
From: Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2009 6:10 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd:

----- Forwarded message -----<=r>From: Valentino Braitenberg [REDACTED]

~~<mailto:valentino.braitenberg@tuebingen.mpg.de>~~ >

Date: Wed, Aug 12, 2009 at 11:49 AM

Subject: Re:

To: Jeffrey Epstein =lt;jeevacation@gmail.com <mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com> ><=r>

There was a time when anatomy was cons=dered a harmless pastime for shaky old grandfathers, while the young and beautiful =tuck electrodes in living brains and clapped their hands everytime a spike appea=ed on the face of their oscilloscopes. It was at that time that I started my=20 research and picked neuroanatomy as my main tool, for two reasons: (a) because I did not have the money to buy an oscilloscope and (b) because I=20 was fascinated by the idea of networks being able to do almost anything, as=the emerging science of electronic computers seemed to suggest. The new look at=20 brains in terms of information handling networks proved successful in various ways. I am proud of the following:

(1) a very convincing interpretation of the structure of the cerebellum as a time-measuring device with an accuracy of one millisecond or better; (2) an=20 accurate description of a fiber network between the eye and the brain of insects, where each individual fiber is given origin and destination accord=ng to a precise scheme derived from geometrical optics; (3) a model of the=20 visual cortex of mammals in complete agreement with the known facts of cortical anatomy and sufficient to explain all the miraculous effects disco=ered by Hubel and Wiesel, but not explained by them. Besides these results (1), (2), (3) wh=ch were original (and in part even shocking) because of the unusual direct translation of anatomical information into functional schemes, we al=o did some more conventional neuroanatomy, mainly on the cortex (4), with an=20 emphasis on quantitative relations between number and size of elements, as = necessary contribution to general theories of cortical function (such as He=b's Cell Assemblies or Moshe Abeles' Synfire Chains).

All told, if you want to know "th= most promising part of our work", I think it is a rather relaxed way of theory making= unencumbered by mathematical gymnastics and philosophical vanity.

Thank you for you interest

Valentino

----- Original Message -----

From: Jeffrey Epstein <mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com>

To: Valentino Braitenberg [REDACTED] >

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2009 4:46=20 PM

marvin said you had spoken.. ., what do you see as the mos= promising part of your work?

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