

GELLER Uri

1974

While watching famed psychic Uri Geller perform on TV, Mrs. Barbara Scheid and her family stared in amazement as the silverware in her home suddenly curled, bent backward and snapped.

"If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes I wouldn't have believed it," said Police Inspector Horst Kessler who, along with his partner, was called to the Scheid house in Karlstadt, West Germany, to witness the astounding phenomenon. And it hasn't stopped.

"The first night, when Uri Geller was bending things on TV, was bad enough," said Mrs. Scheid. "Fifty-three of my silver heirloom knives, forks, spoons and other pieces bent out of shape before our very eyes. Nothing happened for three months and then it started again," she said, holding up four new but grotesquely-bent spoons. "I'm going out of my mind."

The bizarre case of the twisting silverware began early this year shortly after the 56-year-old widow, her daughter and two grandchildren had turned on the TV set to watch Geller — the amazing Israeli psychic who has astounded scientists with his powers to bend objects with his mind.

"The first thing we noticed was that my old grandfather clock had stopped," recalled Mrs. Scheid. "It's more than 200 years old and it had never stopped before. It always kept perfect time but it's never worked right since that night."

53 Pieces of Family's Silverware Curl as They Watch Uri Geller on TV

"National Enquirer"

1974 Dec. 17.

GILLER 111

"A few minutes later I heard a strange metallic ping coming from the buffet. I opened the cutlery drawer and cried out in horror. I saw my solid silver cake server snap in half. I called my family to look and the knives, forks and spoons suddenly came to life. They wriggled like eels, twisting into all kinds of weird shapes. Every so often one bent too far and broke."

Her daughter, Elfreda Schmitt, called police. Inspector Kessler and Sgt. Hammer came to investigate. Recalled the inspector: "We thought it was a nut case at first. But when we saw 12 pieces of cutlery bend and snap before our eyes, we didn't think it was a joke.

"Each piece took about two or three seconds to bend or break. We couldn't believe what we were seeing. We stood in the living room watching a perfectly normal-looking fork start to wriggle. And a couple of seconds later it was bent right out of shape."

When he heard the silverware moving in the buffet drawers, Kessler ordered Sgt. Hammer to stand between the buffet and the stunned family. "Then I felt the air with my hands to see if there were any wires or anything. Later, we took out the two drawers and examined them. We found nothing wrong."

The inspector was so flabbergasted that he ordered Sgt. Hammer: "Go down the street and bring in two or three more people. I want some independent witnesses. This is one report no one is going to believe."

When several neighbors were brought in, Kessler recalled, "we all watched this incred-





ASTOUNDING PHENOMENON: Mrs. Barbara Scheid with some of the silverware that suddenly bent and curled in her home while psychic Uri Geller was performing on TV.

ible thing going on. Finally, we just had to accept it was really happening."

West Germany's top expert on paranormal phenomena, Dr. Hans Bender, head of Freiburg University's Institute of Parapsychology, is studying the case. He said: "I've talked at length with Mrs. Scheid. Several pieces of her bent and broken cutlery have been subjected to rigid laboratory tests.

"After Uri Geller appeared on TV, hundreds of people phoned and wrote to me that their watches and clocks had stopped or that un-wound watches had started up again. One or two cases involved cutlery.

"It's my belief that Mrs. Scheid has psychic powers that bent the silverware. And this power was triggered into action when she watched the Geller program."

— DAVID BURK