

## CTHULHU RISING

Heroin, after being internationally legalized, rapidly became a scarce commodity. It could only be afforded by the rich, the politicians and the scientists, themselves ultimately responsible for the catastrophe, since bulk-buying by half of humanity had cleaned out the market. The temperature on earth had risen by a few degrees and long-held fears were now becoming reality. Melting icebergs were producing floods everywhere. After every dramatic announcement, anyone who could gave himself a fix. Only the humanoid augurs monitoring the earth's most important points remained alert. Strange things happened at some of the natural entrances to the earth's interior. Just a small number of initiates, assistants and servers of the Ancients were busy day and night preparing for the day when the ancient gods would finally take up power on earth. Old, hard-to-find books of spells, such as

legendary Necronomicon by the mad Abdul Alhazred, speak of the great god Cthulhu, who will one day assume world dominion with his heavenly hosts.

The sleeping gods are supposed to lie in burial chambers deep in the bowels of the earth and in the depths of the sea.

One monitor reported strange goings-on inside the great Cheops pyramid in Egypt. It had been closed to tourists - officially for renovation — even before the catastrophe. Large piles of debris were continuously accumulating in front of the entrance, as if excavation works were being carried out, or as if the corridors leading to the Great Gallery (which somehow recalls an oversized launching ramp) were being widened. Special equipment was being used to try and locate the movements inside, but then Cairo was flooded and the waters almost reached the lower, man-made corridor. The monitors - members of the army disappeared without a trace. Later, during the night, movement on the summit was observed from a submarine. Accompanied by the sound of a heavily reinforced door starting to open, the pyramid appeared to sink even lower, as if the eye of God decorating the dollar bill was disappearing.

Then a deep rumble was heard, and an object left the peak travelling at almost the

speed of sound, too fast to be recorded.

The farsighted have, unfortunately, never yet been able to help prevent a catastrophe. Prophets of catastrophes are rarely popular, and indeed are often accused of having secretly prepared the way for misfortune when it occurs. A visionary artist, Abdul ARH+, who was inside the pyramid in 1987, long before the catastrophe, subsequently visualized the layout of the old part as recorded in plans.

In the illustration the artist has applied the cross-section of a Walther pistol to the Great Gallery and King's Chamber. The relief chambers above the King's Chamber correspond to an enormous silencer. The proportions of the rising gallery dictate the size of the armed robots with glasses squatting in place of the cartridges. Their height of 8.53m corresponds to the size of gods as we conceive them. There is only one flaw: when a cartridge is fired only the bullet is released, in other words only the head.



Collage: cross-sectional view of the Cheops pyramid with integrated Birth Machine.

> Birth Machine 1999, HR Giger aluminum 200 x140 x 25cm.

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