

OPERATION:
STRAW DINOSAUR

Mission Briefing

Warning

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Overview

Intelligence obtained from **WEATHER CHANNELERS** indicates that something of significance is due to occur in the city of Boston within the next two weeks. Details are few, but analysis by **SMART PATROL** makes it likely that a neo-pagan religious group known as The Flock is involved.

Objectives

TEAM BANSHEE is ordered to proceed to Boston. Priorities are:

1. Assess The Flock for threat/recruitment potential.
2. Monitor the situation for paranormal events.
3. Act to secure TNI interests.
4. Maintain secrecy of TNI.

Raw Data

Below is the transcript of the report from **WEATHER CHANNELERS**.

“There’s tea. It’s falling into the ocean. Lots of tea and Indians.¹ And an airplane. It’s old, and it’s a long way from home. Falling. Falling right up into the sky.² Now, there’s people dancing. They have bird wings, and they’re dancing all in a herd³, around and around, and a needle’s spinning around and around with them.⁴ They’re looking up into the sky, where the airplane went, and a big bird of fire⁵ comes swooping down, and they people all turn into real birds, but made of gold and silver, and they start flying away.⁶”

Analysis located the neo-pagan religious group The Flock in Boston.

¹ Probable reference to the city of Boston.

² Possible reference to Amelia Earhart **[REDACTED]** as the Flying Woman.

³ Or flock.

⁴ Spinning needle. Compass?

⁵ Obvious phoenix symbol. Not sure what that means. Rebirth is standard.

⁶ No clue on what this means, beyond obvious references to transformation. Tied to the phoenix image?

Background

The Flock

The Flock was founded in 2011 by Sid Anderson. It began as a loose-knit circle of friends with a common interest in neo-paganism and the politics of organized religion. After some initial meetings, Anderson formalized the group into a sect, and took an activist role.

The goal of The Flock seems to be promoting mainstream acceptance of fringe religious views and practices. Now numbering 53 active members, the Flock mixes politics and religion in a heady but sincere brew. Their pagan-activist newsletter, *Soar*, goes to 1500 subscribers in the region, and they have meaningfully endorsed a number of local political candidates in city elections.

Last summer's *Soar Festival* at the Boston Commons had 5000 attendees. The festival featured a mix of music, rituals⁷, panels, and speeches.

Members of The Flock take active roles in other volunteer organizations, mostly on the liberal-environmental axis of local politics.

The headquarters of The Flock is at Circle's Edge Bookstore, 1224 Pine Street, phone 555-2463.

Sid Anderson

Sid Anderson is 58 years old and unmarried. His main source of income is running The Flock and Circle's Edge Bookstore.

Background suggests that Anderson is sincere in his commitment to bringing new age religion into the acceptable norm of modern life. He has spoken quite passionately on this subject on a number of local news programs, and garnered a few minutes of national coverage during the *Soar Festival*.



⁷ None produced any magickal effects that we could detect.