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To the Editor of KRONOS.

"JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF OPHIR", I.

Dear Sir,

In KRONOS VI no.I pp. 48/50 you published a paper by Dr.Velikovsky entitled "SHAMIR", followed by a correspondence in KRONOS VI no.II pp. 85/91 in "Vox Populi": "The Stone of Shamir" by Federic B.Jueneman, to both of which articles there may be found an unexpected answer from another part of the world on the question:"What was it like?"

In the book "INDABA,MY CHILDREN" by Vuzamazulu Credo Mutwa, ed. Blue Crane Books, Johannesburg, South Africa, 1965, pp. 227/228, one can read the following:

" In the great fortress known as Zima-Mbje there is a huge hollow idol representing the Ultimate Mother, who is said to be the Mother of the Great Spirit, and those who believe thus, look upon the Great Spirit as the Eternal Piccanin of the Ultimate Mother, because they feel that the Great Spirit holds the Universe like a child holds a toy. Within this great idol is an altar above which sat a small idol of bronze - an idol that always glowed as if red hot because within it was a mysterious stone with peculiar radiating qualities, called the EYE OF ODU. Some say the stone is about the size of a baby's head. Very few men have seen this stone outside the bronze idol and those who have, died shortly afterwards. It is said that if one is exposed to the naked radiance of this stone, one's flesh starts to rot while one is still alive, and will come off one's bones in a mass of noisome putrefaction. If a man is exposed to the radiation of the stone, he dies. But when the rays are filtered through the body of the bronze idol and fall upon a man, he ceases to be an ordinary man; he becomes a super being, a half-god, and he can see and do things no ordinary man can see or do. He can even become an immortal."

Mutwa further mentions that only the Emperor and a number of priests in charge of the idol with the wondrous stone were allowed to expose themselves to its filtered radiation, thus obtaining the said superior qualities of vision and power.