

Evidence for telekinetic phenomena of medium Cleio. The International Congress for Psychical Research in Oslo, 1935.

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Abstract This work is intended to present the story of the telekinetic phenomena of a Greek young lady by the name Cleio who lived in Athens Greece some seventy years ago. She was discovered and tested by the Admiral, doctor of the Navy, Dr Angelos Tanagras who has served as the president of the Hellenic Society for Psychical Research. Tanagras attended the fifth international parapsychology congress that took place in Oslo in 1935 and reported on Cleio's tests showing a film of her in telekinetic activity with a compass needle. In the current presentation many photos of Tanagras, of Cleio and of other last century parapsychologists are shown. Evidence of tests of Cleio that Tanagras initiated at the Athens University is presented, as well as an animation of the telekinetic activity of Cleio with the compass needle, as it has been filmed by Tanagras.

Transcripts of the talk

1. Carl Christian Vett (Denmark 1871-1956) The Oslo Congress was the fifth in a series of meetings discussing psychical phenomena organized from 1921 to 1935 by Carl Christian Vett a wealthy businessman from Denmark: Copenhagen 1921, Warsaw 1923, Paris 1927, Athens 1930, Oslo 1935. Angelos (Evangelidis) Tanagras, who had founded his Society for Psychical Research in 1923, missed the first two conferences, he attended the Paris congress, organized the fourth one in Athens and also attended the last one in Oslo, where he was elected the congress president.

2. Angelos Evangelidis Tanagras (1877-1973). Tanagras was training sensitives by self-hypnosis who were participating in long-distance telepathy experiments with other European cities, such as Paris, Rome, Vienna and Tübingen, reporting a lot of success. Among his many activities was to investigate field cases and spontaneous paranormal phenomena, which he archived and published in his book titled, in its French version, "*Le Destin et la Chance*". In order to explain a number of the investigated phenomena he proposed the theory of *psychobolie*, in which the soul is exerting a substance that is coming from the body spreading around to impregnate objects so that it influences their state. His sensitives were able to detect this substance in affected objects.

3. Telekinesis of Cleio with compass needle. Cleio Georgiou was the pseudonym given to her to protect her family's anonymity. Koula Ghioka was her real name, the 25 yr.-old sister of a mathematics university professor. Her experiences appeared after both her father and sister died simultaneously. Her family suspected that the cause of the phenomena was the spirits of deceased family members and asked Tanagras for assistance. Realizing that it was actually Cleio who created the phenomena, Tanagras decided to attempt their replication. So, he gave Cleio a nautical compass asking if she could practice with it. Within a few days Cleio was able to move and stop the needle at will.

4. Tests of Cleio at the Physics Laboratory of Athens University. Tanagras brought Cleio to the Physics Laboratory of the Athens University, directed by prof. G. Athanasiadis (1866-1949), to be tested in the presence of prof. K. Zegelis of Chemistry (1870-1957) and prof. I. Chadjidakis of Mathematics (1844-1921). The official record of these test results (issued on 22 January 1932) confirms the following:

(a) Evidence of ability to move magnetic needle by placing hands above it, especially by use of the right hand. (b) No influence on the Cavendish balance. (c) No effect on non-magnetic steel needle. (d) No effect on charged or uncharged electroscope leaf, by either hands. (e) No effect on magnetic needle when another person stands in between the compass and Cleio. (f) No effect of Cleio's fingers on photographic film in darkness. (g) There were no electric currents detected by electrocardiograph flowing through Cleio's body. (h) She had no effect on light of different colors of the spectrum.

Tanagras refers to these tests in his autobiography: *"It is better to attach this protocol here because as I see things, when I am gone my collaborators will not be able to continue my work. Having to earn their living, they will not abandon their jobs to continue the work of this society, as they have nothing to gain from it. Let the specialists and any interested intellectuals of the future study the results of these tests."*

5. The Oslo conference. Before the start of the conference and as Tanagras was discussing with another participant from Greece in the Hall, Prof. Wereide the president of the Norwegian Society for Psychical Research and Carl Vett approached him to announce that he had been elected as the president of the 5th congress. That recognition greatly moved Tanagras. He walked to the presidential chair in midst of the cheerful applause of the audience and thanked them warmly.

There were over seventy people attending, representing all nations except for Spain and Russia. It was the rule at these congresses that only the officially elected representatives of each country were allowed to present a paper. Among the participants were H. Driesch, O. Lodge, C. Richet, F. Cazzamalli, C. Tenhaeff, G. Walther, W. Carrington, H. Carrington, and K. Richmond. Tanagras presented two papers in total. The first one showing evidence of Cleio's telekinetic phenomena with the compass needle, additionally showing a film that he had prepared in Athens (Cleio could not afford the trip to Norway to attend the conference) showing her to affect the compass needle, and the second lecture where he presented his theory of *psychobolie*.

Martin Ebon writes in his book *"Psychic Warfare: Threat or Illusion"* (Mc Graw Hill, 1983): *"Vasiliev started Kulagina on psychokinetic work by recalling experiments done by Admiral Angelo Tanagras, a Greek psychic researcher, with a medium known as Cleio, who had been able to move a compass needle by mind power"*.

6. The Cleio film. Telekinesis with compass needle. The British psychical researcher Benson Herbert studied the Cleio film and wrote about it in detail in the J. Paraphysics, 1972. First, there is a close up of Cleio. Tanagra's hands appear. Cleio's eyes are closed. Tanagras raises her right eyelid revealing that the eyeball is turned upwards, denoting trance state. Tanagras lifts a folded card table, turns it round to display that no devices are attached to it. Tests of the compass needle with a bar magnet, displaying all its sides, up & down. Tanagras talks to Cleio and she turns her attention to the compass.

Cleio's hands are held together, palms downwards. Hands move around compass: No motion of needle. Hands move to 0° position, needle follows them overshooting by 10° then returning to 0°.

Hands continue to 0° position, needle follows them. Hands move anti-clockwise to 45° position, needle remains at 0°.

Hands continue anti-clockwise to 130° position, needle turns to 320°.

Hands remain almost stationary, needle turns anti-clockwise to 60°. Although hands are quite stationary, needle turns to 355°.

Hands withdrew by 8cm, no change in compass. Hands move round anti-clockwise, 5cm from compass; needle reacts violently oscillating between 80° and 280°.

Hands move round very close to the compass; needle makes 3 complete revolutions following hands.

Camera lifts now to show upper part of Cleio's body above table. She moves her hands to her hair several times, patting it, giving fairly good view of palms at times, with no sign of hidden magnets. Tanagras wakes her up; close-up of Cleio's face; she smiles happily.

End of film session.

7. Epilogue Extract from last pages of Tanagras' autobiography: *"Regarding references to me of no importance, I prefer that my autobiography remains buried in some archives which may one day come to light, but certainly not in this century... requiescat in pace"*. (The above talk was published in the Journal of the Society for Psychical Research in 2009: vol. 73.4 (897), pp.193-206).