

1998 01 14 Wednesday Zahi Hawass

Egyptology

AB: “From the high desert and the Great American Southwest, I bid you all Good Evening or Good Morning as the case may be across all these many time zones stretching commercially from the Tahitian and Hawaiian Islands in the West, Eastward to the Caribbean and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and actually into Newfoundland – which may be a little further East – we’re arguing about that now. South into South America, North to the Pole, and Worldwide on the Internet, this is Coast to Coast AM. I’m Art Bell and I’m not going to pull any punches with you, folks – *I am sick as a dog!*”

Ah, my flu [influenza] has come roaring back as has my wife’s. We’re running temperatures of around a hundred and two [102⁰].

Ah, however, I absolutely had to get the interview in tonight that I’m about to do, so sick or not I’m going to do it.

My guest tonight is Dr. Zahi Hawass, who is Director of Antiquities at Giza in Egypt. That’s where the Pyramids and the Sphinx are. That’s what he takes care of.

And we’re going to talk with him in a few moments.

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AB: “Now, all right, here is:

DR. ZAHİ HAWASS

Director of Antiquities for Giza in Egypt.

Doctor, welcome to the program!”

ZH: “Thank you. How are you, Art?”

AB: “Ah, I am fine, um, if you don’t count ... No, I’m not fine ... I’m sick.”

ZH: “I’m very sorry to hear that.”

AB: “Um, well that’s all right. I want to get through ... look, I wouldn’t miss this for the world!

Ah, you are and have been described, and I believe you are, a very powerful man ...”

ZH: “Ow!”

AB: "... ah, in Egypt. Is that ... is that true?"

ZH: "No, I'm not. I'm a very modest man. I'm not [a] powerful man or anything. I think, ah ... ah, my work talks about it. Then, ah, but before I ... we would talk, I want to tell you something, Art."

AB: "Okay."

ZH: "You remember when you called me last summer and you wanted to, ah ... ah, put me on your show?"

AB: "Yes, I recall."

ZH: "I told you I cannot do it until we meet."

AB: "That's right."

ZH: "And therefore when you came to Egypt and I took you around – *that was very important to me* ... before really we can make this show."

AB: "Well ... yes!

Um, let's cover that. Um, I ... of course you are very strong and, ah, how old are you, Doctor?"

ZH: "I am fifty ... five-zero (50)."

AB: "Fifty (50), you're fifty (50).

Well, you ran around the, ah ... ah, the ... the Giza like a little child and I panted and huffed and puffed, and nearly fainted trying to keep up with you."

ZH: (laughs).

AB: "Ah, so you're ... you're certainly a very strange man – there's no question about that.

I've gotta say this, Doctor: Um, if there is something at Giza that you did not want me to see – now I wanta tell the audience you gave me *carte blanche*. You signed papers ..."

ZH: "Um-hmm."

AB: "... and you took me around and you had your people ... you ... you said: 'Go anywhere he wants!' That's true.

But if there was something there, Doctor, that you did not want me to see, I'm sure that I would not have known where to look. Is that fair?"

ZH: "That's fair. Of course!"

AB: "So there could be something there that I would've certainly missed?"

ZH: "I am sure of that."

AB: "Uh-huh!"

ZH: (laughs).

AB: "All right."

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AB: "In Graham Hancock's book, ah, Zahi Hawass was quoted as saying that: **'The Sphinx is the soul ... the Soul of Egypt.'**

Dr. Hawass is portrayed as a man, who, ah, derives the Edgar Cayce prophecies regarding the Sphinx. Wouldn't it be in his interest to find nothing that would prove the Egyptians did not build the Sphinx?"

ZH: "Oh? Ah, do you mean that, ah, maybe something like this would be found?"

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "You know, I've ... I told you last time who [we?] do meet, ah ... ah, of course, you know, I ... I am a person, really, who have [sic] an open mind. I always try to investigate *anything*. And even if anyone would talk to me about something, I try to look for that.

You know the only obligation that you know maybe this, ah, fight that happened for the last three (3) years that I never really respond at all, it's because I thought that try to respond maybe it's, ah, wasting of a time.

And what I did for the last three (3) years is working, excavating ... trying to reveal the secrets from the sand. And therefore, you know, this time when I decide really to attend this debate after this long time ..."

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "I couldn't really find. It was like a war."

AB: "Like a war ... yes!"

ZH: "And what's really happening – that is many accusation[s] that they were fake – all of them against me. Which I believe it is not true, because, ah, there is ... there is many things. Okay when they put in the last [unintelligible] issue about, ah, my relation with the Cayce Foundation, which I ..."

AB: "Right."

ZH: "... I deny that.

The only thing ... the only thing that my relation with the Cayce was that I meant [unintelligible] Cayce.

But I have always said to people: 'If you are a scientist, you can come and work in the pyramids.'

If you are not a scientist, you are to take your idea and go to any university in the United States – or a museum – and convince them, and come an work!"

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AB: "When I was in your office, ah, at Giza, I asked you about John Anthony West. And you said: '*By law* John Anthony West is not allowed on Giza!'

You remember that?"

ZH: "Yes, I remember that."

AB: "Um, have you now come to some terms? I understand that John Anthony West was, ah, over there and met with you. Is that true?"

ZH: "He came to see me and I think, if you talk to him again, maybe he will tell you what happened between us.

I think he understood now completely my side. I told him: 'John, I don't really have anything against you personally. *I'm not your enemy* as you said once on the internet.'

He said I'm his real enemy, and he said many other things that maybe I can't say on your show. (AB laughs).

I told him ..."

AB: “Yes?”

ZH: “... if you would go to any university and convince them with your theory ... Come, through this university, and work!

But you as an individual, you know, to open the pyramids, you know, to amateurs and people who don't have degree in archaeology or scientist ... you have billions of ideas that everyone will try to prove a theory. And that's not really fair, Art, for the Pyramids and the Sphinx.”

AB: “Um, all right.”

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AB: “Listen, a terrible, terrible tragedy ... a second tragedy occurred at Luxor. And I have information, Dr. Hawass, that it was really much worse than reported in the press. That there was, um ... ah, raping and, um, atrocities ... terrible atrocities committed at Luxor. I know that all of this has hurt the tourist industry in Egypt.

Can you give me some idea of the impact this has had on the tourist industry in Egypt?”

ZH: “You know, Art, when this *accident* happened ...”

AB: “**Accident!** (?)”

ZH: “I mean this massacre ... this ...”

AB: “Massacre, yes.”

ZH: “This thing really was ... I call it ‘accident,’ because I do not believe until now that happened (!)

And we Egyptians do not even believe that this has happened, because this has happened once in our history – three thousand (3,000) years ago.

One King from dynasty, a King, he came and brought young princes and he hanged them on the gates of Thebes and Luxor. But Egyptians in general, they're not really, ah, that type of people who would do such a thing like that.”

AB: “Yes.”

ZH: “And this is why the thing that we learned from this massacre really, that Egyptians – all of them – are against terrorists. Completely now!”

AB: "Again I ask, how much has it hurt the tourist industry?"

ZH: "It did hurt a lot. I mean, we used to have four thousand (4,000) people visit the Pyramids. Now there are seven hundred (700)."

AB: "Wow!"

ZH: "But the most important thing that after this 'accident' we upgraded all the sites. The security was completely upgraded."

AB: "Yes, I have heard that, ah, when you go now to Egypt, you will see men with guns almost everywhere."

ZH: "Especially the sites were protected really scientifically for the first time with really [unintelligible]. That the government now understood that Egyptians ...

You know, from every family in Egypt that someone is working in tourism. Means we lost a lot because of that."

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "And therefore, the Egyptians – not the government ... the Egyptians with the government have ... try now to show to the people that this will never happen again.

It will never happen again, because of what I see now ... [unintelligible] you can find. *The security is very high!*"

AB: "Right. Ah, and I guess the security was *not* very tight, ah, for that horrible slaughter to go on over many, many, many hours."

ZH: "It was not, because no one can believe that something like this can happen. We never believed that! (?)"

You know, when this ... we don't agree that those people who did it are real Egyptians. (!) Because in general what I say about Egyptians ... you know, when I ask many people who [sic – when] they visit Egypt: "What did you like the most in Egypt?"

AB: "Right."

ZH: "They don't tell me the Pyramids or the Sphinx – *they say the people!*"

AB: "The people."

ZH: “The people are *very nice!* And they’re very helpful!

There are six (6) people from sixty-two millions (62,000,000) – they do that! That was strange, and that was something that we could not believe that happened. And this is why we want to guarantee that [to] everyone – *that this will never happen again.*”

AB: “Well, I hope it doesn’t.”

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AB: “Ahh, when I was there, there was a great deal of construction, ah, around the Sphinx. And you were restoring the Sphinx.”

ZH: “Yes.”

AB: “Now, it’s my understanding that the restoration is complete. In fact, CNN and other networks here in America, ah, are reporting and showing photographs of the completed work on the Sphinx ...”

ZH: “You know, Art, for the last months – just one (1) week before I came here ... well, I did not ... you know, I’m working every day from seven in the morning [7:00 am] until ten in the evening [10:00 pm].

On the morning of the day of the twenty-fifth (25th) of December [Christmas am], it was the first time that the Sphinx was, ah, smiling.

You know, when ... (AB laughs) Luxor happened ... massacre happened, I sit and interview for the CBS. I said: ‘The Sphinx is sad.’”

AB: “Yes.”

ZH: “The Sphinx is not smiling.

I meant by the Sphinx that all of our Egyptian are very sad, because of what happened. That’s why on the day and the morning of the twenty-fifth (25th) and when we took all the scaffolding out from the Sphinx, it was a day – *it was an important day!*

But now the Sphinx is restored. The Sphinx is safe. *The Sphinx is smiling!*

And then the others ... also we’ve finished ten (10) tombs to be opened for the first time to the public.”

AB: “Oh!”

ZH: “We’ll open the third pyramid – next week (!) ... when I go back. Our President will come to the Sphinx and announce to the World that we’ve restored the Sphinx!

And we’ll open also, ah, Queens ... the pyramid of the Queens of Cheops!”

AB: “Wow!”

ZH: “And we will close the Great Pyramid for six (6) months.”

AB: “You will clo ... wait a minute! You will close the Great Pyramid for six (6) months?”

ZH: “Yes. I mean, this is the first time really I say that.”

AB: “Why ... why are you doing that?”

ZH: “You know, Art, pyramids need to have ... relax. They need ... they need restoration.”

AB: “Hah!”

ZH: “You cannot leave the Pyramid – that four thousand (4,000) people a day will enter inside – without doing restoration. And doing ventilation. And doing things like that.

And this is why the Great Pyramid was open for the last six (6) years! And we needed to do some work inside for six (6) months.

But I’m telling the people we are not hiding anything. We are going to announce and at the same time we are going to allow the people, who will enter to have meditation. We’re not going to stop that! We’ll ... we’ll continue that. We’ll just stop the visitors.”

AB: “The ... the big mass ... the big mass of visitors – four thousand (4,000).”

ZH: “Exactly! We’ll stop that for six (6) months until we do the restoration and the conservation, but we are going to allow the metaphysical groups, who come to the Pyramids ... and they stay two (2) hours to do that.”

AB: “Um, what do you think yourself honestly of these groups? Do you laugh at them?”

ZH: “No, no ... no[t] at all!

You know, I am a friend of many people of them.”

AB: “I know that.”

ZH: “I do not laugh at them at all.

I say to the people all the time: ‘Look at other [unintelligible].’ They never really respond to any other theory except [unintelligible].

I’m doing that! I’m ... you know I met Graham Hancock and I met Robert Bauval, and we are trying ... I think.

This coming debate as people are saying that: ‘The boat will be shaking in May.’ It is going to ... this is the first time that we are going to meet together!”

AB: “It is said, Doctor, that you at one time said that: ‘If Robert Bauval and Graham Hancock showed up at Giza, you would, um, *behead them and throw them in a pit (!)*’

Ah, did you say something like that?”

ZH: “That’s not true.”

AB: “Not true!”

ZH: “You know they come to Giza all the time ... and they do things!

I give them permission to do their things. I give them permission to do anything (!)

Graham Hancock and Robert Bauval, and John West. John West come to the Pyramid at least five (5) times a month. I like him!”

AB: “Right.”

ZH: “And I didn’t ever try to stop him or doing anything (!)

As a matter of fact, I will tell you something. I was an inside last month for something that I will not reveal now ... *but I protected him*. Because **I feel** ... you know, I am not this guy who will take advantage of anyone ... to do anything like that.

I’m an altruist! You see me working in the dirt ...”

AB: “Yes I did!”

ZH: "I had a meeting that ..."

AB: "I did."

ZH: "... that day with the minister, which I had to wear a suit (!) But, you know, it was my jeans and my hat in the pyramids.

I search around every piece of sand!

I try to recall the Truth! Which is true!

I [unintelligible] ... think always that I have a mission in my life. And the mission is to reveal the truth.

I never, ah, broke my mind of an idea ..."

AB: "All right. Well, let's talk a little bit about that."

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AB: "In 1991 Dr. [Thomas L.] Dobecki working with the John West team undertook a series of seismic tests in the vicinity of the Sphinx. In one (1) area in front of the Sphinx – in Valley Temples, his tests showed various tunnels and structures, which have recently, successfully been uncovered by yourself and your excavation team.

Dr. Dobecki's studies also suggested the existence of a rectangular anomaly – possibly man-made – measuring ten (10), ah, nine by twelve (9 x 12) meters, about eleven (11) meters beneath the paws of the Sphinx.

Have you any intention of excavating this area as well in the near future?"

ZH: "You know, Art, I was going to leave all of this, ah, for you, ah, as a moderator and a judge in this debate to talk about ... that I would feel one thing about that.

Ah, you know, it's true that they said that and as they have the report. And at Florida State University, as you know, they said that.

But ... in 1977 Stanford Research Institute (SRI), they came to Egypt and they did ... they used radar."

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "And they sit in front of the two (2) paws ..."

AB: "Right."

ZH: "... of the Sphinx."

AB: "Right."

ZH: "And ... and the right side of the paw of the Sphinx, there is this room.
And they asked to drill that.

And they wrote a proposal to the Permit Committee in Egypt, which they are the people who are responsible for to give permission. *It is not to me – as everyone is saying.*"

AB: "Ah, Doctor, if they give permission, can you say: 'No.'?"

ZH: "No, I can't. But I have ... I can explain to them my point of view. I can tell them why I do not agree on this.

I will make votes. And of course, I am one (1) vote."

AB: "One vote."

ZH: "It's more than thirty (30) votes."

AB: "And is it democratic? In other words, is it majority rules? Or if you vote no, I have heard that usually, ah, the answer is going to be 'No.'"

ZH: "I am not the head of the Committee!"

AB: "I understand that!"

ZH: "The head of the Committee, who should really do that.

But I am one (1) member.

You know, I am outspoken (!) (AB laughs). *I can talk.* I am not, ah, I can't hide my feelings in a meeting. I can't, ah, be a proprietic [sic] person and just say: 'Yes, sir!'

I'm not a 'Yes, sir' man."

AB: "That's right.

Well, when Zahi Hawass speaks though, people listen and usually it goes your way, doesn't it?"

ZH: “Ah, but, it’s not true, Art ... really!”

AB: “Not true?” (AB laughs).

ZH: “My way ... but I will tell you why it’s my way.

When they ... when the Florida State University and, ah, and they ask to drill that, the reason that we refused it in that time is because Stanford Research Institute did drilling in nineteen seventy-seven (1977).”

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AB: “All right, Doctor, hold on, we are at the bottom of the hour.

Take a break, and we’ll be right back.

My guest is the very powerful Dr. Zahi Hawass.

I’m Art Bell from the high desert. You’re listening to Coast to Coast AM. Keep it right where you’ve got it!”

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AB: “Once again, here I am. My guest is Dr. Zahi Hawass, Director of Antiquities at Giza in Egypt.

We’ll get right back to him.”

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AB: “Ah, Dr. Zahi Hawass.

Dr. Hawass, in nineteen ninety-seven (1997), Dr. [Joseph] Schor’s expedition used radar at the bottom of the well under the causeway – the one that I got to explore ... on my recent trip. The result seemed to indicate that there is no box under the black granite sarcophagus lid.

But the radar did indicate a possible tunnel two to three (2-3) meters below the lid. They think that there is a tunnel down there which might connect the second pyramid with a room or rooms under the Sphinx.

Since the soil has already been disturbed in that area, why have they not been allowed to excavate?”

ZH: “Art, I first would like to congratulate you, because you have ... what kind of ... ah, what’s your source?

You always really have a ... (AB laughs) good, strong information.”

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "And I really have to just ... can you reveal your source or, ah, this is confidential?"

(AB laughs, then ZH laughs too).

AB: "Um, I ... I better not."

ZH: "Okay. Now, I will tell you exactly that I believe, ah, in this coming May in this debate ... I believe it will be a time that three (3) important things – they're going to be investigated.

And, ah, this three (3) places, I believe it is the places that everyone wondered about. And those are the three (3) places *that you did not see!*

The first place is the Sphinx. On the north side of the Sphinx there is a tunnel that was opened in nineteen twenty-six (1926)."

AB: "Yes, sir."

ZH: "And this tunnel are ... was ... we would like to re-open it again, because we'd like ... this is cutting exactly the middle of the Sphinx.

And I believe when we'll open it, we can really understand exactly what's underneath the Sphinx."

AB: "I saw some video of you standing right at that opening, saying that yes, you were going to open it and investigate."

ZH: "No, that is another tunnel. That we opened this tunnel, ah ... ah, about I believe about nine (9) years ago. And that tunnel is located on the tail of the Sphinx and goes inside the butt of the Sphinx ..."

AB: "Right."

ZH: "... about thirty-five feet (35 ft.)."

AB: "Right."

ZH: "You remember I showed this to you?"

AB: "I do, yes!"

ZH: "But the other tunnel that we will open, ah, is the tunnel that's located in the middle of the Sphinx on the north side of the Sphinx.

The second important thing is this door or a stone that has been found by Denton Bring [?] inside the pyramid.”

AB: “Right.”

ZH: “With stone [?] copper handle.

We are in the process now of trying to find out what is behind this stone or this door.”

AB: “Exactly!

Ah, what do you hope to find? Will, ah, you are going to attempt then to breach the door found by, ah, Denton Bring?”

ZH: “Yes.”

AB: “What do you imagine you might find?”

ZH: “You know, I ... I really do not ... I cannot really answer this question until we take the photograph to see what’s behind this door.

And I hope that in this coming May in the cruise, I could have in my hand the information to tell everyone about that. ’Cause I ... I really believe that ... you know when Dannion Brinkley came to see me in Egypt ...”

AB: “Yes.”

ZH: “I met him for the first time.

And I said: ‘Dannion, what do you want to see here ...’”

AB: “Yes.”

ZH: “And he said: ‘I want to see this and this and this.’”

Then I said: ‘Dannion, take this permission and go without me and see *anything* that you want in the Pyramid.’

What I wanted to say from ... and then he came after that and said: ‘Zahi, I want you to meet the people who talk about you. You have to face them.’

I said: ‘Dannion, I am not ready.’

There is always a time. I feel in a way that I talk to myself and I know when exactly I can talk to people or when I cannot talk.

And I said: 'Dannion ... No! We'll never debate with Robert Bauval or Graham Hancock or John West. *There is no way I will do that!*'

AB: "Why are you doing that now?"

ZH: "I really do not know! (AB laughs). I faced one thing when I talked to Dannion last time, and it was over the summer.

I said: 'Dannion, I think I believe that the people who are listening to us now are the people who listened to your show for about three (3) years.'

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "And they think that I'm the bad guy.

I think there's a time that they should see this bad guy talks to them! (AB smiles). And tell them the truth – whatever ... there is something or whether there is nothing there."

AB: "Dr. Hawass, do you think you have a bad temper?"

ZH: "Sometimes I do." (ZH laughs).

AB: "Sometimes you do, yeah."

ZH: "Sometimes I do. And this [is] why I believe if the boat is shaking.

I sit in a lecture, ah, about two (2) weeks ago in Japan. I ... then they said: 'What's going to happen in this cruise?'

I said: 'I hope that Art Bell, the moderator, will be able to control that no one can be thrown in the water.'

AB: "In the water. I ... I hope that doesn't happen too."

ZH: "I ... we [unintelligible] you.

You know, my temper sometimes goes when I hear ... you know, when I hear some people accusing me of many things like hiding evidence. *How can I hide important evidence that I discover?*"

AB: "Well, you could though.

I mean, you could ... it's ... it's ..."

ZH: "But I never ... I told you."

AB: "But it's like me, Doctor. Ah, I went over there, and yes, you let me go anywhere. But I would not know where to go! Dannon Brinkley would not know where to go.

If there was something you discovered that you wanted to keep secret ..."

ZH: "No, I ... you know, I tell you. When I discover something, Art, I do not announce it the first minute. I have to wait until I discuss it very well. Until I telegraph [?] it well. Until I see what it is!"

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "The difference between me and the [unintelligible].

The [unintelligible] go in a tunnel quickly.

No, I clean the tunnel step-by-step. I take a photograph of that tunnel, I draw the tunnel, and I see it to the end."

AB: "So you don't go banging in like 'Indiana Jones'?"

ZH: "Exactly."

AB: "All right."

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AB: "On camera again, ah, you explained that you wanted to excavate this passage further and explore where it might lead. Considering this statement, one would assume that the only thing preventing you from digging now might be your own government. So the sixty-four thousand dollar (\$64,000) question is: 'Who's stopping you from digging – an Egyptian official? President Mubarak, ah, perhaps himself?'"

ZH: "No, no ... no one ... no one. No one really stop us from digging *anything!* It's in a time that we did not do anything around the Sphinx, *'cause the Sphinx was sick!*

You know, the Sphinx is the symbol of the World.

The Sphinx is the symbol of ... for everyone!

And therefore, *I'm the person who is supposed to take care of it!*

And I do not waste my time, you know, to open something – there's a time to open it.

The Sphinx will never go away from this place. It is there!"

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "But what's important, Art, is to keep it safe.

And therefore for the last ten (10) years, I was so busy in trying to make the Sphinx, ah, in a good shape. We've finished it now ..."

AB: "You have done that ... it's beautiful!"

ZH: "But no one can stop me from working in *anything* at the Giza Plateau. I'm the director of the site. I have the right of the law to excavate anything at anytime in any place."

AB: "All right."

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AB: You have said the idea of a hall or records under the Sphinx is so much quote 'New Age Fantasy' end quote.

Further, you have publicly discounted the work of John Anthony West, um, Dobecki, Bauval, Hancock. So the question is this: You've told us what you believe – the Sphinx is an ancient Wonder facing the Sun. A monument carved during the time of Seraphim. Its antiquities' voice in stone, but nothing more.

There are no chambers beneath ... beneath the Sphinx – the paws of the Sphinx. There are no buried records from the people of Atlantis. (And I know that's a word that usually gets you going!).

Ah, but what if you're wrong? Is it possible ...?"

ZH: "Fine. If I'm wrong, fine.

You know, I'm feeling everyone. I am right until this moment ... until you prove to me that I'm wrong.

Then what I am trying ... I told you the reason that we did not drill in front of the Sphinx paw is because of two (2) reasons:

Number One (1): That Stanford Research Institute did the same drilling in the same location in nineteen seventy-seven (1977).

And Number Two (2): It ... you have to prove to me – hundred percent (100%) – that there is something there. You cannot just ‘I told you,’ when the radar will show *something*. I could be an anomaly. It could be an actual track. It could be a room.

Then that area especially, it was investigated before! Then I told the people many times I do not want to drill a hole for the sake of a Fox TV movie or a film.”

AB: “Yes.”

ZH: I want to drill a hole for the sake of science!”

AB: “Of science.”

ZH: “For the sake to find something really accurate!

And I do not mind if anything about [unintelligible] has been found!

And I’m not against it. I’m against the accusation of people that they say I’m hiding it now.

You know, I saw on the internet last week, ahh, someone ... [unintelligible] ... came to Egypt, and he puts on the internet that I am discovering something in the Great Pyramid and trying to hide this.”

AB: “Well, ah, people will be naturally suspicious. You have just told us you are going to close the Great Pyramid to the public.”

ZH: “But this [is] why I’m saying the reason, Art, for the sake of the Great Pyramid.

Art, if anyone would come to Egypt and he asks us special he want to enter inside, I will give him permission.”

AB: “All right, ah ...”

ZH: “I am telling you this!”

AB: “At the ...”

ZH: “I don’t care!”

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AB: “At the top, Doctor, of the, ah ... of the Great Pyramid, as you know, there is a very small entrance. And there are I believe five (5) chambers, ah, up above the, um ... ah ... ah, the main chamber. And you have been doing some excavating and digging there.

If you close the Great Pyramid, are you going to be doing excavation in those areas?”

ZH: “No. You know, I ... when I did a, ah ... ah, a TV debate with West and Bauval and Hancock from Italy last summer, they said that the descriptions in these five (5) rooms are written ... written by us or by people who entered in this rooms in the last century.

Then what I did – I entered and I excavated those rooms. *I tried to find the truth!*

They were cleared ... the five (5) rooms. I took the stones away and would throw the stones down. And I recorded by myself every inscription in every room. I have the slides of that.

And the proof, Art, I will show you that in front of you. Every room – of what’s inside the room – by a video and by slides.

I found only inscriptions inside the five (5) rooms. *I did not find anything!* I excavated completely the five (5) rooms.

But stones were falling down from the five (5) rooms ...”

AB: “Yes.”

ZH: “Therefore, I took one (1) stone and I began to say that we found something (!)

They should come to ask me. I met Larry Hunter. I said: ‘Larry, I did not find anything! We are cleaning the five (5) rooms.’”

AB: “There were many bags full of stones ...”

ZH: “Definitely.”

AB: “... that the people took photographs of. I have those ... those photographs.”

ZH: “Yes. What’s wrong with that? The five (5) rooms were full of stone. And I cleaned them.

They were able to under- ... to throw [?] the inscriptions inside the five (5) rooms! And therefore we had to clean them. And to clean them, you have to take the stones down. And the workmen were transporting the stones out of the Pyramid.

But anyone who wanted to try to ... I mean, for the last month many people entered – I gave them permission. ‘Let’s go! And look. And see!’

AB: “I have Doctor, one (1) of those stones, ah, that somebody gave me. And ...”

ZH: “You know, this is illegal. You know, they’re not supposed ...”

AB: “Sure.”

ZH: “... to take stones from the Pyramid.”

AB: “Yes, I understand.

Nevertheless, ah, somebody did give me one (1) , and I performed a very interesting experiment with it.

Um, if you take this stone, which came from deep inside these rooms, and you hold it adjacent to a radium-dial watch, it causes the watch to *glow!* Have you any idea why that might be?”

ZH: “I don’t know. I was holding stones like this in my hand. Maybe I’m untouchable. (AB laughs). Maybe ... the stones doesn’t do anything with me.

I know, you know, I don’t really believe in this ‘Pyramid Power’ at all. Yet I ... I, you know, when I heard it the first time, ah, fifteen (15) years ago, Art, I bought a pound of meat and I put half of it inside the Great Pyramid. And I put the other half inside my oven. And after a couple (2) of days I saw the meat inside the Great Pyramid were more damaged than the meat inside my oven.”

AB: “Well, ah, we’ve turn ...”

ZH: “It depends really on the person. If you have a stone in your hand, it comes from the Great Pyramid. Maybe, touch your heart.”

AB: “Well ...”

ZH: "I think it did not touch my heart, because I'm inside the Pyramid every day."

AB: (laughs). "Well, I did of course get to lie in the sarcophagus, and there is something very, very, strange about lying there, Doctor. There's no question about that.

Ah, there is a strange resonance in that room. And I know they have done a lot of sound experiments and found that, um, roughly, um, F Sharp is the frequency, ah, in that room.

What do you know about that?"

ZH: "You know, I ... I really ... I cannot say anything about that.

But I ... you know, people who enter inside the Pyramid ... there's always ... you know, the fracture [structure?] is very impressive. The ... the building style – the fracture [structure?] is unique. And therefore when you enter inside this room and you are completely isolated from the World, you can see many things – *it can happen!*

And it happened to many people, who tells me!

I ... I, myself, when I enter inside, I see **I'm entering inside the most sacred place in the World!** And this [is] why I have to respect this place. And I have to work scientifically and honestly.

The most important thing is honesty. And that's what I'm doing at Giza for the last ten (10) years. Is to try to excavate around the sand and *reveal the secrets!*

And tell the people about it."

* * *

AB: "There, ah, is a big bureaucracy beyond you – in the Council and, ah, and politically up above you.

Have you felt any pressure, ah, political pressure?"

ZH: "No way!"

AB: "No way?"

ZH: "I told you ... I told you, that everything really go through science. Therefore, I will tell you something.

Take this data that you told me and give it to any respected remote sensing place in the United States and tell them to give us a reading ... to send it to the Committee to ... to convince us that you are wrong.

Then we need a second, a third opinion between our Committee and the data that you ... that you're telling me now. Then I am suggesting now to you and you tell everyone that they should take this data to a remote sensing, ah, scientific institution in the United States to ... to give us a reading and to tell us exactly!

Maybe you are wrong? Maybe they are wrong?"

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Let me tell you what the bad rap on you is, and you can respond to that.

Ah, you talk a lot about wanting universities, ah, and, um, academic, ah ... ah, you know, experts, um, over there before you're going to allow anybody to drill or excavate. And I understand that.

But it is said that over the years you have allowed various institutions, ah, to Giza, ah, do the work, ah, radar, um, ground penetrating radar and all the rest of it. And when they find something, that is the point where you, um, kick them out of Giza and then proceed to excavate yourself.

That's what people say."

ZH: "That ... that's really not true. I did not do that ... *at all!*

What has happened [is] that when we allowed John West to do that, ah, then the reason that John West's expedition was suspended is because the expedition was not affiliated with an institution."

AB: "Um-hmm."

ZH: "But when ... when, ah ... ah, Florida State University told us that there's three (3) places that they should find out, which is the Sphinx area and the subsidiary Pyramid of Queens – near the Pyramid of Khufu ..."

AB: "Um-hmm."

ZH: "... those are the two (2) places that they told us there is something there (!)

You cannot really ... why I ... I ... why ... if I would do the excavating, I will tell them or I will do it on their behalf. But first of all, you cannot excavate in front of the Sphinx, because this area has been excavated before.

The area of the Queens Pyramid that the radar showed a tunnel existed there, I ... we found it's a solid rock. You cannot excavate in the solid rock."

* * *

AB: "Um, Doctor, do you know how the Pyramids were built?"

ZH: "We ... we do! I mean, this is what we will tell the people. Of course, when you are there, we do for the first time discover around the Pyramids, evidence to show how the Pyramid was built.

You know, you remember, Art, when I ... when you left our office and we ... you saw the people restoring our tombs?"

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "And you saw how they cut the stones?"

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "And how they move the stones?"

AB: "Yes, it was amazing!"

ZH: "And that is exactly what the ancient Egyptians did.

But we discovered, ah, in my excavations on the south of the Great Pyramid, I found, ah ... ah, evidence of the ramp that the Egyptians used to transport the stone. *And that is [a] very important discovery!* And it's existed just on the southwest corner ... southwest of the Great Pyramid."

AB: "Well, nobody understands how these stones could have been lifted at the higher points of the Pyramid. Nobody ... do you?"

ZH: "Well, of course. All the stones were taken to the plateau.

And I am telling you that until now ... there was a French movie that they did last summer in the Pyramid. And I ... we showed them ... my workmen showed how they were transported. How they were cutting the stones ... transporting the stone on a switches [?]

And this was about two hundred and forty feet [240 ft.] – the quarry. Located two hundred and forty feet (240 ft.) away from the base of the Pyramid.

And we found other ... other ... other evidence that I will show you on the sides [sites?] and the debate on the cruise about. We discovered things about how they made the base, how they cut the base ...”

AB: “You also, ah, Doctor, found the tombs of the people, who built the Pyramids, didn’t you?”

ZH: “Yes.”

AB: “Are you able to talk about that?”

ZH: “Yes, of course. This is really a very important discovery!”

AB: “I ... yes, it is! I agree with you.

Doctor, hold on. You’ve got a good break here. We’ll get back to you in a moment.

Dr. Zahi Hawass! The Director of Antiquities at Giza in Egypt is my guest.

A rare opportunity!: We’ll tell you about the cruise and how you can be part of that ... if you want? (Gosh, I hope we don’t throw anybody in the water).

This is Coast to Coast AM.”

* * *

AB: “All right, once again here I am, not in great shape – I’m not going to kid you. I’m sort of, ah ... ah, a ball of snot. Ah, the flu has come back on me big time. Running about a hundred and two [102⁰ fever], and, ah, sweat is just pouring off me. But I am bound and determined to complete this interview.

I have with me Dr. Zahi Hawass, who is Director of Antiquities at Giza in Egypt. He is a very powerful kind of wild [sic] man. We are going to be going on a cruise, which is really going to be a debate, in May.

It’s going to be, ah, let me see – May tenth thru the seventeenth (10th-17th). Now, this cruise is going to go to some of the most beautiful places you’ve ever seen in your whole life in *Alaska* [sic!].

Ah, you will see things that will remain with you for the rest of your life. And I'm not kidding about that. You will see ... you will see ice fields. Ah, you will see things that, um, simply will remain with you for the rest of your life.

However, on this cruise will be Dr. Zahi Hawass – the man I've got on the line now – Dannion Brinkley, Graham Hancock, Robert Bauval, Dr. Ed Krupp, and I will moderate all this, trying to see that somebody does not get tossed into the sea, as Dr. Hawass suggested." (AB snickers).

* * *

AB: "Back now to Dr. Zahi Hawass. Ah, Doctor?"

ZH: "Yes?"

AB: "Ah, Doctor, has there ever been anything discovered at Giza that does not fit with the four or five thousand (4,000-5,000) years of Egypt history, ah, as you and your colleagues know it? In other words, anything that would, ah, approve or show that anything there is *older* than four or five thousand (4,000-5,000) years?"

ZH: "You know, Art, really until this moment ... for the last ten (10) years since I came from the University of Pennsylvania in 1987, almost excavating everywhere – and I am starting again my excavation in [on] February 1st – I did not find until this moment, no one single piece of evidence to prove the existence of any pre-civilization than what we know ... until this moment of the day."

AB: "And what ... what at this moment have you ...?"

ZH: "What I'm saying that maybe in the future anything can be discovered. But ... until this moment all the excavation that I did at Giza does ... does not show any evidence of anything *that prove[s] anything about Atlantis.*"

AB: "Not one – I remember when I was there, you said not one (1) grain of sand, not one ... anything has ever been shown that would prove, ah ... um, anything about Atlantis. Period."

ZH: "Nothing."

AB: "That's right, huh?"

ZH: "Nothing."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Doctor, I've got a very hard question for ya now:

I have private information that in the last week – I repeat the last week, while you have been gone, there has been an excavation from the area of the three (3) Great, ah, Pyramids under the water table, ah, toward the Sphinx. Do you know anything about that?"

ZH: "Yes! We ... we ... there is ... no one can really excavate when I'm away. I mean, this excavations [sic] is a kind of a planned-type work."

AB: "Oh!"

ZH: "We ... within what we did in the last month, we did clean shafts in the plateau."

AB: "Cleaned them."

ZH: "And one (1) of the shafts exists underneath the causeway of Kiffian [sic?]

And we ... what is there is just sarcophagus. And we cleaned the ... one hundred feet (100 ft.) down and nothing really has been found there. Nothing!"

AB: "So you knew this was going on?"

ZH: "Yes, of course!

That's not any hidden, ah, excavations or anything like that."

AB: "Um, all right. I was, ah, I was surprised. I thought that, ah, might surprise you?"

ZH: "No!"

AB: "No, huh?"

ZH: "First of all, I mean, why they would do such a thing like that when I'm away for a week.

That's really, ah, not true, but we cleaned the shaft, and there is water down there about four (4) meters down ..."

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "... and there is a lid of sarcophagus and we took it out. And there is nothing underneath the sarcophagus."

AB: "Nothing?"

ZH: "Nothing."

And we will try in the future to take this water out, and drain the water, and we hope to see if anything there ... ? Of course, we will announce it and tell the people about it."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Um, I would like to turn you over ... I ... I do have one (1) other question, ah, and then I would like to turn you over to some callers."

There are many people, Doctor, who believe that the NASA Program here in America – the Space Program – and, ah, nearly everything they do – the launches, the timing of the launches ... ah, this is from Richard C. Hoagland ... is driven by things that have been found at Giza. And that there have been officials from NASA at Giza. Can you tell us anything about that?"

ZH: "Really, Art, *that is not true*. I never met any official from NASA at Giza."

AB: "Never?"

ZH: "Never."

I only meet archaeologists. And I think they are accusing, ah, also, ah, my friend in Boston – Farouk El-Baz ..."

AB: "Um-hmm."

ZH: "... who's a geologist, who's working at remote sensing at Boston University. And Farouk El-Baz is a ... a respected scholar in his field. And he did not work at Giza. And ... and that thing that I hear all the time ... because it not really true."

I hope that they will give me evidence about anything like that. And I will tell you right away!"

AB: "All right!"

ZH: "I never met anyone from NASA and will not have any cooperation with NASA through Archaeology. Nothing."

AB: "No connection."

ZH: "No connection at all."

AB: "Hmm ... all right."

* * *

Aud: "First of all, I would like to say 'Hello' to Dr. Hawass and to thank him very much."

ZH: "Hi, Mary!" [ZH obviously recognized her voice].

Aud: "Hi, Dr. Hawass."

ZH: "How are you?"

Aud: "I'm very much fine. And I'm ... are you in the United States? I'm so glad to find out that you're here and everything is fine."

ZH: "I was attending a conference at [unintelligible] University in, ah, in, ah, California and I'm going to lecture at the Smithsonian next week."

Aud: "Ohh! Well, that ... well, this sounds amazing!

Um, I wanted to ask you first of all one (1) question that doesn't really have to do with 'Spacegate,' but something else that came up while I was in Egypt."

ZH: "That is why ... are you coming to the debate or not?"

Aud: "I would love to come to the debate if it's possible and I am available in this country, I will. But as you know, I go back and forth to Egypt so much that, I may not be able to make the debate."

ZH: "But Mary, you were in Luxor ..."

Aud: "I was in Luxor immediately after the, ah, incident [massacre]. And I did want to say just to corroborate with Dr. Hawass that earlier ... *that it is very safe there. The people have opened their hearts. It is just a lot of healing and a lot of very good energy right now there*, um, even though there's not many tourists.

As a person who has lived in Egypt and worked there, it's probably one of the, um, best times for being there that I have had in all of the seven (7) years that I have been traveling to Egypt. So ..."

ZH: "Mary, are you crying?"

Aud: "I was just so emotional thinking about ..."

ZH: "Ohh!"

Aud: "... what was going on."

ZH: "You know, I ... I was telling Art ... really, we hope that everyone will come back to Egypt again. And we hope to see them, the Americans coming back. And go to Luxor. And see that this really is something there! It is not something that can be repeated again."

Aud: "No, it can't be and it's true there ... there is security everywhere – it's very safe.

Um, I spent three (3) weeks there, right up until Christmas. And, um, it's ... I ... I walked alone through 'The Valley of the Kings.' I stayed on the West Bank. I mean, it was totally safe and if anyone ..."

AB: "I ... I presume also very empty?"

Aud: "Um, it was empty, but ... well ... people have started to come back again. And ... and there ... in fact, there was, um, a beautiful Christmas celebration over at, ah, on the West Bank for Christmas. And people are starting to come back.

It ... it ... as Dr. Hawass said earlier, the difference between four thousand (4,000) and seven hundred (700) in the Great Pyramid is very obvious. So the difference between hotels being packed full for the opera and having maybe, you know, twenty percent (20%) capacity for Christmas, it's glaringly obvious that tourism is down. But as far as being safe there, um, I usually travel alone or with small groups, and I had no problem there right after. So ... um, and if anyone ... they can call me at my home, and I can tell them that I'm perfectly, ah, okay with being there and recommending it to ... to people as well.

Um, the thing I did want to ask you, Dr. Zahi is that when I was in Egypt I read an article in *Egypt Today* – the December issue – and they talked about, um, there's a ... an American-Egyptian production company that wants to put on, ah, musical concerts at the Sphinx in '98 and '99 [1998 –

1999], and in particular, ah, rock music concerts. Is there any ... and in the article, you did say that that would probably not happen.”

ZH: “Yeah, you know, Mary, I still ... it’s like what’s happening, ah, between me and, ah, this side ... it’s like it’s gonna [goin’] on other side to happen. [?]”

You know, I feel the Pyramid should have dignity and respect. We cannot have, ah, this thing on the Pyramid. And to have twenty thousand (20,000) young people coming and dancing in front of the Great Pyramid – **this will kill me!**

The Pyramid has to have dignity and power and magic! And therefore I believe that we should have respected the type of for [?] used to sound for the Millenium. We should have someone like, ah, a ... a famous soprano. We have ... should have, you know, a singer with like, you know, maybe Whitney, ah, Whitney Davis ... Whitney Houston.”

Aud: “Whitney Houston.”

ZH: “You know something with romantic ... with love to be shown in front of the Pyramid. With respected people coming [from] around the World. And we are planning at Giza to put a capstone made of gold up the Great Pyramid.”

AB: “So you don’t ... you don’t want, ah, Doctor, you don’t want, um, anything without class there, is what you’re saying.”

ZH: “Exactly!”

AB: “Ah ...”

ZH: “And that is my objection, Mary, about this guy, who wants to bring, ah ... ah, singers, famous singers – the Sting, you know, maybe Michael Jackson, and things like that.

Can you please the Pyramid with having things like this?”

AB: “Ah, no.

Duh ... do you see any connection between Giza and the Millenium? The Millenium is coming fast now, ah, so you want some events at Giza ...”

ZH: “That’s exactly what we are planning to do.

We are planning to do what an ancient Egyptian built. When the Egyptians built the Pyramid, they built above the Pyramid a ‘capstone’ *and*

they cased it with gold. When they put the capstone means the Pyramid is finished. Everyone has to dance and sing, because the national project of our nation is finished. And that exactly [is] what we are going to do for the Millenium is to have two (2) top Gizans happening ... [come? – unintelligible] alive from Giza to the people all over the World! To tell the people that the Egyptians are very peaceful people. We are a people of peace and also 'We would like them to come back. Would like them to see the Pyramid and to enjoy the discovery that we make around the Pyramid.'"

AB: "Exactly how long will the Great Pyramid be lost ... ah, closed?"

ZH: "About six (6) months."

AB: "About ... that's a long time! ..."

ZH: "But remember, Art, I'm telling you we don't want to have any rumors. Anyone who tried to enter the Pyramid, we'll give him [them] permission.

We are closing the Pyramid because we have ... I have a 'system.' To open two (2) pyramids only and close one (1). It's a rotation. It's for the safe[ty] of the Pyramid."

AB: "Is there ..."

ZH: "That's for ..."

AB: "... is there, Doctor, is there damage being done, ah, by so many people going in there every day? Just the breath ..."

ZH: "Art ..."

AB: "... ah, the breath of the people?"

ZH: "... the humidity is ninety-five percent (95%). Cracks inside the Great Pyramid – over three hundred (300) areas suffering from cracks."

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "We need to restore them. We cannot restore them during the ... the ... the ... I thought this is a good opportunity, maybe because the numbers of people are less. Then it's a time to close it.

Art, I'm telling you, for the New Age group, they're welcome! All of them will enter inside the Pyramid and I hope ... I hope that we can make this

debate again in Egypt next year and bring everyone to see all of this in action. To see what we are doing!

You know, I won't ... I won't stop this rumor. I want the people not to see me as the 'Bad Guy,' but to see that I am a guy, who's protecting. *This Pyramid is not MY Pyramid. It is a Pyramid of You and Everyone!*

AB: "The Pyramids, the Sphinx, Doctor, um, there are two (2) ways of looking at it. They are of course, um, Egyptian national property. Ah, but other people say: 'They belong to the World as well.'"

ZH: "I believe they belong to the World!"

AB: "You do?"

ZH: "Of course!

We are just guardian to this monument, but everyone has a piece of it! It's a part of the whole World."

AB: "All right."

* * *

Aud: "If NASA really does have a secret interest in the 'Monuments of Mars,' it would be expected that such an interest would also have manifested here on Earth. In particular, the Sphinx in Giza in Egypt.

Now, before I even say anything further, I respect your opinion either way regardless as to whether you agree with me, because we are both on different terms and anything you say is still very respectful. I ..."

AB: "Well ... well, let's just ask him. Doctor, do you think there is any connection between the Monuments of Mars and what is at Giza?"

ZH: "No[t] at all.

You know, I ... I believe in science. I believe in evidence. Give me one single evidence and I will believe in it."

Aud: "Yeah, I'm right there! And the two (2) ... two (2) things I'm going to end with are: Well in early March, Mars Global Surveyor ... Mark Carlotta has already pointed out he'll have a perfect imaging opportunity ..."

AB: "Yes."

Aud: “Greg Molenaar – I’m not sure, but I know that Vincent Di Petro has said: ‘Here NASA, we’ve set an eyeball and [unintelligible] are here, show it, prove it ... you have proof of scientifically saying we have found components to say: ‘Ah, it’s artificial!’”

And on that, ah, you guys were just talkin’ about your little ... the narrow shaft in the ... in the, ah, Pyramid and trying to find it.

Spar Aerospace, which, ah, builds hydraulic arms and is used by NASA space shuttles ... I’m not sure if anything ever did take flight with the gentlemen leading that, but I would love to hear Dr. Hawass comment more on that. I didn’t quite catch, ah, if anything had ever been done on that eight inch by eight inch (8 x 8 in.) [unintelligible] shaft?

And if he has anything else to say about Cydonia and just his general feelings, and I’ll leave it with that. Thank you, gentlemen, very much.”

AB: “All right, thank you.”

ZH: “Thank you.”

AB: “Ah, Doctor, again – you think there is no connection, ah, with Cydonia?”

ZH: “No, because there is no evidence that I see.

You know, I would like anyone to show me what has been found on Mars.”

AB: *“There is no magic about how the Pyramids were built.*

You know how they were built, right?”

ZH: “Of course!” (AB exclaims too).

AB: “All right, Doctor, um, hold on ...”

ZH: “I would like to say about this shaft, that we are going – I hope before May – we are going to do it. And you know there is [sic] new techniques has [sic] been found now that in five (5) minutes you can find ... you can take a photograph of what’s behind the door.”

AB: “Oh yes, I know!

Doctor, hold on. We’re at the bottom of the hour. We’ll be right back!

Dr. Zahi Hawass is my guest. This is Coast to Coast AM.”

* * *

AB: "Once again, here I am. My guest is, ah, the *Honorable* Dr. Zahi Hawass."

* * *

AB: "Once again, Dr. Zahi Hawass. Doctor ..."

ZH: "Yes ... Hello!"

AB: "... ah ... ah. let me ask you: How deep the Stanford people drilled in 1978 [sic]?"

ZH: "They went down something like six (6) to seven (7) meters down on the solid rock."

AB: "Uh-huh. In Virginia Beach this last summer you were asked how deep they drilled and you replied publicly they went down about four (4) meters."

ZH: "Yes.

No, they ... I ... I ... but I ... I think, ah ... ah ... you know, I'm not sure exactly – it's something like that.

You know, if I said four (4) from five (5), I can tell you the exact date when I see you made exact, ah ..."

AB: "All right."

ZH: "... drilling exactly."

AB: "Dr. Dobecki wants to go down twelve (12) meters."

ZH: "Twelve (12) meters."

AB: "Yes, twelve (12) meters. Um, so we should ask you, um ... ah, why not? ... Whether or not his ex- ... excavations in front of the Valley Temple in any way proved the potential value of the radar they used? And again, why can we not dig in the already dug well?"

ZH: "Sure. You know, I ... you know, I ... I told you the reason I ... I believe when the Committee discussed this, I told you it wasn't a time also that we were not really, ahh ... going to do anything away from what we were doing restoring the Sphinx.

Then maybe since the restoration is finished, maybe the opportunity can be there?"

AB: “Why was Dr. Schor’s permit cancelled?”

ZH: “No, his permit is not cancelled at all.”

AB: “It is not cancelled?”

ZH: “No! He is ... his request of drilling ... and not Dr. Schor. We have to distinguish between Florida State University and an individual.

Joe Schor got funded through that state university expedition. They are working with Florida State University – not with Dr. Schor. Therefore, Florida State University *only* ... their request of the drilling is resisted ... is rejected. And therefore they can still continue the, ah ... ah, underground map for the radar to the whole plateau. And also, at the same time, they could drill around the Queen’s Pyramid.

I think there’s ... the Committee ... I don’t think that there’s no reason for the Committee to stop the drilling in this area there. At least to prove if the radar is right or not.”

AB: “Okay.”

* * *

AB: “Um, this is a very hard question and I’m not sure whether I should ask it or not, but I ... I will.”

ZH: “Do!”

AB: “Um, there have been persistent rumors, ah, Doctor, I’m told, ah, in fact, a recent article in a Cairo newspaper suggesting that Princess Diana was deliberately killed by British government agents, because of her impending marriage to a prominent Egyptian family, that is held in great disfavor by the British Crown. There have even been suggestions *she was killed because she was pregnant (!)* In view of your recent meetings, ah, with the late Princess ... what is your opinion about this tragic incident?”

ZH: “You know, I don’t think really that she’s killed at all. Or she was intended to be killed by anyone. I think this is just an accident happened.

And I ... it’s a tragedy, of course, because the lady was, ah, so wonderful and, ah, the Egyptian gentleman also, ah, was a very nice guy. *I think they were in love!*

Then the cause of the attack from the reporters to them – the accident happened. But I don’t think that there is any killing involved in that at all.”

AB: "All right, Doctor."

* * *

Aud: "Ah, Dr. Hawass, are you aware, ah, that ... I have three (3), ah, general points. Are you aware that George Bush and Barbara Bush will be at the Pyramids of Egypt December 31, 1999? And then this was reported in 1989 in the, ah, Arizona Daily Star. Do you know if he's going to be there?"

ZH: "I met the whole family two (2) months ago. The whole family of President of, ah ... ah, Mr. Bush. They came, ah, Barbara Bush and her daughters and, ah, the wives and the sons ... all of them. And I have really a beautiful photograph with them."

AB: "Yeah."

ZH: "But I don't know about the 1999, but it could happen."

Aud: "Well, according ..."

ZH: "And if it happens [unintelligible] to be there."

Aud: "... to them, they made arrangements about ten (10) years ago to be there, and then ... so it's going to be a very Big Event, yeah."

ZH: "Of course!"

Aud: "And then ... and then are you aware that, ah, there was an A&E (Arts & Entertainment Network) program that, ah, like ... oh, there's a professor that says that there was pre-Columbian oceanic voyages by the Egyptians. And, ah, they were able to get, ah, herbs from, ah, Latin America. And then there was a German tox[ic]ologist, uh, and they ... and also a Manchester Museum Ageopologist [sic] that confirmed that there was, ah ... they looked into the hair of these mummies in, ah, Venice and different parts of Europe. And then they found that there was, ah, cocaine, hashish, and tobacco in them."

ZH: "Hmpf."

Aud: "Are you aware of that?"

ZH: "No, I ... we did a conference five (5) years ago in Denver, Colorado with other scholars from, ahh ... South America and Mexico to prove any connection, but did not really find any connection between the Egyptian and those people."

But this idea that you're telling me, I never heard of it. There is the first time that I hear about it."

* * *

AB: "You have never recovered from any of the, ah, pyramids have you *any bodies?*"

ZH: "Oh! From the Pyramids?"

AB: "Yes."

ZH: "There is only from the Third Pyramid. There is, ah, the remains of the mummy of Menkaure has been found in the last century. And it was deported with the coffin to England and it was drowned by the seashore of Spain."

AB: "Doctor, I was at the tomb, ah, or the tombs of the, ah, people who built the Pyramid. I thought it was the most amazing place to be. Um, I wasn't supposed to take photographs there, but I did take one (1) ... I got one (1). And the hieroglyphics there are the most clear and new and unusual.

What have you discovered at the tombs of the workers?"

ZH: "You know we discovered many interesting things.

You know, the most interesting is really the bone ... the skeletons that will make study on that bone. And the evidence that we found ... that first of all, they were ... they were Egyptians, all these people. And we're doing some work now with, ah, Florida ... with, ah, Hawaii State University, ah, to ... to also do some, ah ... ah, some about the genetic and to prove *more* about who were the builders of the Pyramids."

AB: "Genetic, ah, studies?"

ZH: "Yes."

AB: "Ohh!"

ZH: "It's going to be done by the, ah, by ... by Hawaii State University in Honolulu. And we sent, ah, visas on these bones last week."

AB: "When do you think all of this information will generally be released to the World?"

ZH: "I mean ... part of it should be, ah, I should have, ah, some of it on the cruise. Of course, I will tell the people about all of that."

* * *

AB: "Doctor, if we have ... if we wanted to, could we build another Great Pyramid today?"

ZH: "No. You know why?"

AB: "No I don't."

ZH: "Because the Egyptian ... this ... what's important? That the Pyramids built Egypt and the Pyramid was the national project of the whole nation!

And the Pyramids were built because of *religious purpose*.

You do not have this now, Art. You don not have ... you know, you can build a church, because you are Christian. *But you cannot build the Pyramid, because you do not believe in the Pyramid.* And that is the point!"

* * *

AB: "There are people, Doctor, who think that the Pyramid is a **gate** ... a *stargate of some kind.*"

ZH: "You know, this is ... this is good for movies, Art. (AB laughs).

But it's not really ... when you come back to reality, that's not true."

AB: "Okay."

* * *

Aud: "I'd like to know if the Pyramids over a period of time since they've been built, if you've noticed any settling in 'em at all? Ah, corresponding with ground level. And that's all that I had at this time."

AB: "All right. Have they settled? In other words, have they, um, [unintelligible] when you get a new house and it rains, why the house will settle. Ah, have the Pyramids done all the settling they're going to do or is it still going on?"

ZH: "What do you mean by 'settling'?"

AB: "Well, in other words, moving or shifting a little bit."

ZH: "No, no, no, no."

You know, the plateau is one hundred feet (100 ft.) above the level of the water. And that's the reason the Egyptian pick up a sight ... they pick up a sight full of limestone to build the Pyramid. And therefore they level the site completely before building the Pyramid.

They ... and they ... when they make the base of the Pyramid, they cut on the solid rock. And the base become a part of the solid rock."

AB: "And Doctor, when you stand, ah, many people don't know this because when they see the Pyramids. But if you turn around in the other direction, ah, you see nothing but Cairo ... everywhere!"

ZH: "Yes."

AB: "And usually hanging over Cairo – like many major cities – there is an awful lot of dirty, ah, polluted air. Ah, this air ... many times must reach, ah, Giza.

Is it doing damage?"

ZH: "It does. And ... and this is why next year we are making an ... we are finishing the whole project of the conservation of the whole plateau. We are stop[ping] cars going up the plateau. We are moving the camel and house driver[s] to the desert. They will not wander anymore around the Pyramids. And that's really is a part of *saving the Pyramids* from the surrounding.

And we hope really to finish it by next year."

AB: "Is anybody going to take control of those people who give camel rides? Because they get you up on a camel and you're way high up in the air and then they don't let you down until you pay them (!)"

ZH: "This is exactly what's going to happen in two (2) months from now. We're moving all of them in a controlled area. That every tourist will ride a camel or horse. The police ... the tourist police will know the number, and it will be following one (1) route, and therefore nothing like this is going to happen again."

AB: "I see."

* * *

Aud: "I saw a documentary where a little German robot went up a shaft ..."

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "And it went up to a little doorway."

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "And I ... there was never an answer as to what's behind the doorway or what the shaft was. Is there any information, ah, that is known now that is further about what's up in that shaft or the purpose of that shaft?"

AB: "Doctor?"

ZH: "You know, that shaft is, ah ... they call it wrongly the air shaft. And there ... it was cut from the so-called, ah, Queen Chamber that was left unfinished. And therefore, in my opinion this shaft was left unfinished.

I believe that the function of this shaft – the one on the south, ah, from the King Chamber was used for the soul of Khufu, as the Sun God Ra to go through and take the two (2) boats on the south to travel in the night and the day trip. Because the beauty of the God is to clean the World. And to clean it from devils. And the people in return has to worship the God.

The function of the other one in the [unintelligible] is to join the [unintelligible]. And therefore that bowl or that stone that has been found, we will know ... we will know about what's behind it we hope before May of this year."

AB: "Okay."

* * *

Aud: "Ah, I would like to ask you: Do you believe the, ah, I have one (1) question: Do you believe the people that built the Pyramids are from Earth? And that there's any scientific proof to prove, ah, either way?"

ZH: "You know, we talked about this the whole program. There is no evidence until this moment that has been found to prove the connections of the Pyramids with anything except the Pharaohs."

AB: "Except the Pharaohs. But the Pharaohs were not really using the Pyramids as a burial place, and that is what ..."

ZH: "They ... they did."

AB: "... most people ..."

ZH: "You know ... you know, Art, I just discovered a few months ago a small pyramid at Saqqara. Ah, Saqqara is a site located on the south of Giza

and it has the Fifth Pyramid – the first stone structure ever built in the World.

And I was excavating last year – a few months ago – near the pyramid of Saqqara and I found a small pyramid of a Queen. And inside, there is a sarcophagus and inside the sarcophagus remains of her mummy.”

AB: “Ha!”

ZH: “Then the pyramids were plundered. Like many tombs in Egypt, King Tut’s tomb was found intact, because [it] was hidden under the stone. But there is evidence – written evidence – proving that pyramids were tombs, but also presenting the power and dignity of the Pharaohs.”

AB: “So you’re saying they were tombs! (?)”

ZH: “Of course!”

AB: “All right.”

* * *

Aud: “I was wondering, ah, does anything in ... I read the book *The Twelfth Planet* [by Zecharia Sitchin] that you had before ...”

AB: “Ah ...”

Aud: “How does ...”

AB: “... Sitchin, yes.”

Aud: “... your guest feel about ... hello?”

AB: “Yes, ah, Sitchin’s *Twelfth Planet*.”

Aud: “Yeah, how does the guest feel about that book? And he ... so, even scientific research ... wasn’t that all archaeology that the guy did out of, ah, the different museums around the world?”

AB: “All right. Um, Doctor Sitchin’s work ... are you familiar with that, ah, Dr. Hawass?”

ZH: “No, I am not.”

AB: “All right.”

ZH: “What’s the name of that book again?”

AB: "Ah, *The Twelfth Planet*."

ZH: "No, I never ... I never heard of it."

AB: "Okay."

* * *

Aud: "I'd like to ask the good doctor about, um, a possible chamber below the Sphinx's foot."

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "The front foot. Um ..."

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "I ... I ... a little while back I heard in the news that they were ... they were gonna look for something under there."

AB: "Um, well that's ... we've been talking about that."

ZH: "We've been talking about it."

AB: (laughs). "It is ... it is of course, ah, the big controversy and it's going to be, ah, I guess the big point of discussion on this cruise."

Now, I am going to try and moderate, so I did not try and ah ... ah, get too confrontational with you, ah, this morning, Doctor, but I am looking forward to, ah, moderating a very controversial time indeed. And I hope that, um, nobody gets thrown into the sea (!)"

ZH: (laughs heartily!) "No, I ... I ... I ... I believe it's going to be very interesting."

But the most important thing – that *the truth* ... at least the people who attend the conference will hear my side. And they will see most of ... or ... or all – I can't really talk about *all* the discovery that they made at Giza, but I mean the interesting stuff that I found that can help them in understanding more about the Giza Plateau.

And we hope, as I said from the beginning, that next year we hope that to make this debate in Egypt! And people can come by and see the Pyramids and the Sphinx, and the excavations."

AB: “Well, I would ... I would love to come back to Egypt, of course! Um, so maybe we will do exactly that!

Ah, in the meantime I'm looking forward to what is going to occur in May, with some trepidation, but, um, ... I'm ... I'm ... I'm definitely looking forward to it.

So, Doctor, um, it has been a pleasure ...”

ZH: “Thank you.”

AB: “... having you on tonight, and I wish you ...”

ZH: “And Good Night for everyone! ...”

AB: “... a safe trip.”

ZH: “... Or Good Morning for everyone!”

AB: “Yes. Thank you very much, Doctor.”

ZH: “Okay.”

AB: “See you in May, my friend!”

ZH: “Okay. Good-bye.”

AB: “Take care.

Ah, that is Doctor Zahi Hawass, the Director of Antiquities at Giza.”

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