FOREWORD

“The last decades of the twentieth century have witnessed an upsurge of human knowledge that boggles the mind. Our advances in every field of science and technology are no longer measured in centuries or even decades but in years and even months, and they seem to surpass in attainments and scope anything that Man has achieved in the past.

But it is possible that Mankind has come out of the Dark Ages and the Middle Ages; reached the Age of Enlightenment; experienced the Industrial Revolution; and entered the era of high-tech, genetic engineering, and space flight - only to catch up with ancient knowledge?

For many generations the Bible and its teachings have served as an anchor for a searching Mankind, but modern science appeared to have cast us all adrift, especially in the confrontation between Evolution and Creationism. In this volume it will be shown that the conflict is baseless; that the Book of Genesis and its sources reflect the highest levels of scientific knowledge.

Is it possible, then, that what our civilization is discovering today about our planet Earth and about our corner of the universe, the heavens, is only a drama that can be called “Genesis Revisited” - only a rediscovery of what had been known to a much earlier civilization, on Earth and on another planet?

The question is not one of mere scientific curiosity; it goes to the core of Mankind’s existence, its origin, and its destiny. It involves the Earth’s past; it deals with where we are going because it reveals where we have come from. And the answers, as we shall see, lead to inevitable conclusions that some consider too incredible to accept and others too awesome to face.

Chapter One
THE HOST OF HEAVEN

In the beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth.

“The very concept of a beginning of all things is basic to modern astronomy and astrophysics. The statement that there was a void and chaos before there was order conforms to the very latest theories that chaos, not permanent stability, rules the universe. And then there is the statement about the bolt of light that began the process of creation.

Was this a reference to the Big Bang, the theory according to which the universe was created from a primordial explosion, a burst of energy in the form of light, that sent the matter from which stars and planets and rocks and human beings are formed flying in all directions and creating the wonders we see in the heavens and on Earth? Some scientists, inspired by the insights of our most inspiring source, have thought so. But then, how did ancient Man know the Big Bang theory so long ago? Or was this biblical tale the description of matters closer to home, of how our own little planet Earth and the heavenly zone called the Firmament, or “hammered-out bracelet,” were formed?
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"...It is only appropriate that we begin the quest for answers where the events began to unfold - in
the heavens; where also, from time immemorial, Man has felt that his origins, higher values - God, if you will - are to be found. As thrilling as discoveries made by the use of microscopes are, it is what telescopes enable us to see that fills us with the realization of the grandeur of nature and the universe.

"...For the first time, perhaps, we can grasp the meaning and feel the scope of the Psalmist's words:

The heavens bespeak the glory of the Lord
an the vault of heaven reveals His handiwork.

"A fantastic era of planetary exploration came to a magnificent climax when, in August 1989, the unmanned spacecraft designated Voyager 2 flew by distant Neptune and sent back to Earth pictures and other data.

"...Thus it was that for several days at the end of August 1989, headlines concerning another world pushed aside the usual news of armed conflicts, political upheavals, sports results, and market reports that make up Mankind's daily life fare....

"...As the dazzling images of an aquamarine globe appeared on our television screens, the commentators stressed repeatedly that this was the first time that Man on Earth had ever really been able to see this planet, which even with the best Earth-based telescopes is visible only as a dimly lit spot in the darkness of space almost three billion miles from us. They reminded the viewers that Neptune was discovered only in 1846, after perturbations in the orbit of the somewhat nearer planet Uranus indicated the existence of another celestial body beyond it.... And thus not only the average TV viewer but the astronomers themselves were about to see what had been unseen before - it would be the first time we would learn the true hues and makeup of Neptune.

"But two months before the August encounter, I had written an article for a number of U.S., European, and South American monthlies contradicting these long-held notions: Neptune was known in antiquity, I wrote; and the discoveries that were about to be made would only confirm ancient knowledge. Neptune, I predicted, would be blue-green, watery, and have patches the color of "swamplike vegetation"!
"The electronic signals from Voyager 2 confirmed all that and more....

"....This beautiful planet was found to be encircled by several rings made up of boulders, rocks, and dust and is orbited by at least eight satellites, or moons.... the largest, Triton, proved no less spectacular than its planetary master....

"....The discoveries thus fully confirmed my prediction: Neptune is indeed blue-green; it is made up in great part of water; and it does have patches whose coloration looks like "swamplike vegetation." This last tantalizing aspect may bespeak more than a color code if the full implication of the discoveries on Triton is taken into consideration: there, "darker patches with brighter halos" have suggested to the scientists of NASA the existence of "deep pools of organic sludge."

"....Such gratifying and overwhelming corroboration of my prediction was not the result of a mere lucky guess. It goes back in 1976 when The 12th Planet, my first book in The Earth Chronicles series, was published. Basing my conclusions on millennia-old Sumerian texts, I had asked rhetorically: "When we probe Neptune someday, will we discover that its persistent association with waters is due to the watery swamps" that had once been seen there?

"This was published, and obviously written, a year before Voyager 2 was even launched and was restated by me in an article two months before the Neptune encounter.

"How could I be so sure, on the eve of Voyager's encounter with Neptune, that my 1976 prediction would be corroborated - how dared I take the chance that my predictions would be disproved within weeks after submitting my article? My certainty was based on what happened in January 1986, when Voyager 2 flew by the planet Uranus.

"....Scientists are still analyzing the photos and data from Uranus and its amazing moons, seeking answers to endless puzzles.

• Why does Uranus lie on its side as though it was hit by another large celestial object in a collision?
• Why do its winds blow in a retrograde direction, contrary to what is normal in the Solar System?

• Why is its temperature on the side that its hidden from the Sun the same as on the side facing the Sun?

• And what shaped the unusual features and formations on some of the Uranian moons?

Especially intriguing is the moon called **Miranda**, "one of the most enigmatic objects in the solar system," in the words of NASA's astronomers, where an elevated, flattened-out plateau is delineated by 100-mile-long escarpments that form a right angle (a feature nicknamed "the Chevron" by the astronomers), and where on both sides of this plateau, there appear elliptical features that look like racetracks ploughed over by concentric furrows.

"Two phenomena, however, stand out as the major discoveries regarding **Uranus**, distinguishing it from other planets. One is its color,... we have become familiar with the gray-brown of Mercury, the sulphur-coloured haze that envelopes Venus, the reddish Mars, the multihued red-brown-yellow Jupiter and Saturn. But as breathtaking images of **Uranus** began to appear on television screens in January 1986, its most striking feature was its greenish-blue color - a color totally different from that of all the previous planets seen.... The other different and unexpected finding had to do with **what Uranus is made of**.

"As the images of **Uranus** grew bigger on the TV screen the closer **Voyager 2** neared the planet, the moderator at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory drew attention to its unusual green-blue color. I could not help cry out loud, "Oh my God, it is exactly as the Sumerians had described it!" I hurried to my study, picked up a copy of *The 12th Planet*, and with unsteady hands looked at page 269 (in the Avon paperback edition). I read again and again the lines quoting the ancient texts. Yes, there was no doubt: though they had no telescopes, the Sumerians had described Uranus as **MASH.SIG**, a term which I had translated "bright greenish."

"A few days later came the results of the analysis of **Voyager 2**'s data, and the Sumerian reference to water on Uranus was also corroborated. Indeed, there appeared to be water all over the place: as reported on a wrap-up program on the television series *NOVA* ("The Planet That God Knocked on Its Side"), "**Voyager 2** found that all the moons of Uranus are made up of rock and ordinary water ice." This abundance, or even the mere presence, of **water** on the supposed "gaseous' planets and their satellites in the edges of the Solar System was totally unexpected.

"Yet here we had the evidence, presented in *The 12th Planet*, that in their texts from millennia ago the ancient Sumerians had not only known of the existence of **Uranus** but had accurately described it as **greenish blue and watery**!

"What did it all mean? It meant that in 1986 modern science did not discover what had been unknown; rather, it **rediscovered** and caught up with ancient knowledge. It was, therefore, because of that 1986 corroboration of my 1976 writings and thus of the veracity of the **Sumerian texts** that I felt confident enough to predict, on the eve of the **Voyager 2** encounter with **Neptune**, what it would discover there.

"....The 1989 flyby of **Neptune** provided still more corroboration of the ancient texts. In them, **Neptune** was listed before **Uranus**, as it would be expected of someone who is coming into the Solar System and sees first **Pluto**, then **Neptune**, and then **Uranus**. In these texts or planetary lists **Uranus** was called **Kakkab shanamma**, "Planet Which is the Double" of **Neptune**. The **Voyager 2** data goes far to uphold
this ancient notion. **Uranus** is indeed a look-alike of **Neptune** in size, color, and watery content; both planets are encircled by rings and orbited by a multitude of satellites, or moons. An unexpected similarity has been found regarding the two planets’ magnetic fields: both have an unusually extreme inclination relative to the planets’ axes of rotation - 58 degrees on Uranus, 50 degrees on Neptune. "Neptune appears to be almost a magnetic twin of Uranus," **John Noble Wilford** reported in *The New York Times*. The two planets are also similar in the lengths of their days: each about sixteen to seventeen hours long.

"...."**Planet which is the double,**" the **Sumerians** said of **Uranus** in comparing it to **Neptune**. "Size and other characteristics that make Uranus a near twin of Neptune," **NASA**’s scientists announced. Not only the described characteristics but even the terminology - "planet which is the double.**" **a near twin of Neptune"** - is similar. But one statement, the Sumerian one, was made circa 4,000 B.C., and the other, by **NASA**, in A.D. 1989, nearly 6,000 years later...

"In the case of these two distant planets, it seems that modern science has only caught up with ancient knowledge. It sounds incredible, but the facts ought to speak for themselves. Moreover, this is just the first of a series of scientific discoveries in the years since The 12th Planet was published that corroborate its findings in one instance after another.

"Those who have read my books (*The Stairway to Heaven*, *The Wars of Gods and Men*, and *The Lost Realms*, followed the first one) know that they are based, first and foremost, on the knowledge bequeathed to us by the **Sumerians**.

"....Indeed, all the basic elements of modern astronomy are of **Sumerian origin**: the concept of a celestial sphere, of a horizon and a zenith, of the circle’s division into 360 degrees, of a celestial band in which the planets orbit the Sun, of grouping stars into constellations and giving them the names and pictorial images that we call the zodiac, of applying the number 12 to this zodiac and to the divisions of time, and of devising a calendar to this very day....

"....And there are illustrations on **cylinder seals** depicting the Solar System in which the **Sun** (not **Earth**) *is in the center*, orbited by all the planets we know of today....

"....The ancient explanation regarding the origin of **Pluto** reveals not just factual knowledge but also great sophistication in matters celestial. It involves an understanding of the complex forces that have shaped the **Solar System**, as well as the development of astrophysical theories by which **moons can become planets** or planets in the making can fail and remain moons. **Pluto**, according to **Sumerian cosmogony**, made it; our **Moon**, which was in the process of becoming an independent planet, was prevented by celestial events from attaining the independent status.

"Modern astronomers moved from speculation to the conviction that such a process has indeed occurred in our **Solar System** only after observations by the **Pioneer** and **Voyager spacecraft**.... in the words of the Voyager’s project’s chief scientist **Edward Stone**, that **Triton** (**Neptune’s moon**) may have been an object sailing through the Solar System several billion years ago when it strayed too close to **Neptune**, came under its gravitational influence and started orbiting the planet."
"...Indeed, as we continue to expound the Sumerian cosmogony, it will become evident that not only is much of modern discovery merely a rediscovery of ancient knowledge but that ancient knowledge offered explanations for many phenomena that modern science has yet to figure out.

"...How on Earth could the Sumerians have known all that so long ago, at the dawn of civilization?

"The answer lies in the second difference between the Sumerian depiction of the solar System and our present knowledge of it (the first difference, like Mr. Sitchin explains, is Pluto and its odd orbit). It is the inclusion of a large planet in the empty space between Mars and Jupiter. We are not aware of any such planet; but the Sumerian cosmological, astronomical, and historical texts insist that there indeed exists one more planet in our Solar System - its twelfth member; they included the Sun, the Moon (which they counted as a celestial body in its own right for reasons stated in the texts), and ten, not nine planets. It was the realization that a planet the Sumerian texts called NIBIRU ("Planet of the Crossing") was neither Mars nor Jupiter, as some scholars have debated, but another planet that passes between them....

"...It is from that planet, the Sumerian texts repeatedly and persistently stated, that the ANUNNAKI came to Earth. The term literally means "Those who from Heaven to Earth Came."

"...The advanced knowledge we find in Sumerian texts is thus, in effect, knowledge that was possessed by the Anunnaki who had come from Nibiru. The Anunnaki came to Earth about 445,000 years ago. Way back then they could already travel in space. Their vast elliptical orbit made a loop - this is the exact translation of the Sumerian term - around all the outer planets, acting as a moving observatory from which the Anunnaki could investigate all those planets.

"...On their planet Nibiru, the Anunnaki/Neﬁlim were facing a situation we on Earth may also soon face: ecological deterioration was making life increasingly impossible. There was a need to protect their dwindling atmosphere, and the only solution seemed to be to suspend gold particles above it, as a shield. (Windows on American spacecraft, for example, are coated with a thin layer of gold to shield the astronauts from radiation).

"...The Sumerian texts that describe all these events and their condensed version in the Book of Genesis have been extensively dealt with in The 12th Planet.

"...Among the scientific advances that will be discussed in the ensuing chapters will also be the mounting evidence for the existence of Nibiru....

"...But after the publication of The 12th Planet and the evidence therein - which has not been refuted since its first printing in 1976 - and the evidence provided by scientific advances since then, the discovery of Nibiru cannot remain just a matter involving textbooks on astronomy. If what I have written is so - if, in other words, the Sumerians were correct in what they were recording - the discovery of Nibiru would mean not only that there is one more planet out there but that there is Life out there. Moreover, it would confirm that there is intelligent beings out there - people who were so advanced that, almost half a million years ago, they could travel in space; people who were coming and going between their planet and Earth every 3,600 years.

"It is who is out there on Nibiru, and not just its existence, that is bound to shake existing political, religious, social, economic, and military orders on Earth. What will the repercussions be when - not if - Nibiru is found?

"It is a question, believe it or not, that is already being pondered.
"It was *Voyager* [project] that focused our attention on the importance of collisions," acknowledged Edward Stone of the *California Institute of Technology* (*Caltech*), the chief scientist of the Voyager program. "The cosmic crashes were potent sculptors of the Solar System."

"The Sumerians made clear, 6,000 years earlier, the very same fact. Central to their cosmogony, worldview, and religion was a cataclysmic event that they called the *Celestial Battle*.

"....Even more important, whenever these modern scientists have come upon a satisfactory answer - it fits and corroborates the Sumerian one!

"....The realization that there had to be one or more major collisions that changed the *Solar System* from its initial form became inescapable after the *Uranus* flyby in 1986, as Dr. Stone has admitted. That *Uranus* was tilted to its side was already known from telescopic and other instrumental observations even before the *Voyager* encounter. But was it formed that way from the very beginning, or did some external force - a forceful collision or encounter with another major celestial body - bring about the tilting?

"The answer had to be provided by the close-up examination of the *moons of Uranus* by *Voyager 2*. The fact that these moons swirl around the equator of *Uranus* in its tilted position.... made scientists wonder whether these moons were there at the time of the tilting event, or whether they formed after the event, perhaps from matter thrown out by the *force of the collision that tilted Uranus*.

"....findings by *Voyager 2* were not the only clues suggesting that the moons of *Uranus* were not formed at the same time as the planet itself but rather some time later, in unusual circumstances. Another discovery that puzzled the scientists was that the rings of Uranus were pitch-black, "blacker than coal dust," presumably composed of "carbon-rich material, a sort of primordial tar scavenged from outer space" (the emphasis is Mr. Sitchin's). These dark rings, warped, tilted and "bizarrely elliptical," were quite unlike the symmetrical bracelets of icy particles circling *Saturn*. Pitch-black also were six of the moonlets discovered at *Uranus*, some acting as "shepherds" for the rings. The obvious conclusion was that the *rings and moonlets were formed from the debris of a "violent event in Uranus's past.... "A likely possibility is that an interloper from outside the *Uranus* system came in and struck a once larger moon sufficiently hard to have fractured it."

"....In simpler words, it means that in all probability the moons in question were created as a result of the collision that knocked *Uranus* on its side. In press conferences the *NASA* scientists were more audacious. "A collision with something the size of Earth, travelling at about 40,000 miles per hour, could have done it," they said, speculating that it probably happened about four billion years ago.

"Astronomer Garry Hunt of the *Imperial College*, London, summed it up in seven words: "*Uranus* took an almighty bang early on."

"But neither in the verbal briefings nor in the long written reports was an attempt made to suggest what the "something" was, where it had come from, and how it happened to collide with, or bang into *Uranus*.

"For those answers, we will have to go back to the Sumerians. . . .

"Before we turn from knowledge acquired in the late 1970s and 1980s to what was known 6,000 earlier, one more aspect of the puzzle should be looked into: Are the oddities at *Neptune* the
result of collisions, or "bangs," unrelated to those of \textit{Uranus} - or were they all the result of one catastrophic event that affected all the outer planets?

"Before the \textit{Voyager 2 flyby of Neptune}, the planet was known to have only two satellites, \textit{Nereid} and \textit{Triton}. \textit{Nereid} was found to have a peculiar orbit: it was \textit{unusually tilted} compared with the planet's equatorial plane (as much as 28 degrees) and was \textit{very eccentric} - orbiting the planet not in a near-circular path but in a \textit{very elongated one}, which takes the moon as far as six million miles from \textit{Neptune} and as close as one million miles to the planet. \textit{Nereid}, although of a size that by planetary-formation rules should be spherical, has an odd shape like that of a twisted doughnut. It also is bright on one side and pitch-black on the other....

"The \textit{dark material} that shows up on one side of \textit{Nereid} could be explained in one of two ways - but both require a collision in the scenario. Either an impact on one side of the satellite swept off an existing darker layer there, uncovering lighter material below the surface, or the dark matter belonged to the impacting body and "\textit{went splat on one side of Nereid}." That the latter possibility is the more plausible is suggested by the discovery, announced by the \textit{JPL team} on August 29, 1989, that all the new satellites (six more) found by \textit{Voyager 2} at Neptune "are very dark" and "all have irregular shapes."....

"The theories regarding \textit{Triton} and its elongated and retrograde (clockwise) orbit around \textit{Neptune} also call for a collision event.

"...The data collected by \textit{Voyager 2} from the actual flyby of \textit{Triton} supported this theoretical conclusion. It also was in accord with other studies (as by \textit{David Stevenson} of \textit{Caltech}) that showed that \textit{Triton}'s internal heat and surface features could be explained only in terms of a \textit{collision} in which \textit{Triton} was captured into orbit around \textit{Neptune}.

""Where did these impacting bodies come from?" rhetorically asked \textit{Gene Shoemaker}, one of NASA's scientists, on the \textit{NOVA television program}. But the question was left without an answer.

"...The \textit{Sumerian texts} speak of a single but comprehensive event. Their texts explain more than what modern astronomers have been trying to explain regarding the outer planets. The ancient texts also explain matters closer to home, such as the origin of the \textit{Earth} and its \textit{Moon}, of the \textit{Asteroid Belt} and the \textit{comets}. The text then go on to relate a tale that combines the credo of \textit{Creationists} with the \textit{theory of Evolution}, a tale that offers a more successful explanation than either modern conception of what happened on Earth and how Man and his civilization came about.

For the rest of this chapter \textit{Mr. Sitchin} presents the \textit{Celestial Battle} in a very rich description, with charts and graphics, with which if you are not familiar, then you may view on these pages by going to The 12\textsuperscript{th} Planet.

\textit{Mr. Sitchin} then ends:

"Modern astronomy and recent discoveries uphold and corroborate this millennia-old tale.

\textbf{Chapter Three}

\textbf{IN THE BEGINNING}

In the beginning
God created the heaven and the earth.
And the earth was without form and void
and darkness was upon the face of the deep
And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.
"For generations this majestic outline of the manner in which our world was created has been at
the core of Judaism as well of Christianity and the third monotheistic religion Islam, the latter two
being outgrowths of the first. In the seventeenth century Archbishop James Ussher of Armagh in
Ireland calculated from these opening verses of Genesis the precise day and even the moment of
the world’s creation, in the year 4004 B.C. Many old editions of the Bible still carry Ussher’s
chronology printed in the margins; many still believe that Earth and the Solar System of which it is
a part are indeed no older than that. Unfortunately, this belief, known as Creationism, has taken on
science as its adversary; and science, firmly wed to the Theory of Evolution, has met the
challenge and joined the battle.

"It is regrettable that both sides pay little heed to what has been known for more than a century -
that the creation tales of Genesis are edited and abbreviated versions of much more detailed
Mesopotamian texts, which were in turn versions of an original Sumerian text. The battle lines
between the Creationists and Evolutionists - a totally unwarranted demarcation as the evidence
herewith presented will show - are undoubtedly more sharply etched by the principle of the
separation between religion and state that is embodied in the U.S. Constitution. But such a
separation is not the norm among the Earth’s nations (even in enlightened democracies such as
England), nor was it the norm in antiquity, when the biblical verses were written down.

"Indeed, in ancient times the king was also the high priest, the state had a national god, the
temples were the seat of scientific knowledge, and the priests were the servants. This was so
because when civilization began, the gods who were worshipped - the focus of the act of being
"religious" - were none other than the Anunnaki/Nefilim, who were the source of all manner of
knowledge, alias science on Earth.

"The merging of state, religion, and science was nowhere more complete than in Babylon. There
the original Sumerian Epic of Creation was translated and revised so that Marduk, the
Babylonian national god, was assigned a celestial counterpart.... Nibiru/Marduk....

"....The decipherment of the writing on the clay tablets discovered in the ruins of ancient
Mesopotamia more than a century ago led to the realization that texts existed that related biblical
creation tales millennia before the Old Testament was compiled.

"....Is the biblical text of creation a religious document, its contents to be considered only a matter
of faith to be believed or disbelieved; or it is a scientific document, imparting to us essential
knowledge of how things began, in the heavens and on the Earth? This, of course, is the core of
the ongoing argument between Creationists and Evolutionists. The two camps would have laid
down their arms long ago were they to realize that what the editors and compilers of the Book of
Genesis had done was no different from what the Babylonians had done: using the only scientific
source of their time, those descendants of Abraham -scion of a royal-priestly family from the
Sumerian capital Ur - also took the Epic of Creation, shortened and edited it, and made it the
foundation of a national religion glorifying Yahweh "who is in the Heavens and on Earth."

"In Babylon, Marduk was a dual deity. Physically present.... he was worshipped as Ilu (translated
"god" but literally meaning "the Lofty One").... On the other hand, "Marduk" was a celestial deity, a
planetary god, who in the heavens assumed the attributes, role, and credit for the primordial
creations that the Sumerians had attributed to Nibiru, the planet whose most frequent symbolic
depiction was that of a winged disk. The Assyrians, replacing Marduk with their national god
Ashur, combined the two aspects and depicted Ashur as a god within the winged disc.

"The Hebrew followed suit, preaching monotheism and recognizing - based on Sumerian scientific
knowledge - the universality of God, ingeniously solved the problem of duality and of the
multitude of the Anunnaki deities involved in the events on Earth by concocting a singular-but-
plural deity, not an El (the Hebrew equivalent of Ilu) but Elohim - a creator who is plural (literally
"Gods") and yet One.... The Hebrew were aware that the deity who could speak to Abraham and
Moses and the celestial Lord whom the Sumerians called Nibiru were not one and the same.
scientifically, although all were part of a universal, everlasting, and omnipotent God - Elohim - in whose grand design for the universe the path for each planet is its predetermined "destiny," and what the Anunnaki had done on Earth was likewise a predetermined mission. Thus was the handiwork of a universal God manifest in Heaven and on Earth.

"....But to recognize this - that Genesis represents not just religion but also science - one must recognize the role of the Anunnaki and accept that the Sumerian texts are not "myth" but factual reports.... only by explaining, as I have repeatedly done in my writings, that the information on how things began - including how Man himself was created - indeed did not come from the memory of the Assyrians or Babylonians or Sumerians but from the knowledge and science of the Anunnaki/Nefilim. They too, of course could not "remember" how the Solar System was created or how Nibiru/Marduk invaded the Solar System, because they themselves were not created on their planet. But just as our scientists have a good notion of how the Solar System came about and even how the whole universe came into being (the favorite theory is that of the Big Bang), the Anunnaki/Nefilim, capable of space travel 450,000 years ago, surely had the capacity to arrive at sensible scenarios of creation; much more so since their planet, acting as a spacecraft that sailed past all the outer planets, gave them a chance at repeated close looks that were undoubtedly more extensive than our Voyager "peeks."

"....With the immensity of space as its canvas, here is how the Mesopotamian version began to draw the primordial picture:

When in the heights Heaven had not been named
And below earth had not been called,
Naught but primordial Apsu, their Begetter,
Mummu, and Tiamat, she who bore them all,
Their waters were mingled together.
No reed had yet been formed,
No marshland had appeared.

"Even in traditional King James version, the biblical opening is more matter-of-fact, not an inspirational religious opus but a lesson in primordial science....

"....With this understanding, the reference in the Mesopotamian version to the mingling "waters" of Tiamat ceases to be allegorical and calls for a factual evaluation. It goes to the question of plentiful waters of Earth and the biblical assertion (correct, as we soon will realize) that when the Earth was formed it was completely covered by water. If water was so abundant even at the moment of Earth’s creation, then only if Tiamat was also a watery planet could the half that became Earth be water!

"The watery nature of Tehom/Tiamat is mentioned in various biblical references.

"....What was the "wind" of the Lord that "moved upon the face of the waters" of Tehom/Tiamat? Not the divine "Spirit" but the satellite of Nibiru/Marduk that, in the Mesopotamian texts, was called by that term! Those texts vividly described the flashing and lightning strokes that burst off Nibiru/Marduk as it closed in on Tiamat. Applying this knowledge to the biblical text, its correct reading emerges:

When, in the beginning,
The Lord created the Heaven and the Earth,
The Earth, not yet formed, was in the void,
and there was darkness upon Tiamat.
Then the Wind of the Lord swept upon its waters
and the Lord commanded, "Let there be lightning!"
and there was a bright light.

Then the Wind of the Lord swept upon its waters
and the Lord commanded, "Let there be lightning!"
and there was a bright light.

"The continuing narrative of *Genesis* does not describe the ensuing splitting of *Tiamat* or the break up of her host of satellites....

"....*Genesis* picks up the primordial tale here and describes the forming of the asteroid belt thus:

And Elohim said:
Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters
and let it divide the waters from the waters.
And Elohim made the Firmament,
dividing the waters which are under the Firmament
from the waters which are above the Firmament.
And Elohim called the Firmament "Heaven."

"....What separated the "upper waters" from the "lower waters," the *Genesis* text stresses, was the *Raki’a*: generally translated "Firmament," it literally means "Hammered-out Bracelet." Then *Genesis* goes on to explain that *Elohim* called the *Raki’a*, the so called *Firmament, Shama’im, "the Heaven"* - a name that in its first use in the *Bible* consists of the two words *Sham* and *ma’im*, meaning literally "where the waters were." In the creation tale of *Genesis*, "the Heaven" was a specific celestial location, where *Tiamat* and her waters had been, where the *asteroid belt* was hammered out.

"That happened, according to the Mesopotamian texts, when *Nibiru/Marduk* returned to the *Place of Crossing* - the second phase of the battle with *Tiamat*: "Day Two," if you wish, as the biblical narrative does.

Mr. Sitchin at this point explains also how the various planets and *Nibiru/Marduk* itself "begat" their satellites, moons or moonlets, as the "invader" was interacting with the planets in its orbit. Then he continues:

"....It has taken modern astronomy almost two centuries to find out what the Sumerians knew 6,000 years ago.

"Even with this knowledge, the biblical statement that the "Hammered-out Bracelet," the *Shama’im* - alias "the Heaven," divided the "waters which are below the Firmament" from the "waters which are above the Firmament" remained a puzzle. What, in god’s name, was the Bible talking about?

"....We know - don’t we? - that the *asteroid belt* had, indeed, as the ancient text reported, divided the planets into two groups. "Below" it are the Terrestrial, or *inner Planets*; "above" it the gaseous, or *Outer Planets*. But except for *Earth* the former had barren surfaces and the latter no surfaces at all, and the long-held wisdom was that neither group (again, excepting *Earth*) had any water.

"Well, as result of the missions of unmanned spacecraft to all the other planets except *Pluto*, we now know better.... *Mercury*... is too small and too close to the *Sun* to have retained water, if it ever had any.

But *Venus*....

the careful analysis of the results of unmanned probes led the scientists to answer emphatically, yes. The topographic features revealed by radar mapping suggested erstwhile oceans and seas. That such bodies of water might indeed existed on *Venus* was indicated by the findings that the "hell-like atmosphere," as some of the scientists termed it, contained traces of water vapor.

"...."The lost oceans of *Venus*" can be traced in its rocks; that was the conclusion of a joint report of U.S. and Soviet scientists published in the May 1986 issue of *Science*. There was indeed water "below the Firmament," not only on *Earth* but also on *Venus*. 
"The latest scientific discoveries have added Mars to the list of inner planets whose waters corroborate the ancient statement.

"The final NASA report after Viking missions (Mars: the Viking Discoveries) concluded that "Mars once had enough water to form a layer several meters deep over the whole surface of the planet." This was possible, it is now believed, because Mars (like Earth) wobbles slightly as it spins about its axis. This action results in significant climatic changes every 50,000 years....

"....What had started out as a dry and barren planet has emerged, in the past decade, as a planet where water was once abundant - not just passively lying about but flowing and gushing and shaping the planet’s features. Mars has joined Venus and Earth in corroborating the concept of the Sumerian texts of water "below the Firmament," on the inner planets.

...Saturn itself, a gaseous giant.... has not yet been penetrated down to its surface.... But its various moons as well as its breathtaking rings, are now known to be made, if not wholly then in large part, of water ice and perhaps even liquid water.

"....What was originally described as "a carousel of bright icy particles" was revealed, however, by the data from Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 in 1980 and 1981 to consist of chunks of ice ranging from boulder size to that of "big houses." We are seeing "a sea of sparkling ice," JPL's scientists said. The ice, at some primordial time, had been liquid water.

"....Pioneer 11 reported in 1979 that the group of inner moons of Saturn.... appeared to be "icy bodies" . . . consisting largely of ice."

"....Voyager 1 also revealed that Saturn's outer moons were ice covered....
"Jupiter was investigated by Pioneer 10 and Pioneer 11 and by the two Voyagers.... somewhere farther down inside the thick atmosphere there is liquid water, the scientists have concluded.

"....the moons of Jupiter proved more fascinating, revealing, and surprising than the planet itself.... Io, the closest to Jupiter, revealed totally unexpected volcanic activity.... The consensus is that Jupiter Io has "some internal sources of water."

"Europa, like Io, appears to be a rocky body, but its somewhat lower density suggests that it may contain more internal water than Io.

"....Ganymede, the largest of Jupiter’s moons, appears to be covered with water ice mixed with rock, suggesting it has undergone moonquakes that have cracked its crust of frozen ice.... The fourth Galilean moon, Callisto.... also has an ice-rich crust; under it there are mush and liquid water surrounding a small, rocky core. Estimates are that Callisto is more than 50 percent water.

"....Modern science has confirmed the ancient assertion to the fullest: there indeed have been "waters above the Firmament."

"Jupiter is the Solar System’s largest planet - as large as 1,300 Earths. It contains some 90 percent of the mass of the complete planetary system of the Sun. As stated earlier, the Sumerians called it KI.SHAR, "Foremost of the Firm Lands," of the planetary bodies. Saturn, though smaller than Jupiter, occupies a much larger portion of the heavens because of its rings, whose "disk" has a diameter of 670,000 miles. The Sumerians called it AN.SHAR, "Foremost of the Heavens."

Evidently they knew what they were talking about.
Chapter Four
THE MESSENGERS OF GENESIS

"In 1986 Mankind was treated to a once-in-a-lifetime event: the appearance of a messenger from the past, a Messenger of Genesis. It’s name was Halley’s comet.

"...The chain of scientific developments that led Edmund Halley, who became British Astronomer Royal in 1720, to determine, during the years 1695-1705, that the comet he observed in 1682 and that came to bear his name was a periodic one, the same that had been observed in 1531 and 1607, involved the promulgation of the laws of gravitation and celestial motion by Sir Isaac Newton and Newton’s consulting with Halley about his findings. Until then the theory regarding comets was that they crossed the heavens in straight lines, appearing at one end of the skies and disappearing in the other direction, never to be seen again. But based on Newtonian laws, Halley concluded that the curve described by comets is elliptical, eventually bringing these celestial bodies back to where they had been observed before.

"...Especially because of a comet’s small size, its orbit is easily perturbed by the gravitational pool of the planets it passes (this is especially true of Jupiter’s effect). Each time a comet nears the Sun, its frozen material comes to life; the comet develops a head and a long tail and begins to lose some of its material as it turns to gas and vapor. All these phenomena affect the comet’s orbit.... the actual orbit and its period must be recalculated each time the comet makes an appearance.

"...Most of the returning comets are short-period ones, the shortest known being that of Encke’s comet, which nears the Sun and then returns to a region slightly beyond the asteroid belt in a little over three years.

Mr. Sitchin names several other comets which are already known to astronomers, then he continues:

"...When Halley’s comet appeared on its next-to-last passage around the Sun, in 1910, its course and aspects had been well mapped out in advance. Still, the Great Comet of 1910, as it was then hailed, was awaited with great apprehension. There was fear that Earth or life on it would not survive the anticipated passage because Earth would be enveloped in the comet’s tail of poisonous gases.... As the comet reached its greatest magnitude and brilliance in May 10 1910, its tail stretching over more than half the vault of heaven King Edward VII of Great Britain died. On
the European continent, a series of political upheavals culminated in the outbreak of World War I in 1914.

"....The year A.D. 66 is considered by astronomers one in which Halley’s comet made an appearance; they base their conclusions on at least two contemporary Chinese observations. That was the year in which the Jews of Judea launched their Great Revolt against Rome. The Jewish historian Josephus (Wars of the Jews, Book VI) blamed the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of its Holy Temple on the misinterpretation by the Jews of the heavenly signs that preceded the revolt: "a star resembling a sword which stood over the city, a comet that continued the whole year."

Besides other sightings, Mr. Sitchin mentions the following:

"....In April 1985, F.R. Stephenson, K.K.C. Yau and H. Hunger reported in Nature that a reexamination of Babylonian astronomical tablets that had been lying in the basement of the British Museum since their discovery in Mesopotamia more than a century ago, shows that the tablets recorded the appearance of extraordinary celestial bodies - probably comets, they (modern scholars) said - in the years 164 B.C. and 87 B.C. The periodicity of seventy-seven years suggested to these scholars that the unusual celestial bodies were Halley’s comet.

"The year 164 B.C.... it was the very year in which the Jews of Judea, under the leadership of the Maccabees, revolted against Greek-Syrian domination, recaptured Jerusalem, and purified the defiled Temple. The Temple rededication ceremony is celebrated to this day by Jews as the
festival of Hanukkah ("Rededication"). The unusual celestial object... is reported to have been seen in the Babylonian month of Kislimu, which is the Jewish month Kislev and, indeed, the one in which Hanukkah is celebrated.

"In another instance, the comparison by Josephus of the comet to a celestial sword (as it seems to be depicted also in the Bayeux tapestry) has led some scholars to suggest that the Angel of the Lord that King David saw "standing between the earth and heaven, having a sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem" (I Chronicles 21:16) might have been in reality Halley’s comet, sent by the Lord to punish the king for having conducted a prohibited census. The time of this incident, circa 1000 B.C., coincides with one of the years in which Halley’s comet should have appeared.

"In an article published in 1986, I pointed out that the Hebrew name for "comet" is Kokhav shavit, a "Scepter star." ... When the Israelites ended their wanderings in the desert after the Exodus and began the conquest of Canaan, the Moabite king summoned Bilam (the seer) to curse the Israelites. But Bilam realizing that the Israelite advance was divinely ordained, blessed them instead. He did so, he explained (Numbers 24:17), because he was shown a celestial vision:

I see it, though not now;  
I behold it, though it is not near;  
A star of Jacob did course  
A scepter of Israel did arise.

"....If, in biblical times, the comet we call Halley’s was considered the Scepter Star of Israel, it could explain why the Jewish revolts of 164 B.C. and A.D. 66 were timed to coincide with the comet’s appearances....

"....How far back does this messenger of the past go? According to the Sumerian creation epics, it goes all the way back to the time of the Celestial Battle. Halley’s comet and its like are truly the Messengers of Genesis.

"....The planets orbit the Sun in the same direction as did the original nebula; so do their satellites, or moons; so should also the debris that either did not coalesce or that resulted from the disintegration of bodies such as comets and asteroids. Everything must keep going anticlockwise. Everything must also remain within the plane of the original disk, which is called the Ecliptic.

"Nibiru/Marduk did not conform to all that. Its orbit, as previously reviewed, was retrograde - in the opposite direction, clockwise....

"....Where do comets come from, and what causes their odd orbits, of which the retrograde direction is the oddest in astronomer’s eyes?

After presenting several theories, especially that of the "Oort Cloud" (Jan Oort) who sums up his study:

“The existence of the huge cloud of comets finds a natural explanation if comets (and meteorites) are considered as minor planets escaped, at an early stage of the planetary system, from the ring of asteroids.

Mr. Sitchin continues:

"It all begins to sound like the Enuma elish... . . .

"A major and outspoken study on the subject was made public in 1978 by Thomas C. Van Flandern of the U.S. naval Observatory, Washington, D.C. (Icarus, 36)....

“Summarizing his findings, Van Flandern said thus in 1978:

“The principal conclusion of this paper is that the comets originated in a breakup event in the inner solar system. In all probability it was the same event which gave
rise to the asteroid belt and which produced most of the meteors visible today."

"He said that it was less certain that the same "breakup event" may have also given birth to the satellites of Mars and the outer satellites of Jupiter, and he estimated that the "breakup event" occurred five million years ago. He has no doubt, however, that the "breakup event" took place "in the asteroid belt." Physical, chemical, and dynamic properties of the resulting celestial bodies, he stated emphatically, indicate "that a large planet did disintegrate" where the asteroid belt is today.

"The most frequently asked question about this scenario" Van Flandern wrote, "is 'how can a planet blow up?' . . . There is presently," he conceded, "no satisfactory answer to this question."

"No satisfactory answer, that is, except the Sumerian one: the tale of Tiamat and Nibiru/Marduk, the Celestial Battle, the breakup of half of Tiamat, the annihilation of its moons (except for Kingu), and the forcing of their remains into a retrograde orbit....

Many more theories by various scholars follow at this point, regarding the mass of the supposed destroyed planet, after which Mr. Sitchin adds:

"....By the acknowledgment of the existence of Nibiru and his periodic return to the Place of the Battle, the puzzle of the "missing matter" finds a solution. It also addresses the theories that place the accretions of mass by Jupiter at a relative recent time (millions, not billions, of years ago). Depending on where Jupiter was at the times of Nibiru's perihelion, the accretion might have occurred during various passages of Nibiru and not necessarily as a one-and-only event at the time of the catastrophic breakup of Tiamat. Indeed, spectrographic studies of asteroids reveal that some of them "were heated within the first few hundred million years after the origin of the solar system" by heat so intense as to melt them; "iron sank to their centers, forming strong stony-iron cores, while basaltic lavas floated to their surface, producing minor planets like Vesta" (Mc Graw-Hill Encyclopedia of Astronomy). The suggested time of the catastrophe is the very time indicated in The 12th Planet - some 500 million years after the formation of the Solar System.

"Recent scientific advances in astronomy and astrophysics go beyond corroborating the Sumerian cosmogony in regard to the celestial collision as the common origin of the comets and the asteroids, the site of that collision (where the remains of the asteroid belt still orbit) or even the time of the catastrophic event (about 4 billion years ago). They also corroborate the ancient texts in the vital matter of water.

"....Tiamat was described as a "watery monster," and the Mesopotamian texts speak of the handling of her waters by Nibiru/Marduk:

Half of her he stretched as a ceiling to the Sky,
As a bar at the Place of Crossing he posted it to guard;
Not to allow her waters to escape was its command.

"The concept of an asteroid belt not only as a divider between the waters of the planet above and below it but also as a "guardian" of Tiamat's own waters is echoed in the biblical verses of Genesis, where the explanation is given that the "Hammered-out bracelet" was also called Shama'im, the place "where the waters were."

....An example is found in Psalm 104, which depicts the Creator as the Lord

Who has stretched out the Shama'im as a curtain,
Who in the waters for his ascents put a ceiling.

"These verses are almost a word-for-word copy of the verses in Enuma elish; in both instances, the placing of the asteroid belt "where the waters were."
"...If the asteroids and comets are those remains, should not they also contain water?

"What would have been a preposterous suggestion when these objects were deemed "chunks of debris" and "flying sand-banks" has turned out, as the result of recent discoveries, to be not so preposterous: the asteroids are celestial objects in which water - yes, water - is a major component.

Mr. Sitchin mentions the asteroid Ceres, first to be discovered, and the celestial body designated 2060 Chiron in which both of them traces of water were found. Mr. Sitchin then continues:

"Comet Kohoutek (1974) was studied not only from Earth but also with rockets, from orbiting manned spacecraft (Skylab) and from the Mariner 10 spacecraft that was on its way to Venus and Mercury..."

"The water finding, as well as that of two complex molecules in the comet’s tail, are the most significant to date," stated Stephen P. Moran, who directed the scientific project for NASA.

"...Subsequent cometary observations confirmed these findings.

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Mr. Sitchin returns to mentioning comet Halley and several studies. He ends with the following:

"And in December 1986, scientists at the John Hopkins University announced that evaluation of data collected in March 1986 by the small Earth-orbiting satellite IUE (International Ultraviolet Explorer) revealed an explosion on Halley’s Comet that blew 100 cubic feet of ice out of the comet’s nucleus.

"There was water everywhere on these Messengers of Genesis!

"...In the discoveries concerning the comets and the asteroids, something else came to life: the ancient knowledge of Sumer."
Chapter Five
GAIA: THE CLEAVED PLANET

"Why do we call our planet "Earth"?

"....The answer lies in the Sumerian texts that relate the arrival of the first group of Anunnaki/Nephilim on Earth.... They splashed down in the Arabian Sea, and waded ashore to the edge of the marshlands that, after the climate warmed up, became the Persian Gulf. And at the head of the marshlands they established their first settlement on a new planet by its name E.RI.DU - "Home in the Faraway"....

"And so it was that in time the whole settled planet came to be called after that first settlement - Erde [German], Erthe [Middle English], Earth. To this day, whenever we call our planet by its name, we invoke the memory of that first settlement on Earth; unknowingly, we remember Eridu and honour the first group of Anunnaki who established it.

"After Ea had completed the establishment of the first five of the seven original settlements of the Anunnaki, he was given the title/epithet EN.KI, "Lord of Earth." But the term KI, as a root or verb, was applied to the planet called "Earth" for a reason. It conveyed the meaning "to cut off, to sever, to hollow out." Its derivatives illustrate the concept: KI.LA meant "excavation," KI.MAH "tomb," KI.IN.DAR "crevice, fissure." In Sumerian astronomical texts the term KI was prefixed with the determinative MUL ("celestial body"). And thus when they spoke of mul.KI, they conveyed the meaning, "the celestial body that had been cleaved apart."

"By calling Earth KI, the Sumerians thus invoked their cosmogony - the tale of the Celestial Battle and the cleaving of Tiamat.

"....The intriguing fact is that over time (the Sumerian civilization was two thousand years old by the time Babylon arose) the pronunciation of the term ki changed to gi, or sometimes ge. It was so carried into the Akkadian and its linguistic branches (Babylonian, Assyrian, Hebrew), at all times retaining its geographic or topographic connotation as a cleavage, a ravine, a deep valley. Thus the biblical term that through Greek translations of the Bible is read Gehenna stems from the Hebrew Gai-Hinnom, the crevice-like narrow ravine outside Jerusalem named after Hinnom, where divine retribution shall befall the sinners via an erupting subterranean fire on Judgement Day.

"We have been taught in school that the component geo in all the scientific terms applied to Earth sciences - geo-graphy, geo-metry, geo-logy, and so on - comes from the Greek Gaia (or Gaea), their name for the goddess of Earth. We were not taught where the Greeks picked up this term or what its real meaning was. The answer is, from the Sumerian KI or GI.

"....How did the Cleaved Planet look in the aftermath of the Celestial Battle, now orbiting as Gaia/Earth? On one side there were the firm lands that had formed the crust of Tiamat; on the other side there was a hollow, an immense cleft into which the waters of the erstwhile Tiamat must have poured. As Hesiod put it, Gaia (the half equivalent to Heaven) on one side "brought forth long hills, graceful haunts of the goddess-Nymphs"; and on the other side "she bare Pontus, the fruitless deep with its raging swell."

"This is the same picture of the cleaved planet provided by the Book of Genesis:

And Elohim said,
"Let the waters under the heaven
be gathered together into one place,
and let the dry land appear."
And it was so.
And Elohim called the dry land "Earth"
and the gathered-together water He called "Seas."

"Earth, the new Gaia, was taking shape.

"Three thousand years separated Hesiod from the time when the Sumerian civilization had blossomed out; and it is clear that through those millennia ancient peoples, including the authors or compilers of the Book of Genesis, accepted the Sumerian cosmogony. Called nowadays "myth," "legend," or "religious beliefs," in those previous millennia it was science - knowledge, the Sumerian asserted, bestowed by the Anunnaki.

Mr. Sitchin at this point explains what modern science has to say today. Then he continues:

"....Ever since the extensive probes of the Moon and Mars in the 1960s and 1970s, geophysicists have been puzzled by the paucity of the Earth's crust. The crusts of the Moon and of Mars comprise 10 percent of their masses, but the Earth's crust comprises less than one half or 1 percent of the Earth's land mass.

"....By analyzing shockwaves from earthquakes, they concluded that material that belongs in the crust has sunk down and lies some 250 miles below the Earth's surface. There is enough crustal material there, these scientists estimated, to increase the thickness of the Earth's crust tenfold. But even so, it would have given Earth a crust comprising no more than about 4 percent of its landmass.... The theory still leaves unanswered the question of what force caused the crustal material, which is lighter than the mantle's material, to "dive" - in the words of the report - hundreds of miles into the Earth's interior....

"....Another abnormality of the Earth's crust is that it is not uniform....

"....There are other differences between the Earth's crust where the continents are and where the oceans are.... (These queries are explained in Mr. Sitchin's book).

He then continues:

"....Scientists are still hard put to explain the gap of about 500 million years between the age of the Earth (which meteor fragments, such as those found at Meteor Crater in Arizona, show to be 4.6 billion years) and the age of the oldest rocks thus far found; but no matter what the explanation, the fact that Earth had its continental crust at least 4 billion years ago is by now undisputed. On the other hand, no part of the oceanic crust has been found to be more than 200 million years old.

"This is a tremendous difference that no amount of speculation about rising and sinking continents, forming and vanishing seas can explain....

"....The differences between the continental and oceanic crusts must have been even greater in earlier times, because the continental crust is constantly eroded by the forces of nature, and a good deal of the eroded solids are carried into the oceanic basins, increasing the thickness of the oceanic crust. Further more, the oceanic crust is constantly enhanced by the upwelling of molten basaltic rocks and silicates that flow up from the mantle through faults in the sea floor. This process, which puts down ever-new layers of oceanic crust, has been going on for 200 million
years, giving the oceanic crust its present form. What was there at the bottom of the seas before then? Was there no crust at all, just a gaping "wound" in the Earth's surface? And is the ongoing oceanic crust formation akin to the process of blood clotting, where the skin is pierced and wounded?

*Is Gaia - a **living planet** - trying to heal her wounds?*

*The most obvious place of the surface of the Earth where it was so "wounded" is the Pacific Ocean.*

*"...What can be said with certainty is that the extent of the gouging was more extensive, affecting a vastly greater part of the planet's surface. The Pacific Ocean at present occupies about a third of Earth's surface; but (as far as can be ascertained for the past 200 millions years) it has been shrinking. The reason for the shrinkage is that the continents flanking it - the Americas on the east, Asia and Australia on the west - are moving closer to each other, squeezing out the Pacific slowly but relentlessly, reducing its size inch by inch year by year.*

*"The science and explanations dealing with this process have come to be known as the Theory of Plate Tectonics....*

*"...The new science of plate tectonics, it is now generally recognized, owes its beginning to Alfred Wegener, a German meteorologist... [1915]... Wegener came up with the notion of Pangaea - a supercontinent, a single huge landmass into which he could fit all the present continental masses like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle. Pangaea, which covered about one half of the globe, Wegener suggested, was surrounded by the primeval Pacific Ocean....*

**Mr. Sitchin** explains the theories of the drift of the landmass, and then he continues:

*"...How long has continental drift been going on? Was there a Pangaea?....*

*"...whether a superocean surrounded a single mass of dry land or bodies of water first stretched between several dry lands, is, in the words of Moorbatch, like the chicken-and-the-egg argument: "Which came first, the continents or the oceans?"

"Modern science thus confirms the scientific notions that were expressed in the ancient texts, but it cannot see far enough back to resolve the landmass/ocean sequence. If every modern scientific discovery seems to have corroborated this or that aspect of ancient knowledge, why not also accept the ancient answer in this instance: that the waters covered the face of the Earth and - on the third "day," or phase - were "gathered into" one side of the Earth to reveal the dry land. Was the uncovered dry land made up of isolated continents or one **supercontinent**, a Pangaea? Although it really matters not as far as the corroboration of ancient knowledge is concerned, it is interesting to note that Greek notions of Earth, although they led to a belief that the Earth was disc-like rather than a globe, envisioned it as a landmass with a solid foundation surrounded by waters. This notion must have drawn on earlier and more accurate knowledge, as most of Greek science did....

*"...In addition to the term Eretz which means both planet "Earth" and "earth, ground," the narrative in Genesis employs the term Yabashah - literally, "the dried-out landmass" - when it states that the waters "were gathered together into one place" to let the Yabashah appear. But throughout the Old Testament another term, Tebel, is frequently used to denote that part of Earth that is habitable, arable, and useful to Mankind (including being a source of ores). The term Tebel - usually translated as either "the earth" or "the world" - is mostly employed to indicate the part of Earth distinct from its watery portions; the "foundations" of this Tebel were in juxtaposition to the sea basins. This was best expressed in the Song of David (2 Samuel 22:16 and Psalm 18:16)*

*"...With what we know today about the "foundations of the Earth," the word Tebel clearly conveys the concept of continents whose foundations - tectonic plates - are laid in the midst of the waters. What a thrill to discover the latest geophysical theories echoed in a 3,000-year-old psalm!"
"....Why is the crustal evidence that can be found not older than about 4 billion years, rather than the 4.6 billion years that is the presumed age of the Earth and the Solar System?.... In the discussion of the origins of Earth’s atmosphere, the consensus was that it did not result from a "continuous outgassing" through volcanic activity but was (in the words of Raymond Siever of Harvard University) the result of "a rather early and rather large outgassing episode . . . a great big belch of the gases that are now characteristic of the Earth’s atmosphere and sediments." This "big belch" was also dated to the same time as the catastrophe recorded by the rocks.

"....the findings of modern science have corroborated the ancient knowledge. They have also led scientists from all disciplines to conclude that the only explanation of the way in which Earth’s landmasses, oceans and atmosphere have evolved is to assume a cataclysm occurring about four billion years ago - about half a billion years after the initial formation or Earth as part of the Solar System.

"What was that cataclysm? Mankind has possessed the Sumerian answer for six thousand years: the Celestial Battle between Nibiru/Marduk and Tiamat.

"In that Sumerian cosmogony, the members of the Solar System were depicted as celestial gods, male and female, whose creation was compared to birth, whose existence was that of living creatures.

"....For a long time this view of the planets, and especially of Tiamat, as living entities that could be born and could die has been dismissed as primitive paganism. But the exploration of the planetary system in recent decades has, in fact, revealed words for which the word "alive" has been repeatedly used. That Earth itself is a living planet was forcefully put forth as the Gaia Hypothesis by James E. Lovelock in the 1970s (Gaia - A New Look at Life on Earth) and was most reinforced by him in The Ages of Gaia: A Biography of Our Living Earth. It is a hypothesis that views the Earth and the life that has evolved upon it as a single organism; Earth is not just an inanimate globe upon which there is life; it is a coherent if complex body that is itself alive through its mass and land surface, its oceans and atmosphere, and through the flora and fauna which it sustains and in which turn sustain Earth. "The largest living creature on Earth," Lovelock wrote, "is the Earth itself." And in that he admitted, he was revisiting the ancient "concept of Mother Earth, or as the Greeks called her long ago, Gaia."

"But in fact he had gone back to Sumerian times, to their ancient knowledge of the planet that was cleaved apart.

Chapter Six
WITNESS TO GENESIS

".... the Moon became a constant companion of Earth - the various theories will soon be examined - it, like Earth, belonged to the same Solar System, and the histories of both go back to its creation....

"....Man has peered at the Moon for eons, first with the naked eye, then with Earth-based
instruments. The space age made it possible to probe the Moon more closely....

"...The notion of "Genesis rocks" to be found on the Moon was proposed to NASA by the Nobel laureate Harold Urey. The so-called Genesis rock that was one of the very first to be picked up on the Moon proved, as the Apollo program progressed, not to be the oldest one. It was "only" some 4.1 billion years old, whereas the rocks later found on the Moon ranged from 3.3 billion-year-old "youngsters" to 4.5 billion-year "old-timers." Barring a future discovery of somewhat older rocks, the oldest rocks found on the Moon have thus brought its age to within 100 million years of the estimated age of the Solar System - of 4.6 billion years - which until then was surmised only from the age of meteorites that struck the Earth.

"The Moon, the lunar landings established, was a Witness to Genesis.

"Establishing the age of the Moon, the time of its creation, intensified the debate concerning the question of how the Moon was created.

"...How would modern science read an uneroded "Rosetta stone" of the Solar System, so close by, so much studied, landed upon six times - and not come up with an answer to the basic question? The answer to the puzzle seems to be that the findings were applied to a set of preconceived notions; and because none of these notions is correct, the findings appear to leave the question unanswered.

"...Sir George H. Darwin [son of Charles Darwin], was the first to develop a theory of origins for the Sun-Earth-Moon system based on mathematical analysis and geophysical theory [published in 1879]. His specialty was the study of tides; he therefore conceived of the Moon as having been formed from matter pulled off Earth by solar tides. The Pacific basin was later postulated to be the scar that remained after this "pinching off" of part of Earth’s body to form the Moon.

"...Given a high-tech name [in the twentieth century], the Fission Theory, it was revived with a difference. In the reconstructed theory, the simplistic idea of the tidal pull of the Sun was dropped; instead it was proposed that the Earth divided into two bodies while spinning very rapidly during its formation. The spinning was so rapid that a chunk of the material of which the Earth was forming, was thrown off, coalesced at some distance from the bulk of the Earthly matter, and eventually remained orbiting its bigger twin brother as its permanent satellite.

"The "thrown-off chunk" theory, whether in its earlier or renewed form, has been conclusively rejected by scientists from various disciplines....

"...Proponents of the Fission theory have offered various variants thereof in order to overcome the distance problems, which is further constrained by a concept termed the Roche limit (the distance within which the tidal forces overcome the gravitational force). But all variants of the fission theory have been rejected because they violate the laws of the preservation of energy....
Mr. Sitchin presents other various theories and several studies in his book; including the theory of "Capture"; and "Coaccretion."

He then continues:

"....That natural satellites, or moons, coalesce from the remainder of the same primordial matter of which their parent planet was formed is now the generally accepted theory of how planets acquired moons and should also apply to Earth and the Moon....

"....What nevertheless makes scientists reject this theory when it is applied to the Earth and the Moon is their relative sizes. The Moon is simply too large relative to the Earth - not only about one-eighthieth of its mass but about one quarter of its diameter. This relationship is out of all proportion to what has been found elsewhere in the Solar System. (Useful charts are showed in the book).

"With all three basic theories unable to meet some of the required criteria, one may end up wondering how Earth ended up with its satellite at all... Such a conclusion, in fact, does not bother some; they point to the fact that none of the terrestrial planets [Mercury, Venus, Mars] (other than Earth) have satellites: the two tiny bodies that orbit Mars, are all agreed, captured asteroids.... Should not Earth, too, being within this moonless zone, have been without a moon? But the fact remains that Earth as we know it and where we know it does have a moon, and an extremely large one (in proportion) to boot. So how do we account for that?

"Another finding of the Apollo program also stands in the way of accepting the coaccretion theory. The Moon's surface as well as its mineral content suggest a "magma ocean" created by partial melting of the Moon's interior. For that, a source of heat great enough to melt the magma is called for. Such heat can result only from cataclysmic or catastrophic event; in the coaccretion scenario no such heat is produced. How then explain the magma ocean and other evidence on the Moon of a cataclysmic heating?

"....The Big Whack Theory, it developed by the suggestion by William Hartmann, a geochemist at the Planetary Science Institute in Tucson, Arizona, and his colleague Donald R. Davis in 1975 that collisions and impacts played a role in the creation of the Moon....

"....The idea was taken by two astrophysicists, Alastair G.W. Cameron and Harvard and William R. Ward of Caltech.... envisioned a planet-sized body - at least as large as the planet Mars - racing toward the Earth at 24,500 miles per hour; coming from the outer reaches of the Solar System, its path raced toward the Sun - but the Earth, in its formative orbit, stood in the way. The "glancing blow" that resulted slightly tilted the Earth, giving it its ecliptic obliquity (currently about 23.5 degrees); it also melted the outer layer of both bodies, sending a plume of vaporized rock into orbit around the Earth.... Some of the ejected material fell back to Earth, but enough remained far enough away to eventually coalesce and become the Moon.

(Computer simulations proved the mechanics of this theory; however, Mr Sitchin continues):

"....Another major departure from the original Big Whack hypothesis was the realization that in order to resolve chemical composition constraints, the impactor had to come from the same place in the heavens as Earth itself did - not from the outer regions of the solar System. But if so, where and how did it acquire the immense momentum it needed for the vaporizing impact?

"....Subsequent calculations showed that in order to achieve the end results, the impactor had to be three times the size of Mars. This heightened the problem of where and how in Earth's vicinity such a celestial body could accrete....

"....Since each variant of the Big Whack hypothesis involved a total meltdown of the Earth, it was necessary that other evidence of such a meltdown be found. But as was overwhelmingly reported at the 1988 Origin of the Earth Conference at Berkeley, California, no such evidence exists. If Earth had melted and resolidified, various elements in its rocks would have crystallized differently from the way they actually are found, and they would have reappeared in certain ratios, but this is
not the case. Another result should have been the distortion of the chondrite material - the most primordial matter on Earth that is also found in the most primitive meteorites - but no such distortion has been found....

"....What, then, of the evidence of meltings on the Moon? There is no doubt that they have occurred: the giant craters, some a hundred or more miles in diameter, are silent witnesses visible to all. There are the maria (“seas”), that, it is now known, were not bodies of water but areas of the Moon’s surface flattened by immense impacts. There are the magma oceans. There are glass and glassy material embedded in the rocks and grains of the Moon’s surface that resulted from shock melting of the surface caused by high-velocity impacts (as distinct from heated lava as a source)....

"....When did all these impacts that caused the surface melting take place? Not, the findings showed, when the Moon was created but some 500 million years afterward. It was then NASA scientists reported at a 1972 press conference and subsequently, that the Moon had undergone a convulsive evolution....

"....Having swung from theory to theory, modern science now embraces as a theory for the origin of our Moon the same process that gave the outer planets their multi-moon systems. The hurdle still to be overcome is the need to explain why, instead of a swarm of smaller moons, a too-small Earth has ended up with a single, too-large Moon.

"For the answer, we have to go back to Sumerian cosmogony. The first help it offers modern science is its assertion that the Moon originated not as a satellite of Earth but of the much larger Tiamat. Then - millennia before Western civilization had discovered the swarms of moons encircling Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune - the Sumerians ascribed to Tiamat a swarm of satellites, "eleven in all." They placed Tiamat beyond Mars, which would qualify her as an outer planet; and the "celestial horde" was acquired by her no differently than by other outer planets....

(If you desire to read more about Tiamat please go back to "The 12th Planet.")

(Return to this point to continue this chapter.)

"...."As faster computers allow celestial mechanicians longer looks at the behavior of the planets," Richard A Kerr wrote in Science ("Research News," April 14, 1989), "chaos is turning up everywhere.... "many orbits that lie between Uranus and Neptune become chaotic," and "the orbital behavior of Pluto is chaotic and unpredictable." J. Laskar of the Bureau des Longitudes in Paris found original chaos throughout the Solar System, "but especially among the inner planets, including Earth."

"....Just as the modern astronomers are troubled by the disproportionately large size of the Moon, so were the authors of the Enuma elish.

"....According to this ancient cosmogony (Enuma elish), one of the eleven moons of Tiamat did grow to an unusual size because of the ongoing perturbations and chaotic conditions in the newly formed Solar System. How the creation of this monstrous moon affected these conditions is regrettably not clear from the ancient text....

"....the fact of the disproportionate size of the Moon (even relative to the larger Tiamat) is recorded in all its disturbing details. All is there - except that it is not Sumerian cosmogony that corroborates modern science, but modern science that catches up with ancient knowledge.

After presenting more studies about the Moon, by modern scientists, and comparing them to the Sumerian cosmogony, Mr. Sitchin continues:

"....On the occasion of the last Apollo mission to the Moon, The Economist (Science and Technology, December 11, 1972) summed the program’s discoveries thus:
"Perhaps the most important of all, exploration of the moon has shown that it is not a simple, uncomplicated sphere but a true planetary body."

"A true planetary body." Just as the Sumerian described millennia ago....

"....There is other evidence that the Moon became more compact as a result of heavy impacts. On the side facing away from the Earth - its far side - the surface has highlands and a thick crust, while the near side - the side facing Earth - shows large, flat plains, as though the elevated features had been wiped off. Inside the Moon, gravitational variations reveal the existence of compacted, heavier masses in several concentrations, especially where the surface had been flattened out. Though outwardly the Moon (as do all celestial bodies larger than a minimal size) has a spherical shape, the mass in its core appears to have the shape of a gourd, as a computer study shows. It is a shape that bears the mark of the "big whack" that compressed the Moon and thrust it into its new place in the heavens, just as the Sumerians had related.

"The Sumerian assertion that Kingu (original companion of Tiamat, our Moon today) was turned into a DUG.GA.E is equally intriguing. The term, I wrote in The 12th Planet, literally means "pot of lead." At the time I took it to be merely a figurative description of the Moon as "a mass of lifeless clay." But the Apollo discoveries suggest that the Sumerian term was not just figurative but was literally and scientifically correct. One of the initial puzzles encountered on the Moon was so-called "parentless lead." The Apollo program revealed that the top few miles of the Moon's crust unusually rich in radioactive elements such as uranium. There was all evidence of the existence of extinct radon. These elements decay and become lead at either final or intermediary stages of the radioactive-decay process.

"How the Moon became so enriched in radioactive elements remains an unresolved puzzle, but that these elements had mostly decayed into lead is now evident. Thus, the Sumerian assertion that Kingu was turned into a "pot of lead" is an accurate scientific statement.

"The Moon was not only a Witness to Genesis. It is also a witness to the veracity of the biblical Genesis - to the accuracy of ancient knowledge.

Chapter Seven
THE SEED OF LIFE

"Of all the mysteries confronting Mankind's quest for knowledge, the greatest is the mystery called "life."

"Evolution theory explains how life on Earth evolved, all the way from the earliest, one-celled creatures to Homo sapiens; it does not explain how life on Earth began. Beyond the question Are we alone? lies the most fundamental question: is life on Earth unique, unmatched in our solar System, our galaxy, the whole universe?

"According to the Sumerians, life was brought into the Solar System by Nibiru; it was Nibiru that imparted the "seed of life" to Earth during the Celestial Battle with Tiamat. Modern science has come a long way toward the same conclusion.

"....By and large the scientists now believe that Earth's atmosphere was reconstituted initially from the gases spewed out by the volcanic convulsion of a wounded Earth. As clouds thrown up by these eruptions shielded the Earth and it began to cool, the vaporized water condensed and came down in torrential rains. Oxidation and rocks and minerals provided the first reservoir of higher levels of oxygen on Earth; eventually, plant life added both oxygen and carbon dioxide (CO2) to the atmosphere and started the nitrogen cycle (with the aid of bacteria).
"It is noteworthy that even in this respect the ancient texts stand up to the scrutiny of modern science. The Fifth Tablet, fifth tablet of Enuma elish, though badly damaged, describes the gushing lava as Tiamat’s “spittle” and places the volcanic activity earlier than the formation of the atmosphere, the oceans, and the continents. The spittle, the text states, was “laying in layers” as it poured forth. The phase of “making the cold” and the “assembly of the water clouds” are described; after that the “foundations” of Earth were raised and the oceans were gathered - just as the verses in Genesis have reiterated. It was only thereafter that life on Earth appeared: green herbage upon the continents and “swarms” in the waters.

"....But it was one thing to show that nature itself could, under certain conditions, come up with life's building blocks - not just simple but even complex organic compounds; it was another thing to breathe life into the resulting compounds, which remained inert and lifeless in the compression chambers. "Life" is defined as the ability to absorb nutrients (of any kind) and to replicate, not just to exist. Even the biblical tale of Creation recognizes that when the most complex being on Earth, Man, was shaped out of "clay," divine intervention was needed to breathe the spirit/breath of life" into him. Without that, no matter how ingeniously created, he was not yet animate, not yet living.

"....The need to involve the genetic code in the transition from inanimate organic matter to an animate state has led to a "Made-of-Clay" hypothesis.

"....but in fact the idea that clay in the shores of ancient seas played an important role in the origin of life on Earth was made public at the October 1977 Pacific Conference on Chemistry....

"....In 1985 the scientists of the Ames Research Center reported substantial advances in understanding the role of clay in the processes that had led to life on Earth. Clay, they discovered, has two basic properties essential to life: the capacity to store and the ability to transfer energy....

"....The improved theory seemed to do another thing, which did not escape notice. "The theory," (The New York Times wrote) "is also evocative of the biblical account of the Creation. In Genesis it is written, 'And the Lord God formed man of dust of the ground,' and in common usage the primordial dust is called clay."

"....It is important to follow the scientific theories of the ensuing evolution of life on Earth in order to grasp the accuracy of the biblical record. For more complex life forms to evolve, oxygen was needed. This oxygen became available only after algae or proto-algae began to spread upon the dry land....

"....The Bible, indeed, says as much: Green herbage, it states, was created on Day Three, but maritime life not until Day Five....

"....To make the eventual appearance of vertebrate (inner-skeleton) "creatures" possible, Earth had to set the pattern of the biological clocks that underlie the life cycles of all living forms on Earth. The Earth had to settle into its orbital and rotational patterns and be subjected to the effects of the Sun and the Moon, which were primarily manifested in the cycles of light and darkness. The book of Genesis assigns the fourth "day" to this organization and to the resulting year, month, day, and night repetitious periods.

"Modern science not only agrees with this biblical scenario but may also provide a clue to the reason the ancient authors of the scientific summary called Genesis inserted a celestial "chapter" ("day four") between the evolutionary record of "day three" - time of the earliest appearance of life forms - and "day five," when the "creatures" appeared.

"....The first maritime vertebrates appeared about 500 million years ago, and land vertebrates followed about 100 million years later, during periods that are regarded by scientists as the transition from the Lower Paleozoic era to the Upper Paleozoic era. When that era ended, about
225 millions years ago, there were fish in the waters as well as sea plants, and amphibians had made the transition from water to dry land and the plants upon the dry lands attracted the amphibians to evolve into reptiles; today's crocodiles are a remnant of the evolutionary phase.

"The following era, named the Mesozoic ("Middle Life"), embraces the period from about 225 million to 65 million years ago and has often been nicknamed the "Age of the Dinosaurs." Alongside a variety of amphibians and marine lizards there evolved, away from the oceans and their teeming marine life, two main lines of egg-laying reptilians: those who took to flying and evolved into birds; and those who, in great variety, roamed and dominated the Earth as dinosaurs ("terrible lizards").

"It is impossible to read the biblical verses with an open mind without realizing that the creational events of the fifth "day" of Genesis describe the above-listed developments:

And Elohim said:

"Let the waters swarm with living creatures, and let aves fly above the earth, under the dome of the sky."
And Elohim created the large reptilians, and all the living creatures that crawl and that swarm in the waters, all in accordance with their kinds, and all the winged aves by their kinds. And Elohim blessed them, saying:
"Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters of the seas, and let the aves multiply upon the earth."

"The tantalizing reference in these verses of Genesis (from previous page) to the "large reptilians" as a recognition of the dinosaurs cannot be dismissed. The Hebrew term used here, Taninim (plural of Tanin) has been variously translated as "sea serpent," "sea monsters," and "crocodile..." The conclusion that by "large Taninim" the Bible meant not simply large reptilians but dinosaurs seems plausible - not because the Sumerians had seen dinosaurs, but because the Anunnaki scientists had surely figured out the course of evolution on Earth at least as well as twentieth-century scientists have done.

"No less intriguing is the order in which the ancient text lists the three branches of vertebrates. For a long time scientists held that birds evolved from dinosaurs.... The discovery of fossilized remains of a creature now called Archaeopteryx ("old feather") was deemed to have provided the "missing link" between dinosaurs and birds and gave rise to the theory that the two - dinosaurs and birds - had an early common land ancestor at the beginning of the Triassic period. But even this antedating of the appearance of birds has come into question since additional fossils of Archaeopteryx were discovered in Germany; they indicate that this creature was by and large a fully developed bird that had not evolved from the dinosaur but rather directly from a much earlier ancestor who had come from the seas.

"The Biblical sources seem to have known all that. Not only does the Bible not list the dinosaurs ahead of birds (as scientists did for awhile); it actually lists birds ahead of dinosaurs. With so much of the fossil record still incomplete, paleontologists may still find evidence that will indeed show that early birds had more in common with sea life than with desert lizards."
"About 65 million years ago the age of the dinosaurs came to an abrupt end.... In the words of Genesis, it was the dawn of the sixth "day." Modern science calls it the Cenozoic ("current life") era when mammals spread across the Earth

"...That is exactly what the Sumerians had taught in their schools. As we read in the Bible, it was only after all the "days" of creation had run their course, after "all the fishes of the sea and all the fowl that fly the skies and all the animals that fill the earth and all the creeping things that crawl upon the earth" that "Elohim created the Adam."

"On the sixth "day" of creation, God's work on Earth was done.

"...But how did chemical compounds became animated?

"That the feat is possible is obvious; the evidence is that life did appear on Earth. The speculation that life, in one form or another, may also exist elsewhere in our Solar System, and probably in other star systems, presupposes the feasibility of the transition from inanimate to animate matter. So, the question is not can it happen but how did it happen here on Earth.

Mr. Sitchin continues by explaining the necessity of the two basic molecules: proteins and nucleic acids, which function within a cell, with the ability of replicating itself. He explains DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) with its instruction stored and transmitted by RNA (ribonucleic acid)....

"How much time did evolution take on Earth to develop these complex compounds, without which life as we know it would have never evolved?

"Fossil remains of algae.... microscopic, single-celled organisms were found in 1977 in South Africa, dated to 3.1 to 3.4 billion years ago; other discoveries in 1980 in western Australia....fossil remains of organisms that not only were much older - 3.5 billion years - but that were multicelled and looked under the microscope like chain-like filaments. These organisms already possessed both amino acids and complex nucleic acids, the replicating genetic compounds, 3.5 billion years ago; they therefore had to represent, not the beginning of the chain of life on Earth, but an already advanced stage of it.

"What this finds had set in motion can be termed the search for the first gene. Increasingly, scientists believe that before algae there were bacteria....

"...That bacteria have played a role in the evolutionary process is apparent, not only from the fact that so many marine, plant and animal higher organisms depend on bacteria for many vital processes, but also from discoveries, first in the Pacific Ocean, and then in other seas, that bacteria did and and still make possible life forms that do not depend on photosynthesis but metabolize sulfur compounds in the ocean's depths....

"....In more recent studies (Nature, November 9, 1989), an august team of scientists led by Norman H. Sleep of Stanford University concluded that the "window of time" when life on Earth began was just 200 million years between 4 and 3.8 billion years ago. "Everything alive today," they stated, "evolved from organisms that originated within that "Window of Time." They did not attempt, however, to establish how life originated at such a time.

"Based on varied evidence, including the very reliable isotopic ratios of carbon, scientists have concluded that no matter how life on Earth began, it did so about 4 billion years ago. Why then only and not sooner, when the planets were formed some 4.6 billion years ago? All scientific research, conducted on Earth as well on the Moon, keeps bumping against the 4-billion-year date, and all that modern science can offer in explanation is some "catastrophic event." To know more, read the Sumerian texts....

"....Viruses, which are pieces of nucleic acids looking for cells in which to replicate, are prevalent...
not only on land but also in water, and that has made some believe that viruses may have preceded bacteria. But what gave them their nucleic acid?

"...Leslie Orgel of the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California.... proposed that the simpler RNA might have preceded the much more complex DNA. Although RNA only transmits the genetic messages contained in the DNA blueprint, other researchers.... and co-workers at the University of Colorado.... and Yale University concluded that a certain type of RNA could catalyze itself under certain conditions. All this led to computerized studies of a type of RNA called transfer-RNA undertaken by Manfred Eigen, a Nobel-prize winner.... by sequencing transfer-RNA backwards on the Tree of Life, they found that the genetic code on Earth cannot be older than 3.8 billion years, plus or minus 600 million years. At that time, Manfred Eigen said, a primordial gene might have appeared "whose message was the biblical injunction 'Go out into the world, be fruitful and multiply'." If the leeway, as it appears, had to be on the plus side - ie., older than 3.8 billion years - "this would be possible only in the case of extraterrestrial origin," the authors of the learned paper added.

"In her summation of the fourth Conference on the Origin of Life, Lynn Margulis had predicted his astounding conclusion.

"We now recognize that if the origin of our self-replicating system occurred on the early Earth, it must have occurred quite quickly - millions, not billions of years," she stated.

And she added: The central problem inspiring these conferences, perhaps slightly better defined, is as unsolved as ever. Did our organic matter originate in interstellar space? The infant science of radioastronomy has produced evidence that some of the smaller organic molecules are there.

"...In spite of the scientific credentials of Crick and Orgel [1973], [Nobel laureate], their theory of Directed Panspermia.... [seeding of Earth with the first organisms or spores from an extraterrestrial source] - not however, by chance but as "the deliberate activity of an extraterrestrial society"; met with disbelief and even ridicule. However, more recent scientific advances changed these attitudes.... The change in opinion was also due to the discovery that for the myriad of amino acids that exist, it is only the same twenty or so that are part of all living organisms on Earth, no matter what these organisms are and when they evolved, and that the same DNA, made up of the same nucleotides - that and no other - is present in all living things on Earth.

The consensus of the participants at the eighth Conference on the Origins of Life, at Berkeley, California, was that "all life on Earth, from bacteria to sequoia trees to humans, evolved from a single ancestral cell."

"But where did this single ancestral cell come from?....

"...The data indicating life-related elements and compounds in outer space are so voluminous.... water molecules outside our own galaxy.... array of molecules, including the beginning of organic chemistry in interstellar space.... complex molecules composed of the same atoms that make up living tissue.... reasonable to assume that these compounds were deposited on Earth at the time of its forming and that life ultimately came from them. In 1987, to give one more instance, NASA instruments discovered that exploding stars (supernovas) produced most of the ninety-odd elements, including carbon, that are contained in living organisms on Earth.

"...Invariable, the celestial emissaries under consideration are comets, meteors, meteorites, and impacting asteroids....

"...An extrasolar origin for the life that eventually evolved on Earth has thus become a more acceptable proposition. The argument between the Hoyle-Wick-ramasinghe team and others has by now shifted its focus to whether the two are right in suggesting that "spores" - actual
microorganisms - rather than the antecedent life-forming compounds were delivered to Earth by the cometary/meteoritic impacts.

"Could "spores" survive in the radiation and cold of outer space? Skepticism regarding this possibility was greatly dispelled by experiments.... Panspermia, they concluded, was possible.

"How about directed panspermia, the deliberate seeding of Earth by another civilization, as suggested earlier by Crick and Orgel?....

After more theories, and positive articles from The New York Times, Mr. Sitchin continues:

"In a detailed report.... in The New York Times (September 6, 1988), Sandra Blakeslee summed the latest scientific thinking thus:

Driving the new search for clues to life’s beginnings is the recent discovery that comets, meteors and interstellar dust carry vast amounts of organic chemicals as well as the elements crucial to living cells.

Scientists believe that Earth and other planets have been seeded from space with these potential building blocks of life.

"Seeded from space" - the very words written down millennia ago by the Sumerians!

"....After a detour of 6,000 years, modern science has come back to the Sumerian scenario of an invader from outer space that brings the seed of life into the solar System and imparts it to "Gaia" during the Celestial Battle.

"The Anunnaki, capable of space travel about half a million years before us, discovered this phenomenon long before us; in this respect, modern science is just catching up with ancient knowledge.

Chapter Eight
THE ADAM: A SLAVE MADE TO ORDER

"The biblical tale of Man’s creation is, of course, the crux of the debate - at times bitter - between Creationists and Evolutionists and of the ongoing confrontation between them - at times in courts, always on schools boards. As previously stated, both sides had better read the Bible again (and in its Hebrew original); the conflict would evaporate once Evolutionists recognized the scientific basis of Genesis and Creationists realized what its text really says.

"....The sequence in the Bible is, as previous chapters should have made clear, a description of Evolution that is in accord with modern science. The insurmountable problem arises when Creationists insist that we, Mankind, Homo sapiens sapiens, were created instantaneously and without evolutionary predecessors by "God".... this is the tale of Man’s creation as told in chapter 2, verse 7 of the book of Genesis - according to the King James English version; and this is what the Creationist zealots firmly believe.

"Were they to learn the Hebrew text - which is, after all, the original - they would discover that, first of all, the creative act is attributed to certain Elohim - a plural term that at the least should be translated as "gods," not "God."....

"....Then, of course, there exists the other problem, that of another (and prior) version of the creation of Man, in Genesis 1:26-27. First, according to the King James version, "God said, Let us
make men in our image, after our likeness"....

"....What, those who believe in the Bible must ask, is going on here?

"As both Orientalists and Bible scholars now know, what went on was the editing and summarizing by the compilers of the Book of Genesis of much earlier and considerable more detailed texts first written down in Sumer. Those texts, reviewed and extensively quoted in The 12th Planet with all sources listed, relegate the creation of Man to the Anunnaki.

".... The Anunnaki, the Elohim of the biblical verses, did not create Man from nothing. The being was already there, on Earth, the product of evolution. All that was needed to upgrade it to the required level of ability and intelligence was to "bind upon it the image of the gods," the image of the Elohim themselves.... - the inner, genetic makeup - of the Anunnaki; in other words, to upgrade the existing Apeman/Apewoman through genetic manipulation and, by jumping the gun on evolution, bring "Man" - Homo sapiens - into being.

"....In The 12th Planet it was stressed that until the Bible begins to relate the genealogy and history of Adam, a specific person, the Book of Genesis refers to the newly created being as "The Adam," a generic term. Not a person called Adam, but, literally, "the Earthling," for that is what "Adam" means, coming as it does from the same root as Adamah, "Earth." But the term is also a play on words, specifically dam, which means "blood" and reflects, as we shall soon see, the manner in which The Adam was "manufactured."

"....Numerous texts in varying states of preservation or fragmentation have been inscribed on Mesopotamian clay tablets. In sequels to The 12th Planet the creation "myth" of other peoples, from both the Old and New Worlds, have been reviewed; they all record a process involving the mixing of a godly element with an earthly one. As often as not, the godly element is described as an "essence" derived from a god's blood, and the earthly element as "clay" or "mud." There can be no doubt that they all attempt to tell the same tale, for they all speak of the First Couple. There is no doubt that their origin is Sumerian, in whose texts we find the most elaborate descriptions and the greatest amount of detail concerning the wonderful deed: the mixing of the "divine" genes of the Anunnaki with the "earthly" genes of Apeman by fertilizing the egg of an Apewoman.

"It was fertilization in vitro - in glass tubes, (this fact is recorded on a cylinder seal, appearing on the book)....

Mr. Sitchin uses in his book the texts of the Atra Hasis, to relate the story of the creation of Man.

"....Great scientist that he was, Enki [son of Anu, the leader of the Anunnaki "gods"] was bound to have spent some of his time studying the flora and fauna of his surroundings as well as the fossils that, some 300,000 years later, the Leakeys and older palentologists have been uncovering in southeastern Africa. As scientists do today, Enki, too, must have contemplated the course of evolution on Earth. As reflected in the Sumerian texts, he came to the conclusion that the same "seed of life" that Nibiru had brought with it from its previous celestial abode had given rise to life on both planets; much earlier on Nibiru, and later on Earth, once the latter had been seeded by the collision.

"The being that surely fascinated him most was Apeman.... And Enki must have toyed with the intriguing challenge of "playing God" and conducting experiments in genetic manipulation.

"....Having reached this stage, where genetic manipulation was sufficiently perfected to enable the determination of the resulting body's good or bad aspects, the two [Enki and Ninti] felt they could master the final challenge: to mix the genes of hominids, Apemen, not with those of other Earth creatures but with the genes of the Anunnaki themselves. Using all the knowledge they had amassed, the two Elohim set out to manipulate and speed up the process of Evolution. Modern Man would have undoubtedly eventually evolved on Earth in any case, just as he had on Nibiru, both having come from the same "seed of life." But there was still a long way and a long time to go from the stage hominids were at 300,000 years ago to the level of development the Anunnaki had
reached at that time. If, in the course of 4 billion years, the evolutionary process had been earlier on Nibiru just 1 percent of that time, Evolution would have been forty million years ahead on Nibiru compared with the course of evolution on Earth. Did the Anunnaki jump the gun on evolution on our planet by a million or two million years? No one can say for sure how long it would have taken Homo sapiens to evolve naturally on Earth from the earlier hominids, but surely forty million years would have been more than enough time.

"....All the texts dealing with this event make it clear that Ninti relied on Enki to provide the earthly element [clay or mud, from the Sumerian, TI.IT, literally meaning "that which is with life"; "egg"]

"....The task of obtaining the "divine" elements was Ninti's. Two extracts were needed from one of the Anunnaki, and a young "god" was carefully selected for the purpose... to obtain the god's blood and shiru..... What had to be obtained from the blood was termed TE.E.MA..... "personality" "that which houses that which binds the memory." Nowadays we call it "gene."

"....Shiru "flesh"; in other texts dealing with non-Anunnaki offspring of the "gods" as kisru..... "semen."

"These two divine extracts were to be mixed well by Ninti in a purifying bath, and it is certain that the epithet lulu ("The mixed one") for the resulting Primitive Worker stemmed from this mixing process. In modern terms we would call him a hybrid.

"All these procedures [coming from previous page] had to be performed under strict sanitary conditions... The place where these procedures were carried out was a special structure called in Akkadian Bit Shimti, which, coming from the Sumerian SHI.IM.TI literally meant "house where the wind of life is breathed in" - the source, no doubt, of the biblical assertion that after having fashioned Adam from the clay, Elohim "blew in his nostrils the breath of life." The biblical term, sometimes translated "soul" rather than "breath of life," is Nephesh. The identical term appears in the Akkadian account of what took place in the "house where the wind of life is breathed in" after the purifying and extracting procedures were completed....

"....The mixing of the "clay" with the component extracts and "essences" was not yet the end of the procedure. The egg of the Apewoman, fertilized in the "purifying baths" with the sperm and genes of the young Anunnaki "god," was then deposited in a "mold," where the "binding" was to be completed....

"....The fertilized and "molded" egg was to be re-implanted in a female womb - but not in that of its original Apewoman. Rather, it was to be implanted in the womb of a "goddess," an Anunnaki female!

"....Enki announced to the gathered Anunnaki that his own spouse, Ninki.... had volunteered for the task....

The newborn's fate thou shalt pronounce;
Ninki would fix upon it the image of the gods;
And what it will be is "Man."

"....It was not, the texts reveal, a simple and smooth birth-giving process....

...The tenth month arrived - the period of opening the womb had elapsed.

"The drama of Man's creation, it appears, was compounded by a late birth; medical intervention was called for.

"....The first Adam was brought forth. By himself, as the first biblical version states - confirmed the validity of the process and opened the way for the continuation of the endeavour....
"Now the procedures were genetically engineered to come up with seven males and seven females at a time; fourteen goddesses were used....

"There is thus no conflict among the Bible's various versions of Man's creation. First, the Adam was created by himself; but then, in the next phase, the Elohim indeed created the first humans "male and female."

"....Fortunately, as we enter the last decade of the twentieth century of the Common Era, we have the benefit of modern science on our side. The "mechanics" of cell replication and human reproduction, the function and codes of the genes, the cause of many inherited defects and illnesses - all these and so many more biological processes are now understood; perhaps not yet completely but enough to allow us to evaluate the ancient tale and its data.

"With all this modern knowledge at our disposal, what is the verdict on that ancient information? Is it an impossible fantasy, or are the procedures and processes, described with such attention to terminology, corroborated by modern science?

"The answer is yes, it is all the way we would do it today - the way we have been following, indeed, in recent years.

"....The beginnings of genetics are now credited to Gregor Johann Mendel, an Austrian monk who, experimenting with plant hybridization, described the hereditary traits of common peas in a study published in 1866..... Genetic engineering has of course been practiced in horticulture.... called grafting.... Grafting has also been tried in recent years in the animal kingdom, but with limited success between donor and recipient due to rejection by the recipient's immune system.

"The next advance, which for a while received great publicity, was the procedure called Cloning. Because each cell - let us say a human cell - contains all the genetic data necessary to reproduce that human, it has the potential for giving rise, within a female egg, to the birth of a being identical to its parent. In theory, cloning offers a way to produce an endless number of Einsteins or, heaven help us, Hitlers.

"Experimentally the possibilities of cloning began to be tested with plants, as an advanced method to replace grafting. Indeed the term cloning comes from the Greek klon which means "twig."

"....Adapting this technique from plants to animals proved more tricky....

"....When the experiments shifted to mammals, mice and rabbits were chosen because of their short reproductive cycles....

"....Other experiments relating to the cloning of mice seemed to indicate that for a mammal's egg to be fertilized, to start dividing, and, even more important, to begin the process of differentiation (into the specialized cells that become the different parts of the body), more than the donor's set chromosomes is needed. Experimenting at Yale, Clement L. Markert concluded that there was something in the male sperm that promoted these processes, something besides the chromosomes; that "the sperm might also be contributing some unidentified spur that stimulates the development of the egg."

"In order to prevent the sperm's male chromosomes from merging with the egg's female chromosome (which would have resulted in a normal fertilization rather than in cloning), one set had to be removed surgically just before the merger began and the remaining set "excited" by physical or chemical means to double itself. If the sperm's chromosomes were chosen for the latter role, the embryo might become either male or female; if the egg's set were chosen and duplicated, the embryo could only be female. While Markert was continuing his experiments on such methods of nuclear transfer, two other scientists (Peter C. Hoppe and Karl Illmensee) announced in 1977 the successful birth, at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbour, Maine, of seven "single-parent mice." The process, however, was more accurately designated parthenogenesis, "virgin birth," than cloning; since what the experimenters did was to cause the chromosomes in the egg of a female mouse to double, keep the egg with the full set of
chromosomes in certain solutions, and then, after the cell had divided several times, introduced
the self-fertilized cell into the womb of a female mouse. Significantly, the recipient mouse had to
be a different female, not the mouse whose egg had been used.

"...One alternative, which substituted the "Should man play God?" outcry with what one might call
the "Can science play husband?" idea, was the process that led to the phenomenon of "Test-tube
babies."

"...Two processes, that of Embryo Transfer and In vitro Fertilization, were employed in an event
that made medical history in July 1978, when Louise Brown was born at the Oldham and District
General Hospital in Northwest England.... she was conceived in a test tube, not by her parents but
by techniques employed by Doctors Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards. Nine months earlier
they had used a device with a light at its end to suck out a mature egg from Mrs. Brown’s ovary.
Bathed in a dish containing life-support nutrients, the extracted egg was "mixed" - the word was
used by Dr. Edwards - with the husband’s sperm. Once a sperm succeeded in fertilizing the egg,
the egg was transferred to a dish containing other nutrients, where it began to divide. After fifty
hours it had reached an eight-celled division; at that point, the egg was re-implanted in Mrs.
Brown’s womb. With care and special treatment, the embryo developed properly; a caesarean
delivery completed the feat.... "We have a girl and she’s perfect!” the gynecologist who performed
the caesarian delivery shouted as he held up the baby.

"I have created, my hands have made it,” Ninti cried out as she delivered the Adam by caesarian
section, an eon earlier . . . .

"Also reminiscent of the ancient reports of the long road of trial and error taken by Enki and Ninti
was the fact that the baby Louise "breakthrough" about which the media went wild came after
twelve years of trial and error.... Undoubtedly unbeknown to the doctors and researchers was the
fact that, in discovering also that the addition of blood serum to the mixture of nutrients and sperm
was essential to success, they were following the very same procedures that Enki and Ninti had
employed . . . .

"...The most obvious difference between the test-tube baby variants and what the ancient texts
describe is that in the former the natural process of procreation is emulated: human male sperm
fertilize a human female egg that then develops in the womb. In the case of the creation of Adam,
the genetic material of two different (even if not dissimilar) species were mixed to create a new
being, positioned somewhere between the two "parents."

"In recent years modern science has made substantial advances in such genetic manipulation.
With the aid of increasingly sophisticated equipment, computers, and ever-more minute
instruments, scientists have been able to "read" the genetic code of living organisms, up to and
including that of Man.... Plans are now afoot to "map" the complete human genetic makeup
("Genome")....

"...In spite of these complexities, it has become possible, with the aid of enzymes, to cut DNA
strands at desired places, remove a "sentence" that makes up a gene, and even insert into the
DNA a foreign gene; through these techniques an undesired trait (such as one that causes
disease) can be removed or a desired one (such as a growth-hormone gene) added....

"...Hybrids such as a mule, which is the progeny of a donkey and a horse, can be born from the
mating of the two because they have the similar chromosomes (hybrids, however, cannot
procreate). A sheep and a goat though not too distant relatives, cannot naturally mate, however,
because of their genetic kinship, experiments have brought them together to form (in 1983) a
"geep," a sheep with its woolly coat but with a goat’s horns.... The feat was attained by "Cell-
Fusion"....

"...There is little doubt that the monsters of Greek mythology, including the famous Minotaur (half
bull, half man) of Crete, were recollections of the tales transmitted to the Greeks by Berossus, the
Babylonian priest, and that the sources were the Sumerian texts concerning the trial-and-error
experiments of Enki and Ninti which produced all kinds of chimeras (mixed, or "mosaic"
creatures).

"The advances in genetics have provided biotechnology with other routes other than the predictable chimera route; it is evident that in doing so, modern science has followed the alternate (though more difficult) course of action undertaken by Enki and Ninti.... Techniques have even progressed to the artificial manufacture of compounds that perfectly emulate specific functions of a given gene, mainly with a view to treating diseases.

"In mammals, the altered fertilized female egg ultimately must be implanted in the womb of a surrogate mother - the function that was assigned, according to the Sumerian tales, to the "Birth-Goddesses."

"....The use of the most natural medium - sperm - to carry genetic material into a female egg [in the lab] astounded the scientific community in its simplicity and made front-page news even in The New York Times....

"Some have pointed out that the ability of sperm to take up foreign DNA was suggested by researchers as early as 1971.... Little it is realized that the technique had been reported even earlier, in Sumerian texts describing the creation of the Adam by Enki and Ninti, who had mixed the Apewomas's egg in a test tube with a sperm of a young Anunnaki in a solution also containing blood serum.

"In 1987 the dean of anthropology at the University of Florence, Italy, raised a storm of protests by clergimen and humanists when he revealed that ongoing experiments could lead to the "creation to a new breed of slave, an anthropoid with a chimpanzee mother and a human father." One of my fans sent me the clipping of the story with the comment "Well, Enki, here we go again!"....

Chapter Nine

THE MOTHER CALLED EVE

"....Regarding the biblical tale of Eve, it was the great Sumerologist Samuel N. Kramer who first pointed out that her name, which meant in Hebrew "She who has life," and the tale from the origin from Adam's rib in all probability stemmed from the Sumerian play on the word Ti, which meant both "life" and "rib".

"....The genetic manipulations, we have seen, were conducted by Enki and Ninti in a special facility called, in the Akkadian versions, Bit Shimti - "House where the wind of life is breathed in"....

"....The Akkadian term, as earlier stated, was a rendering of the Sumerian SHI.IM.TI.... SHI stood for what the Bible called Nephesh, commonly translated "soul" but more accurately meaning "breath of life." IM had several meanings, depending on the context. It meant "wind," but it could also mean "side." In astronomical texts it denoted a satellite that is "by the side" of its planet; in geometry it meant the side of a square or a triangle; and in anatomy it meant "rib." To this day the parallel word Sela means both the side of a geometric shape and a person's rib. And, lo and behold, IM also had a totally unrelated fourth meaning "clay."

"....The term TI added to the Sumerian’s linguistic fun. It meant as previously mentioned, both "life" and "rib" - the latter being the parallel of the Akkadian silu, from which came the Hebrew Sela. Doubled, TI.TI meant "belly" - that which held the fetus; and, lo and behold, in Akkadian titu acquired the meaning "clay," from which the Hebrew word Tit has survived. Thus, the component TI of the laboratory’s Sumerian name, SHI.IM.TI, we have the meanings "life"/"clay"/"belly"/"rib."

And Yahweh Elohim caused a deep sleep upon the Adam, and he slept.
And He took one of his ribs
and closed up the flesh in its place.
And Yahweh Elohim constructed of the rib
which He had taken form the Adam a woman,
and He brought her to the Adam.
And the Adam said,
"This is now bone of my bones,
flesh of my flesh..."

"....The Adam, having already been placed in the E.DIN to till and tend its orchards, was all alone.
And Yahweh Elohim said, it is no good that the Adam is by himself; let me make him a mate. "This obviously is a continuation of the version whereby The Adam alone was created, and not part of the version whereby Mankind was created male and female right away.

"....First the male lulu, "mixed one" was perfected; then the fertilized eggs of Apewoman.... were placed in a "mold," where they acquired either male or female characteristics. Reimplanted in the womb of Birth Goddesses, the embryos produced seven males and seven females each time.... To get more of them, the process had to be repeated over and over again.

"....A way had to be found to get more of these humans without imposing the pregnancies and deliveries on female Anunnaki. That way was a second genetic manipulation by Enki and Ninti, giving the Adam the ability to procreate on his own. To be able to have offspring, Adam had to mate with a fully compatible female. How and why she was brought into being is the story of the Rib and of the Garden of Eden.

"The tale of the Rib reads almost like a two-sentence summary of a report in a medical journal. In no uncertain terms it describes a major operation of the kind that makes headlines nowadays, when a close relative for example.... donates an organ for transplant....

"....The donor in the biblical case is Adam. He is given general anesthesia and is put to sleep. An incision is made and a rib is removed. The flesh is then pulled together to close up the wound, and Adam is allowed to rest and recover.

"....The Elohim now use the piece of bone to construct a woman; not to create a woman, but to "construct" one. The difference in terminology is significant; it indicates that the woman in question already existed but required some constructive manipulation to become a mate to Adam. What ever was needed was obtained from the rib, and the clue to what the rib supplied lies in the other meanings of IM and TI - life, belly, clay. Was an extract of Adam's bone marrow implanted in that of a female Primitive Worker's "clay" through her belly?

Regrettably, the Bible does not describe what was done to the female (named Eve by Adam) and the Sumerian texts that have dealt with this have not been found so far....

"....But we do know nowadays, thanks to modern science, that sexuality and the ability to procreate lie in human chromosomes....

"....Since both female and male Primitive Workers already existed, their sterility was not due to the lack of X or Y chromosomes. The need for a bone - the Bible stresses that Eve was "bone of the bones" of Adam - suggests that there was a need to overcome some immunological rejection by the female Primitive Worker's of the males' sperms. The operation carried out by the Elohim overcame this problem. Adam and Eve discovered their sexuality, having acquired "knowing" - a biblical term that connoted sex for the purpose of procreation....

"....With that, "The Adam" Elohim said, "has become as one of us." He was granted "Knowing." Homo sapiens was able to procreate and multiply on his own. But though he was given a good measure of the genetic makeup of the Anunnaki, who made Man in their image and their likeness even in this respect of procreation, one genetic trait was not transmitted. That was the longevity of the Anunnaki....

"....The ancient texts make clear that this longevity was not passed on to Man, but intelligence
was. This implies a belief or knowledge, in antiquity, that the two traits, intelligence and longevity, could somehow be bestowed upon or denied to Man by those who had genetically created him. Not surprisingly, perhaps, modern science agrees. "Evidence amassed over the past 60 years suggests that there is a genetic component to intelligence," Scientific American reported in its March 1989 issue....

"....Evidence has also been mounting for the genetic source of the life cycles of living organisms.... Every species clearly has a life span fixed by its genes - a single day for the mayfly, about six years for a frog, a limit of about fifteen years for a dog. Nowadays the human limit lies somewhere not much beyond one hundred years but in earlier times human life spans were much longer.

"....While it is believed the genetic errors that accumulate as DNA keeps reproducing itself in the cells contribute to the aging process, scientific evidence indicate the existence of a biological "clock" in all creatures, a basic, built-in genetic trait that controls the life span of each species. What the gene or group of genes is, what makes it tick, what triggers it to "express" itself, are still matters of intense research.... Viruses, show that they possess fragments of DNA that can literally "immortalize" them.

"Enki" must have known all that, so that when it came to perfecting The Adam - creating a true, procreating Homo sapiens - he gave Adam intelligence and "Knowing," but not the full longevity that the Anunnaki genes possessed.

"....The evidence that corroborates the ancient tales of creation, massive as it has been so far, does not end with genetic manipulation. There is more to come, and it is all above Eve!

"....By now the question "Where did we come from?" had been clearly answered: Mankind arose in southeastern Africa.

"The story of Man, we now know, did not begin with Man; the "chapter" that tells of the group of mammals called "Primates" takes us back some forty-five or fifty million years, when a common ancestor of monkeys, apes, and Man appeared in Africa. Twenty-five or thirty million years later, that is how slowly the wheels of evolution turn - a precursor of the Great Apes branched off the primate line. In the 1920s fossils of this early ape, "Proconsul" were found by chance on an island in Lake Victoria, and the find eventually attracted to the area the best known husband-wife team of paleontologists, Louis S. B. and Mary Leaky. Besides Proconsul fossils they also discovered in the area remains of Ramapithecus, the first erect ape or manlike primate; it was some fourteen million years old - some eight or ten million years up the evolutionary tree from Proconsul.

"....They unlocked the door to nature's secret laboratory, the hide away where Mother Nature keeps forging ahead with the evolutionary march that has led from mammal to primate to great apes to hominids. The place was the rift valley that slashes through Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania - part of the rift system that begins in Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea in Israel, includes the Red Sea, and runs all the way to southern Africa.

"....Putting aside the problems raised by pride of discovery (among several other explorers), different interpretations of finds, and a propensity for splitting species and genuses into smaller subdivisions, it is safe to state that the branch leading to humans separated from that of four-legged apes some fourteen million years ago and that it took another nine million years or so until the first apes with hominid aspects, called Australopithecus, showed up - all where nature had chosen its "man-making" laboratory to be.

"....Among the outstanding road markers have been such findings as skeletal parts of a female nicknamed "Lucy" believed to have been an advanced Australopithecus who lived some 3.5 million years ago; a fossil known by its catalog number as "Skull 1470" of a male from Hominid Fossils at Leakey's Museum; Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania.
perhaps 2 million years ago and considered by its finders to be a "near man," or Homo habilis ("Handy Man")...; and skeletal remains of a "strapping young male" cataloged WT.15000 of a Homo erectus from about 1.5 million years ago, probably the first true hominid. He ushered in the Old Stone Age; he began to use stones as tools, and migrated via the Sinai peninsula, which acts as a land bridge between Africa and Asia on the one hand and to southern Europe on the other.

"The trail of the Homo genus is lost after that, the chapter between about 1.5 million years to about 300,000 years ago is missing, except for traces of Homo erectus on the peripheries of this hominid’s migrations. Then, about 300,000 years ago, without any evidence of gradual change, Homo sapiens made his appearance. At first it was believed that Homo sapiens neanderthalis, Neanderthal man..., who came into prominence in Europe and parts of Asia about 125,000 years ago, was the ancestor of the Cro-Magnons, Homo sapiens sapiens, who took over the lands about 35,000 years ago. Related but not the offspring of each other, the two lines of Homo sapiens lived side by side as far back as 90,000 or even 100,000 years ago.

"The evidence was found in two caves, [around 1930] one in Mount Carmel and the other [at Qafzeh] near Nazareth, in Israel.... (The cave near Nazareth was re-excavated in the 1960s)

"...Themselves incredulous, the scientists at Hebrew University in Jerusalem turned for verification to the remains of rodents found in the same layers (The age of the rodent remains coincided with the date of the Hominids remains).

"...Devoting an editorial in Nature to the findings, Christopher Stringer of the British Museum acknowledged that the conventional view that Neanderthal preceded Cro-Magnon had to be discarded....

"Wherever the original "Eden" for modern humans might have been," the editorial stated, it now appeared that for some reasons Neanderthals were the first to migrate northward, about 125,000 years ago.... A northward migration by these first Homo sapiens from an African birthplace was confirmed by the discovery (by Fred Wendorf of Southern Methodist University, Dallas) of a Neanderthal skull near the Nile in Egypt that was 80,000 years old.

""Does it all mean an earlier dawn for humans?" a Science headline asked.... it became clear the answer was yes. The Neanderthals, they were not the primitive brutes that earlier notions had made them out to be. They buried their dead in rituals that indicated religious practices and "at least one type of spiritually motivated behaviour that allies them with modern humans" (Jared M. Diamond of the University of California Medical School at Los Angeles).... Ralph S. Solecki of Columbia University, [and others] believe that the Neanderthals knew how to use herbs for healing - 60,000 years ago.... Neanderthals could speak: "Fossil brain casts show a well-developed language area," stated Dean Falk of the State University of New York at Albany....

"All these discoveries have left no doubt that Neanderthal man was without doubt a Homo Sapiens - not an ancestor of Cro-Magnon man but an earlier type from the same human stock.

"In March 1987 Christopher Stringer of the British Museum, along with a colleague, Paul Mellars, organized a conference at Cambridge University to update and digest the new findings concerning "The Origins and Dispersal of Modern Man...." They concluded that after a hiatus of 1.2 to 1.5 million years by Homo erectus, Homo sapiens made a sudden appearance soon after 300,000 years ago (as evidence by fossil remains in Ethiopia, Kenya, and South Africa)....

"...The conference also examined other lines of evidence, including the brand-new data provided by the field of biochemistry. Most exciting were the findings based on genetics. The ability of geneticists to trace parentage through comparisons of DNA "sentences" has been proven in paternity lawsuits....

"...Because a person’s DNA keeps getting mixed by the genes of the generational fathers, comparisons of the DNA in the nucleus of the cell (which come half from mother, half from father)
do not work well after several generations. It was discovered, however, that in addition to the DNA in the cell’s nucleus, some DNA exists in the mother’s cell but outside the nucleus in bodies called “mitochondria.” This DNA does not get mixed with the father’s DNA; instead, it is passed on “unadulterated” from mother to daughter to granddaughter, and so on through the generations. The surprising conclusion, which he announced at a scientific conference in July 1986 was that the mtDNA in all of them [800 women had been compared] appeared to be so similar that these women must have all descended from a single female ancestor.

It was concluded, after checking 21 women from different parts of the globe, that they owed their origin to "a single mitochondrial Eve" who had lived in Africa between 300,000 and 180,000 years ago.

Mr. Sitchin continues:

"These intriguing findings were taken up by others, who set out to search for "Eve." Prominent among them was Rebecca Cann....

Placentas of 147 women from all races showed also a common female ancestor who had lived between 300,000 and 150,000 years ago....

And then:

"The upper limit of 300,000 years, paleoanthropologists noted, coincided with the fossil evidence for the time Homo sapiens made his appearance. What could have happened 300,000 years ago to bring this change about?" Cann and Allan Wilson asked, but they had no answer.

"....All these very recent discoveries (even more in the book) go a long way indeed in confirming the biblical claim regarding the first couple of Homo sapiens....

"....Several conclusions are offered by the Sumerian data. First, the creation of the Lulu was the result of the mutiny of the Anunnaki about 300,000 years ago. This date as the upper limit for the first appearance of Homo sapiens has been corroborated by modern science.

"Second, the forming of the Lulu had taken place "above the Abzu," north of the mining area. This is corroborated by the location of the earliest human remains in Tanzania, Kenya, and Ethiopia - north of the gold-mining areas of southern Africa.

"Third, the full emergence of the first type of Homo sapiens, the Neanderthals - about 230,000 years ago - falls well within the 250,000 years suggested by the mtDNA findings for the data of "Eve," followed later by the emergence of Homo sapiens sapiens, "modern Man."

"There is no contradiction at all between these later dates and the 300,000-year date of the mutiny....

"....Clearly, the tracing of mtDNA accounts for the "Eve" who could bear children, not a female Lulu unable to procreate. The granting to mankind of this ability, it was shown earlier, took place as a result of a second genetic manipulation by Enki and Ninti which, in the Bible, is reflected in the story of Adam, Eve, and the Serpent in the Garden of Eden....

"....What seems certain is that the Bible does recognize the final emergence of Homo sapiens sapiens, modern human beings.... It was in the time of Enosh (son of the third son of Adam and Eve, Seth), the Bible states that "men began to call the name of Yahweh. It was then, in other words, that fully civilized Man and religious worship were established.

"With that, all the aspects of the ancient tale stand corroborated.
Chapter Ten
WHEN WISDOM WAS LOWERED FROM HEAVEN

“The Sumerian King Lists - a record of rulers, cities, and events arranged chronologically - divide prehistory and history into two distinct parts: first the long record of what had happened before the Deluge, then what transpired after the Deluge. One was the time when the Anunnaki “gods” and their sons by the “daughters of Man,” the so-called demigods, ruled upon the Earth; the other was when human rulers - kings selected by Enlil - were interposed between the “gods” and the people....

"...."When kingship was lowered from heaven," begins the Sumerian King List, "kingship was in Eridu...."

"....Although the subject of this volume is what we call Science and the ancients called Wisdom, a few words about “Kingship” - the good order of things, an organized society and its institutions - will not be out of place, because without them no scientific progress or the dissemination and preservation of “Wisdom” could be possible....

"....Various aspects of an organized and orderly society were incorporated into the concept of kingship, first and foremost among them the need for justice. A king was required to be "righteous" and to promulgate and uphold the law.... Hamurabi’s was a code of crime and punishment: if you do this, your punishment will be that. The Sumerian law codes, on the other hand, were codes of just behavior; they stated that “you should not take away a widow’s donkey” or delay the wages of a day laborer. The Bible’s Ten Commandments were, like the Sumerian codes, not a list of punishments but a code of what is right to do and what is wrong and should not be done.

"....It is from Sumer that we have inherited the concept of judges, juries, witnesses, and contracts, the unit of society we call the “family,” based on a contractual marriage, was instituted in Sumer, so were rules and customs of succession, of adoption, of the rights of widows. The rule of law was also applied to economic activities: exchange based on contracts, rules for employment, wages, - how else - taxation....

"....All that and more came under the umbrella of "Kingship." As the sons and grandchildren of Enlil entered the stage of relations between Man and his gods, the functions of kingship and the supervision of kings were gradually handed over to them, and Enlil as the All Beneficent became a cherished memory. But to this day what we call a "civilized society" still owns its foundation to the time when "kingship was lowered from heaven."

"Wisdom" - sciences and the arts, the activities that required know-how - were the domain first of Enki, the Chief Scientist of the Anunnaki, and later on, of his children....

"....Like Kingship, Wisdom was "lowered to Earth from Heaven," granted to Mankind by the Anunnaki “gods.” It was by their sole decision that scientific knowledge was passed on to Mankind, usually through the medium of selected individuals....

"....There was no doubt in ancient times that scientific knowledge was a gift and a teaching from the "gods" - the Anunnaki, Elohim - to Mankind. The assertions that astronomy was a major subject are self-evident statements, since, as must be evident from earlier chapters in this book, the astounding knowledge in Sumerian times of the complete Solar System and the cosmogony that explained the origin of Earth, the asteroid belt, and the existence of Nibiru could have come only from the Anunnaki.

"While I have seen a gratifying increase - to some extent, I would like to think, due to my writings - in the recognition of the Sumerian contribution to the beginning and concept of laws, medical treatment, and cuisine, the parallel recognition of the immense Sumerian contribution to astronomy has not come about; this, I suspect, because of the hesitation in crossing the
"forbidden threshold" of the inevitable next step: if you admit that the Sumerians knew about celestial matters, you must admit the existence not only of Nibiru but also of its people, the Anunnaki... Nevertheless, this "fear of crossing" (a nice play on words, since Nibiru's name meant "Planet of the Crossing" . . .) in no way negates the fact modern astronomy owes to the Sumerian (and through them, to the Anunnaki) the basic concept of a spherical astronomy with all its technicalities; the concept of an ecliptic as the belt around the Sun in which the planets orbit; the grouping of stars into constellations; the grouping of the constellations seen in the ecliptic into the Houses of the Zodiac; and the application of the number 12 to these constellations, to the months of the year, and to other celestial, or "divine" matters.... Astrologers certainly owe much to these celestial divisions, since in the planet Nibiru astrologers find the twelfth member of the Solar System that they have been missing for so long.

"As the Book of Enoch details and as the biblical reference to the number 365 attests, a direct result of the knowledge of the interrelated motions of the Sun, the Moon, and the Earth was the development of the calendar: the counting of the days (and their nights), the months, and the years. It is now generally recognized that the Western calendar we use nowadays harkens back to Mankind's first-ever calendar, the one known as the Calendar of Nippur....

"....The Jewish Calendar, as I have repeatedly pointed out in books and articles, still adheres to the calendar of Nippur not only in its form and structure but also in its count of years. In A.D. 1990 the Jewish calendar counts the year 5750; and it is not from "the creation of the world," as the explanation has been, but from the start of the calendar of Nippur in 3760 B.C.

"It was in that year, I have suggested in The Lost Realms, that Anu, Nibiru's king, came to Earth on a state visit. His name AN in Sumerian and Anu in Akkadian, meant "heaven," "The Heavenly One," and was a component of numerous astronomical terms, such as AN.UR ("celestial horizon") and AN.PA ("point of Zenith"), as well as being a component of the name "Anunnaki," "Those Who From Heaven to Earth Came...."

".... Enki imparted the knowledge of astronomy (and other sciences) to his firstborn son Marduk, and the renown ziggurat of Babylon, built there after Marduk gained supremacy in Mesopotamia, was built to serve as an astronomical observatory.

"Enki bestowed the "secrets" of the calendar, mathematics, and writing on his younger son Ningishzidda, whom the Egyptians called Thoth. In The Lost Realms I present substantial evidence to show that he was one and the same Mesozoic god known as Quetzalcoatl, "The Plumed Serpent." This god's name, which means (in Sumerian) "Lord of the Tree of Life," reflected the fact that it was to him that Enki entrusted medical knowledge, including the secret of reviving the dead....

"....Putting aside the ability to revive the dead (which is mentioned as fact in the Bible), it is certain that the teaching of anatomy and medicine was part of priestly training, as stated in the Enmeduranki text. That the tradition continued into later times is clear from Leviticus, one of the Five Books of Moses, which contains extensive instructions by Yahweh to the Israelite priests in matters of health, medical prognosis, treatment and hygiene.... These instructions were not unlike those in numerous earlier Mesopotamian texts that served as medical manuals for the A.ZUs and IA.ZUs.... That the Elohim were the source of these teachings should come as no surprise when we recall the medical, anatomical, and genetic feats of Enki and Ninti.

"....The Sumerian numbers system is called sexagesimal, meaning "base 60." The count ran from 1 to 60, as we now do with 1 to 100. But then, where we say "two hundred," the Sumerians said (or wrote) "2 gesh," meaning 2 x 60, which equaled 120....

"....When record keeping began, a stylus with a round tip was used to impress on wet clay the various symbols that stood for the numbers 1, 10, 60, 600, and 3,600. The ultimate numeral was 3,600, signified by a large circle; it was called SAR (Shar in Akkadian) the "princely" or "royal" number, the number of Earth-years it took Nibiru to complete one orbit around the Sun.
After Mr. Sitchin explains the "cuneiform" writing ("wedge-shaped"), in which scribes used a wedge-shaped stylus,... he continues:

"...Although dubbed "sexagesimal," the Sumerian system of numeration and mathematics was in reality not simply based on the number 60 but a combination of 6 and 10. While in the decimal system each step up is accomplished by multiplying the previous sum by 10, in the Sumerian system the numbers increased by alternate multiplications: once by 10, then by 6, then by 10, then again by 6. This method has puzzled today's scholars. The decimal system is obviously geared to the ten digits of the human hands (as the numbers, too, are still called), so the 10 in the Sumerian system can be understood; but where did the 6 come from, and why?

"...There have been other puzzles. Among the thousands of mathematical tablets from Mesopotamia many held tables of ready-made calculations. Surprisingly, however, they did not run from smaller numbers up (like 1, 10, 60, etc.) but ran down, starting from a number that can only be described as astronomical: 12,900,000... it stemmed from the phenomenon of Precession, which retards the zodiac constellation against which the Sun rises by a full House once in 2,160 years....

"...It was incredible to learn, as Hilprecht (The Babylonian Expedition of the University of Pennsylvania), and others have, that the Sumerians were not only aware of the phenomenon of precession but also knew that a shift from House to House in the zodiac required 2,160 years; it was doubly incomprehensible that they chose as the base of their mathematics a number representing five hundred complete twelve-House-cycles, each one of which required the fantastic (as far as human beings are concerned) time span of 25,900 years. In fact, while modern astronomy accepts the existence of the phenomenon and its periods as calculated in Sumer, there is no scientist now or in former times who can or could confirm from personal experience the shift of even one House (a shift to Aquarius is now anticipated); and all the scientists put together have to witness one complete cycle. Still, there it is in the Sumerian tablets.

"It seems to me that a solution to all these puzzles can be found if modern science will accept the existence of Nibiru and its Anunnaki as fact....

"...Although a complete shift in 2,160 years was also beyond an Earthling's lifetime, the gradual shift of one degree every 72 years was an observable phenomenon (which the astronomer-priests witnessed and dealt with). This was the "earthly" in the formulation.

"...Then there was the orbital period of Nibiru, which the Anunnaki knew equaled 3,600 Earth-years....

Mr. Sitchin gives plenty information about numerology of the ancients, from the Sumerian records. He also mentions some biblical passages, Psalm 90, where the Lord, referring to the "Celestial Lord" (Nibiru) is mentioned. Also in Psalm 102....

"...Relating it all to the orbit of Nibiru, to its cycle of 3,600 Earth-years, the precessional retardation of Earth in its orbit around the Sun - this is the secret of the Wisdom of Numbers of the Anunnaki lowered from heaven to Earth.

"...Before Man could "calculate with numbers," the other two of the "three Rs" - reading and 'riting - had to be mastered. We take for granted that man can speak, that we have languages by which to communicate to our fellow men (or clansmen). But modern science has not held it so; in fact, until quite recently, the scientists dealing with speech and languages believed that "Talking Man" was a rather late phenomenon that may have been one reason the Cro-Magnons - who could speak and converse with each other - took over from the nonspeaking Neanderthals.

"This was not the biblical view. The Bible took it for granted, for example, that the Elohim who were on Earth long before the Adam could speak and address each other....

"...Let us now look at the Adam. He is placed in the Garden of Eden and is told what to eat and what to avoid. The instructions were understood by The Adam, as the ensuing conversation
between the Serpent and Eve makes clear... Adam and Even hide when they hear the footsteps of Yahweh, "strolling in the garden in the cool of the day." Yahweh calls out to Adam.... (The dialogue in Genesis is given in the book).

Mr. Sitchin then continues:

"....This is quite a conversation. Not only the Deity can speak; Adam and Eve can also speak and understand the Deity's language. So, in what language did they converse, for there must have been one (according to the Bible).

"....Again scholars began by differing with the Bible. They assumed that language was a cultural heritage rather than an hereditary trait. It was assumed that Man progressed from groans to meaningful shouts (on seeing prey or sensing danger) to rudimentary speech as he formed clans....

"....It is gratifying to note that in recent years, modern science has come around to the belief that there was indeed a Mother Tongue; and that both types of Homo sapiens - Cro-Magnon and Neantherthal - could talk from the very beginning.

"....It was mainly advances in other fields, such as anthropology, biogenetics, and the Earth sciences, as well as computerization, that opened new avenues of study of what some call "linguistic genetics...."

"....Meanwhile, archaeological discoveries kept pushing back the time of human migrations, and this was especially significant in regard to the arrival of migrants in the Americas. When a time of twenty thousand years or even thirty thousand years ago was suggested, Joseph Greenberg created a sensation when he demonstrated in 1987 (Language in the Americas) that the hundreds of tongues in the New World could be grouped into just three families, which he termed Eskimo-Aleut, Na-Dene, and Amerind. The greater significance of his conclusions was that these three in turn were brought to the Americas by migrants from Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Pacific and thus in effect were not true-proto-languages but offshoots of Old World ones....

(Readers wishing to know more about the earliest arrivals in the Americas may want to read The Lost Realms, Book IV of the "Earth Chronicles" series).

"....But did true languages begin only about twelve thousand years ago - only after the Deluge? It is not only according to the bible that language existed at the very beginning of Homo sapiens (Adam and Eve), but also the fact that Sumerian texts repeatedly refer to inscribed tablets that dated from before the Deluge....

"Discoveries by paleontologists and anthropologists make linguists push their estimations back in time. The discoveries in the Kebara cave, mentioned earlier, indeed forced a complete reevaluation of previous timetables.

"....Still, scientist from other fields relating to the anatomy of speech, such as Philip Lieberman of Brown University and Dean Folk of the State University of New York at Albany, see speech as a trait of Homo sapiens from the very first appearance of these "Thinking/Wise Men." Brain specialists such as Ronald E. Myers of the National Institute of Communicative Disorders and Strokes believe that "human speech developed spontaneously, unrelated to the crude vocalization of other primates," as soon as humans acquired their two-part brains.

"And Allan Wilson, who had participated in the genetic research leading to the "One-Mother-of-All" conclusion, put speech back in the mouth of "Eve"; The human capacity for language may have come from a genetic mutation that occurred in a woman who lived in Africa 200,000 years ago," he announced at a meeting in January 1989 of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

"....And so we arrive at the last of the Rs - writing.
"...Undoubtedly, Man learned to write long after he began to speak. The Mesopotamian texts insist that there was writing before the Deluge, and there is no reason to disbelieve this. But the first writing discovered in modern times is the early Sumerian script which was pictographic. It took a few centuries for this script to evolve into the cuneiform script which was the means of writing in all the ancient languages of Asia until it was finally replaced, millennia later, by the alphabet.

"...Three generations of scholars have been able to arrange the signs in a logical order and, as a result, have come up with lexicons and dictionaries of the ancient languages - Sumerian, Babylonian, Assyrian, Hittite, Elamite and so on - that used cuneiform.

"But modern science reveals that there was more than some logical order to creating such a diversity of signs.

"Mathematicians, especially those leading with graph theory - the study of points joined by lines - are familiar with the Ramsey Graph Theory....

"...The almost one hundred signs, only partly illustrated here [in the book] are simple graphs based on no more than a dozen Ramsey Numbers. So, if Enki or his daughter Nidaba, the Sumerian "goddess of writing," had known as much as Frank Ramsey, they must have had no problem in devising for the Sumerian scribes a mathematically perfect system of cuneiform signs.

"I will greatly bless thee, and I will exceedingly multiply thy seed as the stars of the heavens," Yahweh told Abraham. And with this single verse, several of the elements of the knowledge that was lowered from heaven were expressed: speech, astronomy, and the "counting with numbers."

"Modern science is well on its way to corroborating all that.

Chapter Eleven
A SPACE BASE ON MARS

"...Vowing to make the United States "a spacefaring nation," the goal, the President said, will be "back to the Moon, back to the future... and then, a journey into tomorrow, to another planet: a manned mission to Mars."

"Back to the future." The choice of words may or may not have been coincidental; the promise that going to the future involves going to the past might have been more than a speech writer’s choice slogan.

"For there is evidence that "A Space Base on Mars," this chapter’s heading, should apply not to the discussion of future plans but to disclosure of what has already taken place in the past: Evidence that a space base existed on the planet Mars in antiquity; and what is even more startling, that it might have been reactivated before our very eyes.

"...A spaceship capable of carrying a team of astronauts to Mars and back might have to weigh as much as four million pounds.... (U.S. space shuttles now have a payload capacity of sixty-five thousand pounds.)

"...Such lift-off and fuel problems would be greatly reduced if the spaceship will be assembled in weightless orbit around the Earth. This scenario envisions an orbiting, manned space station, to which shuttle craft will ferry the knocked-down spaceship. Meanwhile, astronauts stationed on the Moon at a permanent space base would develop the technology required for Man's survival in space. Man and vehicle would then be joined for the voyage to Mars.

"...The round trip may take between two and three years depending on the trajectory and Earth-
Mars alignments....

"...The progression from shuttlecraft to an orbiting space station to landings on the Moon and the establishment of a space base thereon, all as stepping-stones or way stations toward a landing on Mars, has been described in scenarios that read like science fiction but are based on scientific knowledge and attainable technology. Based on the Moon and on Mars, even a colony on Mars, have been in the planning for a long time and are deemed entirely feasible. Sustaining human life and activity on the Moon is certainly challenging, but the studies show how it could be achieved. The tasks are even more challenging for Mars, since re-supply from Earth (as the Moon projects envision) is more difficult and costly. Nevertheless, the vital resources needed by Man to survive and function are available on Mars, and scientists believe that Man could live "off the land" there.

"Mars, it has been concluded, is habitable - because it was habitable in the past.

"Mars appears nowadays as a cold, half-frozen planet inhospitable to anything living upon its surface.... But not so long ago in geological terms, it was a planet with relative pleasant seasons, flowing water, oceans and rivers, cloudy (blue!) skies, and perhaps - just perhaps - even some forms of indigenous simple plant life.

"All the various studies converge towards the conclusion that Mars is now going through an ice age, not unlike the ice ages that Earth has experienced periodically....

Mr. Sitchin explains the orbital anomalies of Planet Earth and how it is affected in its seasons and cycles of ice and warmth. He then continues:

"....The planet Mars is also subject to all these cycles, except that its larger orbit around the Sun and greater tilt differential cause more extreme climatic swings. The cycle as we have mentioned, is believed to last some fifty thousand years on Mars (shorter and longer durations have also been suggested).

"When the next Martian warm period, or interglacial, arrives, the planet will literally flow with water, its seasons will not be as harsh, and its atmosphere will not be as alien to Earthlings as it is today. When was the last "interglacial" epoch on Mars? The time could not have been too distant, because otherwise the dust storms on Mars would have obliterated more, if not most, of the evidence on its surface of once-flowing rivers, ocean shorelines, and lake basins; and there would not be as much water vapor still in the Martian atmosphere as is found today....

"....Those who are planning the landings and extended stays on Mars do not expect the climate there to revert to an interglacial epoch within the next two decades; but they do believe that the basic requirements for life and survival on Mars are locally available.... Aquifers - subterranean water pools - are a sure source of water in the opinion of many scientists.... Morning fogs and mists that have been observed on Mars suggest to scientists the existence of dew, a source of water for many plants and animals on Earth in arid areas.

"....The Martian atmosphere, at first site inhospitable and even poisonus to Man and life, could in fact be a source of vital resources. The atmosphere has been found to contain some water vapor, which could be extracted by condensation. It could also be a source of oxygen for breathing and burning....

"....The planet's reddish-brown, or "rusty," hue is also a clue to the availability of oxygen, for it is the result of the actual rusting of iron rocks on Mars....

"....Although the Martian soil is relatively high in salts, scientists believe it could be washed with water sufficiently to the point where patches would be suitable for plant cultivation in green-houses; local foods could thus be grown, especially from seeds of salt-resistant strains of grains and vegetables; human waste could be used as fertilizer, as it is used in many Third World countries on Earth....

"....Another source not just of water but also of heat on Mars, is indicated by the past volcanic
Of several notable volcanoes... the largest volcano on Earth, Mauna Loa in Hawaii, rises 6.3 miles; Olympus Mons on Mars towers 15 miles above the surrounding plain.... The volcanoes of Mars and other evidence of volcanic activity on the planet indicate a hot molten core and thus the possible existence of warm surface spots, hot-water springs, and other phenomena resulting from internally generated heat.

"With a day almost exactly the length of a day on Earth, seasons (although about twice as long as Earth's), equatorial regions, icy northern and southern poles, water resources that once were seas and lakes and rivers, mountain ranges and plains, volcanoes and canyons, Mars is Earthlike in so many ways. Indeed, some scientists believe that Mars, although created at the same time as the other planets 4.6 billion years ago, is at the stage Earth was at its beginnings, before plant life began to emit oxygen and change Earth's atmosphere. This notion has served as a basis for the suggestion by proponents of the Gaia Theory of how Man might "jump the gun" on Martian evolution by bringing life to it; for they hold that it was Life that made Earth hospitable to life.

"....The plans proposed by the advocates of Gaia Hypothesis are based on an assumption and a presumption. The first, that Mars does not have life-forms of its own; the second, that people from one planet have the right to introduce their life-forms to another world, whether or not it has its own life.... it is evident that Life as it has blossomed on Earth - trees and forests, bushes and grasses, flying birds and roaming animals - is just not there. But what about lesser life-forms lichens or algae or the lowly bacteria?

Mars probes, Mariners 4, 6, and 7 (1965-69) revealed a desolated planet....

"....This image, of a planet not only without life on it but itself a lifeless and dead globe changed completely when Mariner 9 went into orbit around Mars in 1971 and surveyed almost its entire surface. It showed a living planet with a history of geologic activity and volcanism, with plains and mountains, with canyons in which America's Grand Canyon could be swallowed without a trace, and the marks of flowing water. It was not only a living planet but one that could have life upon it.

"The search for life on Mars was thus made a prime objective of the Viking Missions. Viking I and Viking 2 were launched from Cape Canaveral in the summer 1975 and reached their destination in July and August of 1976.... the landers sent thrilling photographs of the Martian landscape at very close range and conducted a series of experiments in search of Life.

"Besides instruments to analyze the atmosphere and cameras to photograph the areas in which they touched down, each Lander carried a combined gas-chromatograph/mass-spectrometer for analyzing the surface for organic material as well as three instruments designed to detect metabolic activity by any organism in the soil.... There were no living organisms in the samples; only carbon dioxide and a small amount of water vapor were found. There were not even the organic molecules that impacting meteorites bring with them; the presumption is that if such molecules had been delivered to Mars, the present high level of ultraviolet light that strikes the planet, whose protective atmosphere is now almost gone, must have destroyed them.

"In subsequent years, in laboratory experiments in which the soil and conditions of Mars were simulated as best as the researchers could, the reactions indicated biological responses.... [Moscow University 1980]: when Earth life-forms were introduced, birds and mammals expired in a few seconds, turtles and frogs lived many hours, insects survived for weeks - but fungi, lichens, algae, and mosses quickly adapted themselves to the new environment; oats, rye, and beans sprouted and grew but could not reproduce.

"Life, then, could take hold on Mars, but had it? With 4.6 billion years at the disposal of evolution on Mars, where are not merely some microorganisms (which may or may not exist) but higher life-forms? Or were the Sumerians right in saying that life sprouted on Earth so soon after its formation only because the "Seed of Life" was brought to it, by Nibiru?

"While the soil of Mars still keeps its riddle of whether or not its test reactions were chemical and lifeless or biological and caused by living organism, the rocks of Mars challenge us with even more enigmatic puzzles.
"....The rocks discovered in Antarctica are even more puzzling. A photograph of one of them, released by NASA and published in The New York Times of September 1, 1987, shows it to be not "football sized" as these rocks had been described, but rather a broken-off block of four bricklike artificially shaped and angled stones fitted together - something one would expect to find in pre-Inca ruins in Peru's Sacred Valley but not on Mars. Yet all tests on the rock (it is no longer referred to as a meteorite) attest to its Martian origin.

"To compound the mystery, photographs of the Martian surface have revealed features that, on seeing them, astronomers dubbed "Inca City." Located in the planet's southern part, they represent a series of steep walls made up of squarish or rectangular segments. John McCauley, a NASA geologist commented that the "ridges" were "continuous, show no breaching, and stand out among the surrounding plains and small hills like walls of an ancient ruin."

"This immense wall or series of connected shaped stone blocks bears a striking resemblance to such colossal and enigmatic structures on Earth as the immense wall of gigantic stone blocks that forms the base of the vast platform at Baalbek in Lebanon or to the cruder but equally impressive zigzagging parallel stone walls at Sacsahuaman above Cuzco in Peru. In The Stairway to Heaven and The Lost Realms, I have attributed both structures to the Anunnaki/Nefilim. The features on Mars might perhaps be explained as natural phenomena, and the size of the blocks, ranging from three to five miles in length, might very well indicate the hand of nature rather than of people, of whatever provenance. On the other hand, since no plausible natural explanation has emerged, they might be the remains of artificial structures - if the "giants" of Near Eastern and Andean lore had also visited Mars . . .

"The notion of "canals" on Mars appeared to have been laid to rest when - after decades of ridicule - scientists suggested that what Schiaparelli and Lowell had observed and mapped were in fact channels of dried-up rivers. Yet other features were found on the Martian surface that defy easy explanation. These include white "streaks" that run in straight lines for endless miles - sometimes parallel, sometimes at angles to each other, sometimes crossing other, narrower "tracks." Once again, the NASA teams suggested that windblown dust storms may have caused these features. This may be so, although the regularity and especially the intersecting of the lines seem to indicate an artificial origin. Searching for a comparable feature on Earth, one must look to the famous Nazca lines in southern Peru which have been attributed to "the gods."

"....As pictures taken by the Mariner and Viking cameras seem to show, even pyramids, or what look like pyramids, have been seen on Mars.

Mr. Sitchin presents several photos of Mars, its "pyramids, Face," and other features, and opinions of various experts. He continues:

"....Although it is said that the NASA scientist who examined the photographs [of the Face] received from the Viking I Orbiter on July 25, 1976, "almost fell out of his chair" when he saw this frame and that appropriate "Oh, my god" or expressions to that effect were uttered, the fact is that the photo was filed away with the thousands of other Viking photographs without any further action because the similarity to a human face was deemed just a play of light and shadows on a rock eroded by natural forces (water, wind)....

"....Three years later Vincent DiPietro, an electrical engineer and imaging specialist, who remembered seeing the "Face" in a popular magazine came face-to-face with the Martian image as he was thumbing through the archives of the National Space Science Data Center.... Intrigued by the decision to keep the photo in the scientific data center under that tantalizing caption - the "Head" whose very existence had been denied - he embarked, together with Greg Molenaar, a Lockheed computer scientist, on search for the original NASA image. They found not one, but two, the other being image 070-A-13(Plate F). Subsequent searches came up with more photos of the Cydonia area taken by different Viking Orbiter cameras and from both the right and left sides of the features (there are eleven by now). The Face as well as more pyramid-like and other puzzling features could be seen on all of them. Using sophisticated computer enhancements and imaging techniques, DiPietro and Molinaar obtained enlarged and clearer images of the Face.
that convinced them it had been artificially sculpted.

"Armed with their findings (DiPietro and Molenaar), they attended the 1981 The Case for Mars conference but instead of acclaiming them the assembled scientists cold-shouldered their assertions - undoubtedly because they would have to draw the conclusion that the Face was the handiwork of intelligent beings, "Martians" who had inhabited the planet; and that was a totally unacceptable proposition.... All they claimed [their book Unusual Mars Surface Features’s epilogue stated], was “that the features do not seem natural and warrant further investigation.” NASA scientists, however, strongly rejected any suggestion that future missions should include a visit to the Face, since it was clearly just a rock shaped by the forces of nature so that it resembled a human face.

"The cause of the Face on Mars was thereafter taken up primarily by Richard C. Hoagland, a science writer and one time consultant at the Goddard Space Flight Center. He organized a computer conference titled the Independent Mars Investigation Team with the purpose of having the features and all other pertinent data studied by a representative group of scientists and specialists; the group eventually included Brian O’Leary, a scientist-astronaut, and David Webb, a member of the U.S. President’s Space Commission. In their conclusions they not only concurred with the view that the "Face" and "pyramids" were artificial structures, they also suggested that other features on the surface on Mars were the handiwork of intelligent beings who had once been on Mars.

"I was especially intrigued by the suggestion in their reports that the orientation of the Face and the principal pyramid indicated they were built about half a million years ago in alignment with sunrise at solstice time on Mars. When Hoagland and his colleague Thomas Rautenberg, a computer specialist, sought my comments on their photographic evidence, I pointed out to them that the Anunnaki/Nefilim, according to my conclusions in The 12th Planet, had first landed on Earth about 450,000 years ago; it was, perhaps, no coincidence that Hoagland and Rautenberg’s dating of the monuments on Mars coincided with my timetable. Although Hoagland was careful to hedge his bets, he devoted many pages in his book The Monuments of Mars to my writings and to the Sumerian evidence concerning the Anunnaki.

"The publicity according the findings of DiPietro, Molenaar, and Hoagland has caused NASA to insist that they are wrong. In an unusual move, the National Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, which supplies the public with copies of NASA data, has been enclosing along with the "Face" photographs copies of rebutals on the unorthodox interpretations of the images. These rebutals include a three-page paper dated June 6, 1987, by Paul Butterworth, the Center’s Resident Planetologist. He states that "there is no reason to believe that this particular mountain, which is similar to tens of thousands of others on the planet, is not the result of the natural geological processes which have produced all the other landforms on Mars...."

""No reason to believe" that the feature is other than natural is, of course, not a factual argument in disproving the opposite move, whose proponents contend that they do have reason to believe the features are artificial structures.... the Face and some features near it, especially those with straight sides, remain a challenging enigma.

"A scientifically significant study by Mark J. Carlotto, an optics scientist, was published in the May 1988 issue of the prestigious journal Applied Optics.... and Carlotto’s conclusions were that the "Face" was indeed a bisymmetrical human face, with another eye socket in the shaded part and a "fine structure of the mouth suggesting teeth." These, Carlotto stated, "were facial features and not a transient phenomenon" or a trick of light and shadow....

"Applied Optics deemed the study important enough to make it its front-cover feature, and the scientific journal New Scientist devoted a special report to the published paper and to an interview with the author. The journal echoed his suggestion that "at the very least these enigmatic objects" - the Face and the adjoining pyramidal features that some had dubbed "The City" - "deserve further scrutiny by future Mars probes, such as the 1988 Soviet Phobos mission or the U.S. Mars Observer."
"The fact that the controlled Soviet press has published and republished articles by Vladimir Avinsky, a noted researcher in geology and mineralogy, that support the non-natural origin of the monuments, surely indicates the Soviet aerospace attitudes on the matter - a subject that will be dealt with at greater length later on.

Avinsky suggests:

"....one must bear in mind that due to the low gravity on Mars a man could perform gigantic tasks on it, and he attaches great importance to the dark circle that is clearly seen in the flat area between the Face and the Pyramids. While NASA scientists dismiss it as "a water spot on the lens of the Viking Orbiter," Avinsky considers it "the centre of the entire composition" of the "Martian complex" and its layout.

"Unless it is assumed that Earthlings possessed, tens of thousands or even half a million years ago, a high civilization and a sophisticated technology that enabled them to engage in space travel, arrive on Mars and, among other things, put up monuments on it, including the Face, only two other alternatives logically remain. The first is that intelligent beings had evolved on Mars who not only could engage in megalithic construction but also happened to look like us. But in the absence even of microorganisms in the soil of Mars, nor evidence of plant and animal life that among other things could provide the humanlike Martians with nourishment, the rise of a Martian population akin to Earthlings seems highly improbable.

"The only remaining plausible alternative is that someone, neither from Earth nor from Mars, capable of space travel half a million years ago, had visited this part of the Solar System and had stayed; and then left behind monuments, both on Earth and on Mars. The only beings for which evidence has been found - in the Sumerian and biblical texts and in all the ancient "mythologies" - are the Anunnaki from Nibiru....

"....The Giza Sphinx was so oriented that its gaze was aligned precisely eastward along the thirtieth parallel toward the spaceport of the Anunnaki in the Sinai peninsula....

"....The reference to the message-transmitting role of the "Fair of Face" - the sphinx at Giza - raises the question of what the purpose of the Face on Mars was.... was the purpose, as the Egyptian text suggests, to send the "message from Heaven to the sphinx on Earth, a "command" according to which the gods acted, sent from one Face to another Fair-of-Face?

"If such was the purpose of the Face on Mars, then one would indeed expect to find pyramids nearby, as one finds at Giza.... Interestingly, Dr. Avinsky discerns three true pyramids in the area adjoining the Face on Mars.

"As the ample evidence presented in the volumes of "The Earth Chronicles" series indicates, the Giza pyramids were not the handiwork of Pharaohs but were constructed by the Anunnaki....

Mr. Sitchin explains at this point the reasons of the Anunnaki for their facilities in the Sinai peninsula, their main aim was to transport the gold mined from southern Africa to Nibiru. The Anunnaki also went to the mountains and plains of South America to exploit the various minerals there, constructing monumental features for the purpose. He then continues:

"....Of the unusual features the orbiting cameras captured on the Face of Mars, two appear to me to be almost certainly artificial - and both seem to emulate structures found on the shore of Lake Titicaca in the Andes.

"....The two features, which cannot be explained away as the result of the play of light and shadow, thus bear similarities to the facilities and structures on the shores on Lake Titicaca. In this they not only support my suggestion that they are the remains of structures put up by the same visitors - the Anunnaki - they also offer a hypothesis for explaining their purpose and possible function. This conclusion is further supported by features that can be seen in the Utopia area: a pentagonal
structure (enhanced NASA frame 086-A-07) and a "runway" next to what some deem evidence of mining (NASA frame 086-A-08).

Mr. Sitchin presents a good number of pictures and sketches in his book, with its corresponding hypothesis.

"....It has been pointed out that if an alien spacecraft were to search for signs of life on Earth in areas of the Earth's surface outside the cities, what would give the presence of intelligent beings on Earth would be the tracks we call "roads" and the rectilinear patterns of agricultural lands. NASA itself has supplied what might amount to evidence of deliberate agricultural activity on Mars. Frame 52-A-35 shows a series of parallel grooves resembling contoured farmland - as one would find in the high mountains of Peru's Sacred Valley. The photo caption prepared by the NASA News Center in Pasadena, California, when the photograph was released on August 18, 1976, stated thus:

Peculiar geometric markings, so regular that they appear almost artificial can be seen in this Mars picture taken by Viking Orbiter 1 on August 12 from a range of 2053 kilometers (1273 miles)....

The parallel contours look very much like an aerial view of plowed ground....

The feature's similarity to a "farmer's field after plowing" was noticed as soon as the image was received, and the comment of Michael Carr, head of the imaging team, was, "we're getting some strange things, it's very puzzling. . . It's hard to believe of a natural cause because the stripes are so regular." Not surprising, perhaps, was the location: the Cydonia region, site of the Face and other enigmatic features!

"....Since the Anunnaki counted the planets from the outside inward, Mars was the sixth planet; and the Sumerians depicted it accordingly by the symbol of a six-pointed star.... Using these symbols as a clue, we can now turn to examine an amazing Sumerian depiction on a cylinder seal. It shows a spacecraft, with its solar panels and antennas extended, passing between the sixth and the seventh planet (Earth), that is, between Mars and Earth. A winged Anunnaki.... [by the seven dots which represent Earth] is greeting another [using a helmet and by the six point star representing Mars]....

"....Even more enlightening as to what role Mars, or the space facilities on it, had played on the journeys of the Anunnaki to Earth is the Babylonian text concerning the Akitu festival....

"....The Akitu ceremonies included a reenactment by Marduk of the voyages of the Anunnaki from Nibiru/Marduk to Earth. Each planet passed on the way was symbolized by a way station.... The station/planet Mars was termed "The Traveler's Ship," and I have taken it to mean that it was at Mars that the astronauts and cargo coming from Nibiru transferred to smaller spacecraft in which they were transported to Earth (and vice versa).... Nearing Earth, these transporters linked up with the Earth orbiting station(s) manned by the Igigi....

"....Planners of the forthcoming steps into space by Mankind envision almost the same sequence of different vehicles.... In this, once again, modern science is only catching up with ancient knowledge.

Coupled with these ancient texts and depictions, the photographic data from the surface of Mars, and the similarities between the Martian structures and those on Earth erected by the Anunnaki all lead to one plausible conclusion:
“Mars, sometime in the past was the site of a space base. And there is also evidence suggesting that the ancient space base has been reactivated - in our very own time, in these very days.

Chapter Twelve
PHOBOS: MALFUNCTION OR STAR WARS INCIDENT?

"...On July 12, 1988, the Soviet Union launched an unmanned spacecraft called Phobos 2 and may have provided Mankind with its first Star Wars incident - not the "Star Wars" nicknamed of America’s Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), but a war with people from another world.

"Phobos 2 was one of two unmanned satellites, the other being Phobos 1, that were set off from Earth in July 1988, headed toward the planet Mars. Phobos 1 reportedly because of a radio command error, was lost two months later. Phobos 2 arrived safely at Mars in January 1989 and entered into orbit around Mars as the first step at its destination toward its ultimate goal - to transfer to an orbit that would make it fly almost in tandem with the Martian moonlet called Phobos (hence the spacecraft's name) and explore the moonlet with highly sophisticated equipment that included two packages of instruments to be placed on the moonlet's surface.

"All went well until Phobos 2 aligned itself with Phobos, the Martian moonlet. Then, on March 28, 1989, the Soviet mission control center acknowledged sudden communication "problems" with the spacecraft; and Tass, the official Soviet news agency, reported that "Phobos 2 failed to communicate with Earth as scheduled after completing an operation yesterday around the Martian moon Phobos. Scientists at mission control have been unable to establish stable radio contact."

"These admissions left the impression that the problem was not incurable....

"...Although launched by the Soviets, the mission in reality represented an international effort on an unprecedented scale, with more than thirteen European countries (including the European Space Agency and major French and German scientific institutions) participating officially and British and American scientists participating "personally" (with their governments' knowledge and blessing).

"...But on the next day, while the public was still being reassured that a resumption of contact with the spacecraft was achievable, a high-ranking official at Glavkosmos, the Soviet space agency, hinted that there indeed was no such hope. "Phobos 2 is ninety-nine percent lost for good."

Nikolai A. Simyonov said; on that day, his choice of words - not that contact with the spacecraft was lost but that the spacecraft itself was "lost for good" - was not paid any particular heed.

"On March 30,... from Moscow to The New York Times, Esther B. Fein mentioned that Vremya, the main evening news program on Soviet television "rapidly rattled off the bad news about Phobos" and focused its report instead on the successful research the spacecraft had already accomplished. Soviet scientists appearing on the program "displayed some of the space images, but said it was still not clear what clues they offered to understanding Mars, Phobos, the Sun and interplanetary space."

What "images" and what "clues" were they talking about?

"...When reports published in the European press (but for some reason not in the U.S. media) spoke of an "unidentified object" that was seen "in the final pictures taken by the spaceship," which showed an "inexplicable" object or "elliptical shadow" on Mars.

[An interesting report from the Spanish daily La Epoca appears in the book and it is translated into English]
Mr. Sitchin continues:

"Needless to say, this is an amazing and literally "out of this world" that raises as many questions as it answers. The loss of contact with the spacecraft was associated, by implication if not in so many words, with the observation by the spacecraft of "an object on the Martian surface seconds before." The culprit "object" is described as "a thin ellipse" and is also called "a phenomenon" as well as "a shadow." It was observed at least twice - the report does not state whether in the same location on the surface of Mars - and is capable of changing its size.... And when the "Vremya" reporter wondered whether it was a "space rocket," the scientist responded, "This is to fantasize." So, what was it - or is - it?

"...a report... in Science (April 7, 1989) spoke of "the apparent loss of Phobos 2" - loss of the spacecraft itself, not just of the communications link with it. It happened, the prestigious journal stated, "on 27 March as the spacecraft turned from its normal alignment with Earth to image the tiny moon Phobos that was the primary mission target. When it came time for the spacecraft to turn itself and its antenna automatically back toward Earth, nothing was heard.

"The journal then continued with a sentence that remains as inexplicable as the whole incident and the "thin ellipse" on the surface of Mars. It states:

""A few hours later, a weak transmission was received, but controllers could not lock onto the signal. Nothing was heard during the next week."

"...The reason given was that the spacecraft, having turn its antenna to scan Phobos, failed to turn its antenna back toward Earth due to some unknown reason. But if the antenna remained stuck in a position facing away from Earth, how could "a weak transmission" be received "a few hours later"?....

"...The question that arises is indeed a simple one: Was the spacecraft Phobos 2 hit by "something" that put it out of commission, except for a last gasp in the form of a weak signal hours later?

"...What caused the spacecraft to destabilize itself? Was it a malfunction, or was there an extraneous cause - perhaps an impact?

"One controller at the Kaliningrad control center said the limited signals received after conclusion of the imaging session gave him the impression he was "tracking a spinner."

"Phobos 2, in other words, acted as if it was in a spin.

"...Pressed by their international participants in the Phobos mission to provide more definitive data, the Soviet authorities released the taped television transmission Phobos 2 sent in its last moments - except for the last frames, taken just seconds before the spacecraft fell silent. The television clip was shown by some TV stations in Europe and Canada as part of weekly "diary" programs, as a curiosity and not as a hot news item.

"The television sequence thus released focused on two anomalies.... The "anomaly" [the first] appeared to be far from a natural phenomenon.

"The television clip was accompanied by a live comment by Dr. John Becklake of England’s Science Museum. He described the phenomenon as very puzzling.... the pattern of parallel lines and rectangles covering an area of almost two hundred fifty square miles was a source of heat radiation [photographed with infrared camera from Phobos 2]. Is is highly unlikely that a natural source of heat radiation (a geyser or a concentration of radioactive minerals under the surface, for example) would create such a perfect geometric pattern.... What it was, the scientist said "I certainly don’t know."

"...We now come to the second "anomaly" seen in the Phobos 2 transmission as a thin ellipse with very sharp rather than rounded points.... and the ages, rather than being fuzzy, stood out
sharply against a kind of halo on the Martian surface. [Mr. Sitchin is comparing the anomaly with another image from Mariner 9 recorded eighteen years earlier].

Dr. Becklake described it as "something that is between the spacecraft and Mars, because we can see the Martian surface below it," and stressed that the object was seen both by the optical and the infrared (heat-seeking) camera.

"All these reasons explain why the Soviets have not suggested that the dark, "thin ellipse" might have been the shadow of the moonlet.

[Still with Phobos 2 reports]....

"...As the last picture was halfway through," Dr. Becklake said, "they [Soviets] saw something which should not be there."

"...In the October 19, 1989 issue of Nature, Soviet scientists published a series of technical reports on the experiments Phobos 2 did manage to conduct; of the thirty-seven pages, a mere three paragraphs deal with the spacecraft's loss. The report confirms that the spacecraft was spinning, either because of a computer malfunction or because Phobos 2 was "impacted" by an unknown object (the theory that the collision was with "dust particles" is rejected in the report).

"So what was it that collided or crashed into Phobos 2, the "something that should not be there"? What do the last frame, or frames, still secret, show?.... The chairman of the Soviet equivalent of NASA referred to the last frame when he tried to explain the sudden loss of contact, saying,

"One image appears to include and odd-shape object between the spacecraft and Mars."

"...What the secret frames hide is evidence that the loss of Phobos 2 was not an accident but an incident.

"Perhaps the first incident in a Star Wars - the shooting down by Aliens from another planet of a spacecraft from Earth intruding on their Martian base.

"Has it occurred to the reader that the Soviet space chief’s answer, "We just don’t know" what the "odd-shaped object between the spacecraft and Mars" was, is tantamount to calling it a UFO - and Unidentified Flying Object?

"For decades now, ever since the phenomenon of what was first called Flying Saucers and later UFOs became a worldwide enigma, no self-respecting scientist would touch the subject even with a ten foot pole - except, that is, to ridicule the phenomenon and whoever was foolish enough to take it seriously.

"The "modern UFO era," according to Antonio Huneeus, a science writer and internationally known lecturer on UFOs, began on June 14, 1947 when Kenneth Arnold, an American pilot and businessman, sighted a formation of nine silvery disks flying over the Cascade Mountains in the state of Washington....

Mr Sitchin at this point gives a concise report of events which took place sooner after this sighting went to Press.
After his concise report Mr. Sitchin continues:

"The real problem many have with UFOs is the lack of a cohesive and plausible theory to explain their origin and purpose. Where do they come from? Why?

"I myself have not encountered a UFO, to say nothing of being abducted and experimented upon by humanlike beings with elliptical heads and bulging eyes - incidents witnessed and experienced, if such claims be true, by many others, but when asked for my opinion, whether I "believe in UFOs," I sometimes answer by telling a story. Let us imagine, I say to the people in the room or the auditorium in which I am speaking, that the entrance door is thrust open and a young man bursts in, breathless from running and obviously agitated....

And Mr. Sitchin relates the story of the man's "sighting" which in reality happened, as he explains:

"....What do we think? Do we believe him?

"We should believe him if we believe the Bible, I say, because what I just related is the tale of Jacob's vision as told in Genesis, chapter 7. Though it was a vision seen in a dreamlike trance, Jacob was certain that the sight was real, and he said,

Surely Yahweh is present in this place,
And I knew it not. . . .
This is none other but an abode of the gods,
and this is the gateway to heaven.

"....Obviously, the hovering craft that Jacob saw was readily identified by him as belonging to the Elohim, the plural gods. What he did not know, the Bible makes clear, was only that the place where he had slept was one of their lift-off pads.

"Ancient depictions and terminology show that a distinction was made even then between the different kinds of flying machines and their pilots. There were the rocketships that served as shuttle craft and the orbiters, and we have already seen what the Anunnaki and the orbiting Igigi looked like. And there the "whilbirds" or "sky chambers" that we now call VTOLs (Vertical Take-Off and Landing aircraft) and helicopters: how these looked in antiquity is depicted in a mural at a site on the east side of the Jordan, near the place from where Elijah was carried heavenward. The goddess Inanna/Ishtar liked to pilot her own "sky chamber," at which time she would be dressed like a World War I pilot.

"But other depictions were also found - clay figurines of human-looking beings with elliptical heads and large, slanting eyes - an unusual feature of whom was their bisexuality (or lack of it)....

"....Now as one looks at the drawings of the "humanoids" by those who claim to have seen the occupants of UFOs, it is obvious they do not look like us - which means they do not look like the Anunnaki. Rather, they look like the odd humanoids depicted by the ancient figurines, [these appear on Mr. Sitchin's book].

"....If the tales be true, then what the "contactees" have seen are not the people, the intelligent beings, from another planet - but their anthropoid robots.

"And even if a tiny percentage of the reported sightings is true, then the relative large number of alien craft visiting Earth in recent times suggests that they could not possibly come, in such profusion and frequency, from a distant planet. If they come, they must come from somewhere relatively close by.

"And the only plausible candidate is Mars - and its Moonlet Phobos.

"The reasons for the use of Mars as a jumping-off base for spacemen's visits to Earth should be
clear by now.... The circumstances in which Phobos 2 was lost indicate that someone is back there on Mars - someone ready to destroy what to them is an "alien" spacecraft. How does Phobos, the moonlet, fit into all this?

"Simply put, it fits very well.

After explaining the proposed missions by the Soviet Phobos 1 and 2, and the involvement of other participating countries, the purpose became clear, as Mr. Sitchin explains:

"....The Phobos mission was nothing short of a concerted effort by modern science to lift the veil from Mars and enlist it in Mankind's course on the road to Space.

"But was someone there, at Mars, who did not welcome this intrusion?

"It is noteworthy that Phobos, unlike the smaller and smooth-surfaced Deimos [the other of Mar's moons], has peculiar features that have led some scientists in the past that it was artificially fashioned. There are peculiar "track marks" that run straight and almost parallel to each other. Their width is almost uniform, some 700 to 1,000 feet and their depth, too, is a uniform 75 to 90 feet (as far as could be measured from the Viking orbiters)...

"....What are these tracks or trenches (water, causing them has been ruled out), how did they come about, why do they emanate from the circular crater (whose rim is so perfectly circular that it looks artificial), and does the crater lead into the moonlet's interior?....

"....Have others, long ago, carried out ideas and plans that modern science envisions for the future - bringing Phobos and Deimos, two captured asteroids, into orbit around Mars to burrow into their interior?

"In the 1960s it was noticed that Phobos was speeding up its orbit around Mars; this led Soviet scientists to suggest that Phobos was lighter than its size warrants. The Soviet physicist I. S.
Shklovsky then offered the astounding hypothesis that **Phobos was hollow.**

After several speculations from diverse entities which Mr. Sitchin presents in his book, he continues:

"Were a natural crater and interior faults artificially enlarged and carved out by "someone" to create inside Phobos a shelter, shielding its occupants from the cold and radiation of space? The Soviet report does not speculate on that; but what it says regarding the "tracks" is illuminating. It calls them "grooves," reports that their sides are of a brighter material than the moonlet's surface, and, what is indeed a revelation, that in the area west of the large crater, "new grooves can be identified" - grooves or tracks that were not there when Mariner 9 and the Vikings took pictures of the moonlet.

"Since there is no volcanic activity on Phobos (the crater in its natural shape resulted from meteorite impacts, not volcanism), no wind storms, no rain, no flowing water - how did the new grooved tracks come about? Who was there on Phobos (and thus on Mars) since the 1970s? Who is on it now?

"For, if there is no one there now, how to explain the March 27, 1989, incident?

"The chilling possibility that modern science, catching up with ancient knowledge, has brought Mankind to the first incident in a War of the Worlds, rekindles a situation that has lain dormant almost 5,500 years.

The event that parallels today's situation has come to be known as the **Incident of the Tower of Babel.** It is described in Genesis, Chapter 11, and in the Wars of Gods and Men I refer to Mesopotamian texts with earlier and more detailed accounts of the incident. I have placed it in 3450 B.C. and construed as the first attempt by Marduk to establish a space base in Babylon as an act of defiance to Enil and his sons.

"In the biblical version, the people whom Marduk had gotten to do the job were building, in Babylon, a city with a "tower whose head shall reach the heaven" in which a Shem - a space rocket - was to be installed (quite possibly in the manner depicted on a coin from Byblos). But the other deities were not amused by this foray of Mankind into the space age; so

Yahweh came down to see the city
and the tower which the humans were building.

"And he said to unnamed colleagues:

This is just the beginning of their undertakings;
From now on, anything that they shall scheme to do
shall no longer be impossible for them.
Come, let us go down and confuse their language
so that they should not understand each other’s speech.

"Almost 5,500 years later, the humans got together and "spoke one language," in a coordinated international mission to Mars and Phobos.

"And, once again, someone was not amused.
“Are we unique? Are we alone?

“...Scientific advances since 1976, reviewed in previous chapters, have gone a long way in corroborating ancient knowledge. But what about the two pillars of that knowledge and that ancient answer to the central questions?... one more planet in our Solar System.... other intelligent beings outside Earth....

“That a search has been going on, both for another planet and for other beings, is a matter of record. That it has intensified in recent years can be gleaned from publicly available documents. But now it is also evident that when the mists of leaks, rumors, and denials are pierced, if not the public, then the world’s leaders have been aware for some time first, that there is one more planet in our Solar System and second, that we are not alone.

“ONLY THIS KNOWLEDGE CAN EXPLAIN THE INCREDIBLE CHANGES IN WORLD AFFAIRS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKING PLACE WITH EVEN MORE INCREDIBLE SPEED.

“ONLY THIS KNOWLEDGE CAN EXPLAIN THE ACTUAL PREPARATIONS BEING MADE FOR THE DAY, WHICH IS SURELY COMING, WHEN THE TWO FACTS WILL HAVE TO BE DROPPED LIKE BOMBSHELLS ON THE PEOPLE OF THIS PLANET EARTH. [Capitals are Mr. Sitchin’s]

“Suddenly, all that had divided and preoccupied the world powers for decades seems not to matter anymore. Tanks, aircraft, armies are withdrawn and disbanded. One regional conflict after another is unexpectedly settled. The Berlin War.... is gone. The Iron Curtain.... is being disbanded. The head of the atheistic communist empire visits the Pope - with a medieval painting of a UFO as the centerpiece of the room’s decoration.... President George Bush.... (1989) has become an ardent partner of his Soviet counterpart Mikhail Gorbachev, in clearing the desks of the old agendas; but clearing them for what?

“The Soviet president, agreed to unprecedented troop withdrawals and reductions a week after the same U.S. president, amidst reductions in the American military spending, asked the Congress to increase funds for SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative) Star Wars.... And before the month was out, the two superpowers and their two major wartime allies, Great Britain and France, have agreed to let German unification proceed. For forty-five years the vow never to see a unified, resurgent Germany again was a basic tenet of European stability; now, suddenly, that seemed to matter no more.

“....As one looks for answers, the clues point in one direction: Space. Surely, the turmoil in Eastern Europe has long been building up. Certainly, economic failures have necessitated long-overdue reforms.... Since about the middle of 1989 all that had been vigorously defended and brutally suppressed no longer seemed important....

“....Was it only a coincidence that the Phobos 2 incident in March 1989 was conceded in June to have been the result of spinning caused by an impact? Or that it was in that same June that Western audiences were shown the enigmatic television pictures from Phobos 2 (minus the last frame or frames) revealing the heat-emitting pattern on the surface of Mars and the “thin, elliptical shadow” for which there was no explanation? Was it a mere coincidence in timing that the hurried change of U.S. policy occurred after the Voyager 2’s flyby of Neptune, in August 1989, which relayed back pictures of mysterious "double tracks" on Neptune's moon Triton tracks as enigmatic as those photographed on Mars in previous years and on Phobos in March 1989?
"...Was it mere coincidence that within days of the Phobos 2 incident the White House took unexpected steps.... with Space programs.... In June 1989 the NSC (National Space Council) instructed NASA to accelerate the Space Station preparations.... In July 1989 the Vice President (Dan Quayle) briefed Congress and the space industry on the specific proposals for the manned missions to the Moon and to Mars. It was made clear that of five options, that of "developing a lunar base as a stepping-stone to Mars is receiving the greatest attention." A week later it was disclosed that instruments lofted by a military rocket successfully fired a "neutral-particle beam" - a "death ray" - in space as part of the SDI space-defense program.

"Even an outside observer could sense that the White House, the President himself, was now in charge of the direction of the space program, its links with SDI, and their accelerated timetable. And so it was that immediately after his hurried summit meeting with the Soviet leader in Malta, President Bush submitted to Congress his next annual budget, with its increase of billions of dollars for "Star Wars.".... Evidently the soviet leader knew what SDI is all about: President Bush, in their joint press conference, acknowledge that SDI was discussed, both "defensive" and "offensive"- "rockets as well as people . . . a wide discussion."

"...When the Challenger shuttle was accidentally destroyed in January 1986, all space work was put on hold. But in July 1989, just a few months after the Phobos 2 loss, the United States, rather
than pull in its horns, reiterated a determination to go to Mars. There must have been a compelling reason.

"...Concurrently with these developments, NASA has been expanding its network of space telescopes... has equipped some of the shuttles with sky-scanning devices... SETI was reactivated by Senator John Garn of Utah, a former shuttle astronaut who became convinced of the existence of extraterrestrial beings...."

"...Commenting on these developments, a spokesman for the Federation of American Scientists in Washington said, "The future is starting to arrive." And The New York Times of February 6, 1990, headlined the report of the invigorated SETI programs "HUNT FOR ALIENS IN SPACE: THE NEXT GENERATION." A small but symbolic change, no longer a search for an extraterrestrial "intelligence", but for Aliens.

"A search in secret anticipation.

"...When President Reagan, in a televised address in March 1983, surprised the American people, the world’s nations (and, it later became known, most top officials of his own administration) with his Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) - the concept of a protective shield in space against missiles and spaceships - it was natural to assume that its sole purpose was to attain military superiority over the Soviet Union. That was the Soviet reaction, and it was vehement. When Mikhail Gorbachev followed Konstantin Chernenko as Soviet leader in 1985, he adhered to the position that any improvement in East-West relations depended first and foremost on the abandonment of SDI. But, as it now seems clear, before the year was out, a new mood began to take hold as the true reasons for SDI were communicated to the Soviet leader. Antagonism was replaced by an attitude of "Let’s Talk"; and the talk was to be about cooperation in space and, more specifically, about going together to Mars.

"...The marked change was even more puzzling, since in 1983 and 1984 the Soviet Union appeared to be moving far ahead of the United States in space achievements.... Comparing the two national programs, a U.S. Congressional study reported, at the end of 1983, that they were like an American tortoise and a Soviet hare. Still, by the end of 1984, the first sign of renewed cooperation was given when a U.S. device was included in the Soviet Vega spacecraft that was launched to encounter Halley’s comet.

"There were other manifestations, semi-official and official of the new spirit of cooperation in space, despite SDI...."

"...In July 1985 scientists, space officials, and astronauts for the United States and the Soviet Union met in Washington, ostensibly to commemorate the Apollo-Soyuz linkup of 1975. In reality, it was a seminar held to discuss a joint mission to Mars...."

"...Was there perhaps also some other cause, some significant occurrence that suddenly made a major difference, that changed the agenda, that called for new priorities - but necessitated the revival of a World War II alliance? But if so, who was now the common enemy? Against whom were the United States and the USSR aligning their space programs? And why the priority, given by both nations, to going to Mars?

"...How could he explain this U-turn, Reagan was asked. His answer was that what made a common cause was space. More specifically, a danger from space to all nations on Earth.

"...What we know from the public record is that on February 16, 1987, in a major address to an international "Survival of Humanity" forum at the Grand Kremlin Palace in Moscow, Gorbachev recalled his discussion with President Reagan in words almost identical to those the American President had used.... After pointing to the risks of nuclear weapons and the common interests of "human civilization," he went on to say,

"At our meeting in Geneva, the U.S. President said that if the earth faced an invasion
by extraterrestrials, the United States and the Soviet Union would join forces to repel such an invasion.

I shall not dispute the hypothesis, though I think it’s early yet to worry about such an intrusion."

"...Amid the gloom of the Challenger disaster, all the space programs were suspended except those pertaining to Mars. To remain on the road to the Moon and Mars, NASA appointed a study group under the chairmanship of astronaut Dr. Sally K. Ride to reevaluate the plans and their feasibility. The panel strongly recommended the development of celestial ferryboats and transfer ships to carry astronauts and cargos for "human settlement beyond Earth orbit, from the highlands of the Moon to the plains of Mars."

"...Not everyone in the United States was for it....

"...Overriding objections, the United States and the USSR signed, in 1987, a new agreement for cooperation in space....

"In the United States oppositions to sharing space secrets with the Soviet Union nevertheless continued, and some experts viewed the repeated Soviet invitations to the United States to join in their missions to Mars simply as attempts to gain access to Western technology. Prompted, no doubt, by such objections, President Reagan once again spoke up publicly of the extraterrestrial threat. The occasion was his address to the General Assembly of the United Nations on September 21, 1987. Speaking of the need to turn swords into plowshares, he said:

"In our obsession with antagonisms of the moment we often forget how much unites all the members of humanity. Perhaps we need some outside, universal threat to recognize this common bond. I occasionally think how quickly our differences would vanish if we were facing an alien threat from outside this world."

"As reported at the time in The New Republic by its senior editor Fred Barnes, President Reagan, during a White House luncheon on September 5, sought confirmation from the Soviet foreign minister that the Soviet Union would indeed join the United States against an alien threat from outer space, and Shevardnadze responded, "Yes, absolutely."

"...There were those who questioned Soviet motives and found it difficult to draw a clear distinction between sharing scientific technology and sharing military secrets. And there were those, like the chairman of the House of Representatives’ Science, Space and Technology Committee, Rep. Robert A. Roe, who believed that the common effort to explore Mars would shift the international focus from "Star Wars" to "Star Trek." He and others encouraged President Reagan to stay the course of going together to Mars at the forthcoming Summit meeting.

"...So, once again, President Reagan raised the issue of the secret threat. Meeting in Chicago in May 1988 with members of the National Strategy Forum, he told them of wondering,

"What would happen if all of us in the world discovered that we were threatened by an outer - a power from outer space - from another planet."

"It was no longer a vague threat from "outer space" but from "another planet."

"At the end of the month the two superpower leaders met for their third summit in Moscow....

"Two months later the Phobos spacecraft were launched. The die was cast: the two superpowers on Earth had launched challengers to probe "the outer - a power from space - from another planet."

"They sat back in secret anticipation. They ended up with the Phobos 2 incident."
"...It is noteworthy that in his February 1987 address, the Soviet leader, in raising the issue of such a threat and choosing not to dispute it, could reassure his audience with the thought that "It's early yet to worry about such an intrusion."

"Until the Phobos 2 incident, and certainly before 1983 was over, the whole question of "Extraterrestrials" was viewed in two parallel yet separate ways. On the one hand... Frank D. Drake of the University of California at Santa Cruz and president of the SETI... Institute in Mountain View, California... concludes in his formula that in the Milky Way... there ought to be between 10,000 to 100,000 advanced civilizations. SETI projects have been using various radio telescopes to listen in on radio emissions from distant space....

"...The SETI search, besides being unproductive so far, raises two questions. The first, [besides Congress cutting funds] is whether there is any point in trying to discover any intelligent signal that may have taken light years to reach us.... Second, (and this is my question) [Mr. Sitchin's]: why expect advanced civilizations to use radio for communication? Would we have expected them to use bonfires if we had conducted the search centuries ago, when one mountaintop village signaled another by such means? What about all the advances we on Earth have attained - from electricity to electromagnetism to fiber optics, to laser pulses and proton beams and crystal oscillators, as well as new methods yet to be discovered?

"Unexpectedly but perhaps inevitably, the SETI searches were forced to concentrate closer to Earth (and to focus not on extraterrestrial "intelligences" but on "beings") by scientists dealing with the origin of life on Earth.... "The hunt for signs of extraterrestrial intelligence" is the "crowning research effort in the minds of many" who look for the origins of life, Erik Eckholm reported in The New York Times. The chemists and biologists were now looking to the exploration of Mars and Titan, Saturn's moon, for answers to the mystery of life on Earth.

"...As early as 1968 the U.S. National Security Agency, in a study dealing with the UFO phenomenon, analyzed the consequences of a "confrontation between a technologically advanced extraterrestrial society and an inferior one on Earth." Surely, someone had to have a theory regarding the home planet of such an extraterrestrial society.

"Was it Mars? That might have been the only plausible (even if incredible) answer until another line of search- for one more planet in our Solar System - merged with the issue of Extraterrestrials.

"In The 12th Planet it was explained that Planet X (as designated by astronomers) and Nibiru would be one and the same, because the Sumerians considered the Solar System to have twelve members: the Sun, Moon, the original nine planets, and the planet that became the twelfth member, the Invader, Nibiru/Marduk.

"...Working in 1972 on the anticipated trajectory of Halley's comet, Joseph L. Brady of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California discovered that Halley's orbit was also perturbed. His computations led him to suggest the existence of Planet X at a distance of 1,800 AU with an orbital period of 1,800 Earth-years.... Could the fact that Nibiru is on its way back toward its perigee account for the fact that Brady's 1,800-year orbit is exactly half the 3,600 Earth-years orbit the Sumerians recorded for Nibiru?

"There were other conclusions by Brady that were in significant accord with the Sumerian data: that the planet has a retrograde orbit, and that this orbit is not in the same plane (the ecliptic) as that of the other planets (except Pluto) but at an inclination to it.

"...In 1981, with the data from Pioneer 10 and Pioneer 11 and from the two Voyagers on Jupiter and Saturn in hand, Van Flandern and four colleagues at the U.S. Naval Observatory restudied these planets' orbits as well as those of the outer planets.... Van Flandern presented new evidence, based on complex gravitational equations, that a body at least twice the size of Earth orbits the Sun at a distance of at least 1.5 billion miles beyond Pluto, with an orbital period of at least 1,000 years. The Detroit News of January 16, 1981, published the news on its front page together with the Sumerian depiction of the Solar System, borrowed from The 12th Planet, and a
"The search for **Planet X** was then joined by **NASA**. In a statement issued from its **Ames Research Center** on June 17, 1982, and headlined "Pioneers May Find Tenth Planet," **NASA** disclosed that the two spacecraft had been **enlisted in the search for Planet X**.

"....In September of that year, 1982, the U.S. Naval Observatory confirmed that it was "seriously pursuing" the search for **Planet X**. Dr. Harrington said his team has "narrowed themselves to a fairly small portion of the sky," and added that the conclusion by then was that **the planet** "was moving much more slowly than any of the planets that we now know."

"(Needless to say, all the above-mentioned astronomers leading the search for **Planet X** soon received long letters from me, accompanied by copies of *The 12th Planet*; their responses have been equally long and detailed as well as gracious).

"....It is known that on various secret missions of the **U.S. space shuttles**, new telescopic devices for scanning the distant skies were employed, and that Soviet cosmonauts aboard the **Salyut space station** were equally engaged in secret searches for the planet.

"....the enigma of the unknown planet might be resolved through the "infrared search of the solar neighborhood" by the "all-sky survey of the **Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS)**." He (**John Anderson**) explained that **IRAS** "will be sensitive to the heat trapped in the interiors of substellar bodies" - heat that is slowly lost to space in the form of infrared radiation.

"....Did **IRAS** find the tenth planet?

"....the official response to the question is no - **no tenth planet was found**.

"But that, to put it mildly, is not a correct answer.

"Having scanned the same part of the heavens at least twice, **IRAS** did make it possible to "**blink**" images; and, contrary to the impression given, moving objects were discovered. These included **five previously unknown comets**, several comets that astronomers had "lost," four new asteroids - and **an enigmatic cometlike object**.

"**Was it perhaps **Planet X**?**

"In spite of the official denials, a disclosure did leak out at the end of the year. It came in the form of an exclusive interview of the key **IRAS** scientist by **Thomas O'Toole** of the science service of the **Washington Post**. The story, generally ignored - suppressed, perhaps - was carried by several dailies, which variously headlined it "**Giant Object Mystifies Astronomers,**" "**Mystery Body Found in Space,**" and "**At Solar System's Edge Giant Object is a Mystery**"....

"**But could it be a planet - another member of our Solar System?** That possibility seemed to have occurred to **NASA**. According to the **Washington Post**:

"**""The Mystery body was seen twice by **IRAS**.**

"**""This suggests it's not a comet because a comet would not be as large as we've observed and a comet would have probably moved"**

"**""Conceivably, it could be the 10th planet that astronomers have searched for in vain."**

"So, what did **IRAS** discover, I inquired of the **Public Information Office of JPL** in February 1984. This is the response:

"**""....In true scientific fashion he [the scientist reporting on the**
Washington Post, carefully noted that if the object were close it would have to be Neptune-size. But if distant, an entire galaxy.

"Gone, then, is the Jupiter sized comparison: now it was a Neptune-sized planet "if the object were close" - but a galaxy (!) if distant.

"....William Gutsch, chairman of the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium in New York.... in his syndicated column “Skywatch” - "A tenth planet may have already been spotted and even catalogued," although it is yet to be seen with optical telescopes.

"Was this also the conclusion reached at the White House, as witness the developments that have followed in superpower relations as of 1983 and the repeated "hypothetical" statements of the two leaders concerning aliens from space?

"When Pluto was discovered in 1930 it was a great astronomical and scientific discovery, but no earthshaking event. The same would have applied to the discovery of Planet X; but not anymore - not if Planet X and Nibiru are one and the same.... then the Sumerians were also right about the Anunnaki.

"If Planet X exists, we are not alone in this Solar System.

"....Indication that what IRAS had spotted was not "a distant galaxy" but a "Neptune-sized planet" is further corroborated by the intensified efforts to scan certain parts of the heaven with optical telescopes and by the sudden stress on conducting these searches in the southern skies.

"....This would be done with some of the world’s "most powerful telescopes" [Washington Post published], two on Mt. Palomar in California.... the extremely powerful telescope at Cerro Tololo in the Chilean Andes.... [and others], including the one atop Mount Mauna Kea in Hawaii.

Cerro Tololo Observatory, Chile; and a caption of stars trails.
"...Commenting on the NASA news conference, Newsweek (July 13,1987) reported: NASA held a press conference last week to make a rather strange announcement: an eccentric 10th planet may - or may not - be orbiting the Sun." But unnoticed went the fact that the news conference was called under the auspices of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the Ames research Center, and NASA headquarters in Washington. This meant that whatever had to become known bore the stamp of approval of the topmost space authorities. The message was hidden in a final comment by Dr. Anderson. Asked when Planet X would be found, he said,

"I wouldn’t be surprised if it is found in 100 years, or it may never be found... and I wouldn’t be surprised if it’s found next week."

"That, no doubt, was why three NASA agencies had sponsored the news conference: That was the news.

It is noteworthy that since 1984, after the enigmatic IRAS disclosure, there has been a spate of rushed construction of new or enhancement of older powerful telescopes by the United States, the Soviet Union, and European entities. Telescopes in the southern hemisphere have received the most attention. In France, for example, The Paris Observatory has formed a special team to search for Planet X, and a New Technology Telescope (NTT) was activated by the European Southern Observatory in Cerro La Silla in Chile....
"...NASA had planned to loft the most powerful space telescope ever built, the Hubble, when the shuttle program went awry after the 1986 Challenge accident; there is reason to believe that the expectation of the discovery of Planet X in June 1987 was based on hope that Hubble be lofted at that time (it was finally put into orbit at the beginning of 1990 only to be found defective).

"...Dr. Harrington presented his latest findings in a paper published in The Astronomical Journal (October 1988) titled "The Location of Planet X..."

"Sending me [to Mr. Sitchin] a reprint of the paper, he marked alongside the northern portion of the sketch "Not consistent with Neptune," and along the southern portion of the skies he wrote "Best area now."

"On January 16, 1990, Dr. Harrington reported at the American Astronomical Society meeting in Arlington, Virginia, that the U.S. Naval Observatory has narrowed its search for the tenth planet to the southern skies and has announced the dispatch of a team of astronomers to the Black Birch Astronomic Observatory in New Zealand. The data from Voyager 2, he disclosed, now lead his team to believe that the tenth planet is about five times larger than Earth and about three times further from the Sun than Neptune or Pluto.

"These are exciting developments, not only because they bring modern science to the verge of announcing what the Sumerians already knew so long ago - that there is one more planet in our Solar System - but also because they go a long way toward confirming the details of the planet’s size and orbit."
"...By concluding that the inclination of Planet X might be as high as 30 degrees, modern astronomers corroborate Sumerian astronomical data.

"So does the most recent determination that the planet is orbiting toward us from the southeast, the direction of the constellation Centaurus. Nowadays we see there the zodiac constellation Libra; but in Babylonian/biblical times that was the place of Sagitarius....

"If Extraterrestrials exist, should Earthlings try to reach them? If they can journey in space and reach Earth, will they be benign, or - as H.G. Wells depicted in The War of the Worlds - will they come to destroy, conquer, annihilate?

"...The Astronomer Royal, Sir Martin Ryle, counseled against any attempt by people on Earth to make their existence known. His concern was that another civilization might see Earth and Earthlings as a tempting source of minerals, food, and slaves. He was criticized not only for paying too little heed to the possibility of gain from such contacts but also for creating unnecessary fears:

"Given the immensity of space" (The New York Times editorialized), "the nearest intelligent beings are not likely to exist closer than hundreds of thousands of light years away."

"But, as the chronology of discoveries and superpower relations indicates, it was realized by the time the first U.S - Soviet summit was held that such intelligent beings are much closer to us than that; there indeed exists one more planet in our own Solar System; that it was known in antiquity as Nibiru; and that it was not lifeless but peopled, with beings much more advanced than us.

"...The "working committee" [convened by the United States after 1985, with representatives of Soviet Union and many other nations] to ponder the matter of Extraterrestrials....

"...What was the Committee required to consider? Not the theoretical question of whether there are Extraterrestrials light years away.... The task before the Committee was much more urgent and ominous: What should be done as soon as their existence is discovered.

"In April 1989, immediately after the Phobos 2 incident at Mars, the international team hammered out a set of guidelines. It was a two-page document titled DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING THE DETECTION OF EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE. ... it is clear that its principal purpose was to maintain the control by certain authorities of the news following the "detection of extraterrestrial intelligence."

"...Clause 8 [of The Principles] prohibit unauthorized response:

"...No response to a signal or other evidence of extraterrestrial intelligence should be sent until appropriate international consultations have taken place. The procedures for such consultations will be the subject of a separate agreement, declaration or arrangement.

"...Why should there be pandemonium and worldwide panic if, say, the authorities were to announce the possibility of intelligent life in some star system several light years away? If they were thinking, for example, that such a signal might come from the first star system Voyager might come upon after it left the Solar System, the encounter would take place forty thousand years in the future! Surely, that is not what has worried the Committee.

"Clearly, then, the Principles were drawn up to its anticipation of a message or phenomenon closer to home, from within the Solar System....

"...Modern science has indeed caught up with ancient knowledge - of Nibiru and the Anunnaki. And Man knows, once again, that he is not alone.