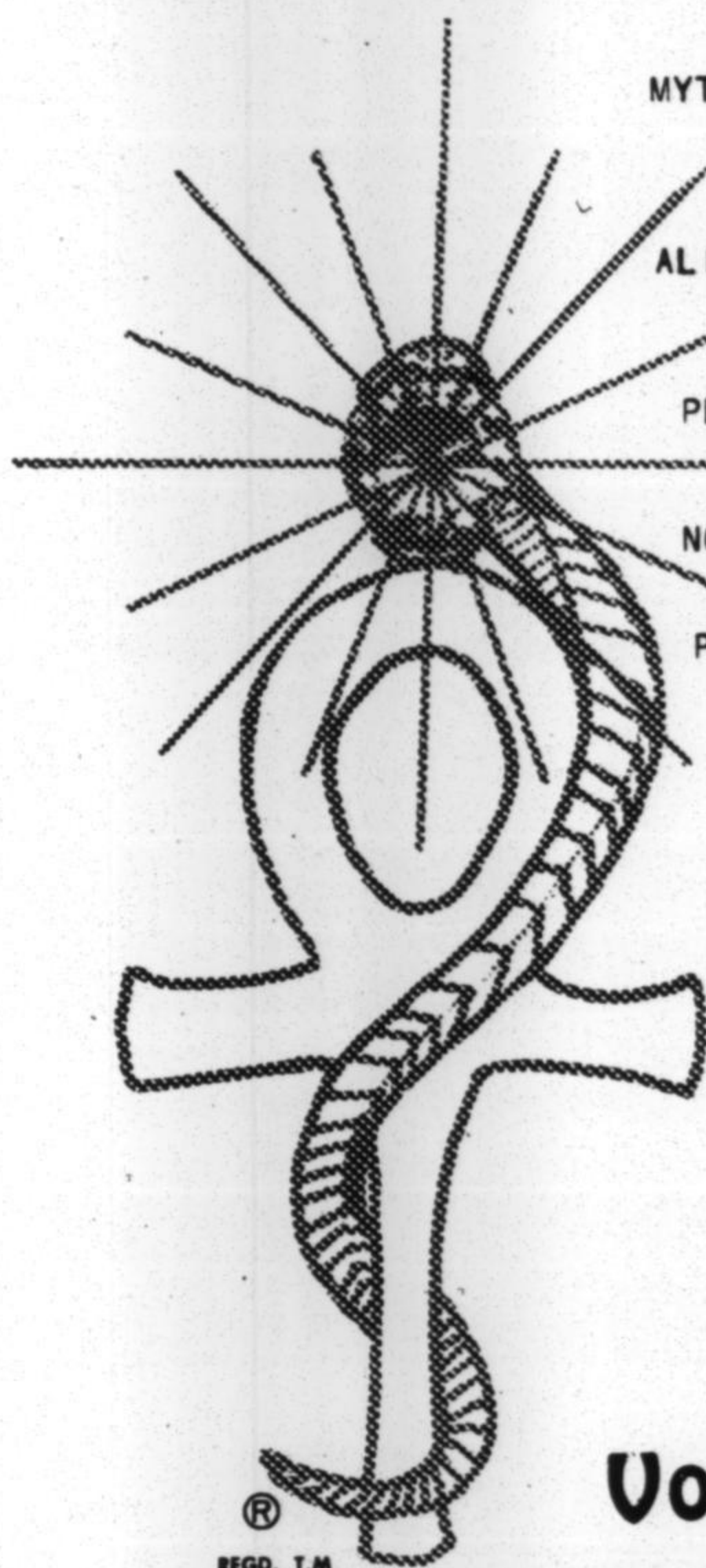


the

WHITE

LIGHT

IN THIS ISSUE:



MYTH, MAGIC & PYRAMIDS
[PART 1]

ALISTER CROWLEY'S POEM:
"BERI-BERI"

PLUS: NEWS, SATIRE, ADS &

NOTICES OF CONCERN TO THE
PRACTICING MAGICIAN.

®
REGD. T.M.

Vol. 3, No 4
Summer, 1977

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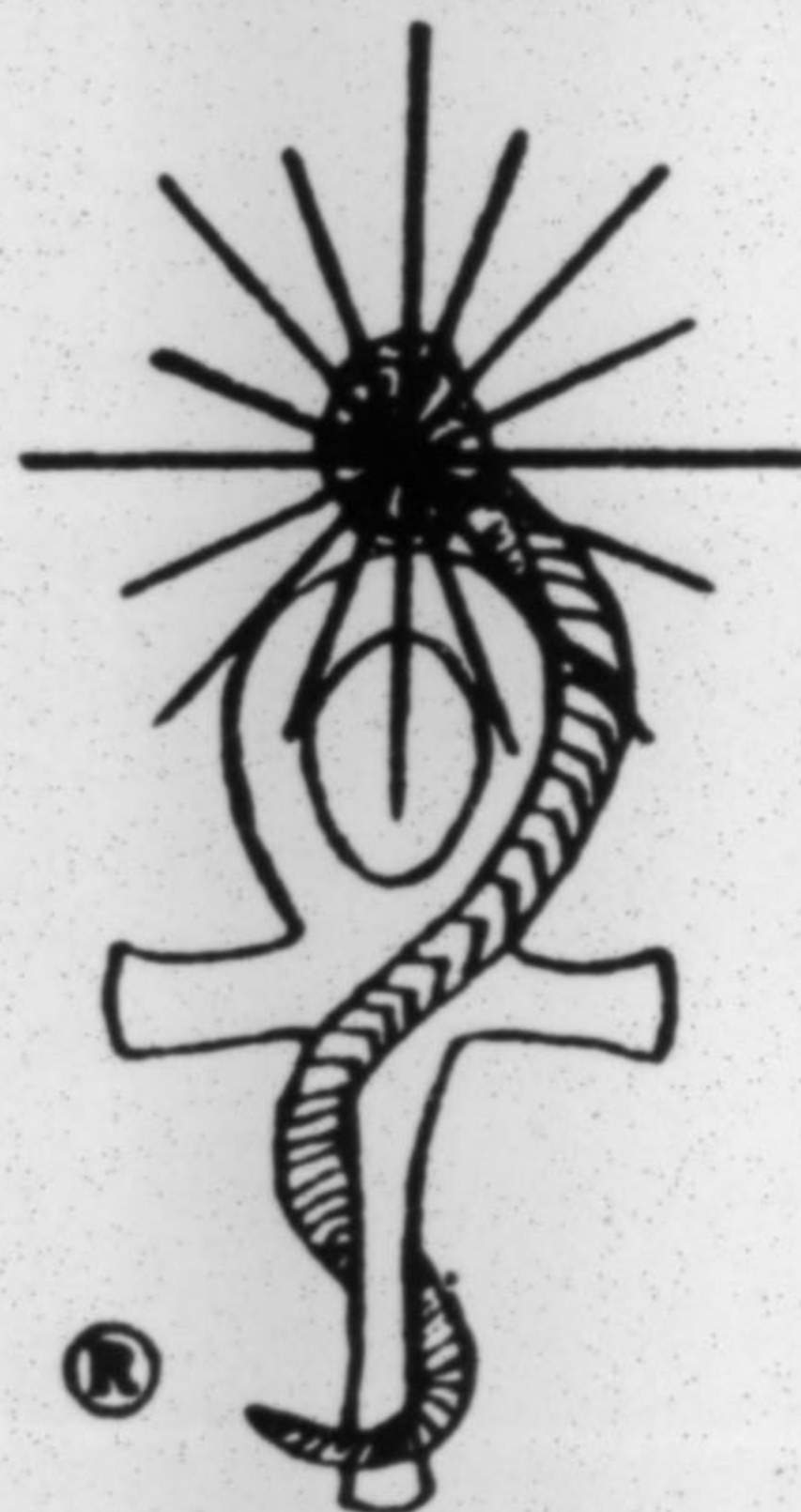
THE WHITE LIGHT

is the journal of:

THE TEMPLE OF TRUTH,

a Hermetic Magickal Order
Sponsored by:

The Light of Truth Church



Rev. Nelson H. White, D.D., Editor
Rev. Sergei A. White, Ass't Editor

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We have also heard from Llewellyn Publications (GNOSTICA). At long last they have acknowledged that they owe us \$400, and we have agreed to take some of it in goods, hence the new book section in The Magick Circle. Several of you readers have written to us about your problems with Llewellyn. We sympathise, however the problem doesn't seem to be getting any better. Nor is it limited to Llewellyn. In 4½ years, we haven't even received an answer from Weiser's. How can you run a business like that?

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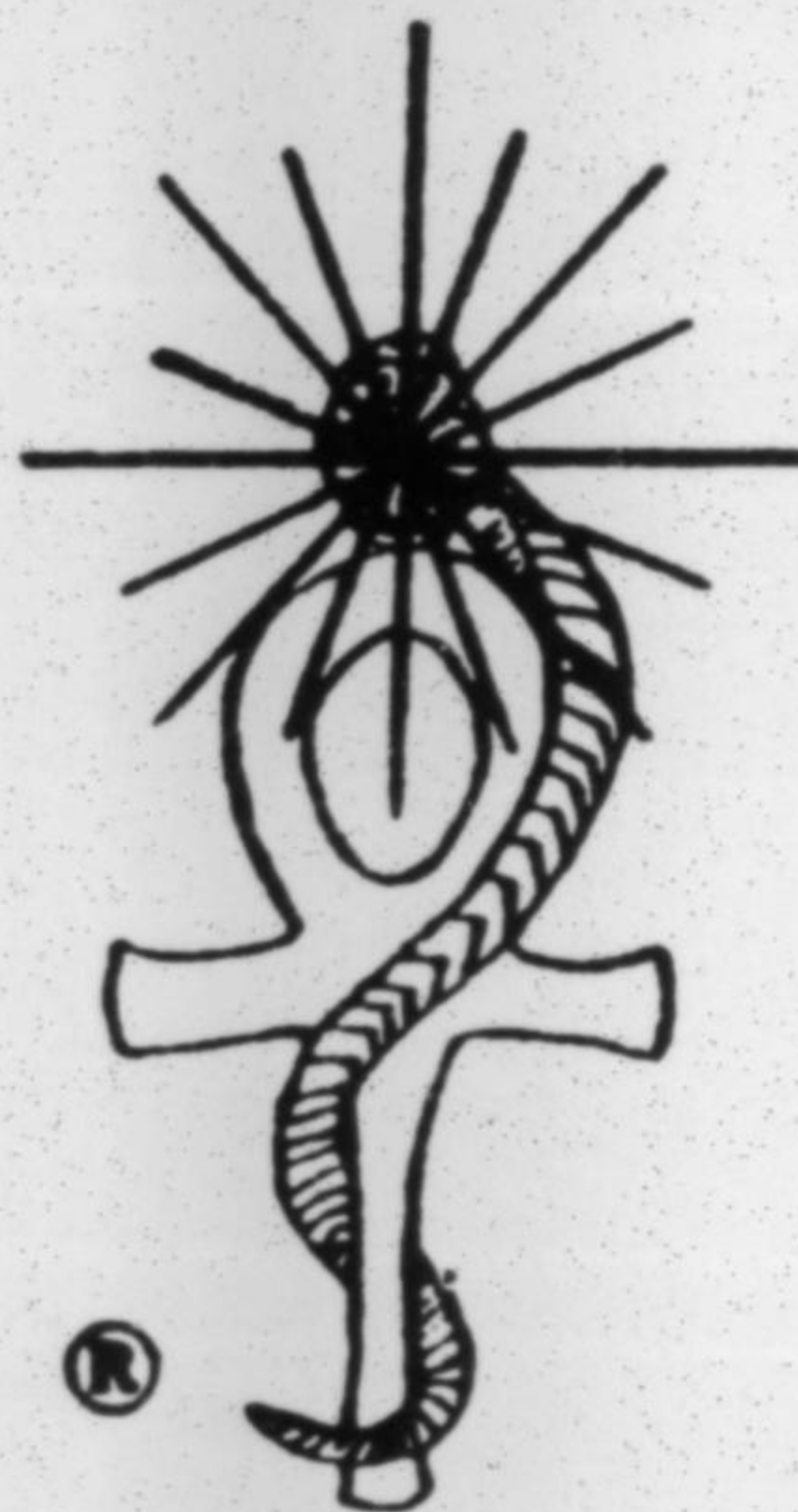
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MYTH, MAGIC and The PYRAMIDS
(Relationships Between Archaeological fact
and Occult Fancy)
By: Scott R. Scribner

For thousands of years, the Pyramids of Egypt have held a particular attraction for the imagination of men. This has led to a long tradition of speculation concerning their construction and purpose, which has continued alongside the scientific attempts to investigate the evidences which they offer. Besides their method of construction, the religious significance and great size of the Giza group has caused debate among scholars. In addition, great claims have been made concerning the Great Pyramid of Cheops which range from being the site of an ancient mystery religion to a device for the divination of man's entire history. I. E. S. Edwards gives these claims only passing mention,¹ but he is considered conservative in this respect.² Typical of such statements are the following:

One particularly interesting theory as to the purpose of the Great Pyramid (and other major pyramids around the world) is that it was built as a massive and indestructible storehouse in which to record and preserve throughout eternity the wisdom of the people who built it.³

Belief in the symbolic message is endorsed enthusiastically by many of today's occult believers. That belief is held even more strongly since the "ancient astronaut" theory has gained popularity. As we know, with each passing year, science pushes back the length of time humanity has been on earth. One archaeological discovery leads to a dozen others, each shattering our belief systems (sic). In the future, we can accept even more incredible theories about the pyramids, their builders, and the message in stone. We can only adopt a skeptical, but open-minded, attitude toward such ideas.⁴

In recent times, the Pyramids have figured in scientific research into shape power, the as yet unexplained energy effects caused by certain shapes, of which the pyramid seems particularly effective.⁵ The result has been a surfeit of books and articles on "pyramid power".⁶ These books for the most part combine both reputable and dubious sources to suit their topics. The following are from one bibliography:⁷

ERNAN, A. A Handbook of Egyptian Religion (English Translation by A. S. Griffith). London, 1907.

EVANS, Alberts. "Metaphysical Mysteries of the Great Pyramid." The Osteopathic Physician, May, 1972.

WINLOCK, H. E. The Rise and Fall of the Middle Kingdom in Thebes. New York, 1947.

Winlock, H. E. "Pyramid Meditation," National Enquirer, Jan. 13, 1974.

It will be my purpose in this paper to examine the particular interest in "pyramidology" today, considering how the findings of archaeology have influenced popular occult traditions, particularly as regards the many deities in the Egyptian pantheon. These have reached their present expressions in our society by a process which was recognized by the psychologist Carl Jung. Archaeology can shed light on these modern trends, but it cannot totally eliminate the demand for particular types of explanations, sought by persons trying to explain all phenomena, including historical artifacts, in terms of a unified metaphysical structure.

It is probably fair to say that the breeding ground for speculation involves the lack of any clear evidence about the methods of construction of the Pyramids. Even such a reputable scholar as Edwards states:

Extant Egyptian records, whether written or pictorial, throw no light on the methods employed by the builders of the Pyramids either in planning or constructing their monumental works.

As a result, modern man must reason inductively with his present knowledge in order to come up with explanations covering each aspects of pyramid origins. In the process, the goal becomes that of explaining away obstacles at the cost of possible inconsistencies. Theories advanced on the basis of examination of the structure and consideration of available tools and materials, become accepted matters of fact even in the absence of corroborating proof.

Concerning the construction of the pyramids at Giza, particularly the Great Pyramid of Cheops, there exists no lack of problems. Even after attempts at explaining the movement of vast numbers of huge stones (up to 200 tons)

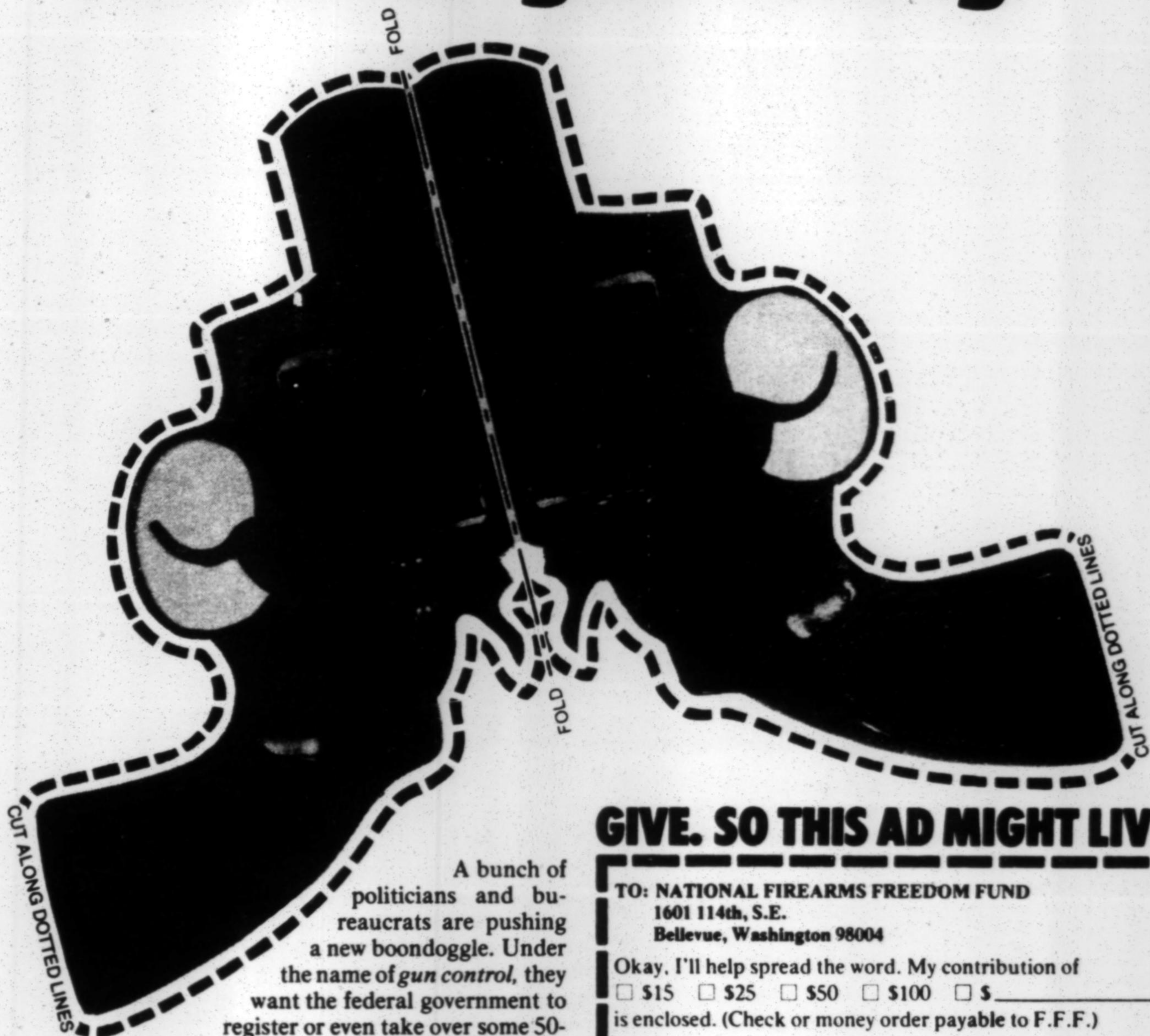
over water and land after hewing to incredible tolerances with relatively primitive implements, there remain the problems at every stage of the process: for what purpose were these particular feats accomplished? The alignment with the points of the compass, the leveling process which resisted thousands of years of settling, earthquakes, and even continental drift?⁹ Outside of the possibility of technology far advanced of the day, the mentality of the builders begins to resemble that of obsessive worker ants.

Many seemingly insurmountable questions arise in consideration of the exigencies of such a task. If the stones were quarried, hewn, and finished with metal implements necessary to the task, was copper equal to the task? How did it keep an edge? If the stones were transported by water, then some of the barges would have had to be enormous; where is there evidence for their existence? If they were ferried across land on sledges, as Edwards seems to think,¹⁰ then the sixty-ton statue pulled by 172 men averages out to 750 pounds per man. The pulling of such a weight even on bearings and tires is a back-breaking task. If the stones were rolled over wooden logs, where would such a supply of wood originate? Or even the incredible quantities of rope and other materials? At least one estimate has placed the number of trees required at twenty-six million!¹¹

Dr. Luis Alvarez, a Nobel Prize winner in physics, devised a method for detecting hidden chambers inside the pyramid of Chephren by the measurement of cosmic-ray bombardment, which proceeds from space at a constant rate. Computer analysis of the pattern of penetration provided a means of inferring the pyramid's internal geometry. This was done and the result was successful; the pyramid did show densities which indicated the locations of inner structures. The problem was: each day's results seemed to indicate a completely different arrangement, a finding which is only conceivable if the pyramid possessed characteristics of geometry or density with which the scientists were completely unfamiliar.¹²

Paid Advertisement

Next year this may be all you'll have left to defend your family.



A bunch of politicians and bureaucrats are pushing a new boondoggle. Under the name of *gun control*, they want the federal government to register or even take over some 50-million guns now held by our country's private citizens. Sound like a good idea?

They overlook one thing: Even if honest people turn in their guns, *the criminals among us aren't going to!* So with *gun control*, only the thugs, rapists and insane killers will have guns. And that's a real danger. To our country. And to you. But it looks like they're actually going to get it across. Unless we can tell enough people what's happening, fast enough. Unless this ad and others like it can run over and over in national magazines and newspapers and on TV. Will you help?

If you own a gun, or if you imagine you might ever need to, please send a contribution. As much as you can. As soon as you can.

The wife you save may be your own.

GIVE. SO THIS AD MIGHT LIVE.

TO: NATIONAL FIREARMS FREEDOM FUND
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Bellevue, Washington 98004

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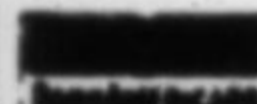

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Charge the amount indicated above to my bank-card account:

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(THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING AS A FREE LUNCH)

WHICH MEANS IF YOU WANT THE GOVERNMENT TO DO SOMETHING, THEY'RE EITHER GOING TO TAKE MONEY FROM YOU TO DO IT OR TAKE IT FROM SOMEONE ELSE.

—WHICH MAKES YOU EITHER:
(1) A FOOL OR (2) A THIEF

SIMON JESTER

#110

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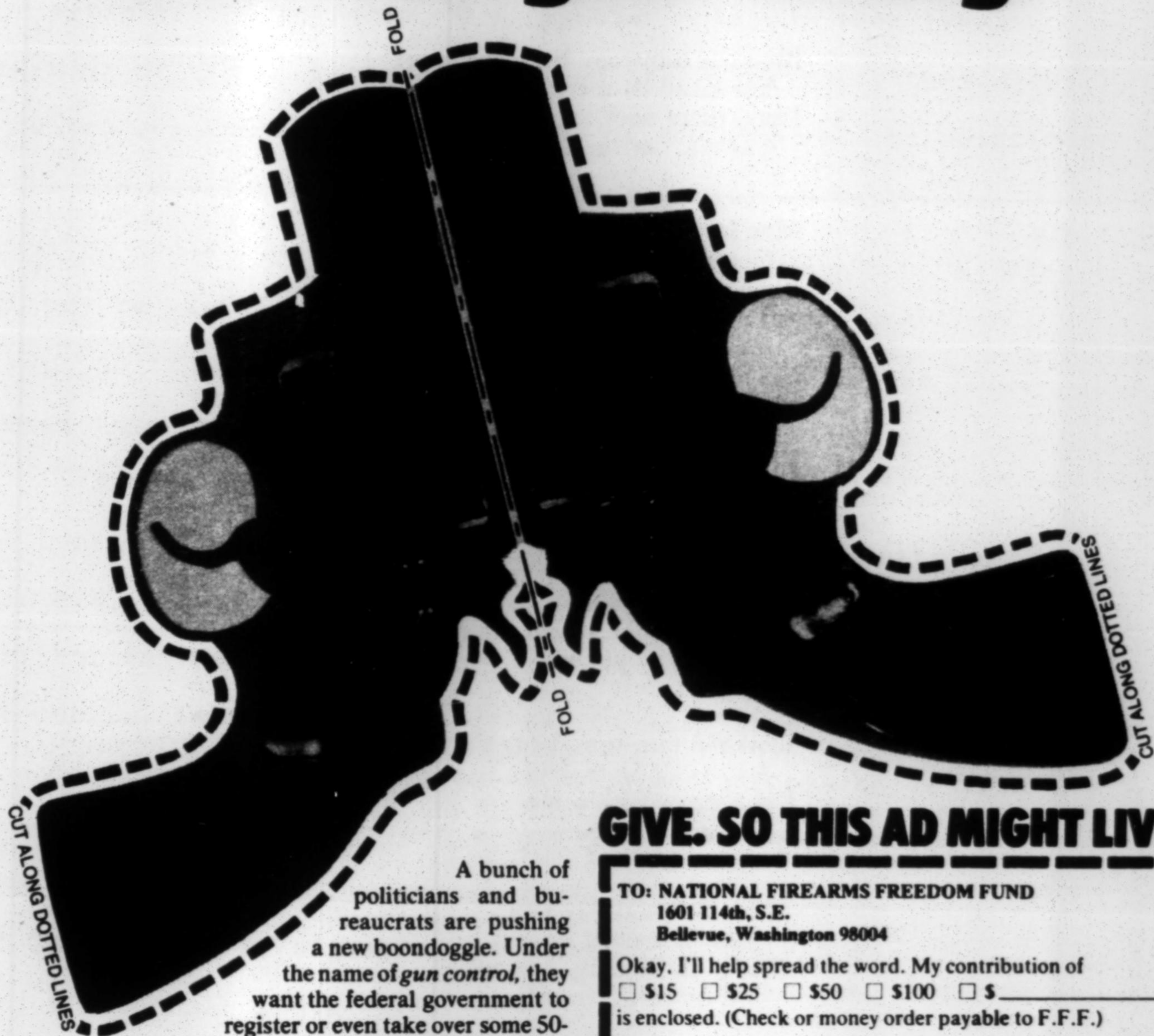
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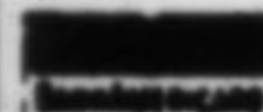

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All the Dirt
that's fit to
Print !!

THE YELLOW RAG

Contributions
Gleefully
Accepted.

*** TOTALLY IRRESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM ***

BERI-BERI*

Blow the tom-tom, bang the flute!
Let us all be merry!
I'm a party with acute
Chronic beri-beri.

Monday I'm a skinny critter
Quite Félicien-Rops-y.
Blow the cymbal, bang the zither!
Tuesday I have dropsy.

Blow the tom-tom, bang the flute!
Let us all be merry!
I'm a party with acute
Chronic beri-beri.

Wednesday cardiac symptoms come;
Thursday diabetic.
Blow the fiddle, strum the drum!
Friday I'm paretic.

Blow the tom-tom, bang the flute!
Let us all be merry!
I'm a party with acute
Chronic beri-beri.

If on Saturday my foes
Join in legions serried,
Then, on Sunday, I suppose,
I'll be beri-buried!

Blow the tom-tom, bang the flute!
Let us all be merry!
I'm a party with acute
Chronic heri-beri.

The Inland Sea.

From "Musa Medici" Several MSS missing, especially one of the best,
of which remains only the Chorus: "

"Don't mix up Cancer of the Rec-tum-tum
With car-ci-noma of the i-le-um!"

Courtesy of "G.G.", from his
collection of first edition
Crowley books. ==Ed.

THOSE CRAZY LIBERTARIANS

THEY ACTUALLY THINK THAT YOUR LIFE IS
MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN IT IS TO
OUR FINE RULERS IN WASHINGTON—AND
THAT YOU SHOULD CONTROL IT INSTEAD
OF THEM!

SIMON JESTER

#108

DON'T BE FOOLED!

THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT "OUR SERVANT"
THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT "THE COUNTRY"
THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT "THE PEOPLE"

THE GOVERNMENT IS AN AGENCY OF FORCE
WHICH TAXES OUR INCOMES IN EXCHANGE
FOR REGULATING OUR LIVES.

SIMON JESTER

#111

ANARCHY

IS NOT A SYNONYM FOR CHAOS.
IT MERELY DESCRIBES A SOCIETY
WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT.
NOW, ON THE OTHER HAND,
THE WORD 'GOVERNMENT' ...

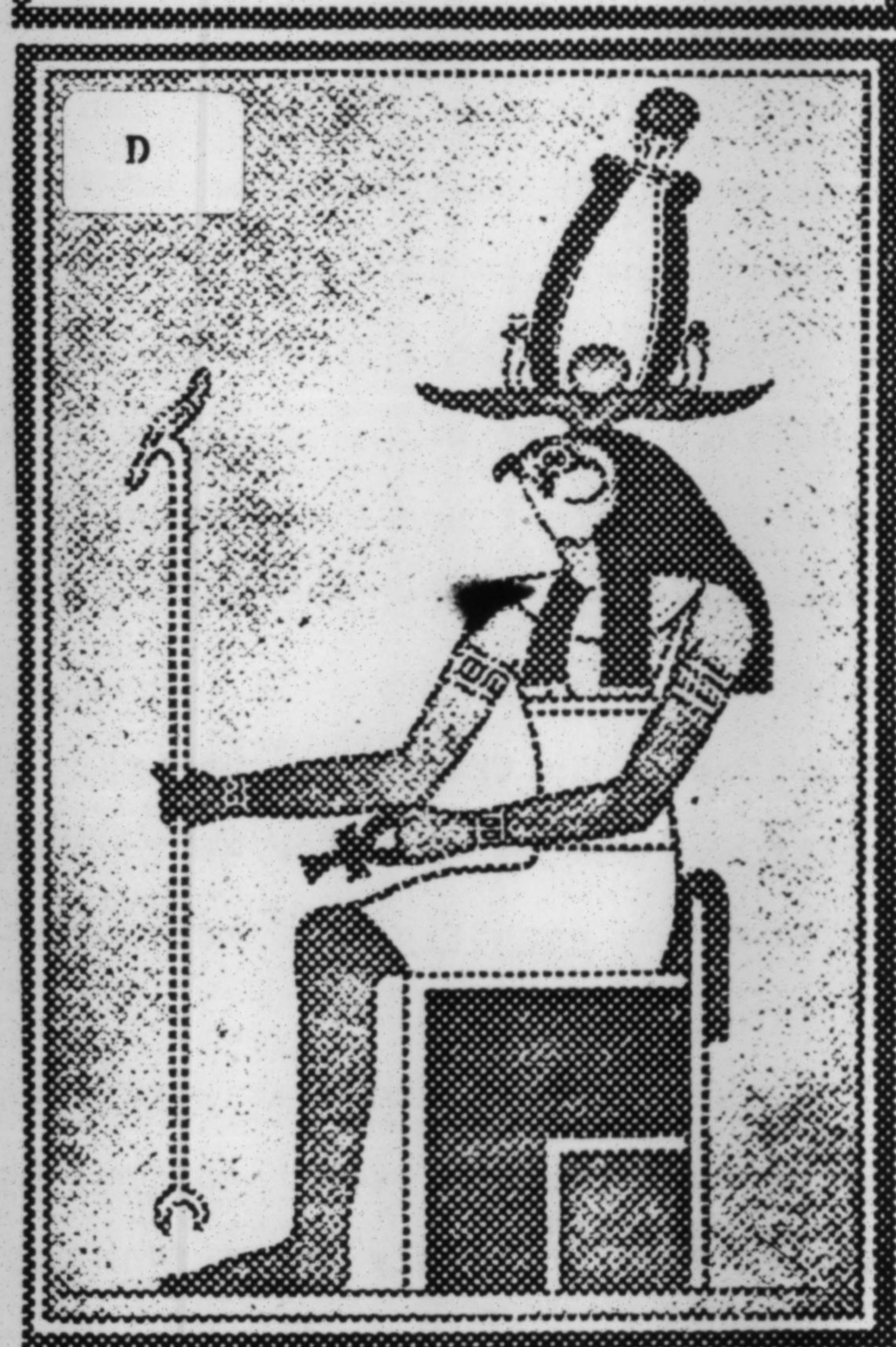
SIMON JESTER

#103

At any rate, problems such as these serve to increase speculation concerning extra-scientific explanations of the Pyramids' construction. This is further reinforced by the conception of the pyramid as an object connected with religious or metaphysical purposes. The Egyptian religion then takes on some of the mysterious qualities of the Pyramids themselves. Edwards recognizes that the period of the Pyramid Age coincides with the development of an official religion as well as a greater consolidation and centralization of the Two Kingdoms.¹³ It may be useful, therefore, to look at the development of Egyptian "theology" for clues to the importance of the Pyramids through tradition down to the present day.

Edwards notes that with centralization came amalgamation of local deities from each nomes. Ptah, principal deity of Memphis, became the head of a family including Sakhmet, Nefertem, and Sokar. The common arrangement was the triad, such as Osiris, Isis, and Horus. It can be seen that with the approach of an official religion at Heliopolis (On), these triads might begin to approach a system of correspondences. Even the reference to Potipherah (Potiphar) and Joseph in the Book of Genesis may be significant in this regard, for the Hebrew mystery schools trace their lineage from Egypt, and the period of the captivity thus becomes a possible point for the transference of certain Egyptian concepts into Jewish thought at this time. This tradition survives through the rise of Christianity and the Middle Ages as the Cabala (numerology deriving from the gematria) and comes to our era as the Western occult tradition.

Plates related to that tradition are presented on the following page, from a recent work on magic by Israel Regardie. Each is very obviously taken from Egyptian mythology, with (A) representing Tahuti, or Thoth, as the incarnation of wisdom and the patron of magic. (B) is Hathor, similar to the Aphro-

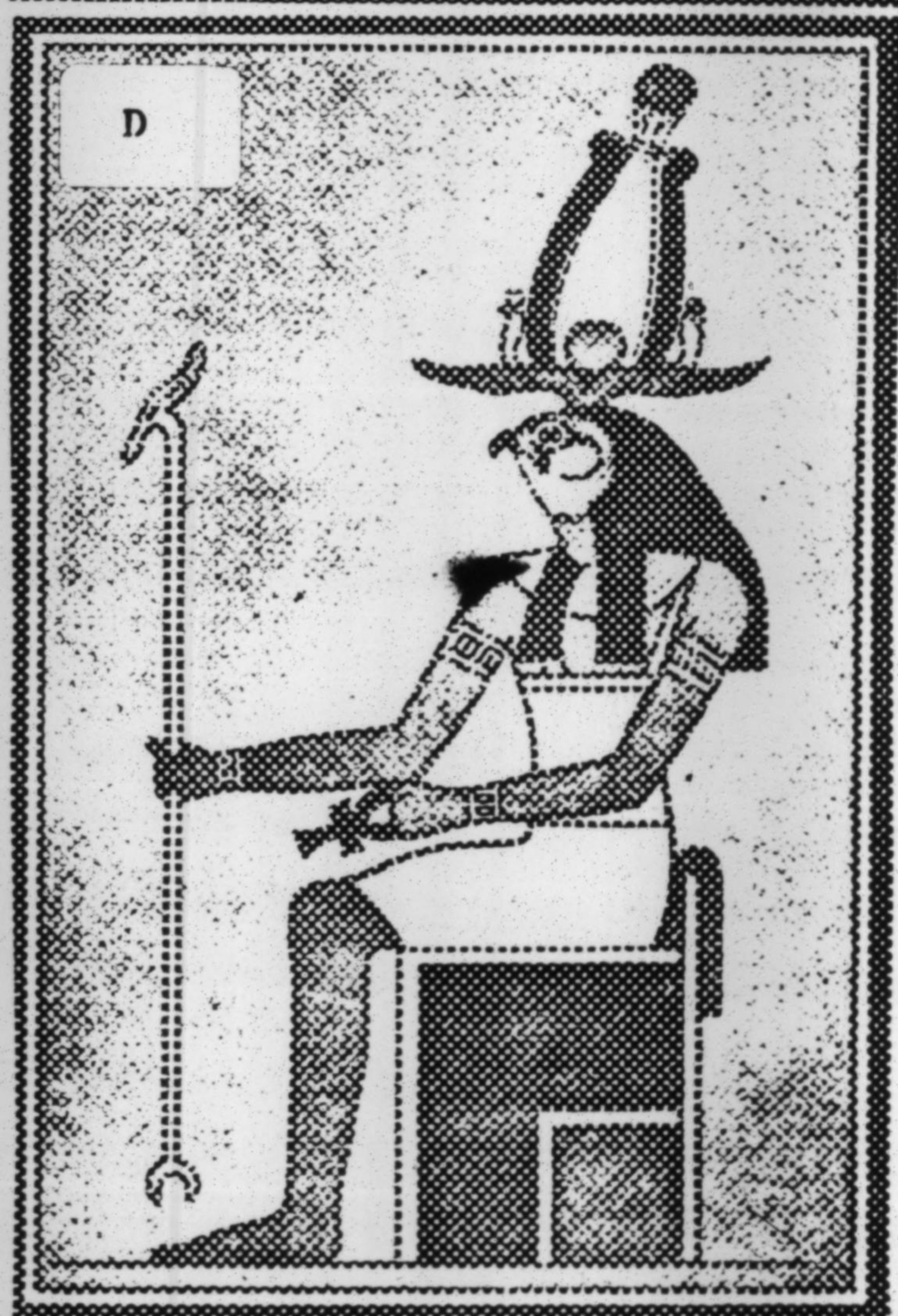


dite of the Greeks. (C) pictures Harpocrates, known as the Lord of Silence, with the very same implements of his office that Osiris assumed from Andjeti. After Osiris and Horus began to be linked, the former begins to be identified with

Sokar of Memphis as well as with deities from other nomes. Thus occur further traces of the correspondences mentioned above. Osiris' relationship to Re(Ra) the Sun-God is significant as well, for though different within the pantheon, both represent the concept of life beyond death (specifically resurrection in the case of Osiris). With the "democratization of the Osirian cult"¹⁵, this becomes a significant factor for the individual Egyptian and seems to indicate a progression: an advantage originally attributed only to a god becomes available to a king and eventually to the populace, possibly with the king as mediator.

Plate (D) pictures Horus as the Lord of Force and Fire; his correspondence to Sokar, the falcon-headed god of Memphis, is clearly evident. The allusion to Fire probably stems from a correspondence with Horakhti the falcon-headed sun-god. Within the cosmology of Egypt, Re-Atum (Ra-Amoun or Amon-Ra) generates from Nun(Nu) and gives birth to Shu and Tefnut. Tefnut's offspring, Geb and Nut(Nuit), cohabit as indeed did the full-blooded siblings of Egyptian royalty. The result is: Osiris, Isis(mother of Horus), Seth(murderer of Osiris), and Nephthys.

The relationship of this plethora of gods to the occult tradition and even to Christianity only becomes evident when filtered through the traditional pattern of the Cabala. This particular form of mystical metaphysics is preserved in a diagram known as the "Tree of Life"(Figure 1), which was constructed in order to express the numerological relationships thought to contain magical properties as well as the sacred letters of the Hebrew alphabet. With the opening up of accessibility to occult documents and analyses such as those of Carl Jung in the twentieth century, the symbolic relationships could be understood in terms of the archetypes of the collective unconscious. Thus it becomes possible to speculate on the arrangement of deities within any tradition on a rational basis.



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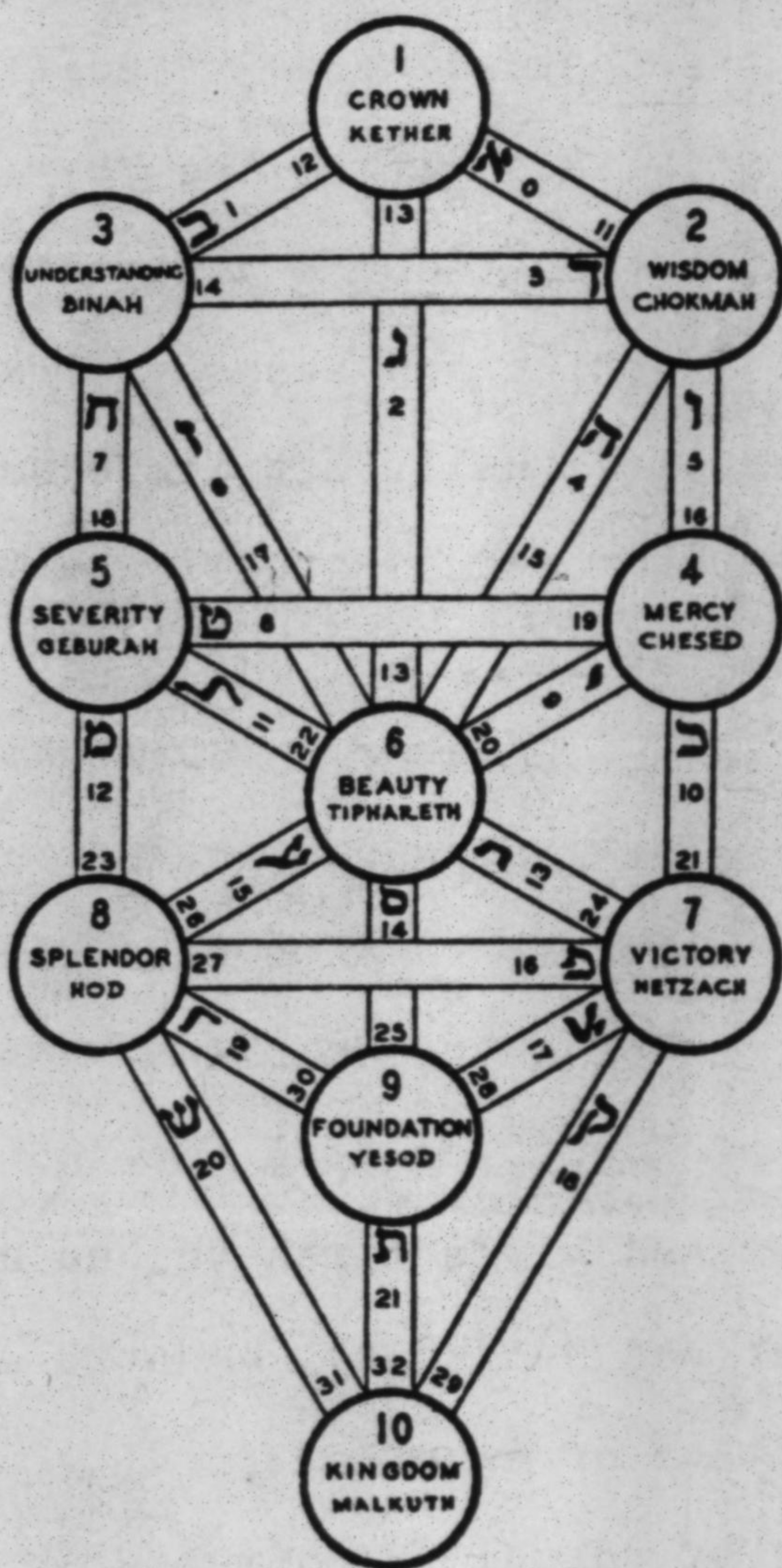
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Figure 1

The representation of the "Tree of Life" within the tradition of Hebrew Cabalistic mysticism, which is reported to have Egyptian roots:

THE HOLY TREE OF LIFE
Showing the Hebrew letters



The ten "sephiroth" and twenty-two pathways have symbolic and numerological significance for the mystic seeking enlightenment.

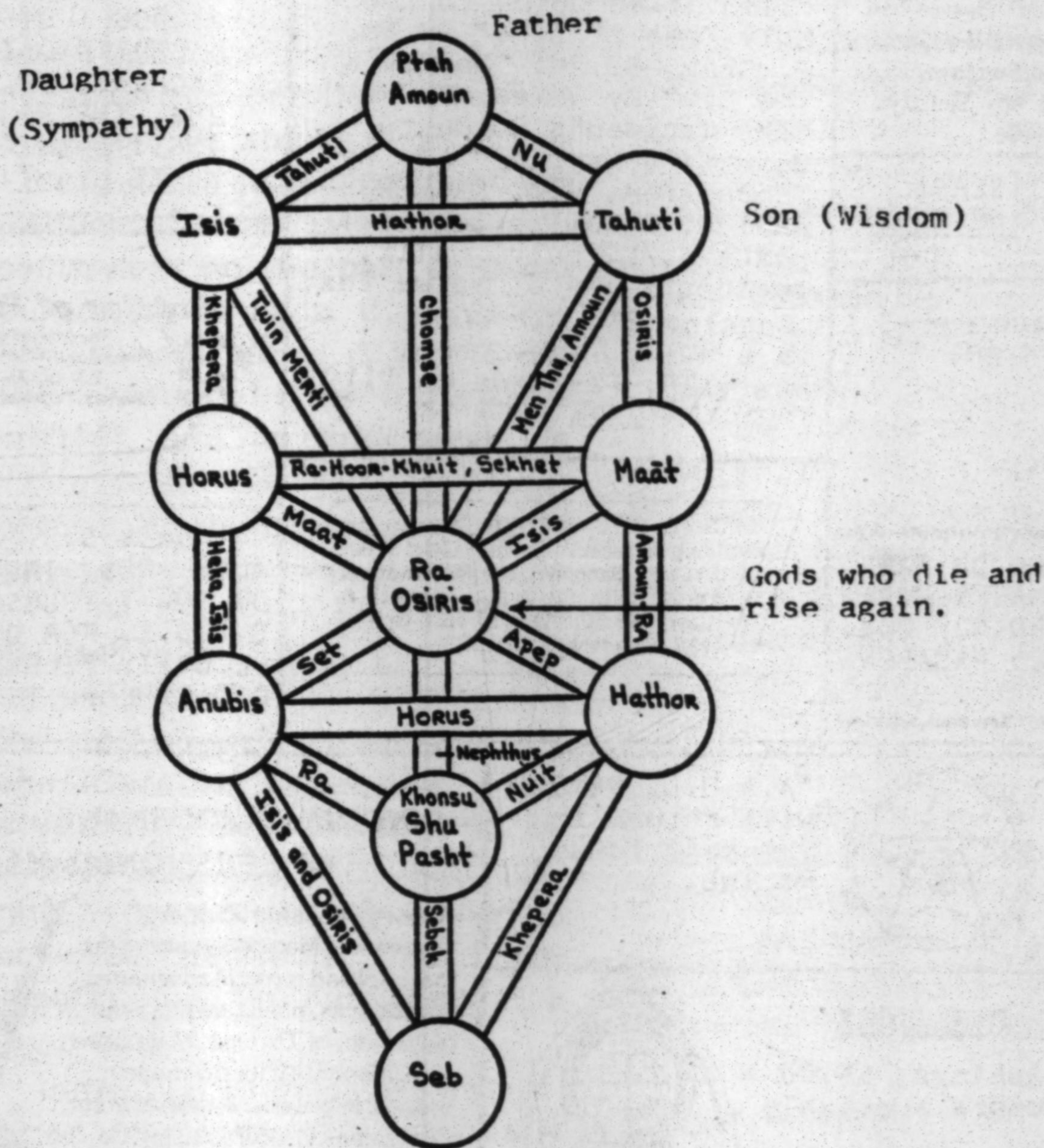
Sources: Grey, Wm.: The Simplified Guide to the Holy Tree of Life; Pasadena: The Labrys Press, 1973
Fortune, Dion: The Mystical Qabalah; London: Ernest Benn, Ltd. 1974 (11th. edition).

Applying this method results in the diagram of Figure 2. The Egyptian deities are assigned according to their psychic function or type, which defines their relationships in more detail (on a purely analogical basis). The important spheres for our purposes are Ptah, Tehuti, Isis, and Ra/Osiris. Ptah corresponds to Zeus in the Greek pantheon (Jupiter in the Roman), Jehovah in Judaism, and God the Father of Christianity. Within the Western tradition, he is the Crown of the Cabala and the Emperor of tarot. Tehuti is Hermes (Mercury)- thus is

indicated the relationship among the architect of the Pyramids, the legendary Hermes Trismegistus, and the Book of Thoth as well as Adonai in Judaism, God the Son (The Word) of Christianity, Hokhmah of the Cabala, and the Magician of tarot.

Figure 2

The correspondences arrived at by application of the Egyptian pantheon to the Cabalistic scheme:



Sources: Regardie, Israel: *The Tree of Life*; New York: Samuel Weiser, 1973
 White, Rev. Nelson H: *The White Light* (Vol. 1, #4)
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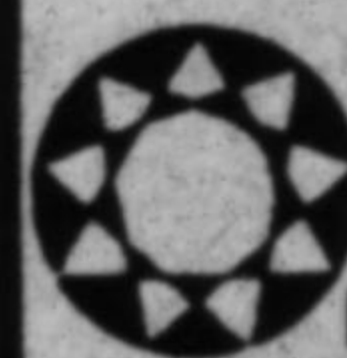
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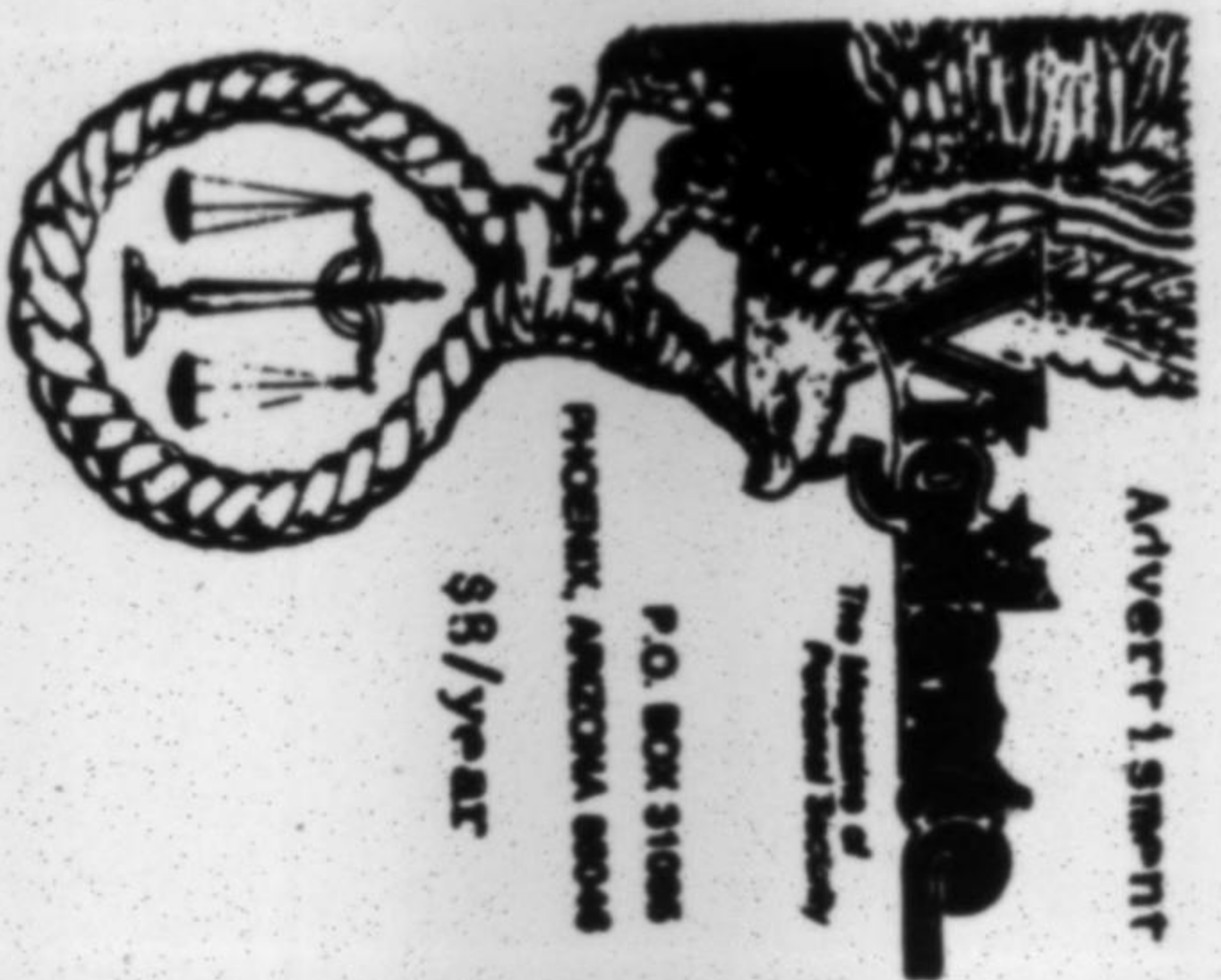
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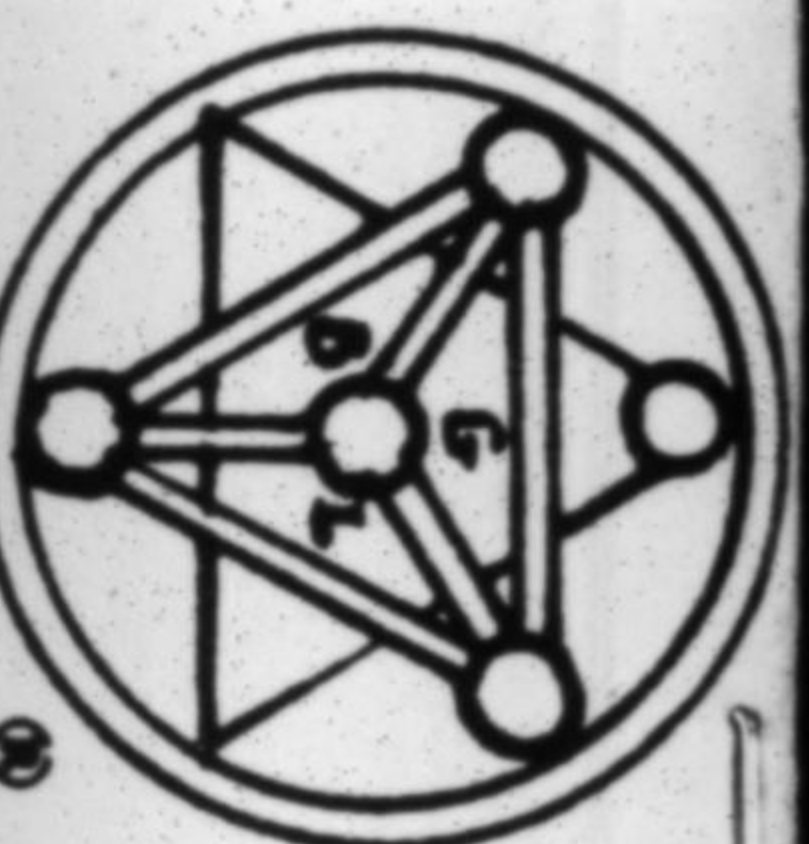


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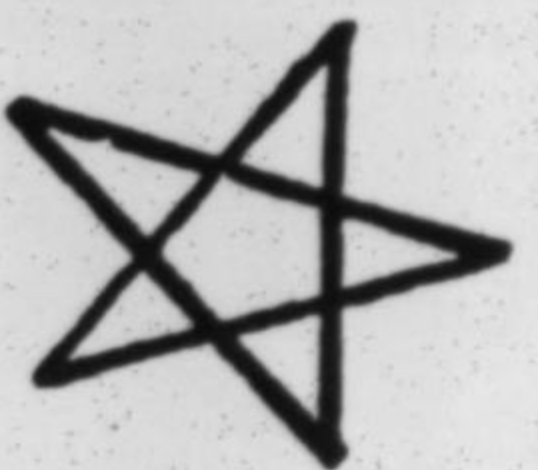
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