



THE TRANSPARENT SOLDIER

SPECIFICATIONS:

Date: Circa 1944

Location: Possibly England.
(One report says Egypt.)

Photographer: Unknown

Type Camera: Unknown

Other Information: None available.

I don't know much about this picture other than it appears to have been taken sometime during the Second World War or shortly thereafter and, at least judging from the uniforms, probably somewhere in England. My guess is that the ghostly figure at the back of the room was one of the group's comrades who simply refuses to admit that he's dead and sees no reason why he shouldn't be in the picture. Notice that even as a ghost he still wears his uniform.

Obviously, this would be a simple trick to pull off in Photoshop, but this photo obviously predates the computer by several decades. It could be a double exposure, of course, but then again, if it is, why is no one else in the photo similarly transparent?

The other possibility is that it's a timed exposure in which the shutter remained open for awhile while the men in the room remained perfectly still and one man ducked into and out of the picture, creating this effect. I find that to be quite a stretch, however. Does anyone *really* believe you could get a room full of drunken soldiers to pull this off?



Closeup of the semi-transparent man at the back of the room. Photo trick, camera malfunction, or other worldly visitor?