of desert the size of Wales could, in theory, power the whole of Europe - Knies concluded that humanity could move beyond dirty and dangerous fuels for ever. Echoing Shuman's own conclusion, Knies later asked whether "we are really, as a species, so stupid" not to make

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## E-Bombs: What is the Threat?

By Robert Charette

Posted 11 Jan 2012 | 16:54 GMT



*Editor's note: A recent episode of the US prime time hit television show NCIS Los Angeles ([http://www.cbs.com/shows/ncis\\_los\\_angeles/](http://www.cbs.com/shows/ncis_los_angeles/)) featured an E-bomb. I was recently (<http://spectrum.ieee.org/riskfactor/computing/it/ee-helped-ncis-la-plot-e-bomb-attack>) able to talk (<http://spectrum.ieee.org/riskfactor/computing/it/ee-helped-ncis-la-plot-e-bomb-attack>) to both the episode's technical advisor Carlo Kopp (<http://www.ousairpower.net/editor.html>) and the scriptwriter Joe Sachs (<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0755161/>) about the show. I was curious about how E-bombs work and how big of a threat they are. (IEEE Spectrum ran a [story on E-bombs](http://spectrum.ieee.org/biomedical/devices/the-dawn-of-the-ebomb) (<http://spectrum.ieee.org/biomedical/devices/the-dawn-of-the-ebomb>) in 2003 which generated some controversy (<http://spectrum.ieee.org/at-work/innovation/another-doubledged-sword>), and there are two blog posts ([here](http://spectrum.ieee.org/aerospace/military/portable-ebomb-to-be-tested) (<http://spectrum.ieee.org/aerospace/military/portable-ebomb-to-be-tested>) and [here](http://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/semiconductors/devices/boeing_gets_hpm_contract) ([http://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/semiconductors/devices/boeing\\_gets\\_hpm\\_contract](http://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/semiconductors/devices/boeing_gets_hpm_contract))) on US military's progress on turning them into weapons.*

*Kopp, who coined the term E-bomb, was kind enough to provide some [FAQs about E-bombs](http://www.ousairpower.net/E-Bomb-FAQ.html) (<http://www.ousairpower.net/E-Bomb-FAQ.html>) along with many references (<http://www.ousairpower.net/dev-ebomb.html>), as well as his thoughts and opinions below on the threat posed by them. —Robert Charette*

The most common reaction researchers encounter when discussing electromagnetic weapons, and E-Bombs in particular, is simple disbelief. The notion that devices exist which can produce mass destruction effects against the modern digital infrastructure is frequently rejected as impossible, often by people who should know better. Ask anybody in the electromagnetic weapons or hardening research communities, and you will be deluged with anecdotes about stubborn disbelievers. Alas the laws of physics care not for disbelievers - the material realities are what they are, and human preconceptions impact outcomes only insofar as research funding becomes scarce.

The science underpinning non-nuclear E-bombs is very mature, the first flux compression generator was built by the late [Max Fowler at Los Alamos](http://www.physicstoday.org/obituaries/1,2321480) (<http://www.physicstoday.org/obituaries/1,2321480>) during the late 1940s, and suitable high power microwave tubes have existed since the 1960s. Weaponisation of this technology for military deployment is currently a work in progress, with R&D activities taking place in the US, EU, Russia, while China is also reported to be active in the area. [Prof Andreas Neuber at Texas Tech](http://www.depts.ttu.edu/ece/faculty/neuber/) (<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/ece/faculty/neuber/>) recently completed a US Army funded research project which specifically explored the engineering problems in constructing the very same bomb design depicted in the [NCIS Los Angeles](http://www.cbs.com/shows/ncis_los_angeles/) ([http://www.cbs.com/shows/ncis\\_los\\_angeles/](http://www.cbs.com/shows/ncis_los_angeles/)) "Higher Power" episode, albeit with a much lower peak power rating.

Why can E-bombs produce mass destruction effects against the electrical and electronic infrastructure? The first reason is that digital hardware, mostly based on silicon monolithic technology, is now pervasive across the complete infrastructure of developed nations, whether in handheld devices, domestic or office equipment, transportation, production, health etc. Expose any monolithic semiconductor device to voltages, whether transient or radio frequency, in excess of the specification limits of several Volts, and bad things happen. Devices break down electrically, through a number of over-voltage related mechanisms, causing transient dropouts, long term "wounding" or outright electrical failure. The second reason is the cascading failure effect, in a large interconnected system, like a power grid or computer network, when the failure of one device triggers an overload and failure in another, and the damage effects then propagate progressively bringing down much, most or all of the network.

How likely is a terrorist E-bomb attack? Arguably the wrong question, since terrorists use the technology they can gain access to, and as developed nations deployed weaponised E-bomb warheads built into smart bombs, guided missiles, guided large calibre artillery shells and other projectile weapons, the technology of the E-bomb will become sufficiently common that opportunities to steal off-the-shelf weapon warstocks, or design data for reverse engineering, will present themselves. So the real question should not be the "how likely is an attack" question, but rather, "how soon will terrorists gain opportunities to use E-bombs". The answer to that question could be as soon as any time this decade, if anything it is surprising that we have not seen this technology used already in an attack. The latter likely reflects the motivational imperative of wanting to kill great numbers of people in gruesome and graphic ways, rather than destroy national finance systems and infrastructure, thus crippling the victim nation's ability to wage war.

The sad reality is that electromagnetic weapons are generally not taken seriously outside of the small community of physicists and engineers who work in this area, and a handful of people in the legislatures and military strategy communities. Our community has had to endure everything from being ignored, to being treated like paranoid fools, being accused of trying to scam research or consultancy funding, or being accused of aiding and abetting terrorists by publishing in this area. In the nearly two decades I have been publishing in the area I have received a good number of simply abusive emails, expressing one or another form of anger or unhappiness about people doing work in this research area. The fact that the single biggest item of media coverage this area has received was an [Art Bell Show](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_Bell_Show) ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art\\_Bell\\_Show](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_Bell_Show)) episode during the 1990s speaks for itself.

Shooting the messenger may well be a gratifying pastime for folks with ideological, political or simply misguided agendas, but it does not change the basic reality that a pervasive digital infrastructure is highly vulnerable to natural or man-made high power electromagnetic effects, and that electromagnetic weapons devices to produce such effects are being developed and weaponised across a number of nations. Until we see an infrastructure hardening effort along the lines of the Y2K program over a decade ago, the risk will simply build cumulatively over time, as ever increasing amounts of electromagnetically soft digital equipment is embedded into an ever more interconnected and internally interdependent digital information infrastructure.

As a community we electrical and electronic engineers need to become more proactive on this matter - if we do not make corrective measures happen, it is most unlikely anybody else will step up to the task.

**Carlo Kopp, PEng is an Associate Fellow AIAA, Senior Member IEEE, and Lecturer in Computer Science at Monash University.**

*Photo: Mock-up of E-bomb for NCIS Los Angeles episode courtesy of Carlo Kopp*

# RUSSIA INDIA REPORT

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## HOT TOPICS

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## E-bomb – The real doomsday weapon

April 26, 2013 Rakesh Krishnan Simha

Electromagnetic pulse weapons that can paralyse a country in a nanosecond are already in the possession of several states. By 2015, North Korea is likely to acquire one. If you are not sweating, check your pulse.

539

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As terrorists get smarter, doomsday becomes more realistic. Source: Getty Images / Fotobank

A nuclear weapon explodes 300 km above Nebraska, the geographical centre of the United States. The blast is far too high to kill people by heat or radioactivity. But it does something far worse – it sends the world's most advanced country into the Stone Age.

This isn't science fiction. The technology for launching this version of Armageddon exists and is ridiculously low tech. Even an ordinary, low-yield nuclear bomb exploded in the upper atmosphere by terrorists, with help from dysfunctional nuclear powers such as North Korea or Pakistan, would unleash a deadly electromagnetic pulse (EMP) that will take only a nanosecond to knock out an entire country's electrical grid.

That means every microchip will be fried and all electronic systems will fail. The result would be "fundamental collapse" as the United States EMP Commission describes it. All phones and mobiles will stop functioning, the transport system would come to a halt, the banking system, airports, food and fuel distribution systems would collapse. The fabric of modern society would be ripped apart.

### The day after Boston

If the Boston bombings have proved anything it is that low tech warfare can bring a high-tech nation to its knees. Two [Chechen brothers](#), not very well-equipped or professionally trained but nevertheless motivated by Islamic zeal, forced an entire city to close down.

Pressure cooker bombs are cheap; flying stolen aircraft into skyscrapers is free (other than the cost of flight training) and sending a bunch of raiders into a modern metropolis (as the Pakistanis did in Mumbai) takes only a few thousand dollars. But at the end of the standoff, the terrorists always lose and often die. No modern state has ever buckled under terror.

Terrorists and terrorist states, therefore, want something that will give them more bang for the buck. It makes you wonder, what next?

### Your worst nightmare

The Russians were the first to understand the implications of EMP as a weapon. Soviet physicist Andrei Sakharov proposed using this principle in a

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News from e-generator.com



PHOTO: AP



### Why the Indian Air Force has a high crash rate

In the backdrop of the sixth Sukhoi crash in six years, here's a look at some factors that contribute to the IAF's high crash rate



### Mission BrahMos: How India got the world's most powerful cruise missile

The BrahMos project should be the benchmark for all future joint ventures in defence as it leverages the excellent rapport between India and Russia – at the scientific, academic, military and political levels.

bomb in the 1950s. On October 22, 1962, during one of their ABM tests, the Russians detonated a 300 kiloton hydrogen warhead (20 times more powerful than Hiroshima) at an altitude of 300 km over Kazakhstan.

The blast deliberately targeted two cable lines. The first one was the 550 km East-West telephone line – all the fuses in the line which was 7.5 m above the ground were destroyed. The second, the 1,000 km Aqmola-Almaty power line, carried electricity from a power station in the city of Karaganda. It was a lead-shielded cable protected against mechanical damage by spiral-wound steel tape, and was buried at a depth of 90 cm. This cable succumbed completely to the EMP within seconds of the blast, overheating and setting the power station on fire.

The United States military realised EMP's potential as a weapon the same year, in the Starfish Prime test of a much larger 1.44 megaton warhead at a height of 400 km over the Pacific Ocean. The pulse knocked out street lights and damaged telephones in Hawaii. Four days after the explosion the UK satellite Ariel was unable to generate sufficient electricity to function properly.

People are more vulnerable today because virtually everything now runs on microchips, which are a million times more vulnerable to a power surge than the thermionic valves used in electronics in 1962. Today most people around the world are unable to function normally without access to mobile phones and computers.

#### How does it work?

A nuclear explosion in the upper atmosphere releases EMP that spreads out and radiates a large area underneath it. The area affected by the EMP depends on the height at which it is detonated. The higher in the atmosphere the explosion occurs, the larger the radius of damage.

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It's like a powerful lightning bolt that surges into your house. The strength of the pulse – 30,000 to 50,000 volts per metre – is more than enough to burn your circuits and make your television set explode. Just like in the movies.

Such damage cannot be repaired – everything would need to be replaced. But wait, even that won't be easy. According to one study, if the United States lost its large transformers, 40 per cent of the country's population would be without electrical power for as long as four to 10 years.

That isn't farfetched as it sounds. Several countries, including the United States, no longer manufacture large power transformers. They are all sourced from abroad. At a [US Senate hearing](#) on March 8, 2005, Dr Lowell Wood, astrophysicist and Commissioner of the EMP Commission, declared: "And when you want a new one, you order it and it is delivered – it is, first of all, manufactured.... Typical sort of delays from the time you order until the time you have a transformer in service are one to two years, and that is with everything working great.

"If the United States was already out of power and it suddenly needed a few hundred new transformers because of burnout, you could understand why we found not that it would take a year or two to recover, it might take decades, because you burn down the national plant, you have no way of fixing it and really no way of reconstituting it other than waiting for slow-moving foreign manufacturers to very slowly reconstitute an entire continent's worth of burned down power plants."

#### Who's coming to the party?

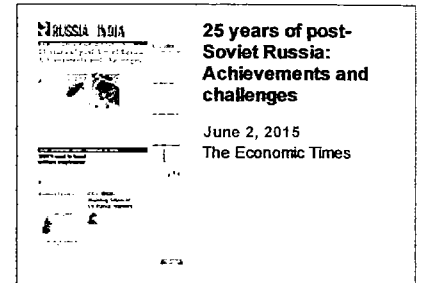
According to a [report prepared for the United States Congress](#), Russia and China are now capable of launching a crippling high EMP strike against the United States with a nuclear-tipped ballistic missile, and other nations, such as North Korea, could possibly have the capability by 2015. Other nations that could possibly develop a similar capability over the next few years include France, Israel, India, the UK and Pakistan.

China could either blanket the area over Taiwan to paralyse the country or above a US Navy aircraft carrier to cripple carrier groups. Israel can



#### Secret meeting brings Taliban to China

Representatives from the Afghan government and the Taliban met in Urumqi, in China's Xinjiang province earlier this month, for discussions on the way forward in Afghanistan



PRESS DISPLAY

despatch Iran or any Middle Eastern challenger to the Stone Age. And what North Korea can do is anybody's guess.

### Ramping up doomsday power

EMP can be produced on a smaller, non-nuclear scale using a device with batteries or chemical explosives. A group of Russian scientists from Tomsk, Yekaterinburg, Nizhny Novgorod and Moscow have developed a series of unique compact generators capable of producing high-energy pulses of hundreds and even thousands of megawatts, Yuri Zaitsev, an adviser at Russia's Academy of Engineering Sciences, wrote in a 2007 article.

The United States has also ramped up its research on non-nuclear EMP weapons. In October 2012, Boeing [tested a missile system](#) that does not use any explosives, thereby limiting damage to its intended goal of directing microwave energy that can cause instant blackouts. Aimed at taking out Iran's nuclear plants, it is codenamed CHAMP – Counter-Electronics High Power Advanced Missile Project.

### The ultimate weapon

However, there's one bomb that could be the ultimate doomsday weapon – an ordinary nuclear warhead packed with common cobalt. The bomb transforms the cobalt into highly radioactive cobalt-60, which has a half-life of over five years.

You can run but you can't hide from such a weapon because unlike the radioactivity of Hiroshima type bombs that remains local, the radioactivity of cobalt-60 would spread around the world and slowly kill all life.

The average supermarket stocks food for two days, and regional food warehouses may have a few weeks supply. What are you going to do for the next five years? Compared with the madness that modern maniacs can unleash, the horrors of WWII and 9/11 are but mere sideshows.

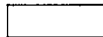
*The opinion of the writer may not necessarily reflect the position of RIR.*

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U r 101% right Bobbie, God give guidences these doomsday manufacturers.

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