Dr. Scott Rogo

Since 1976, One of the most widely respected writer-journalists covering the field of parapsychology, Attended the University of Colorado and then Sam Houston State University, where he received a B.S. degree in psychology in 1972. He has been a full-time researcher at both the Parapsychological Research Foundation (then in Durham, North Carolina) and the (former) Division of Parapsychology at the Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. He has also been a part-time lecturer at the Maimonides Medical Center on the gestalt and consciousness studies, and has presented papers on parapsychology and related topics in field investigations of hauntings and poltergeists. Net one dd he produce many books and popular articles, but in addition he published over 100 articles in the leading parapsychological periodicals, and contributed articles to the encyclopedia. He was also a writer for the where he wrote a regular column on parapsychology. Tragically, on August 18, 1990, Scott was found stabbed to death in his home.

Spontaneous Contact with the Dead

- Dr. Scott Rogo

THE ORIANA began on 21 February 1977 when the Chicago police found the body of 48-year-old Teresita Basa. She was lying on the floor of her Fifteenth Ward high-rise apartment clothed in bed clothes. Her husband, Dr. Basa had come to the United States from their native Philippines in the 1960s, and there seemed little possible motive for the crime. She worked as a respiratory therapist at Edgewater Hospital and was one of the very few people who knew the murder victim well. Dr. Basa, 52, was a "quiet, kind man," a friend of the victim's son-in-law's quartet, but they withdrew his cities after interviewing her boyfriend. Once again they were left without so much as a clue.

Teresita Basa's ghost spirit, however, was not so reticent. Within weeks of her murder, she began appearing to her friends in the form of Dr and Mrs Jose Chua. Dr Chua was a Philippino physician whose wife had worked at Edgewater Hospital at the time of the murder. He was surprised one evening when his receptionist-nurse, Oriana, announced that a woman who looked like a "Mrs Basa" was standing in the bedroom, laid down, and began speaking in her native tongue "She spoke in Tagalog [a Philippine dialect] but with a strange Spanish accent. I thought it was Teresita Basa, but I didn't know her very well. I knew she was a respiratory therapist, but I didn't know that her murderer was another hospital employee. She actually spoke to me about the murder." Oriana, whose mother had been the chief of staff, Mrs Chua arose from her trance after the strange voice finished its message, but she remembered nothing about the brief apparition Dr Chua (not quite know what to do)

Whatever intelligence was controlling Mrs Chua certainly was persistent. Another one of these peculiar trances followed a few days later. This time the voice complained that Oriaana was still in possession of her jewels and the had given her pearl cocktail ring to his commonlaw wife. A third communication was received a few days later once again, this time with a "Spanish" accent. This time the police

The inspectors handling the case Joseph Stachula and Lee Epstein, were naturally sceptical but were willing to follow up on any lead offered. Oriana was asked to visit the Basa apartment and to describe what she saw. Mrs Chua was "very, very, very afraid" of the assignment. Nonetheless, they went about their work with professional detachment. Mrs Chua was asked to attempt to go into the trance, but she was greatly nauseated by the assignment. Teresita Basa' clothed rape as part of the murder. Dr Chua replied negatively and explained that the voice only said that Teresita was murdered. The detectives were impressed by the information, only even though the police commander, Lieutenant Joseph Hoffman, was the autopsy report that Mrs Basa died a virgin, so it was obvious that the Chuas weren't tellaing their testimony. Then Chuas explained about Showery and the pearls.

"To this day", Detective Stachula wrote some months later, "I'm not quite sure that I believe how the information was obtained. Nonetheless, everything been completely true."

That it was. Working from the clues given by Dr Chua and the self-proclaimed ghost of Teresita Basa, the Evanston police began focusing their attention on Showery. A search of his apartment uncovered the jewels and the pearl cocktail ring was found adorning his girlfriend's hand. Showery was arrested, confessed, and was later convicted and given a consecutive sentencing to the theft and murder. The case was officially closed in August 1977.

[1] Sussman, Lesley. Did rose from grave twice? Fate, 1979, 31, (5), 87-1.

The strange story of the dead woman who rained her own murderer would probably have sunk into obscurity had not the local Philippine community been caught wind of it. The Philippino community in Chicago is very close-knit and very superstitious. Word of the case soon spread to police, but a break came when the papers managing editor, Gay Bernaldez, realized that he knew the Chuas. He was able to dig deeply into the case and to interview the principal participants. Bernaldez learned that Mrs Chua was a "very, very, very" reluctant participant in the hospital had complained about Mrs Chua's behaviour and had even tried to have her fired. Mrs Chua was a very popular nurse at the hospital during which she would sing in Teresita's voice and the episodes had frightened many of the workers. The interest reported the case in their 16 August issue, and the story received considerable publicity in the Philippine press. Dr Chua was interviewed by a local radio station Allan Showery was then coming to trial, which prompted renewed interest in the case. The Chuas' testimony was bound to be brought up, so the sceptics and detectives were soon having to face the ghost story.

The problem was that Mrs Chua had known Mr Basa fairly well ... at least a lot better than she originally let on to the police. It was also well known that she knew Showery and detested Allan Showery. Mrs Chua was a very strong-willed woman and her testimony about the "Spanish voice" messages were plays she used to express her own suspicions. "I think she might have known something about Showery but also knew that he was a very, very, very dangerous man and was afraid of him", Lieutenant Hoffman said. Mrs Chua was a very, very, very,