CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

DATE: 17 JUNE 2046

PROJECT KOAN — MISSION OVERVIEW

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Koan was authorised in 1996 as a long-duration extra-solar exploration mission intended to identify and characterise non-terrestrial intelligence. After fifty years in transit, the Crown vessel KOAN reached the Thea system in May 2046. The present file has been prepared as an unclassified release copy for restricted administrative circulation.

[redacted]

2. MISSION PROFILE

VESSEL NAME	**KOAN**
CLASS	**Long-Range Deep Space Explorer**
LAUNCH DATE	**03 November 1996**
TRANSIT DURATION	**49 years, 6 months, 9 days**
ARRIVAL WINDOW	**12 May 2046**
DESTINATION	**Thea System**
COMMAND AUTHORITY	**Crown Scientific Command**

3. VESSEL OVERVIEW

OVERALL LENGTH	**1,182 metres**
PRIMARY DRIVE	**QASIM-2 Fusion Assembly**
POWER GENERATION	**Helion Reactors (x4)**
HOME AGENCY	**CIS Science & Technology Division**
CREW COMPLEMENT	**[REDACTED]**

RELEASE NOTE

Certain operational details remain withheld under Crown administrative authority. All references are to the 2046 review copy.

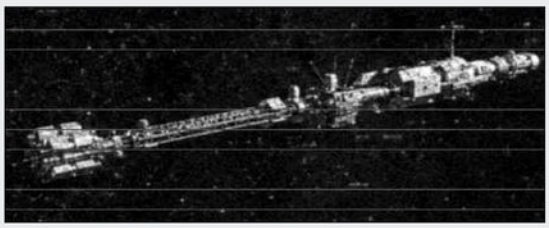


IMAGE A: KOAN IN TRANSIT BEYOND JUPITER — CROWN SENSOR ARRAY

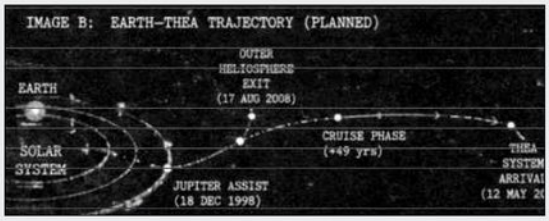


IMAGE B: EARTH–THEA TRAJECTORY — PLANNING EXTRACT



IMAGE C: PROPULSION AND COMMUNICATIONS MODULE — PORT VIEW

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THEA SYSTEM — APPROACH & PLANETARY ANALYSIS

1. EXECUTIVE FINDINGS

Thea is a complex planetary body with persistent atmospheric activity and an extensive satellite field. Preliminary scans indicate anomalous subsurface structures and multiple high-energy signatures. The Crown survey team has authorised continued observation.

2. ARRIVAL WINDOW

INSERTION WINDOW	**12–26 May 2046**
TRANSFER TIME	**49 years, 6 months**
SURVEY ORBIT	**Outer hemispheric pass**
MAGNETIC INTERFERENCE	**Moderate**

3. SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

PRIMARY COMPOSITION	**Mixed oceanic-atmospheric body**
TRACE SIGNATURES	**Chlorophyll-like absorbers**
ANOMALIES DETECTED	**Persistent energy lattice**
CONFIDENCE LEVEL	**HIGH**

4. RESTRICTED ASSESSMENT

Thea presents significant scientific value and a probable non-conventional intelligence substrate. Additional analysis is authorised. Planetary approach may proceed under mission parameters.

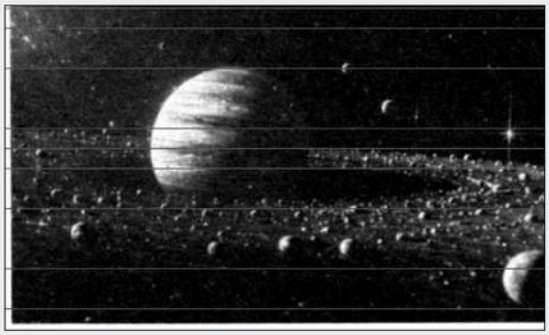


IMAGE A: THEA SYSTEM OVERVIEW — RAW CROWN SENSOR IMAGE

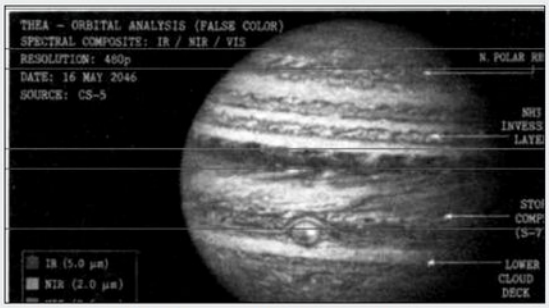


IMAGE B: ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION — FALSE-COLOUR PLATE

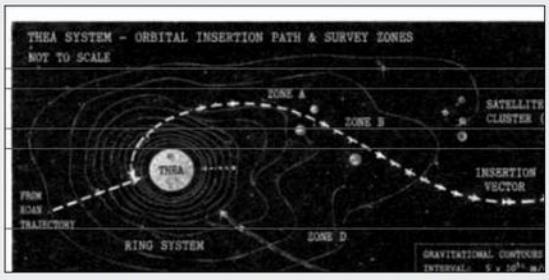


IMAGE C: ORBITAL INSERTION PATH AND SURVEY ZONES

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THEA SURFACE RECONNAISSANCE — SITE DOSSIER

1. SURFACE CONDITIONS

Thea exhibits a low-reflectance shoreline environment with shallow mineral-rich basins, persistent seepage, fractured rock plains, and dense moisture-retaining biological mats. The surface remains visually unstable under changing light conditions.

2. BIOLOGICAL INDICATORS

Extensive mat-like growths were observed in moisture-rich areas. Samples display filamentous morphology, gas-entrapment cavities, and chlorophyll-analog absorption. No mobile macrofauna were identified.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

- Low-pressure atmosphere with corrosive trace compounds.
- Surface temperature variation from −78 °C to +6 °C.
- Acidic brines detected in basin seepage.
- Electrical anomalies during orbital dusk.

4. EVIDENCE HANDLING

- Maintain cold-chain storage below −20 °C.
- Avoid exposure to oxidising conditions.
- All biological samples require sealed inert containers.



IMAGE A: SITE 7B SOUTHERN SHORELINE — PROBE STILL

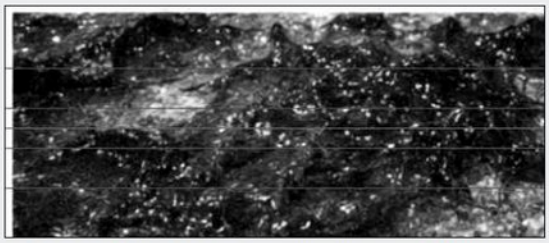


IMAGE B: SAMPLE MAT 7B-4A — LOW-QUALITY FIELD IMAGE

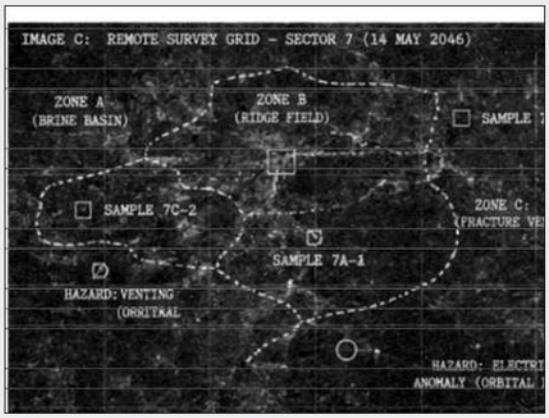


IMAGE C: REMOTE SURVEY GRID — SECTOR 7

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SPECIMEN K-0A7 — CONTAINMENT & ENTITY BRIEF

1. SPECIMEN RECOVERY

SOURCE	**Thea System**
RECOVERY DATE	**13 May 2046**
RECOVERY ASSET	**CIS Probe T-9**
RECOVERY METHOD	**Sterile magnetic coring**
LOCATION FOUND	**Subsurface filament mat**

2. CONTAINMENT STATUS

CONTAINMENT LEVEL	**KAPPA**
CHAMBER TYPE	**Triple-seal cryo-fluid column**
MEDIUM	**Thea-Iso18 ionic suspension**
CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY	**NOMINAL**
DURATION IN CONTAINMENT	**35 days**

3. MORPHOLOGICAL NOTES

The specimen appears filamentous, semi-translucent, and algal-like. It demonstrates directed growth toward signal sources, rapid branching, and pulsed bioluminescent response.

4. NEURO-PERCEPTUAL INFLUENCE

Controlled tests indicate perceptual distortion, memory instability, temporal disassociation, and adaptive visual overlay. The full extent of the effect remains unknown.

5. HANDLING RESTRICTIONS

- No direct contact.
- Maintain active field dampening.
- Limit exposure to authorised personnel.
- Extended observation requires cognitive shielding.

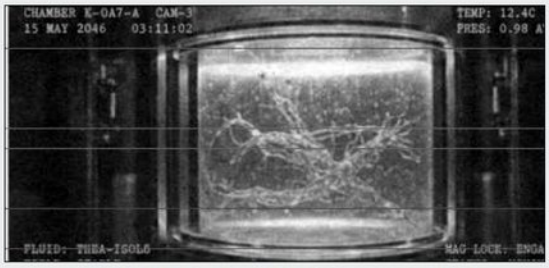


IMAGE A: SPECIMEN K-0A7 IN PRIMARY CONTAINMENT

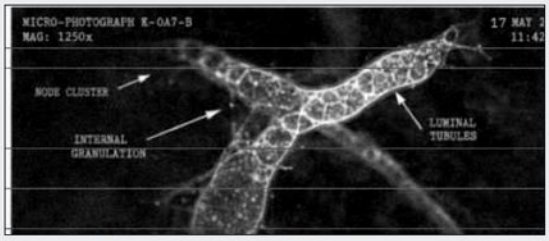


IMAGE B: MICROSCOPIC FILAMENT SEGMENT

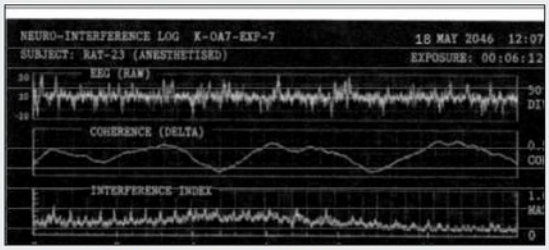


IMAGE C: NEURAL INTERFERENCE PATTERN — CONTROLLED TEST

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CONTACT CHANNEL — OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

1. OPERATIONAL IMPORTANCE

The Contact Channel provides the only verified interface with the Thea system. Intelligence value remains exceptional and non-reproducible. Loss or degradation of the channel will result in permanent strategic failure.

2. INTERVIEW PROTOCOL RISK

Channel stability depends upon procedural discipline. Deviation from the authorised protocol increases the probability of perception backlash, identity instability, and cognitive bleed.

- Query sequencing must follow approved progression.
- Exposure windows must remain controlled.
- All interview records are to be preserved.
- Termination authority remains with Crown command.

3. CONTINUITY CLAUSE

Operations shall continue until countermanded by Crown Scientific Command. Additional interview candidates remain under review. The current Candidate has priority of sequence, not exclusivity.

4. FINAL ASSESSMENT

Maintain containment. Preserve the channel. Proceed with the first authorised interview under controlled conditions.



IMAGE A: CONTACT CHAMBER PREPARED FOR FIRST COMMUNICATION

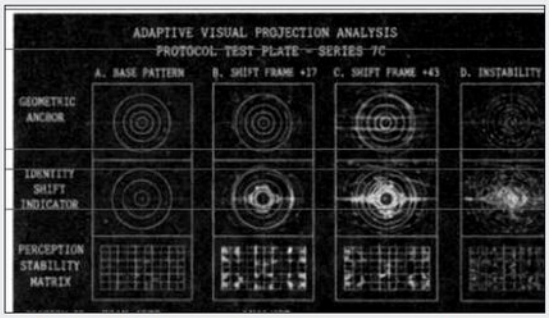


IMAGE B: ADAPTIVE PROJECTION ANALYSIS — RELEASED PLATE

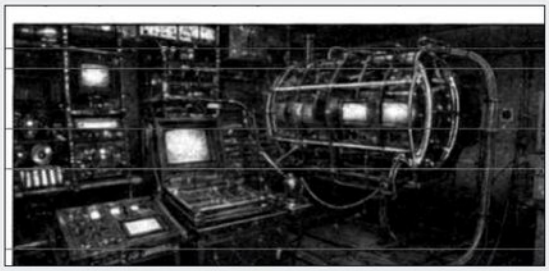


IMAGE C: SECURE COMMUNICATIONS AND CONTAINMENT APPARATUS

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CREATOR CONTACT — FAILURE ANALYSIS & INTERVIEW OFFER

1. FAILED COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

Between 16 May and 02 June 2046, thirty-seven formal attempts were made to establish direct communication with the Entity subsequently designated THE CREATOR. Spoken language, mathematics, radio carrier patterns, optical signals, written propositions, and controlled gesture produced no conventional reply. The Entity appeared to perceive each test and rejected every offered channel.

2. ACOUSTIC / VESTIBULAR RESPONSE

During Contact Trial 19, an accidental impulse from the chamber transducer caused immediate disorientation, involuntary eye deviation, loss of balance, and severe distress in the Entity. The reaction was reproducible at lower amplitudes. Medical staff described the effect as Tullio-like: sound provoking a vestibular response. The mechanism remains unknown and may not correspond to human pathology.

- Sudden metallic impacts prohibited.
- Chamber sound pressure to remain controlled.
- Acoustic exposure is not authorised as coercion.

3. THE “EXHAUSTED CREATOR” HYPOTHESIS

The dominant working theory among scientific staff held that creation itself exhausted the Entity’s causal power: that the act which produced the universe also stripped its maker of the ability to alter it afterward. The theory became popular because it explained both apparent omniscience and apparent helplessness. No evidence has confirmed it. The Entity has neither endorsed nor denied the theory.

4. THE FIFTEEN-MINUTE EVENT

The breakthrough did not occur during a planned contact trial. Across a forty-three hour period, twelve unrelated instruments reset to 15:00; sealed question sheets were found reordered; a second chair repeatedly appeared outside the chamber despite continuous guard; and all active clocks stopped simultaneously for exactly fifteen minutes. The pattern ceased only when the room contained one table, two chairs, one interviewer file, and no scientific staff.

5. INTERPRETATION / OFFER

The Division concluded that the previous failures were not evidence of an inability to communicate. The Entity had rejected the method. The recurring pattern was interpreted as an agreement to a single direct interview:

ONE HUMAN.
FIFTEEN MINUTES.

THE CREATOR WILL ANSWER EVERYTHING THAT HUMAN ASKS.

No guarantee of intervention, proof, or repetition. Candidate selection remains under Crown authority.

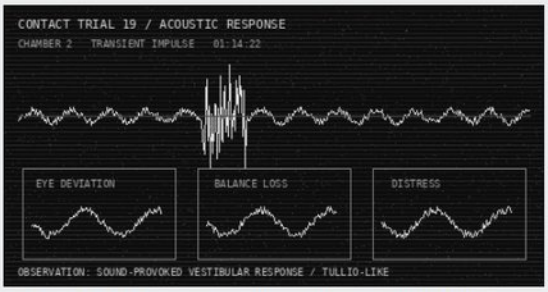


IMAGE A: CONTACT TRIAL 19 — SOUND-PROVOKED RESPONSE

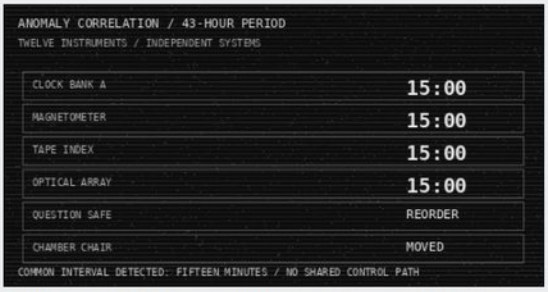


IMAGE B: CORRELATED ANOMALIES PRECEDING THE OFFER

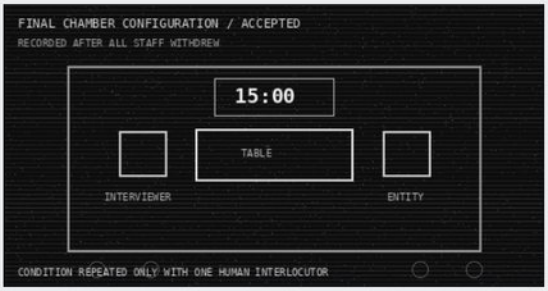


IMAGE C: FINAL CHAMBER STATE — ONE HUMAN INTERLOCUTOR

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