Modern day “establishment” historians of science will fulminate against the notion of an advanced ancient-Egyptian astronomical tradition. Apparently counterposed to them, the “alternative” Egyptian history movement, created under the influence of the Synarchists, claims that ancient Egyptian astronomy derives from either space aliens, or psychotropic drugs, or secret societies. Plato, Herodotus, Diodorus Siculus, and the Great Pyramid itself tell a different story.

In his 1982 *The Toynbee Factor in British Grand Strategy*, Lyndon LaRouche hypothesized that Egypt was founded by the remnants of an earlier Atlantean civilization, moving eastward from the Straits of Gibraltar, as the last Ice Age was ending, and carrying with them a knowledge of astronomy. The First-century B.C. historian Diodorus Siculus described Atlas, the father of such an Atlantean civilization, as the man who “discovered the sphaerical nature of the heavens.” Plato’s masterwork on the physical principles governing the universe, *Timaeus*, not only cites Egypt as the fount of Greek astronomy and mathematics, but dates Egyptian civilization back to at least 9600 B.C. And Herodotus reports that the Egyptians had knowledge of the precessional astronomical cycle of 25,900 years.

Sphaerics, or astronomy, dominated the architecture, religion, and economy of ancient Egypt, especially the magnificent Old Kingdom (2700-2180 B.C.), which built the Great Pyramid of Khufu as an astronomical observatory. Located on the Giza plateau, the Great Pyramid is stunning in the precision of its construction, a construction which could only have been meant for astronomical study. It is located precisely at 30-degrees...
to as the zenith. Now, imagine another point directly underfoot, extending out into the universe below the Earth on which you stand, as if the Earth were transparent. This is known as the nadir. Now, trace out a great circle around you, that lies exactly half-way between these two points . . .

**MA-AHT:** . . . The horizon, Sutimes! It traces out the horizon!

**SUTIMES:** Wonderful, Ma-aht, your mind has now divided the infinite whole of the visible universe in half. These two equal divisions of our great sphere have given us a geometry around which to navigate our voyage of discovery. Let us now sail to the northernmost point on our heavenly ocean.

*They locate the North Star and elaborate.*

**MA-AHT:** And that’s how you know for certain when to plant for the best crops along the Nile?

**SUTIMES:** Almost, but not quite, Ma-aht. Actually, it is the perfectly synchronized movement of another constellation (not of the Zodiac, though) that signals with precision the beginning of the flood season. It is Sirius, the Dog Star, that pokes its head above the eastern horizon at the beginning of early dawn just before the sun rises, which tells us the flooding of the Nile’s life-giving waters. Her flood-waters are so important to

For the builders of the Great Pyramid to have accomplished such a task, the understanding of the regular motions of the stars and the celestial geometry of sphærics had to have existed long before such an undertaking. The Pyramid Texts carved on the smaller pyramids of Saqqara, describe important astronomical cycles as myths in which, for example, figures such as Osiris and Isis are represented by the constellation Orion and the star Sirius, respectively. Although carved in stone during the Old Kingdom, the Pyramid Texts are presumed to be much older.

*—Susan Kokinda*