

Elfred Lee (b. 1941) has been involved with the Who's Who list of Ark researchers since 1969. After photographing machine-gun battles in the Vietnam War while hanging out of helicopters, Lee was involved with the SEARCH expedition (splinter group from the ARF) and Ferdinand Navarra that found wood near the Parrot Glacier in 1969, interviewed both George Hagopian, Ed Davis, and George Havens, and has worked with most of the top Ark researchers in the world. Elfred is a professional artist and archaeological illustrator with an MFA degree and an honorary DFA degree.

Chapter 16

1969-1987 Elfred Lee

This is an edited transcription of an interview with Elfred Lee conducted by Dr. John Goley, Dr. Paul & Rosie Kuizinas, and Martha Lee at Montemorelos University of Mexico and later on, Rex Geissler interviewed Elfred. The beginning statement below is by Elfred Lee.



1969 SEARCH Foundation explorers departing Dulles Airport for Ararat
Hugo Neuburg, Ralph Lenton, Ferdinand Navarra, Bud Crawford, Elfred Lee
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

Since the first expedition of the SEARCH Foundation I have witnessed and experienced a desperate need for unity among Ark researchers. With this book, B.J. Corbin and Rex Geissler have

provided a forum to fulfill that need. It's about time! It is time to unite and finish the search for Noah's Ark.

Each researcher and explorer must ask himself this question: Do I want to find Noah's Ark or do I want Noah's Ark to be found?

Who cares who finds Noah's Ark? The only thing that matters is that the Ark is found, not who finds the ark! Unless we have this heart as researchers, we will never achieve the unity that we can.

As responsible researchers, we must also respect and obey the Turkish government. To obey the law of the land is also to obey God. Those who attempt to go around or question rules only hurt future attempts. And why should people act ungodly when they are attempting to find a Biblical artifact?

I am not a scholar but I do lecture all over the globe. Simply put a microphone in my face and I would love to share what I know with anyone. It may be a bit less polished than writing, but feel free to ask me whatever questions you have if it will aid the search for the ark.

John: As an artist, how did you get involved with the search for Noah's Ark?

Elfred: My being an artist is probably what got me involved in the first place. An archeological research group from Washington, D.C., which needed an artist and photographer, contacted me. They were working with Ferdinand Navarra, the explorer and author who claimed to have found Noah's Ark. They asked if I would come along as their photographer, illustrator and public relations person.

John: Who were these people getting you involved and why would you be interested?

Elfred: The people who invited me were a new group that became the SEARCH Foundation. SEARCH is an acronym



Elfred Lee Painting of Mount Ararat 1970
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

for Scientific Exploration and Archeological Research. We wanted to be a responsible, scientific group that promoted the Word of God in an acceptable manner to a skeptical world.

Rosie: Elfred, if I understand you correctly, you got involved because of your professional expertise. Do you also have a personal interest in this project?

Elfred: Yes. From a Christian background, I was born and raised knowing the Bible, creation and the story of the flood. I heard about a group that went to Turkey in 1960 and thought they might have discovered Noah's Ark near Mt. Ararat at what is now known as the Durupinar site. I knew the men on the Durupinar expedition and they got me excited

about the search for the ark. I had some exposure and personal interest in the search for Noah's Ark prior to my involvement with SEARCH.

John: How did you get involved in photography and art?

Elfred: I became interested in art at the age of four when I was in Japanese prison camps in the Philippines during World War II. A Portuguese man named Pedro had some colored pencils and was drawing portraits. Watching Pedro hour after hour, I became fascinated with art. It was then that I decided I wanted to be an artist, especially one who could draw faces and figures. Ever since, art has been my main interest. I studied in Japan, Southern California at La Sierra, Newbold College in England, and finally at Pacific Union College, where I graduated with a bachelors degree. I later went to San Jose to the University of California and was pursuing a masters degree when I was drafted into the army during the Vietnam War.

John: What did you do in Vietnam?

Elfred: When I went into the army, I asked to be trained as a medical illustrator and was sent to Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C. They were looking for volunteers to go to Vietnam on a photo mission. The training included



SEARCH Expedition Mounting Up 1969
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

working with a Hollywood movie producer. I thought this would be a great opportunity. Of the four hundred men who volunteered, I was fortunate to be one of twelve chosen. I went to Vietnam in 1967 as a motion picture photographer, a really great experience. They would strap me in hanging out the helicopter door while I would be photographing an area with guns right next to me. It was tough at times and I saw a lot of incredible things. The difficult conditions in which I had to photograph the action—including getting shot down in a helicopter during a night mission—helped to prepare me for Noah's Ark explorations. In 1985, I completed a Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) at Syracuse University after studying Archaeological Illustration at London University, Ankara University, and two universities in Israel. [This later won Lee an honorary doctorate in Fine Art since the MFA is a terminal degree so a person cannot earn a doctorate in this field in

school.] All this study and practice was for one reason, to find and properly document Noah's Ark or any artifact of importance. I have seen so much time and money wasted because people do not use and share primary information. I believe that this type of training needs to be used for Ark research. Artists see differently. People without this training and experience have made too many false claims and news flashes. Further, the elusive Ark may well have escaped discovery by people without this training and first-hand sources of information.

John: Would you say that your involvement in Ark research is from a standpoint of "this is something really exciting to do," or is there something deeper?

Elfred: Searching for Noah's Ark is exciting, but I believe the bottom line is the validation of Holy Scripture, all of it. The discovery of Noah's Ark would help prove creation and the flood. I had to ask myself the question, do I want to find the Ark or do I want the Ark found? This is not my project. This is God's project, and He knows the best time and people to be involved. I've been fortunate to be at the right place, at the right time, with the right skills for certain opportunities. I've received information that no one else has and I've tried to share it as best as I can.

Rosie: Elfred, you've been involved in other Noah's Ark projects. How is this one different?

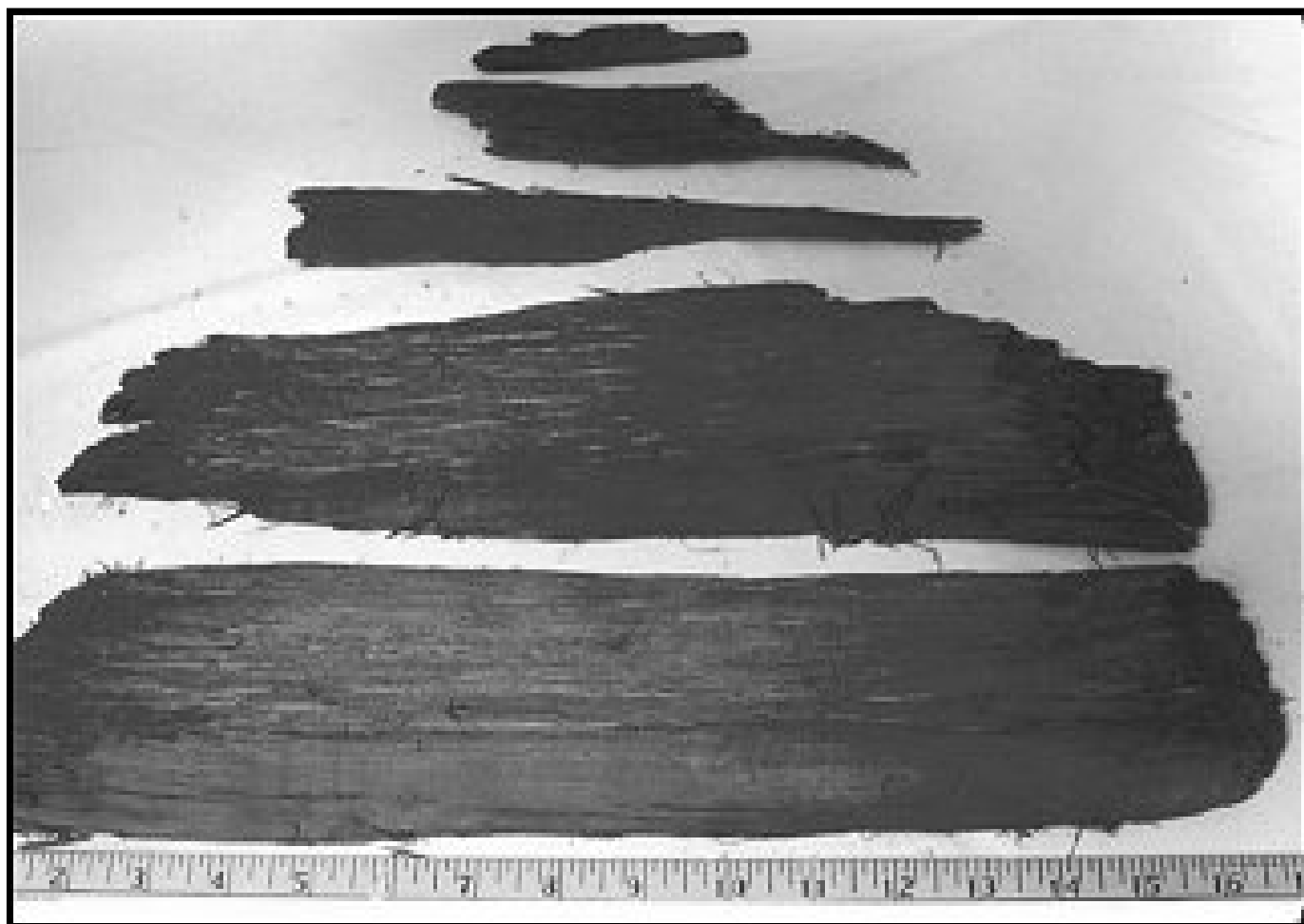
Elfred: For me they're all one project. I've been involved with many expeditions and groups. My first official involvement was in 1969, right after I returned from Vietnam. And I've been involved ever since, either officially or unofficially. We formed the SEARCH Foundation, which was really the first scientific group to go. After that, I was involved more or less on a freelance basis with many groups that have come and gone. But I consider them all one project.

Paul: How many trips have you made to Ararat?

Elfred: Four or five. But I've been involved with other expeditions while remaining here. This is where fundamental work is done to insure success in the field.

John: Could you tell us your story, beginning with your first expedition?

Elfred: My first expedition was in 1969, after much preparation and fund raising. We had a great team of internationally respected scientists and managers: Ralph Lenton, Hugo Neuberg, Ross Arnold, John Bradley, Ralph Crawford, and Harry M. "Bud" Crawford and many people from Takoma Park, Maryland. When we got our expedition to Turkey and mounted there were military escorts, extra food, transportation, donkeys, horses, porters and all this



SEARCH Wood from Mount Ararat's Parrot Glacier 1969
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

equipment that had to be hauled up. We had scientific equipment, coring augers and depth-sounding electronic equipment. It was a really elaborate set-up and my job was to document it all. I ate something at the hotel for breakfast. Perhaps it was those rancid fried eggs. As we climbed higher, I got so sick and filmed and vomited all day. It took us four days to get up to and established on the Parrot Glacier. We went up from Örtülü to Lake Kıp, and then at about 11,000 feet our horses started falling and tripping. Horses cannot go beyond a certain altitude.

John: Where were you in relation to the Ahora Gorge?

Elfred: The Ahora Gorge lies north by northeast. We were on the southwest, making our way up and around. Ferdinand Navarra was leading us. He is a great guy and very charismatic. His son Coco Navarra could speak English and went along as a translator. By the fourth morning we had established our base camp in the rocky moraine at the base of the Parrot Glacier. It looked like a bulldozer had gone in the day before and cleared a spot out. There was a high wall all around us. The glacier came down and melted into a little pond from which we got our water. It was difficult to get water in the morning. It would take over thirty minutes every morning just to melt water on our cook stove at that altitude. We went up every day and worked, then came back down to the campsite by sliding down the glacier using our ice axes as rudders and breaks. What fun!

John: What detailed work were you trying to do? Digging core samples through the ice?

Elfred: Yes. With some difficulty, we took coring augers up. We started drilling where Navarra specified on the glacier. He claimed this was where he saw the wooden structure through the ice.

John: This took place almost 20 years after Navarra had seen the structure?

Elfred: It was 14 years later. He had seen it in 1955, and we were there in 1969.

Paul: When you first saw the area, what was your impression of it?

Elfred: Where is the ark? We were disappointed. It must have been covered with many feet of ice. Navarra said the whole glacier had changed as he looked around for points of reference. There was a deep crevasse. We went down into it and started probing around. There was a big ice bridge that we had to go under for several days, not noticing that it was melting. One day, while I was filming, this huge ice bridge made up of tons of ice came crashing down right between us. It was quite a scary situation.

John: I understand that on this expedition your team found some wood?

Elfred: Yes. We dug for over a week, probing through the ice with the coring augers and all we brought up were rocks and moraine. It was starting to dull the little teeth of the coring augers. They were like hollow pipes with a corkscrew on the outside. As the auger is turned, it drills down and fills the center with ice. We were probing down in a crevasse, because it was at the level Ferdinand had been before. There was a pond of melt water and we started digging along it. I was up on the glacier filming Bud Crawford, who was doing some work on top of the ice pack. Suddenly Hugo and Navarra were shouting and waving a piece of wood down below. The largest pieces were about 17x4x.5 inches in size. Because they had been saturated with water and Ararat is a volcano, there was an intrusion of sulphur and iron. That was July 31, 1969. To find wood on that mountain where there are no trees was very exciting. We all came running and started digging, and sure enough, we found more wood, smaller pieces and little splinters. We gathered around with our arms around each other and had a little prayer meeting. We were sure we had located Noah's Ark. Even the scientific, skeptical Hugo was convinced as tears filled his eyes. We all cried!

John: What did your team do after the discovery of the wood?

Elfred: The first thing we did was to clean the glacier. Then we covered our tracks and went down the mountain. In those days, researchers switched from one team to another due to various issues and there was way too much secrecy about the search itself. Navarra said we were successful while Bud wanted to stay longer but they insisted. An interesting thing occurred physiologically as we went lower and lower. The cuts and bruises we had obtained suddenly became infected at the lower altitude. The situation at the time with other groups also searching for Noah's Ark was highly competitive. We were all sworn to secrecy, and I was very uncomfortable with that. We met two or three other groups including John Libi and ARF with Dr. Lawrence Hewitt, Clifford Burdick, and Eryl Cummings, who were very anxious to see us. Although they used to be climb together on Ararat and were friends, we were not allowed to speak or talk to them, which was pretty awkward. Eryl Cummings, who was a friend of mine, was leading one of the groups and asked me to go back up with them. They needed a photographer. I wasn't allowed and couldn't go. I was really frustrated. We went to Istanbul and checked into our hotel. Then we immediately contacted AP, NBC, ABC, CBS, BBC, and writers from other major news companies around the world. We called a press conference at the hotel and showed our wood. Bud Crawford said, "It was quite a mess because Ross Arnold was supposed to moderate [the announcement] but it sounded like a beehive with Navarra talking to the French reporters in French, Time Magazine reporter passing around paper, and finally I made a statement as to exactly what occurred on the expedition." The next morning we were headline news all over the world. NOAH'S ARK FOUND BY SEARCH FOUNDATION. Ralph Lenton became upset with Bud Crawford over the next year for making too many announcements and talking too much with military officials in Greece, who at the time was at odds with Turkey. And Bud had numerous friends like Tony van Schaaw, a Dutch Chief of Police and Intelligence Agent, which simply enhanced Lenton's view of Bud as "Mr. Cloak & Dagger." We saw all our pictures and names in print: Hugo Neuberg, Elfred Lee, Bud Crawford, Ralph Lenton, and so on. It was kind of an exciting time. It was my duty as the secretary of the foundation to see to it that the wood got home safely. I went home immediately by way of France with Navarra. It was in the homes of the Navarras where they showed me all kinds of evidence (wood, photos and discussions) that convinced me they had seen Noah's Ark.

Rosie: You said you held a press conference after coming off the mountain? Had any scientific testing been done on your wood yet?

Elfred: No. This was another thing that bothered me, and you have a very good point. We were too anxious to get in the news. The best thing would have been to stay quiet and get back to the United States to test the wood samples, have a debriefing, and come out with a scientific report. But no, most of the members toured around Europe and the Middle East using precious time and money. I came home immediately—alone with the wood.

John: So later when the wood was tested, what was found?

Elfred: I went to the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where there was a very good carbon dating lab, one of the best in the country at that time. I took two samples of wood. Remember that I went back to France with Ferdinand Navarra, and he gave me samples of his previously collected wood. I went to the University of Pennsylvania and marked these two samples, "N" and "O." "N" stood for Navarra and "O" stood for ours. I told them these were two different samples found at two different dates. That is all I told them. I wanted them to be objective about it. I didn't even want them



Lake Kip with SEARCH President John Bradley 1982
Courtesy of John McIntosh

to know whose it was. In a few days they had the reports and I drove back up to Pennsylvania. They had conducted carbon 14 dating and other tests. When we read the report, we were crushed. The dates of the wood samples were between 1300 and 1900 years of age, much too young to be Noah's Ark.

Paul: Both samples of wood?

Elfred: Yes. Both. There was no difference in the samples. They had taken it upon themselves to also have the U.S. Forestry Department come in and identify the wood. They said the wood is a species of white oak. So the dates and the wood were the same. To look at the weights and grain, you could not tell them apart. Later, the president of the SEARCH Foundation, Ralph Crawford, concealed this report, and would not allow it to be published. But at least we had proven that Navarra's wood was the same as our wood.

Paul: Hadn't Navarra already had his samples analyzed?

Elfred: Yes, but by different methods rather than Carbon-14 dating. Navarra had his wood tested in Bordeaux, Madrid and Cairo with well-accepted methods. They studied the lignite formation, the gain in density, the cell modification, growth rings and fossilization. On the strength of Navarra's earlier studies, we claimed that our wood was the same as his, with the same age of 5,000 years. We went on with our fundraising of serious money and all went well.



George Hagopian and Elfred Lee with Ararat Painting in Easton, Maryland 1970
 Courtesy of Elfred Lee

John: When you find a few pieces of wood that are out-of-place artifacts on Mt. Ararat, does that necessarily mean that they were from Noah's Ark, or that the Ark was found?

Elfred: No, and you make a good observation.

John: How did this make you feel, in terms of scientific validity, having said that the Ark had been found, based on the discovery of a few pieces of wood? This wood might even have been found in a location different from where the Ark is supposed to be.

Elfred: I had a lot to learn. But the president of SEARCH [Ralph Crawford] tied my hands very securely.

John: You said that you were basically on the southwest side, correct?

Elfred: As I look at the mountain, it was southwest, but we eventually worked our way towards the west-northwest area of the Parrot Glacier.

John: I have heard that the Ark may actually be somewhere near the Ahora Gorge, which you said was on the north side.

Elfred: Correct.

John: How is there a correlation with Navarra's wood and your wood being found on the west side of the mountain, while many Ark researchers think it may actually be on the north side of the mountain?

Elfred: I asked this very same question after talking with Navarra. He told me some things that he had not told anyone else. He had found wood elsewhere on the mountain. On a topographical map he pinpointed the places he had found wood. With the help of Eryl Cummings, we found that the wood our expedition found had come down from an upper area where Navarra had seen wood before, and where George Hagopian said he saw the ark.

John: I'm still wondering how it is possible that a piece of wood was found in the Parrot Glacier area, when others claim the Ark may have been on the north side of the mountain.



1969 Photo of Navarra Wood from 1955
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

Elfred: Navarra found other wood. He saw wood in three different locations on the mountain. Hagopian confirmed to me that the Ark landed above the Parrot Glacier. It is possible that wood from the Ark drifted down into the Ahora Gorge to the north, and also towards the Parrot Glacier to the west.

Rosie: Did Navarra actually see wood from the Ark in 1952? Did he excavate?

Elfred: He saw a shadow in the ice in 1952. In 1955, he was actually able to reach the site and dig with his son Rafael. They made a black and white movie, then had to hide for 13 hours in a cave during a snowstorm, where they nearly froze to death. They continued to dig and did find pieces of wood in 1955.

John: What about George Hagopian? How did you find out about him?

Elfred: When I was working on fund raising for SEARCH, a letter came in from a Mrs. Mary Board of Annapolis, Maryland. I opened the letter and there was a hundred-dollar check and a note. In the note she described a man to whom she sold property some years earlier. He now lived on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and claimed to have seen Noah's Ark. She had been trying for 22 years to contact someone going to Mt. Ararat. Board said, "This man has seen it. He knows where it is, but nobody will pay any attention." I called Mary Board the next day to set up an appointment. We talked for quite a long time and she felt comfortable to share information with me. She took me to meet George Hagopian in July 1970. He was not in the best of health, but he was very alert mentally. He had been born and raised near Lake Van, in eastern Turkey and had a very thick Armenian accent. At that time, Mt. Ararat or "Masis" was part of Armenia, which was a predominantly Christian country.

He told me his story and I have hours of tapes and pages of notes on our conversations. I called him "Uncle Georgie," and he called me "Freddie" or "Sonnie." He told me, "Freddie, I be glad to go with you and show you, but my health won't permit." I had just come back with movies and slides and wood in my hand, which I showed him. When George Hagopian started talking while I was drawing in front of him, his memory seemed to clear up and focus. He was able to give me details that you and I can't exchange with mere words, because he was visualizing the events.

John: What were the details of George Hagopian's experience with Noah's Ark? What happened when he and his uncle went up to see the ark?

Elfred: Many people from Hagopian's village had seen Noah's Ark, and it was common knowledge. His grandfather had also seen it. His family was basically shepherds. The women would milk the goats. He and his uncle would go every



Elfred Lee Drawing of George Hagopian Ark Sightint 1972
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

summer from Lake Van to Mt. Ararat where they would graze their sheep and goats. When George was eight years old there had been a three- or four-year drought in the region. Animals were dying. The glacial ice had melted way back on the mountain. His uncle suggested they go up toward the top of the mountain for water and grass and see if the Holy Ark was visible. The ice might be melted back enough this year. So George and his uncle went up. They found the fully exposed Ark resting there. They were in reverence and awe. It was a very holy experience for them. He said that the thing looked to him to be a thousand feet long.

He could remember that the Ark was of wood and he could see the grain, color, fitted joints and wooden dowels. It had something like shellac covering the wood. It appeared to have been covered with some kind of paint that was peeling. There was a green moss growing on it, and at the far end was a set of stairs coming down to within about ten feet of the ground. It looked like someone else had attached the stairs. He said Noah didn't put them there and they were not part of the original construction. Incidentally, Rene Noorbergen found a report in the Jerusalem library that told of early Christians going on pilgrimages up there and doing repairs on the ark. There was a monastery called St. Jacob's near the base of the mountain, which housed relics from the ark.

John: Was this the monastery that was destroyed by the earthquake?

Elfred: Yes. It was destroyed by an eruption in 1840. It was common for pilgrims to go up there when the weather permitted, and they would stop at the monastery and then go up the mountain. The report said that they did some repairs, so they probably took pieces of wood up with them, or pieces that were lying around that had come off the ark, and made a stairway so they could walk up on it. The reason the stairs came only within ten feet of the ground was probably because of the higher snow level at the time they were built. Hagopian and his uncle piled rocks to reach the stairs. His uncle then hoisted little Georgie up to the stairs, and he walked on the top where he saw openings all the way down the middle of the roof. The roof had a very slight pitch to it, but was almost flat. Down the middle of the roof was a small raised area running from stem to stern, and on each side of that raised area were openings. This would help prove a lot of other important things to us. Hagopian looked inside these openings and he shouted. His voice echoed down inside. It was



Alfred Lee Drawing of George Hagopian Sighting Account
Courtesy of Alfred Lee 1972

hollow and dark. On the top of the roof there was a hole. But the windows along the side in the center of the roof were well preserved.

He walked to the far end and looked down and saw that he was on an overhanging cliff. This may be another very important clue to the ark's location. We believe that it is in part of the Ahora Gorge. He said he could not see the bottom. There was a lot of fog down below him. He could see the tops of clouds and it looked like the ocean to him. It looked like he could see the whole world. He was standing on top of the world. He was very excited as a little boy, but also became very scared. He said the Ark was not a rock construction or an earth formation; it was obviously hand-tooled, man-made wood. It was rectangular in shape, very long and was very high. He could not give the exact measurements, but to him it was huge. The Ark was covered with this green moss in patches, but he could still see the wood grain.

John: Did he see a fully intact ark, or did it look like large pieces were missing from it?

Elfred: No, No. To him it appeared the Ark was fully intact. I told him others say that the Ark is broken into several pieces, and he almost cried at the thought of it.

Rex: Some have questioned the stairwell that was in your Hagopian drawings?

Elfred: Yes, in fact I complained to George that the ladder was not in the biblical account but Georgie theorized that the ladder may have been added later by the Armenians or others who went to visit the ark. John: I have a question in relation to Hagopian being eight years old when he first saw the ark. An eight-year-old boy can be very impressionable. You spent many hours with him. Do you really believe he saw the ark?

Elfred: Yes. Absolutely. He was not one who would fabricate or lie. We checked him out as well. He had a very good reputation in town. We verified his bank accounts and income to make sure he was not making anything off of his statement. We also went to Lake Van in Turkey and specific sites he discussed to verify his authenticity.

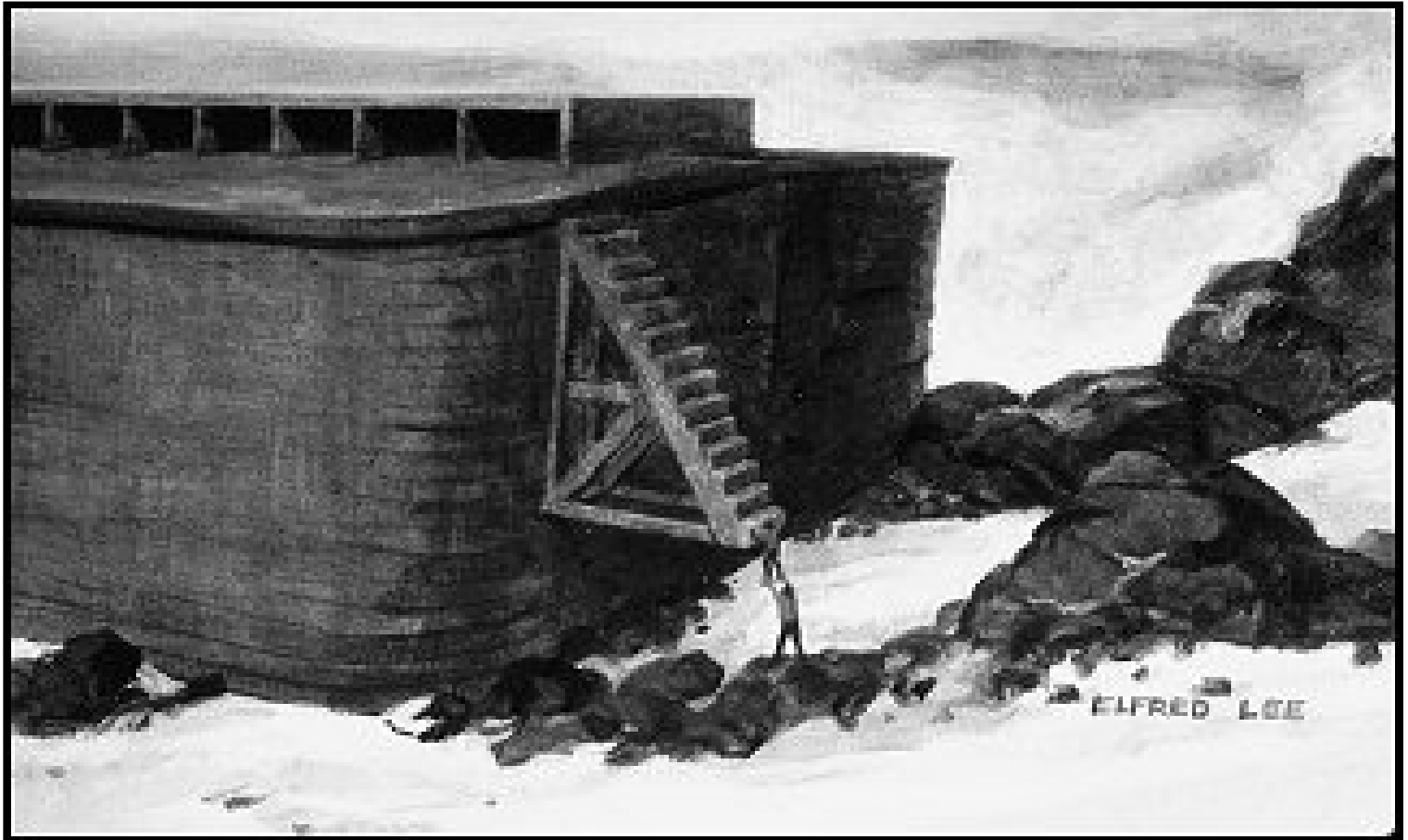
Rosie: You said that Hagopian went up with his uncle. Was any information ever received from the uncle about what he saw or the other people who also frequented the mountain during that time?

Elfred: His grandfather had also seen it. He did not tell me anything more than to say his uncle and grandfather were very glad that George was able to see the ark. Hagopian went up again two years later, and saw the same thing in the same place, but there was more ice and snow covering it.

John: He would have been about ten years old then?

Elfred: Yes. He and his uncle went home and told his grandfather and others about it. His grandfather said, "Georgie you're going to be a hagi, a holy man, because you've walked on the holy ark."

John: No one interested in the Ark at that time would have been searching out information about his family?



Elfred Lee Drawing George Hagopian Climbing Stairs
Courtesy of Elfred Lee 1972

Elfred: No. There was very little international travel to that part of the world in those days. There were also growing racial tensions that isolated the Armenians.

Rex: How tall were the windows Hagopian claimed to see on the ark?

Elfred: George said they were tall enough for a small cow to go through.

Rosie: Did they leave any written record that might have been passed on?

Elfred: Just oral histories and traditions. But he said there were many others who had seen the Ark and knew about it. I wish Hagopian had lived long enough to meet Ed Davis.

Rosie: It would seem to me that the Turks must also have had an interest in discovering the ark, and all the implications that go with it?

Elfred: Yes, you would think so. The government, the head of tourism especially. The increase in tourism would be a good way to help stabilize the economy of eastern Turkey. It has been so shaken with insurrections, the Kurdish problem, the Armenian problem. If that area could be economically developed, it could be a very stable part of the country. Living here in Mexico helps one understand a little bit of what the Middle East is like. The bureaucracy is demanding. They don't have the American system of organization. They rely on us to do it for them. But they want our technology, and they also want all the credit and the money that would come with it.

Rosie: Are you saying that Turkey does not have a scientific interest in finding the ark?

Elfred: Not really. Turkey is a secular state, and perhaps because Noah's Ark is so strongly associated with the Armenians, there may be a reticence on the part of some to have it discovered. At one time to be an Armenian in Turkey was like being a Jew in Nazi Germany. Germany is no longer Nazi and Turkey is no longer under the ancient system. There are few Armenians left or else they've changed their names. Once in awhile we'll talk to someone we think is from Turkish decent and he will quietly tell us he's Armenian, or a descendant of the Armenians. But times have changed and today you couldn't find nicer people than the Turks.

Rosie: In these past 12 years there was no further research?

Elfred: There was research, but nothing we could do on the mountain. Thanks to Colonel James Irwin, the astronaut who walked on the moon with Apollo 15 (July 27 to August 7, 1971) and logged 295 hours in space along with almost 20 hours outside his spacecraft and 7,000 hours of flying time in planes, with his political connections he was able to get

eastern Turkey opened up again to expeditions. They were afraid of foreigners coming in on that border and they're under pressure from Soviet Russia. They didn't like anyone up on Mt. Ararat looking down on Soviet territory. I saw their tanks and their missile bases and all the hustle and bustle on the north side of the border.

I'm telling you it's well fortified and the Soviets brag that they could take Turkey in 24 hours with no problem. They had the biggest and best tanks in the world. It was a very sensitive thing for Americans to be there with electronic equipment, they just knew we were spies. I am against any such spying activity. I do admit to meeting with the CIA, along with Bud Crawford.

About the second day I was a member of the SEARCH Foundation Bud took me to Washington, DC. He invited me to a meeting with some friends who were interested in photography. As I sat in the room and looked around, I saw all these plaques with awards and honors given by the CIA to this "friend." All he wanted was for us to aim our cameras a certain way and bring back photographs. I was not about to get involved in that. I refused. But Bud was excited about the opportunity and took their money. He liked to brag about it. In fact, Bud claimed that he and Ahmet spent several weeks on the icecap and planted hundreds of listening devices but I doubt that is true. Irregardless, it got us into a lot of trouble. In fact, even though relations between Turkey and Greece were difficult, Bud went to Athens and met with a Greek general. Later, Bud died in a mysterious car accident in Colorado. I don't blame the Turks for closing down the



(Back) Ark-a-thon Don Shockey, Ed Davis, John McIntosh, Bob Stuplich, Elfred Lee, John Morris, Bill Crouse – June 1986
(Front) Larry Williams, Eryl Cummings, Violet Cummings, Ken Alexander
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

expeditions. We have no business spying while searching for this sacred object. On the way down the mountain in 1985, our guide Ahmet Turan and I had a chance to talk as I knew him from 1969. He asked many questions: Are you CIA? What are you doing on our mountain? If you find Noah's Ark, what will you do with it? I said that we were not CIA. Spying is not our business at all. We are only looking for Noah's Ark for the glory of God. Turkey, also, will benefit as well: tourists, money, and establishment of the east. Noah's Ark must stay here. It belongs to Turkey.

John: During this twelve-year period what was really going on? Where does Ed Davis fit into all this?

Elfred: He is another key eyewitness. We met him after the 1985 expeditions. I forget the exact dates that the expeditions began to be allowed in again, but the next main expedition was in the summer of 1985. I went on an expedition with a very fine group of men from the Dallas area. Bill Crouse was one of the main ones, Dr. Paul Meier of the Minirth-Meier Clinic was my roommate at the hotel at the foot of Mt. Ararat. He is a very fine psychiatrist and godly man.

While waiting for permits in Doğubayazıt, we visited Ishak Pasa Palace nearby and some of us also explored an ancient Hittite cave. Since the permits for Dr. Meier and myself had not yet arrived, we decided to join the climbers later. In the meantime, Bert Sabo and I took off in his V.W. camper for Van, where George Hagopian was born and raised. This gave me some time to confirm details about Hagopian's life that he had told me. We took a boat to Aktamar Island in Lake Van where Hagopian had gone to church. Some of the details Hagopian gave me such as church cemetery under the tiles were confirmed. The place was completely desecrated and I am glad George was not with me to see it. The war between Iran and Iraq kept us from going further south so we headed up the west side of the huge Lake Van north toward Ararat again. On the way we met Ian McDonald making his world record run from England to Tasmania

On Monday, Paul, Martin and I picked up our permits in Agri and prepared to climb the next morning. At midnight I was looking at the mountain wondering how our teammates were doing. Then I saw a light, then another. I got out my telescope. They were fires! What was burning? Were they cooking at midnight? They should be dog-tired and sleeping soundly. During the night, the Probe "A" Team was taken captive at AK-47 gunpoint. Kurdish terrorists burned them out and stole or destroyed everything.

While waiting in Ankara for another expedition (Jim Irwin's) to get permits, Jim Irwin, Bert Sabo and I met with the American Ambassador Robert Strausz-Hupé, who was most cordial. After describing our intent, I made the point that if we could get up the mountain and back before the terrorists do anything they would lose face (very important in the East) and lose political influence while showing that the Turkish government was in charge. He assured us of his support and put us in touch with top military generals who could help us with the expedition.

He arranged a chauffeur in an Embassy car to the headquarters of the top U.S. and NATO military officials (I have to avoid some names and details). We were again warned of the hostage possibilities as the Soviets, Iran and Iraq benefited from destabilization in the eastern sector. Negotiations went on for three days and although we could not get a helicopter for our use, a top Turkish General assured us of military protection.

Here's another interesting thing verifying or confirming the stories of George Hagopian and Ed Davis. At the U.S. and NATO headquarters, I talked with U.S. Two-Star General Ralph Havens, the commanding General of the United States forces in Turkey. I went there on August 29, 1985, with Jim Irwin, John Bradley and Eryl Cummings. We interviewed this



Ed Davis and Elfred Lee at Ark-a-Thon 1986
 Courtesy of Elfred Lee

man and I showed him the paintings I had done of Hagopian's description, and General Ralph Havens said, "We've seen that. We have photos of that. Our pilots have photographed that very object. It looks just like that. It is on a ledge. In fact, I was shown two slides of this object at Fort Leavenworth in a presentation for people assigned to Turkey." The General actually told Irwin and I that his flyers had seen a similar structure on the north side of Mount Ararat. When the General checked on the two slides, they were missing from the presentation. Despite not having slides and after 40 years of Ark study, this confirmation from an American General caused Eryl Cummings to exclaim with tears in his eyes, "This is the greatest day in all the years of Ark research."

So there is confirmation of the structure on Ararat in modern times by a military authority. Also, some Russians claimed that they found it and photographed it in 1916.

John: Was it on this expedition or the following one?

Elfred: This expedition. When we came back, the "Ark Fever" was high. There was a lot of sensationalism again and interest in the ark. They called an ark-a-Thon in Farmington, New Mexico, in honor of Eryl Cummings, a pioneer Ark researcher. Eryl and his wife Violet have given their life's blood, and their daughter Phyllis has done a lot of the research and writing.

They invited all those interested in the ark. We gave reports and showed slides of our various findings. They said there was a man there who had seen the ark.

Dr. Don Shockey of Albuquerque had found him, quite by accident, in his office one day. Don Shockey will tell his story much better than I can, but he was the one who first met Ed Davis, and shared him with the rest of us, very much as I had done with George Hagopian. Ed then became seriously ill. It was something life threatening. He was flat on his back, just at the time we needed him to come to the ark-a-Thon. The first evening we all prayed. We prayed for unity. I gave a special program at the opening appealing for unity, because I had seen such a lack of it through the years. And we all got together and prayed for Ed Davis.

Then the phone rang. It was Ed. "I'm feeling so good, come and get me." Someone went down and brought him up to Farmington. I had never met him but I had heard so many people claiming things, that I thought, Here's just another one. I was frankly not interested. Then in came Ed Davis wearing a cowboy hat, a big silver buckle, cowboy boots, silver and turquoise. I was really skeptical.

Rosie: So who is Ed Davis?

Elfred: I will tell you. He came walking in and started talking. As I listened my hair on my neck stood up. He sounded like George Hagopian. He started describing the mountain, his experiences, how long it took to go from point A to point B, the caves, the fog, the rock formations, describing the interior of the caves, and the stone steps and how they're carved. My goodness, I said, where did this guy hear this information? None of this information is published. I have George Hagopian on tape and in notes, but none of his information had been published yet, so I became very interested.

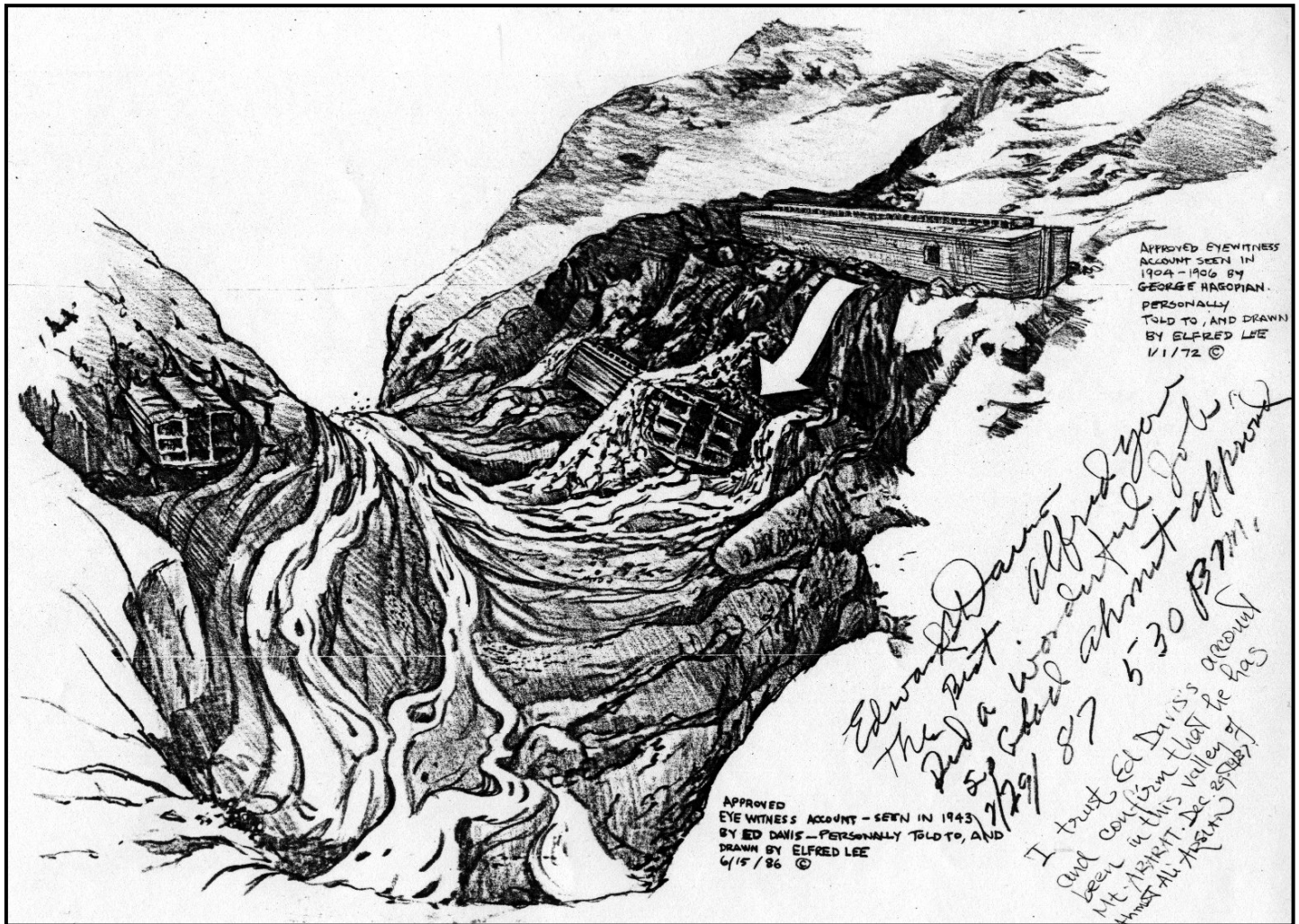
We came to find out that Ed Davis had been in the Army in 1943, stationed in Hamadan, Iran. He was in the Army Corps of Engineers. Of course, the story will be told in more detail by Don Shockey and in the appendix of this book. Ed Davis was building roads in northern Iran and helping to supply equipment to the Soviet Army during World War II. Mt. Ararat is the back door to Europe.

Ed befriended a group of Moslems, a family named Abas. He did some favors for this family and they felt very indebted to him. They asked if he would like to see Noah's Ark? Well, as any young GI would, he said, "Why not?" One night they drove from Iran through the saddle between Big and Little Ararat and around to the north side. They stopped in a village there, Abas-Abas Village. He described it, saying there's a tree there, it was at the foot of the Black Glacier, near the Ahora Gorge. He described the rock formations and everything. The village was between Aralik and Ahora [this is named Tarlabas' village in Ahmet Arslan's 1986 map in *The Lost Ship of Noah*] and they went up by Jacob's well, Jacob's tomb, and graveyard, below the Cehennem Dere and up towards Doomsday Rock. He described all this to me.

I spent some quality time with Ed Davis that night. He wanted to work all night. By midnight I was tired out. He was feeling very good, providentially healed for that occasion. People suggested, "that Elfred Lee do with Ed Davis what he had done with George Hagopian." So I got paper and pencil, turned on my tape recorder and started drawing. People were standing around flashing pictures and recording on tape and asking questions. It became a kind of circus. I forget who it was, I think Eryl Cummings or somebody took it upon himself to get people out of the room and closed the door. So I was alone with my tape recorder and sketchpad and one or two others.

I think John McIntosh came in quite a bit. He asked some very good questions, and took some pictures, too. John has been a very good researcher and has helped very unselfishly. I kept having to send people out for more paper and cellophane tape as the drawing grew bigger and bigger. It became huge, and as Ed Davis talked and I drew, his memory sharpened and focused and he was able to describe rock formations and locations of cliffs, ledges, snow banks and moraine—everything. He would say, "I was standing here and saw that and went over here and saw that. From this point I could see the Ark and the other broken part that was over here." The Ark had slid down from the Hagopian site and was now in two pieces.

Ed Davis has been able to describe Noah's Ark very well, though he didn't see it as well as Hagopian, because he went up only once and he went up at night and was in the fog a lot of the time. But he's given enough information to me and to Ahmet Arslan to confirm that he was there, and that he indeed was in the same place that Hagopian was. Hardwicke Knight of New Zealand also went through that region and he claims to have seen Noah's Ark and his descriptions are the same as Ed Davis and Hagopian. So he was in the same place.



Elfred Lee Drawing of the Hagopian Ark in 1900-1908 and the Davis Ark 1943

Courtesy of Elfred Lee

George Jefferson Greene also said that he took photos of it, which other people saw. Haji Yearam describes it also, and Reşit in 1943 saw it the same year Ed Davis did. In 1945 the Soviet Air Force and US Air Force photographed it, so evidently in 1943 and 1945 it was visible. In 1955, George Jefferson Greene saw it and photographed it the same year Navarra did on his last expedition before he took us in 1969. These are interesting coincidences.

John: So you're saying that they saw it, like Navarra, who saw this shape under the ice as opposed to an exposed ark.

Elfred: Right. In 1955, he could see it right through the ice. The ice was so melted, it was on a thaw cycle, there's a freeze and thaw cycle on Mt. Ararat that's approximately 20 years. Not exactly, but that was a thaw cycle year. In 1952, he saw it in the distance, in 1953 saw it better. In 1955, the ice was melted right down to the wood. He could walk on the ice of this lake and see the wood right under him, cut down through it and pull out pieces. He could actually see that the length of some of this wood was about 150 feet. That's hard to believe. . .

John: He was on the south side of the mountain when he found this, right?

Elfred: No. The west side over above Lake Kip in the Parrot Glacier.

John: You are basically saying here would be sort of north where the Ahora Gorge is, the Parrot Glacier would be over here. (Pointing to map)

Elfred: That would be west.

John: So you were saying that it was coming down on this side, and this is the area where he was looking, kind of on the west-southwest side. Navarra was finding this?

Elfred: But he has also been up here.

John: So he's actually been up to the general site.

Elfred: Navarra has stood at a place looking right into the cove that Ed Davis went to. I have evidence of that and photographs of the area from other people. He led us to another place though, and we found wood there. But that's not the mother lode.

We want to find where this Navarra/SEARCH/Parrot Glacier wood came from. And I can show you where that is, because I have spent a lot of personal time, not only with Hagopian, but with Ed Davis and Navarra, and it's all together. All three of these men have seen Noah's Ark and lived to tell about it. As an artist and a personal friend of these men, they took me into their confidence and told me things. I waited to go back and follow up.

Rex: Why is there a catwalk on some of the Ed Davis drawing and not on others?

Elfred: In the busy activities and excitement at the Arkathon, the catwalk was forgotten but remembered later.

Rosie: How does the size of the boat as perceived by the different people compare?

Elfred: Most of them have not seen the full thing from stem to stern. It's covered at one end or broken now. Hagopian's the only one who's seen it whole. "Roskovitsky" (or his real life counterpart from Gurley's/Koor's story) and some other Russians went up in 1916 and he said they saw it, but didn't give any measurement. The Czar sent up a team to measure it, and they indeed would have that information. They measured it, walked inside it, and photographed it. I've talked to Col. Alexander Koor of the Russian Army who was in charge of that region at the time. Before World War I, it was still part of Russia. Mt. Ararat was his command post and he was there when the Czar sent 150 troops up the mountain to photograph the Ark and measure it. As you know, in 1917, the Bolshevik Revolution took place, and we're not sure where that information is. I heard one report it was somewhere in Leningrad, which is again called St. Petersburg. Maybe it will be released. Who knows? There are some Russians who know about it, but at that time they weren't willing to help us.

John: Okay. I have a couple questions in relation to some of the things you've mentioned up to this point. One is about the carbon 14 dating method. The man who developed the dating method, Wilbur F. Libby, told you that obviously these samples, which were dated 1700 to 1900 years old, were contaminated by more recent organic material. What kind of contamination occurs at 14,000 feet? You've got to have contamination with organic material, because it contains carbon, which is organic.

Elfred: Okay. They also said there was carbon of a more recent vintage, that it had infiltrated the sample. Now there's organic material growing there. There's moss and lichens and little low bushes, and even goats climb up there. I saw goats up above us, over this very site. Goat droppings could come down into the water and the goats were up there eating something. They weren't eating just rocks.

John: Okay. So there is organic material of more recent vintage that could have infiltrated the sample and in that manner caused it to have a more recent date?

Elfred: Yes.

John: Another question. You said something about Hagopian, who saw it as an eight-year-old, saying he thought it was a thousand feet long. The Bible says the Ark was 300 cubits, the cubit being approximately 18 inches, usually considered to be from the elbow to the fingertips.

Elfred: So that would make Noah's Ark, using the conservative 18-inch cubit, 450 feet long, by 75 feet wide, by 45 feet high. Hagopian here is saying in effect, it's twice that size. Now he was a wide-eyed little boy, he was very excited, but he pointed to me from where we are now sitting, to that tree over there behind the house to indicate the length, and it was close to a thousand feet. But he was an eight-year-old boy who's about three feet tall, and he could stand up in the windows of the ark.

There were about fifty of those windows, going all the way down the length of the ark, forming a ventilation system. These openings were really part of one window, as the Bible says, one window in the roof. Doesn't say how long, but we know now, it was the full length of the ship, and since the window was right in the middle of the roof, the Ark would have to almost capsize before water would go in. He stood up, looking in these openings, so there is your cubit, approximately three feet high. He said a cow could walk through them. I would say a small cow or a heifer, and so that would make a 36-inch cubit.

John: Which would easily make it a thousand feet long.

Elfred: That's right. And I believe, speaking as a creationist, that we're inferior to what Adam and Eve were or what Noah was. I believe Noah was even bigger than Moses, who wrote the account, and so I believe men were much larger than men now living.



Ahora Gorge hiking up from Ahora 1985
 Courtesy of Elfred Lee

John: Therefore their forearm and hand length would be longer than 18 inches.

Elfred: That's right, but when we get in there and measure Noah's bed, that will help, you know, and see some of the furniture in the ark, that will really help. And this will help verify not only Scripture, but creation. It will help prove we were created superior and that we are devolving, not evolving. We're inferior to what was originally created by God, and this would help verify creation science.

John: Any other questions related to George Hagopian, Davis, Cummings, Navarra?

Paul: The question about the wood type that they found. It was not of the area. What type of wood is it, and where is it from?

Elfred: It was white oak, Quercus species of white oak, which we are told is a common type of wood used by seagoing vessels, before the time of metal ships. The only area where it grows is way down the Euphrates River. As you know, the Euphrates begins at Mt. Ararat, and it's about 300 miles away. So this wood, these huge beams, this huge construction would certainly have to float by a huge flood to reach such an altitude, 300 miles to the north.

John: So that really brings us question number four. Do you personally believe that Noah's Ark is on Mt. Ararat? Did it land there? And is its remnants still there? If so, what, in your mind, is conclusive proof that it really is there?

Elfred: That's a long question. Yes, I do believe Noah's Ark is there to this day. On a spiritual note, because God does not waste things, even 12 baskets of food collected after he created it. He created Noah's Ark to last for centuries, and it had a useful life of only one year and 10 days.

It was made of very durable material and was made to last. He quick-froze it, so it's not only petrified, but frozen, the



Durupinar village mayor handing Elfred Lee a rock which he alleged was a piece of Noah's Ark 1985
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

best form of preservation, and it's been seen by too many people. Even Marco Polo says the Ark of Noah is in the eternal snows of Mt. Ararat. There's another very important clue: Marco Polo. So this other site that some have been talking about at a lower elevation (Durupinar), is exposed every year most of the time. In regard to Durupinar, I would question the integrity of anyone claiming something is "Noah's Ark" before objective, scientific work can be done to check it out. Ron Wyatt told me, "God told me this is Noah's Ark and I don't need university Ph.D.'s to tell me otherwise." Sometimes we are too eager to make a public announcement. I have been guilty myself. I was quite convinced by Ron Wyatt while working with him on the site until an incident in the Istanbul Airport. A few feet from the police check, Ron stuffed a large rock into my luggage without talking to me about it. Later, I saw him on TV claiming this same rock was from Noah's Ark at the Durupinar site. I knew nothing about it while we had worked together on the site. I was there to document any discovery and he had said nothing. Now, I was the fall guy for illegal activity. I had already refused to take a Durupinar rock handed me by the mayor of that village because I had no permit to take an artifact from Turkey. That type of planting evidence wherever and whenever it is convenient is a dangerous precedent for a "researcher."

Noah's Ark is in the eternal snows. It's very rarely seen, very rarely uncovered. There's been a climatology study done that confirms the exact dates that Hagopian said a four-year drought occurred, scientifically proving that Hagopian was right. As to his integrity, he had a PSE test, the lie detector test.

John: Hagopian did?

Elfred: Yes, Hagopian, and he passed the test. Also, his personal life, his reputation, his friends, and business acquaintances bore witness that he was an honest man who would not lie or fabricate. And he was not looking for any personal gain from it.

The details that he and Ed Davis have given coincide with the others who have seen it, and it can't be coincidental. As for the seaworthiness of the ark, the hydraulics lab in San Diego, where they study ship designs for the Navy, made a scale model from my drawings, as they were preparing for this Hollywood movie, and they found that Noah's Ark would not capsize. It could sustain tidal waves 200 feet high. A Coast Guard captain told me, "This is the most seaworthy design I've ever seen."

It's like a box, it's not very pretty, and artists have been painting Noah's Ark wrong for years. It's just a box. The word "ark" means a box or container. The Ark of Noah is not a boat, it's a box, so Noah's Ark was basically a kind of big old clumsy shoebox, with a window down the middle of the roof. That's all it was. Not very pretty, but very stable.

John: When you say clumsy, you mean in terms of a utilitarian boat to get from point A to point B?

Elfred: It could not cruise very well.

John: But its purpose wasn't to cruise.

Elfred: That's right. It was not to go anywhere; it was just to house and sustain life in the worst catastrophe the world



SEARCH Expedition Team 1969
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

has every known. Hagopian's authenticity is very clear to me, his knowledge of Ararat and the region, the geography and the history are all accurate. The dating, the climatology all prove out. His honesty, his reputation, his consistency, the basic facts and details, he never varied. Even though people would make him angry by questioning and cross-questioning him, he would still hold to his facts. He would not waver for the sake of popularity or anything else.

Rosie: Earlier you mentioned that Hagopian was irritated or seemed to be irritated at some people who came to question him and he gave them misinformation. Could you tell us a little bit about that? And how does this tie into what you just said?



Ararat High Grasslands between Ahora and Korhan where Shepherds like George Hagopian Grazed their Sheep 1985
Courtesy of Elfred Lee

Elfred: Yes. He told me that there were some people who were wanting him to tell them where to go. He didn't trust them and he would not give them all the information that he could have. He let them be misinformed. He would not lie. But he could withhold information and let some people draw wrong conclusions and that's what he did. That's what he told me he did, because he said he didn't trust them.

Paul: On about how many occasions did you meet with George Hagopian?

Elfred: My goodness. It would be very hard to count how many. But over a period of a year and a half, it was very often. Sometimes several times a week, then sometimes, because of my duties, I couldn't go out for a few weeks, then I'd go again. I was on the phone with him quite often, and also with Mary Board until she died. She had implicit confidence and faith in him and gave a very good recommendation of him.

John: What about Ed Davis? Your first impression of him was that here was this cowboy who you might as well write off, he doesn't have anything to say.

Elfred: I'd been living in Washington, DC, too long. Gray suits and ties, briefcases, and here's this guy in jeans, shiny silver, and whatnot. He was in style in Albuquerque, and I let my first impressions kind of make me judgmental, but he very quickly proved that he knew what he was talking about.

John: When you say he proved, what do you mean he proved?

Elfred: He knew the mountain as nobody can unless he's been there. And when I got together with him and Arslan and my information from Hagopian—my goodness! Don Shockey was saying that this was the most historic moment in all of Ark research. Ed Davis said the very same thing.

Also, I have confidence that Ed Davis is a fine Christian man. He has not sought to be written up or to be photographed. He doesn't want money or fame. Don Shockey has been very kind and generous to share him with us and let us have free access to him. However, I have never gone to see Ed Davis without Don Shockey.

John: Did Ed Davis go through a lie-detector test as well?

Elfred: Yes, he did. And in my book he's an honest person, not seeking self-glory or anything. After the 1986 ark-a-thon, I was able to meet David Duckworth [now debunked alleged eyewitness] at Eryl Cummings' house. Violet wanted to show Ed's sketch to David but I refused to let her since that could easily be leading questioning. First, I asked David to draw a sketch of the composite photo he saw in the Smithsonian Institution. Then we compared it to the Ed Davis broken structure. There was an uncanny resemblance beside it being broken.

John: What about Navarra? You said many people thought he had a big ego that he wanted to protect, that he's been to the Ark site itself, but he took your SEARCH Foundation to another place, down the glacier from where the Ark would have been. How do you feel about Navarra? You spent a lot of time with him?

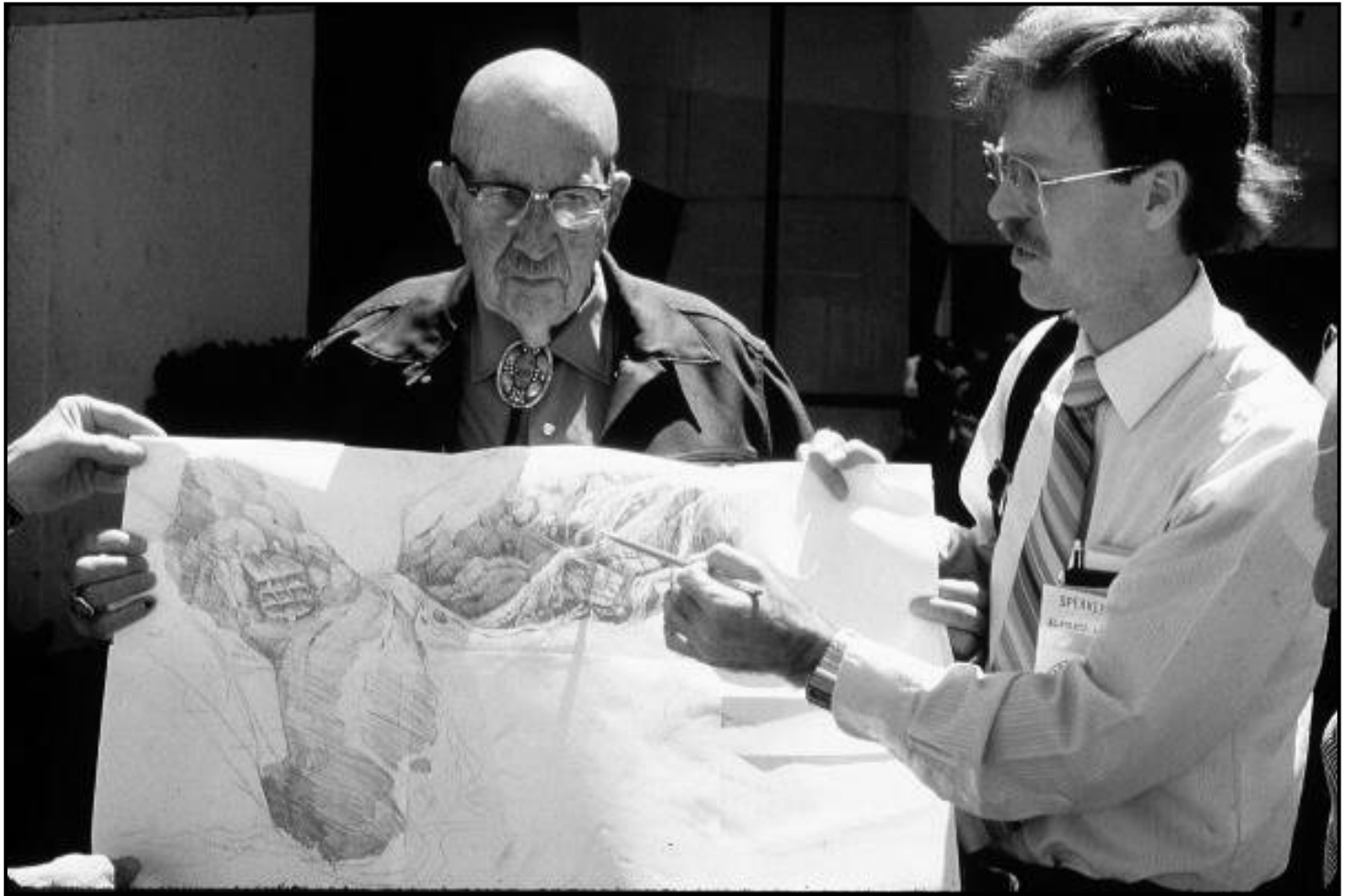
Elfred: Yes. That's a little more difficult. Personally, I consider him a friend. We had some problems, because I pushed him on a few points and he got a little upset. I was searching for truth, but overall, I believe Navarra has been there, and has also seen the ark. There are questions about his personality, but people have questions about my personality, you know.

John: Artists are a little different.

Elfred: Yes. We're sometimes accused of being prima donnas, but in my heart I know that I want God to receive the glory and I want the Ark to be found. So far, nobody has really been able to find it, and people have started coming to me more recently and saying, "Elfred, you have all this information, maybe you should go." The only way I can give all the information I know is to take my head off and hand it to you. It's like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle in a box. I have been given information over the years by Hagopian, and Ed Davis, and Navarra and there are a lot of pieces that fit, and there are a lot of pieces that don't fit.

If I could get my body on the location, on Mt. Ararat, I believe I could recognize places and a lot of these pieces would come together in my head.

John: Are there any other things that you would say in your own mind that make you sure and that are conclusive proofs that the Ark is there, other than the three men whom you've talked with?



Ed Davis with Elfred Lee at Ark-a-thon 1986
Courtesy of John McIntosh via Elfred Lee

Elfred: Jesus spoke about it. He's a good reference for me and He mentioned Noah and the ark. Peter, in 2 Peter 3 talks about how there would be scoffers and mockers in the last days. People who walk after their own fleshly desires, saying, Where is the promise of his coming? And all things continue exactly as they did from the beginning. You know, that's the theory of evolution right there. That's uniformitarianism right there, and they deny the fact that the heavens were created by the word of God and that the earth was destroyed by water. They deny the existence of a flood. This is one of the signs of the last days, and we're right in it. It's right in our universities. You can hardly talk about creation now. Evolution is the thing that has led to much of the godlessness, crime and corruption that's bringing our country and the world down. We need the Ark as a witness today!

In 1970, I went to the Islamic Center in Washington, D.C. to research the Quran issue. The curator of the center, Henry Youssef Ahmed Abadi, showed me a book, which said that "Jebel Judi" was a peak of Masis, Mount Ararat. The curator also said that Judi results in Cudi that results in Kudi, which results in Kurds. So there is a possibility that finding the Ark on Mount Ararat could substantiate Jewish, Christian and Muslim sources. This would be one area where Jews, Christians and Moslems actually agree.

John: So from a personal experience, as it relates to having been on the mountain, touched wood, dug it up; from your understanding of your discussions with people who have actually seen the entire ark; and from biblical understanding and your personal faith in God, you are sure that the Ark is there?

Elfred: I am sure that the Ark is on Mount Ararat, in the eternal snows of Mount Ararat.

John: Okay. That brings us to the final question. You've really covered number seven in terms of a Christian perspective and the search for Noah's Ark. Numbers five and six: Do you plan any future trips to Mt. Ararat? If so, when? Where is the ark?

Elfred: People would love for me to take a map and point my finger or give a street address as to where Noah's Ark is. They pump me for information and the next thing I know, they're on the mountain and I'm still here. I'd be very happy to freely offer my services. They can have all the glory and the publicity. That's fine. I don't care. I've seen too many people with their own agendas come and go. Let's get together and get the job done.

The Parrot Glacier is not the mother lode. It's further up the mountain, above the Ahora Gorge. There are certain landmarks. If only I could actually get up there. It could fit what my picture in my mind is. I have a very vivid photographic memory as a trained illustrator and have heard many accounts.

John: Another question in relation to the satellite information that has been analyzed. In both the 1974 video *In Search of Noah's Ark* and also in the more recent CBS one in 1992 or '93, they both used supposed satellite information. They pinpointed a spot using specific pixels and computer animation and so forth. They have said, this is the site and we expect it to be right there. With that kind of precision, a person who has a GPS should be able to walk to that site and find the Ark in that moment.

Elfred: I wish they would. Why haven't they?

John: That's my question.

Elfred: That's my question, too. Just because there's a foreign object or shape doesn't necessarily prove it's Noah's Ark. It should be investigated. Everything should be investigated. But I believe there's another factor here and that is timing. Maybe God hasn't wanted it to be found yet. He knows better than I do when the history of the world is at a point where there's a crossroads and the world has got to make a decision. There are certain things in prophecy that have to be fulfilled before that happens and I don't know when it is. My appeal to all researchers is that we need to lay all on the altar and put aside all differences and egos. We need to unite and join talents and resources to finish this great project to God's glory.

