

THE WAR OF DOUBLES

Three categories. Rival programmes. A struggle for borrowed identities.



1 1979: THE STORY CHANGES

In May 1979, Beter's Audio Letter 46 introduces organic robotoids as a secret intelligence weapon. In June, AL47 expands the proposed technical explanation; October's AL51 introduces a rival technology.



2 READING THE DOSSIER

This comic follows Beter's account. Laboratory scenes are artistic reconstructions, not recovered photographs or engineering plans. His terms describe alleged technologies, not established scientific categories.



3 01 / HUMAN DOUBLE

A human substitute remains a person. In Beter's account, a lookalike assumes another person's public role, supported by preparation and handlers. This category must remain separate from his artificial-life claims.



4 02 / ORGANIC ROBOTOID

Beter assigns this programme to the Russian side. Its product allegedly reproduces an adult's appearance and behaviour through a manufactured biological body and a programmable brain. It is not a metal robot.



5 03 / SYNTHETIC AUTOMATON

In AL51, Beter describes a different biological imitation developed by the faction in America he calls Bolshevik. 'American synthetics' is convenient shorthand; his story concerns rival clandestine factions.



6 THE PRIZE: AUTHORITY

In this narrative, a convincing substitute inherits access, recognition and the power to issue orders. Beter's central theme is therefore control of institutions through the identity of the person at their head.

THE ORGANIC ROBOTOID

The body: origin, manufacture and operational limits in Beter's account.



1 AN ALLEGED BREAKTHROUGH

AL46 places a successful Russian laboratory robotoid no later than early 1975. Beter portrays the breakthrough as partly accidental and says the American effort was still far behind in 1979.



2 THE BIOLOGICAL PATTERN

According to AL46, a few cells supply a genetic pattern for the copied person's appearance. Beter explicitly distinguishes his process from ordinary cloning. The transcript does not provide a reproducible manufacturing procedure.



3 ADULT FORM IN HOURS

Beter claims the body can be produced within hours, already resembling the donor at their current age. His robotoids do not grow into adulthood or reproduce; each must be manufactured separately.



4 A LIVING IMITATION

In his description, robotoids breathe, eat, drink and bleed. Routine medical checks supposedly resemble human results. Their purpose is a credible human performance, not superhuman strength or mechanical invulnerability.



5 THE COST OF INSTABILITY

AL46 gives an alleged service life of weeks or months. Inefficient metabolism leads to physical and mental deterioration. Cooling between assignments supposedly slows the process; these are Beter's claims, not validated specifications.



6 WHY REPLACEMENTS RECUR

Short life and imperfect copying explain repeated substitutions within Beter's narrative. He points to small changes in appearance or behaviour. Such changes alone, however, cannot establish that a real person was replaced.

THE HOLOGRAPHIC BRAIN

Where documented optics meets Beter's proposed mechanism for copying memory.



1 THE REAL SCIENTIFIC BACKDROP

Holography is real. Dennis Gabor received the 1971 Nobel Prize in Physics for the holographic method. Beter invokes this history as a starting point for his explanation of robotoid brains.



2 AN ANALOGY BECOMES A CLAIM

AL47 compares distributed memory with a hologram and mentions neuroscientist Karl Pribram. Beter then attributes the decisive secret application to research in Novosibirsk. The analogy itself does not demonstrate such an application.



3 THE ALLEGED SCAN

Beter calls the proposed capture an ultrasonic cerebral hologram: high-frequency sound supposedly records the brain's three-dimensional structure without injury, potentially without the subject knowing. This is his description, not an established memory-reading method.



4 TWO DIFFERENT INPUTS

In AL47, the genetic sample supplies the bodily pattern while the brain record supposedly supplies memories and knowledge. Keeping those inputs separate is essential: even Beter does not describe DNA alone as a memory archive.



5 FAMILIARITY WITHOUT BRIEFING

A copied memory would, he argues, let a robotoid recognize an old friend and reproduce involuntary mannerisms. Its handlers would supply assignments while the borrowed memories provide the details of a convincing performance.



6 THE MISSING DEMONSTRATION

A real hologram and a copied human mind are different claims. The cited Nobel record supports the history of optics; it does not verify Beter's brain-scanning, memory-transfer or programmable-double mechanism.

THE SYNTHETIC COUNTERMOVE

October 1979: a competing biological technology enters the narrative.



1 A SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT

AL51 presents synthetics as a response to the Russian advantage. Beter says their makers had not mastered the robotoid process; they arrived at a similar outward result through a different biological route.



2 A DIFFERENT STARTING MATERIAL

Beter contrasts a robotoid process related to recombinant-DNA work with a synthetic process starting from cattle tissues. Both allegedly use a human genetic sample. These descriptions are claims, not practical laboratory protocols.



3 THE DUCK-EXPERIMENT STORY

AL51 traces the idea to an alleged 1959 French duck experiment, retold in Gordon Rattray Taylor's *The Biological Time Bomb*. Here this is recorded as Beter's cited origin story, not independently verified support.



4 APPEARANCE VERSUS PERFORMANCE

He describes synthetics as close visual imitations but mentally inferior to robotoids. AL53 repeats this contrast. The two categories therefore should not be depicted as identical machines with interchangeable capabilities.



5 9 OCTOBER: THE CARTER CASE

According to AL51, the figure expected to be Carter robotoid No. 18 gave an unexpectedly hostile response at a press conference. Beter claims an examination then identified that figure as a synthetic substitute.



6 A COPY OF A COPY

Crucially, AL51 says the synthetic used genetic material from robotoid No. 18. His story thus contains both that robotoid and its synthetic replacement. A simple list ending 'No. 18 = synthetic' loses this distinction.

IDENTITIES IN THE FIELD

Selected cases from the Audio Letters - attributed allegations, not verified replacements.



1 THE POLITICAL PURPOSE

Beter's alleged deployment reaches the White House, diplomacy and the cabinet. He interprets policy shifts as signs of a hidden contest over officeholders. This is the organising claim behind his individual replacement stories.



2 JIMMY CARTER / AL46, AL51

Carter becomes the recurring numbered case. AL51 mentions robotoid No. 17 and then the No. 18 substitution. These numbers belong to Beter's narrative; they are not a verified inventory of manufactured bodies.



3 CYRUS VANCE / AL46

Beter describes the Secretary of State as replaced and links diplomatic behaviour to Russian control. His account also names other officials. A list of names in a transcript establishes what was alleged, not what occurred.



4 GEORGE S. BROWN / AL46

Brown illustrates why categories matter: Beter alleges a failed American robotoid attempt followed by use of a human double. Combining both into a single 'successful robotoid' entry would misrepresent his story.



5 THE SHAH / AL53

Beter calls the Shah seen in David Frost's televised interview a synthetic. He treats hesitations and apparent memory trouble as clues. An interview performance alone cannot establish the existence of an artificial replacement.



6 SALT II: TWO EVIDENCE LEVELS

The official treaty records Carter and Brezhnev signing SALT II in Vienna on 18 June 1979. Beter gives this diplomacy a doubles-based explanation. The documented signing does not verify that hidden mechanism.

COMPARISON & EVIDENCE

Keep the categories clear. Follow the source. Test each additional claim.



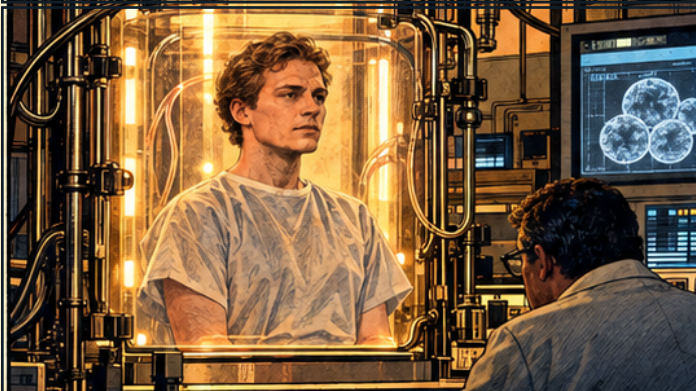
1 HUMAN DOUBLE

Beter's category: an existing human trained to impersonate another. Distinguishing feature: no manufactured biological body is required. Whether any particular named substitution occurred still requires independent evidence.



2 ORGANIC ROBOTOID

Beter's category: Russian artificial biological replica, allegedly made rapidly, with a holographic memory pattern and limited service life. Genetic appearance and captured memory are separate parts of his proposed system.



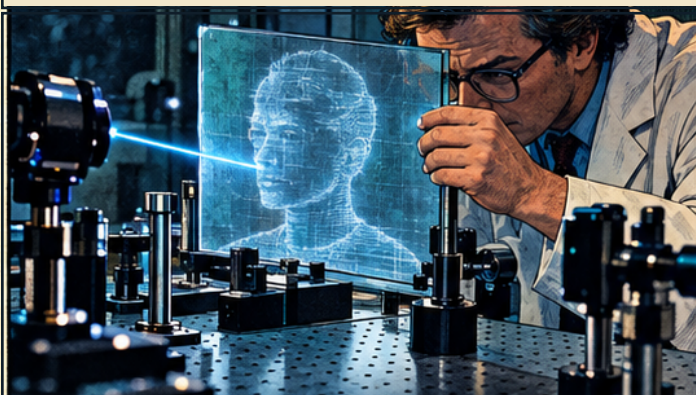
3 SYNTHETIC AUTOMATON

Beter's category: a rival biological replica associated with a faction operating in America. He describes cattle-derived starting tissues, close visual copying and poorer mental performance. Missing specifications should not be filled in as facts.



4 WHAT CLONING ESTABLISHES

NHGRI describes cloning as producing genetically identical copies of biological material. It also notes that clones need not look identical. This documented science does not establish Beter's rapid adult duplication or memory-transfer claims.



5 WHAT HOLOGRAPHY ESTABLISHES

The Nobel archive documents Gabor's achievement in holography. It does not document a manufactured political double. A genuine scientific discovery can be background to a story without verifying the story's extraordinary extension.



6 THE OPEN FILE

The Audio Letters establish Beter's published account. The external sources cited here establish narrower scientific or historical facts. None independently demonstrates the alleged replacement programmes. The next step is traceable evidence, case by case.