

# Bombs & Floods

**KEN GILLMAN**

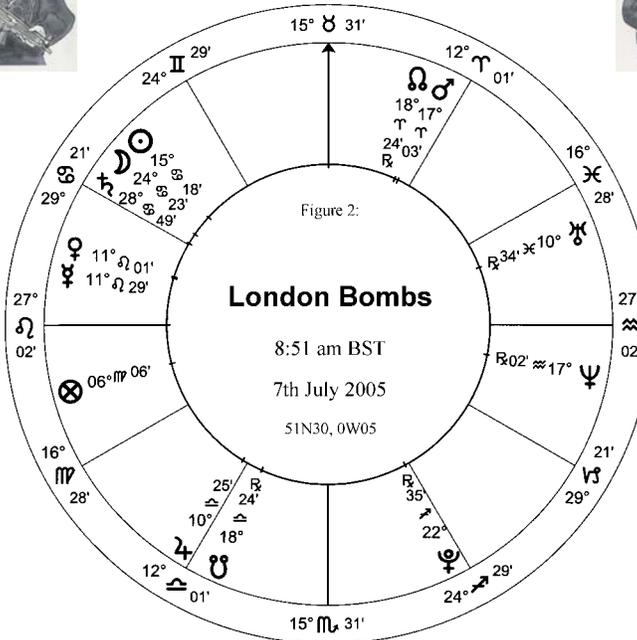
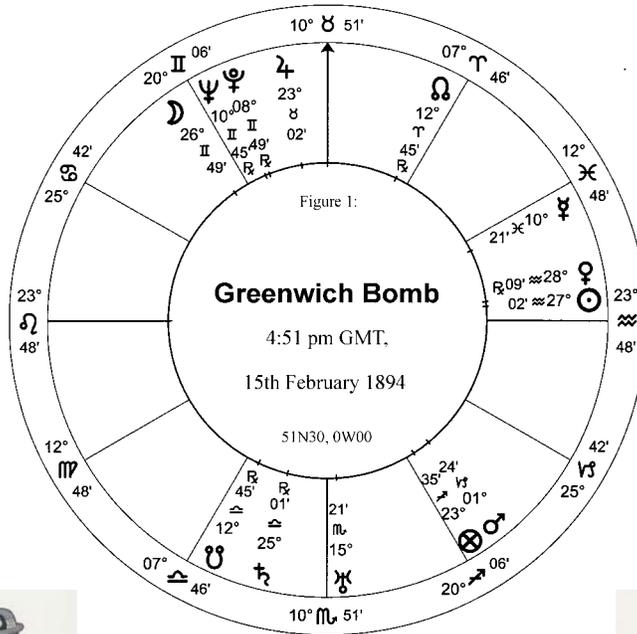
**D**ETER GALISON in his *Einstein's Clocks, Poincaré's Maps*<sup>1</sup> describes an early terrorist attack in London:

On Thursday 15 February 1894, a young French anarchist, Martial Bourdin, bought a ticket from Westminster Bridge to Greenwich. According to one of two observatory assistants, when chatting in the lower computing room, the pair “were suddenly startled by a loud explosion, the detonation of which was sharp and clear... I immediately remarked to Mr. Hollis, ‘That’s dynamite! Spot the time’.” Trained to observe by the clock, they duly recorded the detonation at 4:51. When a policeman arrived at the detonation scene in the park below the observatory, he found Bourdin dying. The anarchist had lost his hand and received a massive blow of explosive and bomb fragments. For years, doubt lingered about Bourdin’s motives; anarchists suspected a police setup; others saw it as one more in the long series of French anarchist strikes, including one on the Chamber of Deputies in Paris (December 1893) and another in a Paris café just three days before Bourdin’s demise. Joseph Conrad’s version of the events in his 1907 work *The Secret Agent* remains the canvas on which these events have been seen: a dark sketch of dupes, manipulators, and careerists from which no one emerges unsullied. In Conrad’s world the conniving First Secretary of a Foreign Power insisted on an attack that would frighten the class enemies beyond murder: “The demonstration must be against learning—science. The attack must have all the shocking senselessness of gratuitous blasphemy.” It must strike at the mysterious scientific heart of material prosperity. “Yes,” he continued with a contemptuous smile. “The blowing up of the first meridian is bound to raise a howl of execration.”

There are several tight connections between this failed attempt on the Greenwich meridian in 1894 and the July 2005 bombings in London. Figure 1 is the chart for the 1894 attempt; Figure 2 shows the one for the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2005 bombings on London’s transport system.

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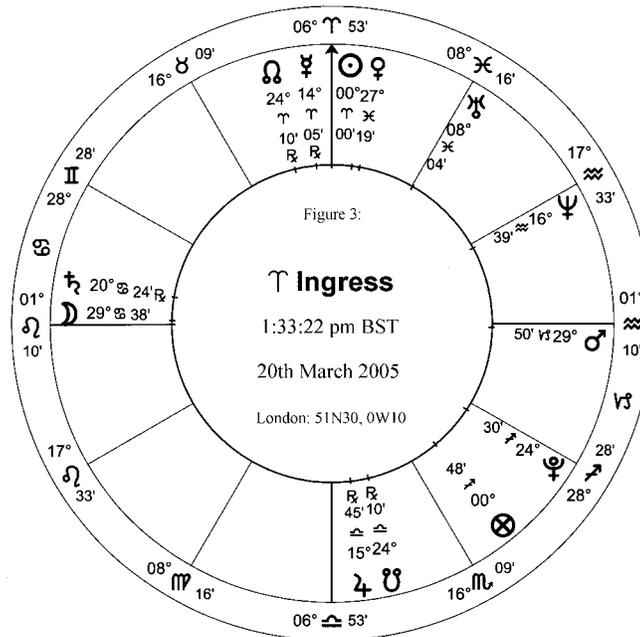
<sup>1</sup> W. W. Norton & Company, New York, London, 2003, pp. 159-160.



Three obvious connections stand out immediately: the 2005 Ascendant at 27°02' Leo exactly opposes the position of the 1894 Sun, exact within a minute of arc; the 2005 IC at 15½° Scorpio is just 10' distant from the position of the 1894 Uranus, then appropriately in the same 4<sup>th</sup> house; while the 2005 Uranus transits the place of the 1894 Mercury (orb 13'), both being close to the cusp of the chart's 8<sup>th</sup> house. There are other similarities—Moon's North Node in Aries in the 9<sup>th</sup> house and the Moon in the 11<sup>th</sup> stand out—but that's enough for now.

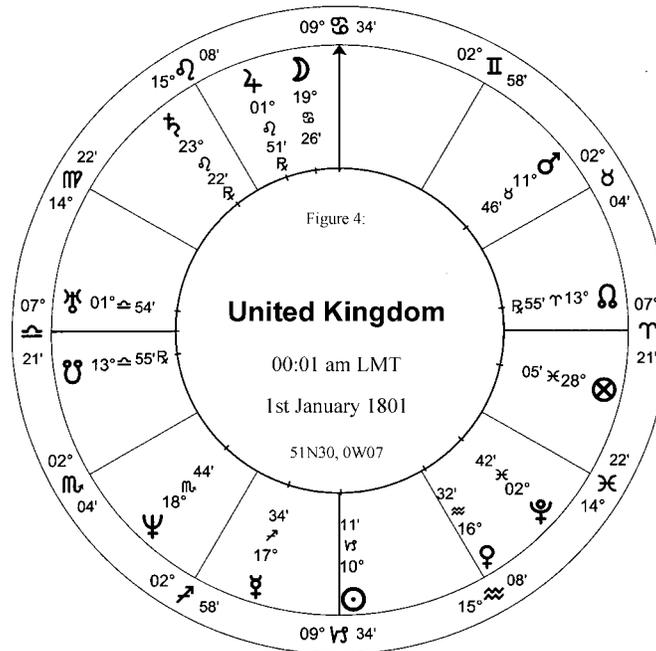


The 1894 map is interesting of itself. The Neptune-Pluto conjunction is present in the sky, here closely squared by Mercury; there is a close Grand Trine in the Air signs with the Moon, ruler of the house of secret enemies, moving from its trine of Saturn to trine the Sun; and the MC almost exactly falls at the Pluto/Node midpoint. It would have been completely exact were the time 4:50:44 pm and not 4:51. The anarchist's failure to blow up the first meridian is doubtless due to the protection provided by the elevated Jupiter (conjunct *Capulus*), which closely aspects the rising degree.



I forecast the potential danger to London in 2005 earlier this year<sup>2</sup>—the Aries Ingress at that location (Figure 3) had the Moon-Mars opposition across the horizon. But that raises the question of why London and

<sup>2</sup> In *Considerations* XX:1 (February-April 2005)



not Paris where the same opposition was even closer to the horizon and it was there augmented by the Mercury-Jupiter opposition close to the meridian<sup>3</sup>.

In 1912 the English astrologer W. Gorn Old, who wrote under the pseudonym of Sepharial, published a little booklet entitled *The Laws of Values*, in which he predicted that a devastating world-wide war would commence in 1914. He was correct: World War I began that year.

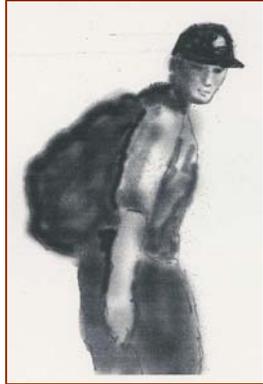
One of the chapters in the booklet deals with the sensitive points of major cities. As John Naylor, the father of Sun-sign astrology, pointed out when discussing Sepharial's work in 1980, "very few mundane astrologers pay much attention to sensitive points although they are a very traditional part of astrology. They are often mentioned in medieval books on astrology. Nowadays they are largely ignored, overlooked or discarded but they appear to have great value."<sup>4</sup>

Since the publication in 1988 of Nicholas Campion's *The Book of World Horoscopes*<sup>5</sup>, mundane astrologers have begun to correct this omission. Even so the traditional sensitive points associated with major cities continue to be mostly ignored, preference being given to degrees occupied at those times when a country was founded, became independent or experienced a change of government. City, even the capital city,

<sup>3</sup> Riots throughout France began at the end of October 2005.

<sup>4</sup> See *Astrology* 54: 1 & 2,

<sup>5</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1988 was published by Aquarian Press. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of 1995 was published by Cinnabar Books of Bristol, England.



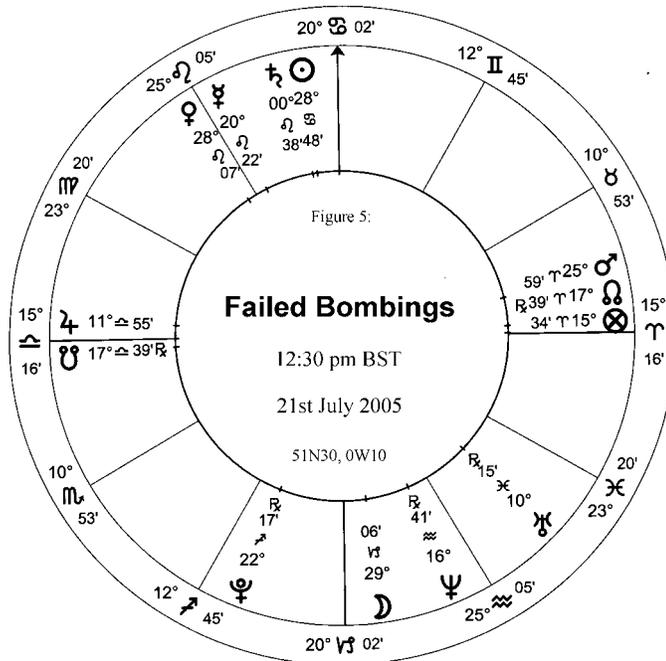
and country are not completely synonymous.

Sepharial gave as the sensitive points for London, a MC of 9° Gemini and an Ascendant of 14° Virgo. They were not occupied at the start of 1801 when Great Britain and Ireland joined to become the United Kingdom.

The conjunction of Neptune and Pluto at the time of the 1894 Greenwich bombing frames 9° Gemini. For the 2005 bombing the connection to one of these sensitive points is less obvious, although the Sun and Moon are positioned on either side of the antiscion of 9° Gemini, namely

on either side of 21° Cancer.

Refer back to the 2005 Aries Ingress. Uranus was in the 9<sup>th</sup> degree of Pisces, squaring this traditional London MC, and Saturn was in the 21<sup>st</sup> degree of Cancer, conjunct the antiscion of this same sensitive point. The Mercury-Jupiter opposition hits the traditional London Ascendant, again by antiscion.



Perhaps a comparison of the 2005 ♄ Ingress against the UK's 1801 chart (Figure 4) is more meaningful: the Ingress Ascendant is the position of the 1801 Jupiter, transit Saturn is conjunct the 1801 Moon, transit Neptune is conjunct the 1801 Venus, and transit Mercury is conjunct the 1801 Node. Each of these transits is very tight. Saturn's transit of the 1801 Moon stands out among these tight connections: as a result of the

bombings there has been some restraint (Saturn), much of which is self-imposed, on the population's freedom of movement (Moon).

Whether one uses the 1801 chart, Sepharial's sensitive points or simply analyzes the 2005 Aries Ingress without reference to any base chart, there are ample indications that London would be attacked around this time. The *when* of the terrorist attack is shown by the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2005 full moon (square Mars, the Sun conjunct Saturn) smack-dab on the Moon-Mars opposition of the  $\Uparrow$  Ingress. This attempted repeat (Figure 5) of the 7<sup>th</sup> July attacks failed but it greatly heightened Londoners' fears of future terrorist attacks. Why did it fail? The rising of the Moon's South Node seems to be a good enough reason, that and the Moon being about to change sign and apply to oppose Saturn—indicator of a failed activity.

<b>Acts of Terrorism in London</b>	
12 <sup>th</sup> December 1867	Clerkenwell Prison: 12 dead, 100 injured
24 <sup>th</sup> January 1885	House of Commons
15 <sup>th</sup> February 1894	Greenwich Observatory: 1 dead
31 <sup>st</sup> October 1971	Post Office Tower
8 <sup>th</sup> March 1973	Old Bailey: 1 dead, 174 injured
8 <sup>th</sup> September 1973	Victoria Station: 3 injured
17 <sup>th</sup> July 1974	Tower of London: 34 injured
5 <sup>th</sup> October 1974	Guildford pubs: 5 dead, 50+ injured
5 <sup>th</sup> September 1975	Hilton hotel: 2 dead, 60 injured
30 <sup>th</sup> March 1979	House of Commons: MP killed
10 <sup>th</sup> October 1981	Chelsea Barracks: 2 dead, 72 injured
20 <sup>th</sup> July 1982	Hyde Park: 11 dead, 58 injured
17 <sup>th</sup> December 1983	Harrods: 6 dead, 100 injured
1 <sup>st</sup> August 1988	Mill Hill barracks: 1 dead, 8+ injured
25 <sup>th</sup> June 1990	Carlton Club: 21+ injured
20 <sup>th</sup> July 1990	Stock Exchange
18 <sup>th</sup> February 1991	Victoria Station: 1 dead, 38 injured
28 <sup>th</sup> February 1992	London Bridge station: 29 injured
10 <sup>th</sup> April 1992	St. Mary Axe: 3 dead, 93 injured
12 <sup>th</sup> October 1992	Covent Garden toilet: 1 dead, 4 injured
10 <sup>th</sup> December 1992	Wood Green shopping centre
22 <sup>nd</sup> December 1992	Hampstead Underground Station
27 <sup>th</sup> February 1993	Camden: 18 injured
24 <sup>th</sup> April 1993	Bishopsgate truck bomb: 1 dead, 44 injured
9 <sup>th</sup> February 1996	Docklands: 2 die
18 <sup>th</sup> February 1996	Bus in Aldwych: 1 dead, 5 injured
7 <sup>th</sup> July 2005	Underground trains & a bus

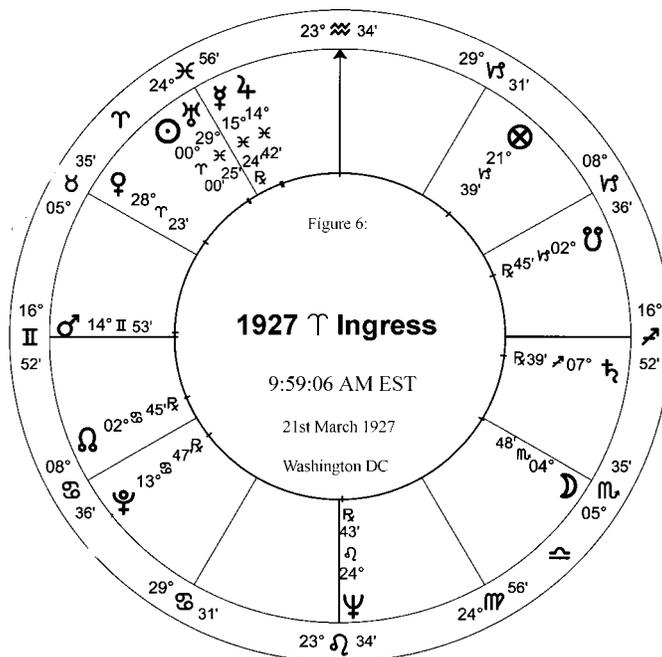
**I**N ADDITION to looking at the Greenwich bombing, the astrology associated with several other London bombings has been examined. As I don't have the exact timings for all of these, sunrise charts were set up for each. In total 27 bombings were examined, of which fourteen occurred within a day of a new moon and another four within a day of a full moon. Were the dates of these bombings truly ran-

dom we would expect a sixth of them, 16.7%, to have occurred within a day of a syzygy. The observed incidence of 52.2% more than triples this expectation.

Readers may wish to consider the reason for the 75-year gap between the third and fourth entry in the above table.

## Floods

**B**EFORE looking at the astrological indications of the August 2005 devastation of New Orleans let's consider some earlier major floods in the US. In doing so I will ignore eclipses and other lunations, even the charts for the times of the floodings themselves and rely solely on the appropriate Aries Ingress and cast it for the nation's capital, Washington DC. Tradition tells us that the ingress is all a mundane astrologer needs to accurately predict major events in the nation. We'll see if this is so.



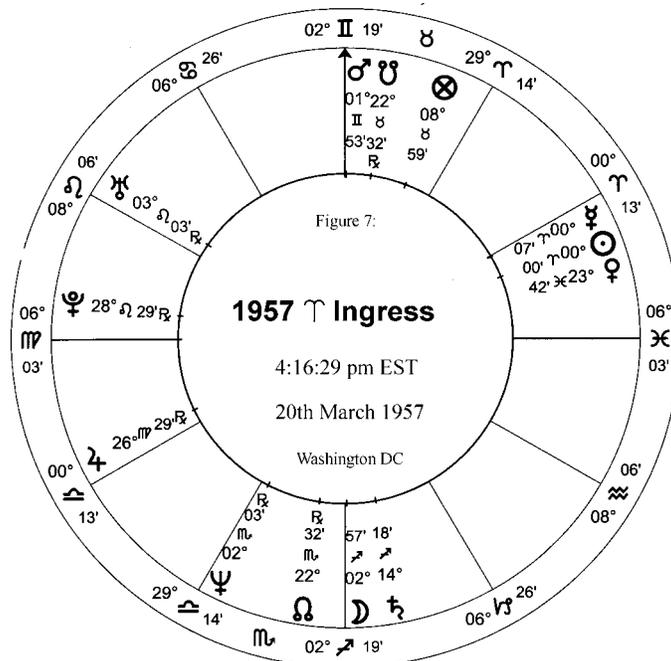
The worst flood in US history occurred in **1927** when the Mississippi broke out of its levee system in 145 places and flooded 27-thousand square miles. The area was inundated up to a depth of thirty feet. The states of Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee were all affected by the flood, but New Orleans did not experience serious damage. 700-thousand people were displaced, including 330-thousand African-Americans who were placed in 154 relief camps. Many African-Americans were detained and forced to labor at gunpoint

during flood relief efforts, which was one factor in the Great Migration of African-Americans from the south into northern cities. Led Zeppelin's hit song *When the Levee Breaks* is based on this flood.

The Aries Ingress for 1927 at the nation's capital is shown at Figure 6. Neptune close to the IC, Mars (widely opposite Saturn) at the Ascendant, and the Sun conjunct Uranus stand out as suspects, while Pluto in its own less obvious way is also very much involved. Pluto is transiting over the US Sun and its antiscion (16°13' Gemini) is at the Ingress' Ascendant.

In addition to the Great Mississippi Flood the same year saw the city of St Louis devastated by a tornado, the appearance of the first talkie, and Lindburgh's solo flight across the Atlantic. Each of these events should be foreseen by the same Aries Ingress.

By itself Neptune in Leo explains much. Leo, the traditional sign of leadership, is related to class war, to divisiveness and master-victim issues. Herbert Hoover, in charge of flood relief operations, used the disaster to vault into the presidency. Reports of the poor situation in refugee camps were kept out of the media at Hoover's request. He promised reforms for blacks after the presidential election. When he failed to keep his promise the allegiance of black Americans shifted from the Republican Party to Roosevelt and the Democrats. Pluto, on the US Sun, also seems to have a connection with all of this.

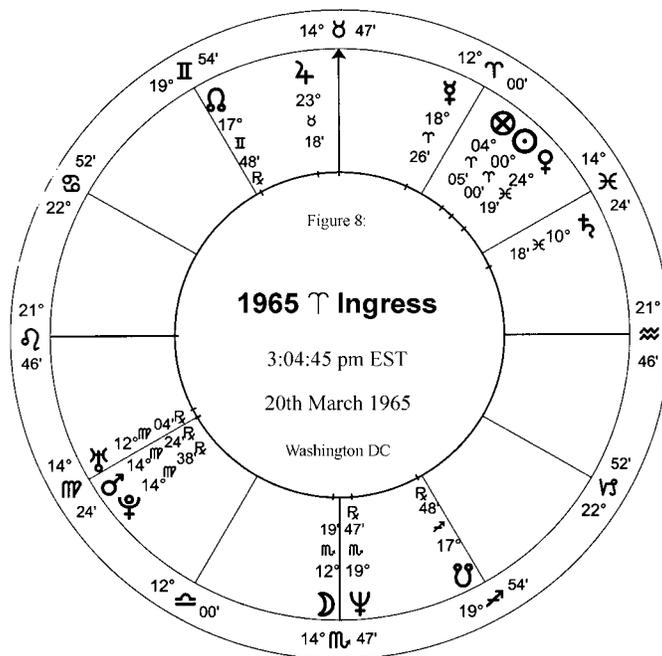


On 27<sup>th</sup> June 1957 **Hurricane Audrey** made landfall near Sabine Pass, Texas as a Category 4 Hurricane. Its 12-foot storm surge devastated the town of Cameron in Louisiana and was responsible for over 500

deaths. No storm to hit the US since had caused as many fatalities until Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Audrey remains the strongest storm ever to form as early as June.

Figure 7 is the 1957 Aries Ingress at Washington DC. The Sagittarian Moon is at the IC closely opposed by Mars, the Moon being part of a Grand Trine in Fire with Uranus in Leo and the Sun and Mercury in Aries on the 8<sup>th</sup> Placidus house cusp. These four bodies closely aspect Neptune, retrograde in Scorpio in the 3<sup>rd</sup> house, while Neptune is opposing Pluto's antiscion at 1°31' Taurus.

This ingress chart should also foretell other events that year: the continuing Cold War with panic building of fallout shelters in the US, the National Guard being called out to prevent black students enrolling in the Little Rock High School, the Dodgers moving from Brooklyn to LA, and the discovery of the Van Allen radiation belt. Outside the US this was the year the first Sputnik orbited the earth, the Antarctic land mass was first crossed, and Bertrand Russell launched the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.



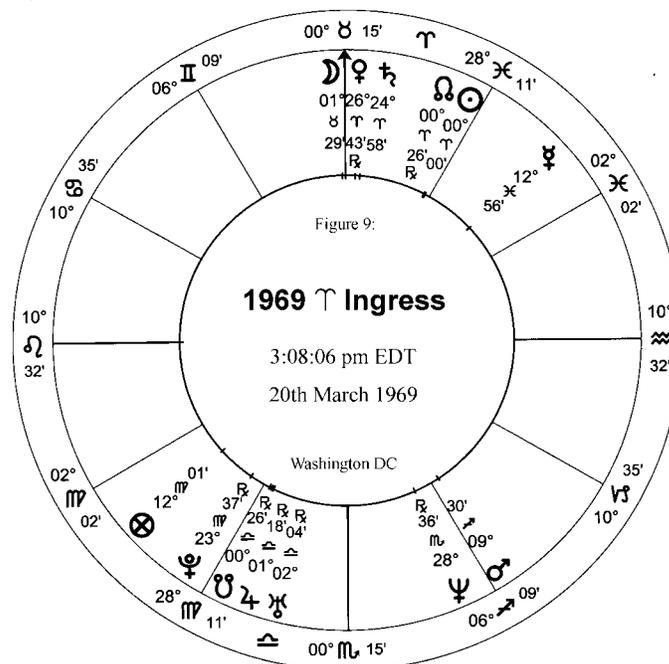
1965 was the year of **Hurricane Betsy**, nicknamed Billion-Dollar Betsy because of the damage it caused. Betsy was just short of Category 5 strength when it made landfall in Louisiana. 76 people were killed, which makes it one of the most deadly hurricanes to hit the US.

Figure 8 illustrates the 1965 Aries Ingress. As in the 1927 ingress, Neptune is at the IC. This time the Moon is applying to conjunct Nep-

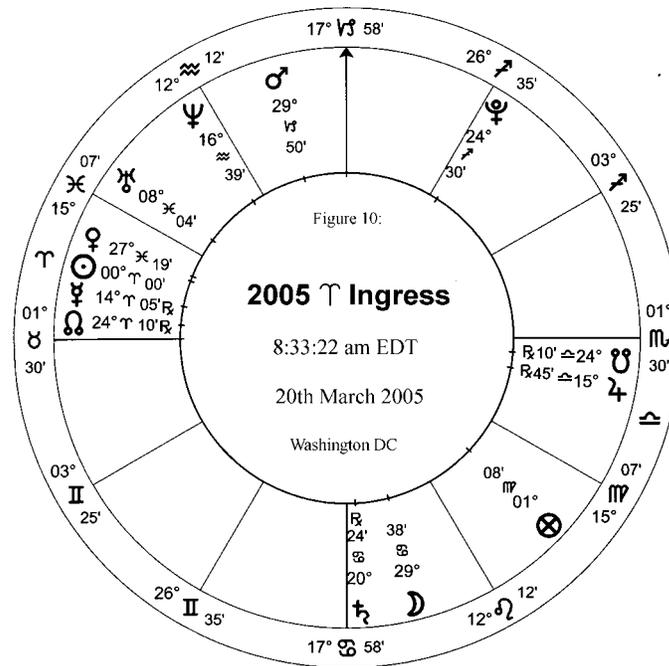
tune. Jupiter squares the Ascendant from the 10<sup>th</sup> house, and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> house the triple conjunction of Mars, Pluto and Uranus is opposed by Saturn. The Moon and Neptune are in Scorpio, the transforming sign of bottom-line reality, of survival and recovery after a disaster. When emphasized in any chart, mundane or natal, Scorpio always points to underlying disquiet.

1965 was the year of the NYC blackout, of Martin Luther King's march on Selma, on LBJ's War on Poverty and his escalation of the war in Viet Nam.

**Hurricane Camille** arrived in 1969, the year US troops began being withdrawn from Viet Nam. The same Aries Ingress (Figure 9) also warns of the death of Eisenhower (MC ruler horrendously afflicted), of the first man to step on the moon (Jupiter conjunct Uranus), of the Woodstock rock concert and all those anti-war rallies (Venus in Aries, with Saturn), of the My Lai massacre and the trial of William Caley, of the Manson murders, and of income tax reform in the US.



The Ingress occurred just two days after a solar eclipse at 27°25' Pisces. The Sun is with the North Node, opposing Jupiter and Uranus. Venus, Saturn and the Moon are at the MC. Mercury squares Mars, which trines the Ascendant. Pluto transiting the US Neptune is a reminder that both Neptune and Pluto appear to be significant in Aries ingresses for years that contain major floods. That apart, transit Neptune does hold a prominent place in this 1969 Aries Ingress for its antiscion at 1°32' Aquarius is closely squared by the Moon from the Midheaven.



Now to **New Orleans**. Figure 10 is the 2005 Aries Ingress cast for Washington DC. We have seen this chart earlier, located to London, at Figure 3. The Moon-Mars opposition, an aspect also present in the 1957 Aries Ingress (Figure 7) to herald Hurricane Audrey, is doubtless the signifier of the London bombings. Hurricane Katrina and the flooding of New Orleans appear to be due to Saturn in Cancer opposing the MC.

Among its many significations Saturn involves structure, engineering, responsibility, order, government and the bureaucracy. It constricts and squeezes things into shape, it moderates and blocks. It works through the threat of failure; it engenders discipline by way of respect and fear. Saturn prompts us to be organized or suffer by not being so.

Saturn is weak in Cancer. It cannot function correctly in this sign, it is disorganized. It is also retrograde, which suggests that the order and discipline it should bring about will fail because of a lack of planning and people taking responsibility.

As Cancer is the sign ruled by the Moon it is connected with the underprivileged, with the needy and the helpless, those on the receiving end, specifically the poor and the ethnic minorities.

Saturn retrograde in Cancer and closely opposing the MC in an Ingress chart indicates that the true plight of the underprivileged will be brought into the public view and this will undermine the nation's confidence in its leaders.

New Orleans is said to have been founded in 1718. It was purchased by Napoleon in 1803 and incorporated as a city on 17<sup>th</sup> February 1805, reportedly at 12:10 p.m.

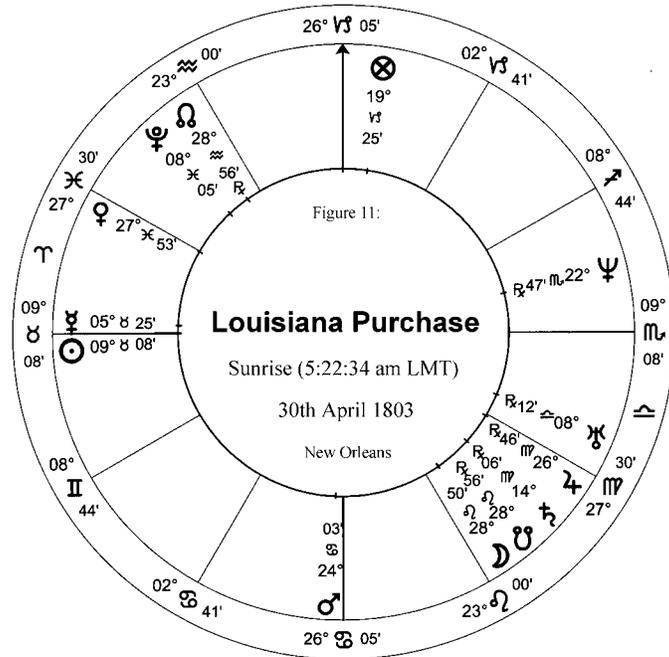


Figure 11 is cast for sunrise at New Orleans on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1803, the day it was bought as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Note the position of Pluto at 8°05' Pisces. Two years later, when the city was incorporated, Pluto had advanced to 8°53' Pisces. In 2005 Uranus arrived in this degree of Pisces.

Hurricane Katrina, a Force 4 killer hurricane, came ashore just east of the city of New Orleans at 6:10 am on the morning of 29<sup>th</sup> August 2005.

“It had begun as a Tropical Depression, yet another swirl of tropical turbulence in the southeastern Bahamas. But then it began to over-achieve. It hit Florida with more power than expected, killing nine people and knocking out electricity for a million more. It crossed over into the Gulf of Mexico, intensifying into one of the strongest storms on record as, by a horrific bit of timing, it churned directly over the “loop current,” a great, deep whorl of tropic-hot seawater that pulses between the Yucatan and Cuba each year and then stays south of Louisiana into late summer. Storms usually weaken as they suck up cool water that lies stratified beneath the warm surface; but in the loop even the depths are hot.”

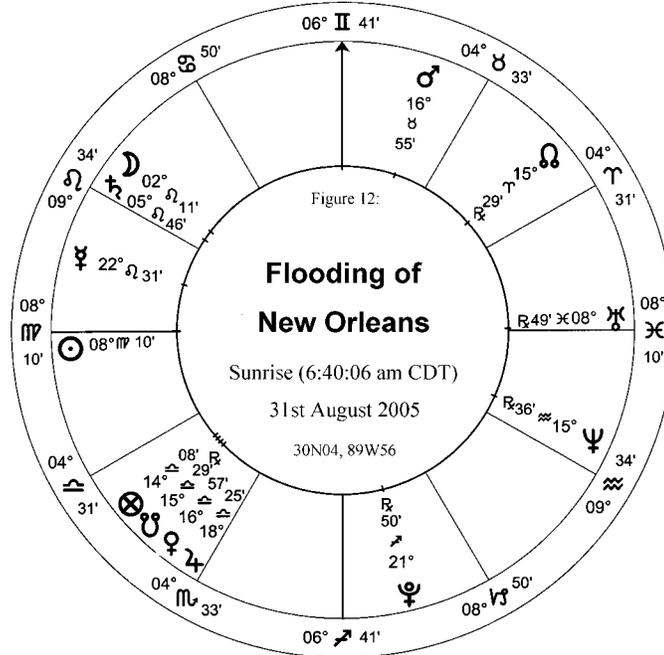


Figure 12 is cast for sunrise on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2005. The hurricane had caused terrible damage but as most of the 1.3-million people in the metropolitan area had evacuated—leaving just those who had no choice but to stay: the 50-thousand households with no car, the poor, the elderly, the undereducated and disabled—there was no great loss of life. Then on 31<sup>st</sup> August, two days after the storm hit the city, the levees were breached and water from Lake Pontchartrain poured into New Orleans. With the flood waters came terror and despair. Thousands lost their homes and all their possessions, many drowned. Television pictures of despairing people combined with an obvious lack of competent aid from Federal and State authorities shocked the world. It was difficult to believe that these were pictures from the richest country in the world, not from somewhere in the impoverished third world.



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The opposition of the Sun to Uranus, with Uranus at the place of the 1805 Pluto, goes a long way to explaining why this disaster occurred at this time. This transit is one that forces change. One can add to this the transiting South Node conjunct the 1805 position of Saturn—the necessity for change is shown by the disintegration of what had been

thought of as permanent structures.

The associated lack of planning and organization, together with the subsequent loss of confidence in the nation's leaders, is shown in the 2005 Aries Ingress by the retrograde Saturn in Cancer opposing the Mid-heaven.

But perhaps these examples are misleading. They give the impression that the meaning inherent in an Aries Ingress is obvious, that these mundane charts are simple to interpret. Sadly, not all floods and other disasters, whether natural or terrorist inspired, are as easily explained as those we have been considering. Were they so, mundane astrologers would be held in much higher esteem than they obviously are.

Let's consider two more natural disasters that baffled me for some time. The first is the only one in which I've had some involvement. This was the 1953 flooding that devastated the Netherlands, bursting 50 dykes and drowning 1,800 people. Another 307 people, including my school's music teacher and the man who had taught me to swim, were killed along England's east coast.

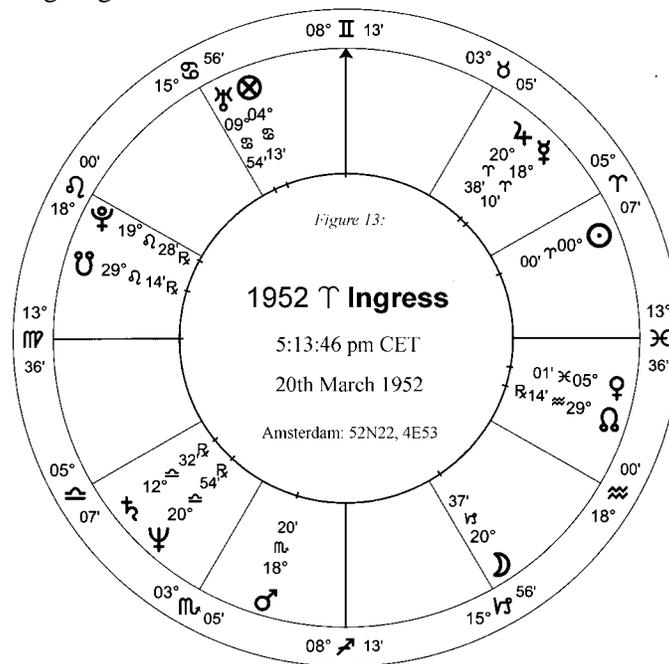


Figure 13 is the relevant Aries Ingress, cast for Amsterdam. No planets are close to angles, and the only obvious aspects to the angles are two weak semi-sextiles: Uranus to the MC, and Saturn to the ASC—no, the rotation of the earth will not make this pair simultaneously angular for when Saturn is at the ASC, Uranus has still  $6\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  to go to get to the MC, which is too wide.

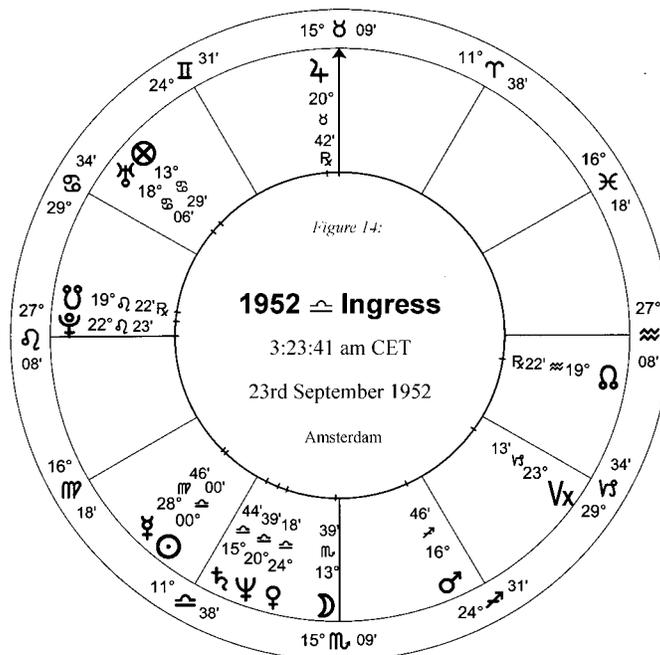
It is a difficult chart nonetheless: the Moon forms a T-square with Jupiter (conjunct Mercury) and Neptune (conjunct Saturn), and the difficult Mars-square-Pluto aspects Mercury, who is in turn with Jupiter, which connects back to the T-square configuration. One's immediate interpretation is that there will be major difficulties somewhere in the world but not in or near the Netherlands. What have we missed?

Uranian planets, the Dark Moon and sundry other planetoids and

mythical objects were added to the ingress chart, all of which have their fervent advocates, but none are close to an angle. What gives?

I thought I had the answer with the antiscions of the Moon and MC. The Moon's antiscion is 9° 23' Sagittarius, where it is conjunct the IC, and the MC's at 21° 47' Cancer is at the empty arm of the Moon-Jupiter-Neptune T-square, converting it into a Cardinal Cross. Impressive, eh? Unfortunately not enough to cut the ice in sodden London for there the MC antiscion is 26° 34' Cancer, much too distant from the necessary 21<sup>st</sup> degree of Cancer.

The 1952 ♀ ingress at Amsterdam had a mutable sign rising. Tradition says that it therefore rules for just six months and that the Libra ingress is needed to cover the remainder of the year. The disaster occurred on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 1953, well within the authority of the Libra ingress, which is shown at Figure 14.



Does this explain what occurred? A retrograde Jupiter is at the MC, a weak Moon is at the IC, and Pluto is within orbs of the Ascendant. For what it's worth Saturn is again 30° from an angle: semisextile to the IC.

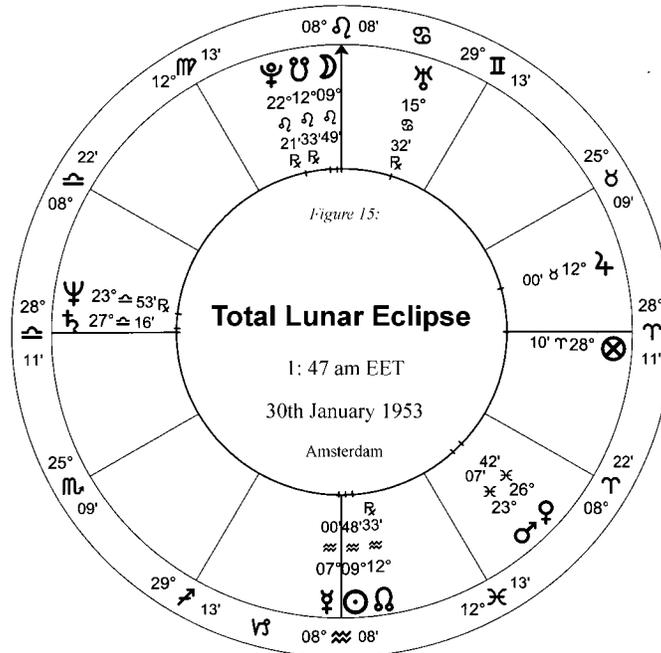
At London the MC is 10° 03' Taurus and the ASC is 23° 15' Leo, which places Pluto somewhat closer to the rising degree.

A Scorpionic Moon at IC was present in the ingress prior to Hurricane Betsy; then it was with Neptune, now it is afflicted by the mundane square from Pluto. An angular Pluto can mean the breaking down of resistance in order to create needed change. Its involvement with the debilitated Moon may point to recovery after a disaster. And at Amsterdam the IC is fairly close to the Mars/Saturn midpoint, but is 1° 06' close

enough?

Unless I'm missing something, this Libra ingress is less difficult than the previous Aries one. Looking at it at the time, I would have thought that any difficulties would now be in the past.

Figure 15 is the total eclipse of the Moon that occurred early in the morning of 30<sup>th</sup> January 1953. At Amsterdam the eclipsed Moon is at the MC, while Saturn and Neptune rise on the eastern horizon. At London the MC is 3° 12' Leo, ASC 24° 58' Libra.

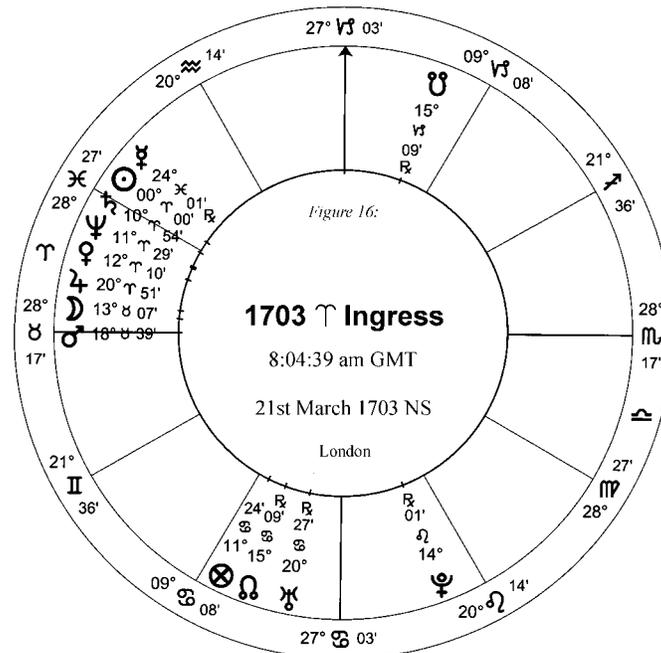


Within hours of the eclipse an unremarkable depression just south of Iceland deepened rapidly and headed east. It arrived in the North Sea at noon the next day. At 1:45 pm the first loss of lives occurred (133 of them) as the Princess Victoria ferry sunk. By 6 pm winds had driven the storm surge southwards, causing devastating floods along Britain's east coast (waves were over eighteen feet high)<sup>6</sup>. The next day the storm swirled around the North Sea basin to devastate the Netherlands. It was the worst peacetime disaster to hit either country. The sea reclaimed 500-thousand acres from the Netherlands; almost 250-thousand acres of eastern England including London were flooded.<sup>7</sup>

The lunar eclipse tells the story that the ingresses, at best, only hint at. The 1953 floods were described as a “once-in-250 year event”—a

<sup>6</sup> The east coast of Britain has always been at risk of coastal flooding, and this has been resisted since the Romans first built earthen banks to protect the coast 2,000 years ago.

<sup>7</sup> Source: [www.bbc.co.uk/weather/festures/understanding/1953\\_storm.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/festures/understanding/1953_storm.shtml)



rather odd phrase! Did something happen 250 years earlier?

In the words of the author of *Robinson Crusoe* and *Moll Flanders*, Daniel Defoe, “No pen could describe it, not tongue express it, not thought conceive it unless by one in the extremity of it.” He was describing what became known as **‘the greatest storm of all.’**

In the last week of November 1703 a very deep depression crossed England, from west to east. Men and animals were flung into the air by winds exceeding 120 mph (it seems to have been a Force 4 Hurricane). In London whole rows of houses were leveled and many churches lost spires and towers.

The next day Defoe saw 700 ships on the Thames “most crushed together” with one boat rammed up and over another. Spray from the sea covered fields like snow, even 17 miles from the sea. Thousands of trees were toppled; the newly constructed Eddystone Lighthouse, built to withstand the greatest winds, disappeared without a trace. Coastal towns such as Portsmouth “looked as if the enemy had sacked them and were most miserably torn to pieces.” The city of Bristol was under nine feet of water.<sup>8</sup>

Overall estimates of the numbers of drowned seamen in ships around the coast ranged from a low of 8,000 to a high of 15,000. In land there were many more deaths. In London Queen Anne took shelter in a cellar under St James Palace as chimneys toppled and part of the palace roof collapsed.

<sup>8</sup> Source: [www.bbc.co.uk/weather/festures/understanding/1703\\_storm.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/festures/understanding/1703_storm.shtml)



Figure 16 is the 1703 Aries ingress at London. Eight planets are in the 12<sup>th</sup> house, squared by Uranus and trined by Neptune. This ingress has a fixed sign rising and thus operates for the full twelve months.

The Great Storm occurred on 26<sup>th</sup> November, according to the old style Julian calendar (7<sup>th</sup> December by the new fangled Gregorian one), the day before the new moon, shown at Figure 17. The key aspect in Figure 17 is the exact trine from the new moon at 15° 56' Sagittarius to Saturn (conjunct Neptune) at 15° 56' Aries (exact, 0' orb)—part of a Grand Trine with Pluto in Leo in the 4<sup>th</sup> house—which is related to the weak Venus (opposing Jupiter, square Pluto) at 15° 12' Scorpio. Mars, the ruler of the signs containing Saturn and Venus, squares the MC from its own sign in the 6<sup>th</sup> house.

Both the Aries ingress and the new moon are difficult charts but neither, as I read them, fully foretells the immensity of this unique storm.

Instead the astrological culprit seems to be the prior total lunar eclipse of 29<sup>th</sup> June 1703, new style (Figure 18), five planets are in the 4<sup>th</sup> house, with Mars and Uranus (squaring Saturn and semisquare the Sun) close to the IC and Jupiter at the Ascendant.

From an examination of Figures 6-10, the ingresses associated with major US floods due mainly to hurricanes, we have come to expect an afflicted IC in the map signifying such disasters. Mars and Uranus at the IC in London at the time of the July 1703 total lunar eclipse is therefore appropriate, especially when Mars conjunct Uranus (an aspect that is frequently connected with 'sudden, unexpected violence') occurs in Cancer, a sign in which Mars can be especially irritable and brutal; when the conjunction squares Saturn in the sign of *its* fall; and when the Moon, the ruler of Cancer, the sign containing the IC, Uranus and Mars, is located in Capricorn, the sign in which she *is* most out of sorts. The Moon's conjunction with its own South Node further adds to the problems this chart foresees. And then there's that close Neptune trine to Pluto, with Pluto closely conjunct the Ascendant-ruler Venus. More than enough.

It had appeared from examining the ingress charts associated with several major US floods that ingresses contained sufficient information for the mundane astrologer to predict whether a natural disaster would occur within the ensuing year. This is not confirmed by the natural disasters of 1953 and 1703. In both of these North Sea disasters the information contained in the charts of prior total lunar eclipses is seen to be essential for their prediction.

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