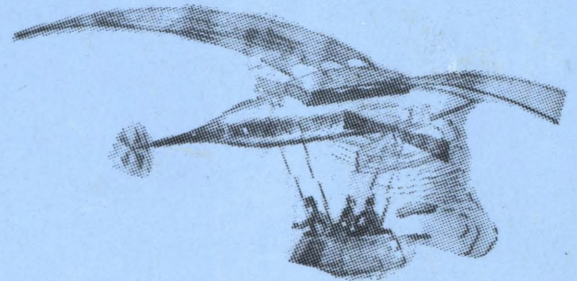
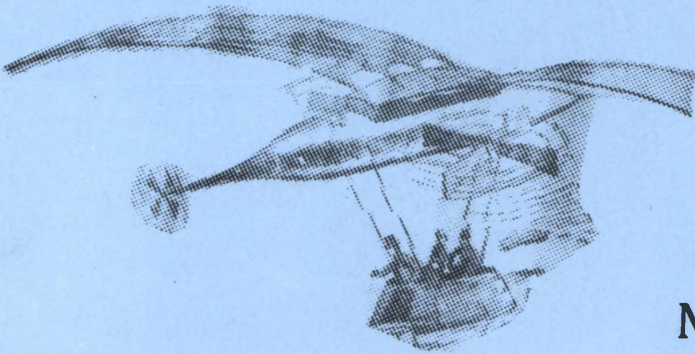


THE JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

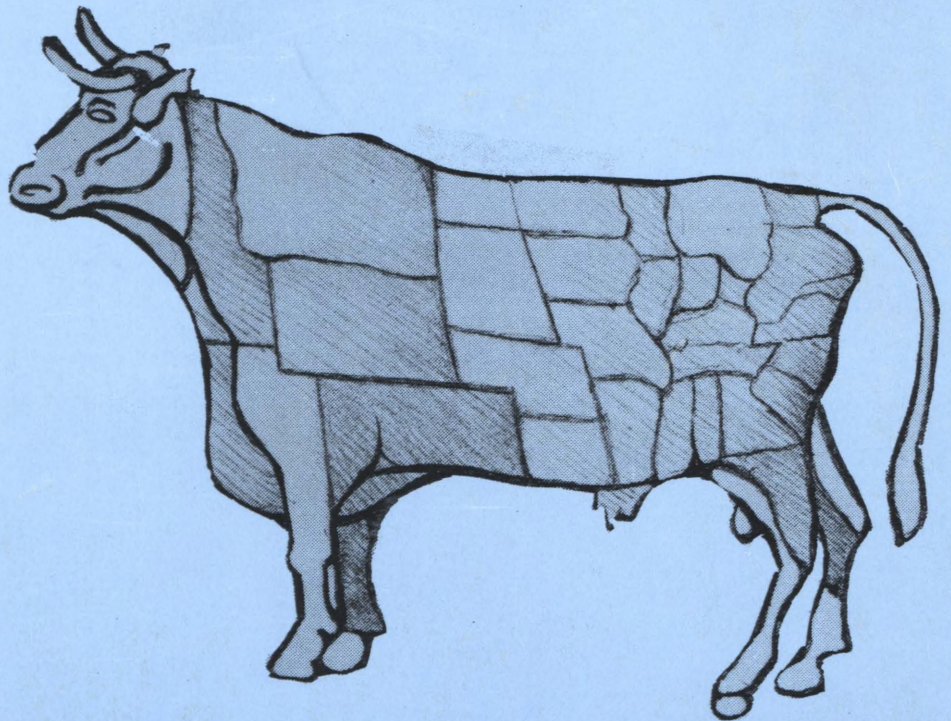
PURSUIT

'SCIENCE IS THE PURSUIT OF THE UNEXPLAINED'



MYSTERY AIRSHIPS
IN OHIO

CATTLE
MUTILATIONS
IN THE
WEST



VOL. 10 NO. 1 WHOLE NO. 37 WINTER 1977

SOCIETY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

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THE JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY
FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

FOUNDED BY IVAN T. SANDERSON

Devoted to the Investigation of "Things" that are Customarily Discounted

CONTENTS

	Page
The Ohio Airship Story by George M. Eberhart	2
Prehistoric Megalithic Engineering by T. B. Pawlicki	9
Mutilations: Who—or What—Really is Killing the Cattle? (Part II) by Curt Sutherly	15
Some Clarifications on the Leroy, Kansas Calfnapping Hoax An open letter from Jerome Clark	17
Symposium: Comments and Opinions	18
Chaos in Quiescence by R. Martin Wolf	19
Sequel to Foul-Foci Grids or The Dodecated Globe Again by William H. Whamond	28

THE OHIO AIRSHIP STORY

by George M. Eberhart

James McKensie hadn't heard anything about airships until he came to the village of Casstown, Ohio, to tell folks what he had seen the night before. He was feeding his hogs around 6 p.m. on April 14, 1897, at his farm a mile north of Casstown when he heard a strange noise in the air. It sounded like a flock of geese passing overhead.

McKensie glanced up and saw what looked like a huge bird leisurely flying southwest about 150 feet in the air. This bird-like object had wings and apparently a large tail or rudder. A noise like distant music came from it as it passed overhead, and as it disappeared in the dusk a human voice called out. Just then something large and white fell from the craft. One of McKensie's neighbors also heard the strange sounds but joined him too late to see the object.

When the citizens of Casstown told him next morning all about the mysterious "airship" that people in the West had been reporting, James McKensie was certain he had seen the same thing. He joined a posse of citizens to look for the fallen white object (which everyone supposed was a message from the airship's occupants) but they found nothing. The airship had vanished, but not for long.¹

* * * *

The Casstown airship was Ohio's first. Since November, 1896, when the objects first appeared in California, through the first weeks of April, 1897, hundreds of towns from San Francisco to Chicago had reported an airship. It seemed as if a whole fleet of airships was winging its way east.

Ohio newspapers usually treated airship stories the same way they did "snake stories" — the result of too much Western corn liquor. But airship reports began streaming in from Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan after Chicago's spectacular sighting on April 9, and it became clear that Western fantasies were coming dangerously close.² Maybe there was something to the tales after all.

Heavier-than-air flight was more than just a dream in 1897 — it was only a step away from accomplished fact. Samuel Langley had flown a model driven by steam power for half a mile just the year before, and a German, David Schwarz, was working on an airship powered by a gasoline engine.³ But the complex problems arising from long-distance, controlled flight had not yet been solved. Spherical balloons were still the only way to fly in 1897 — even gliders and dirigibles were in the experimental stage.

Strange aerial craft were seen in several Indiana towns the same night as James McKensie's sighting, as well as in Bluffton and Kenton, Ohio. Neither of the Ohio reports contained a description of the object, but the *Kenton News-Republican* sagely remarked that the airship had probably come to see the new fashions at a local clothing store.⁴

Citizens in Dunkirk, Ohio, caught a glimpse of the strange craft the night of April 15. Two teenagers saw a star-like light that changed color from red to green and yellow before disappearing behind a cloud near the western horizon. While this object may in fact have been a star or planet, the one seen 45 minutes later at 8:15 p.m. was undoubtedly something else.

Several railroad tower men, including Mr. Willis Mahon and a Mr. French (ex-marshal of Dunkirk) saw an airship flying "so near the earth that you could hear men talking in it. The affair looked as large as a wagon bed and had something like wings stretching from each side and a propeller at each end. On the front was a red light while on the rear was a greenish-yellow lamp."⁵

The *Lancaster Daily Eagle* reported that two farmers, Byron Rutter and Billy Schneider, had seen the "mysterious ship" in northern Fairfield county the same night. They were driving their horse and buggy along a country road when a dark object passed over them and disappeared into a rift of clouds. The craft was cigar-shaped and had two pairs of large canvas wings. Rutter said, "It was inclined at an angle of about 45 degrees, as though a landing had been made at some place not very far distant and they were ascending to a point above the lower wind currents."⁶ Unfortunately not very many people, including the *Daily Eagle*, were ready to take such reports seriously.

In the early hours of the 16th an airship appeared over Sandusky,⁷ and people in Akron watched a light in the heavens every night from April 14-17. At 7 p.m. on the 16th Akron residents saw several lights moving southwesterly just beneath the clouds. The witnesses claimed the lights were attached to a huge object resembling a balloon, whose outline they could barely distinguish.⁸

An hour later an amateur astronomer, H. R. Bolander, saw a huge cigar-shaped object through his telescope at Marion, which is about 85 miles southwest of Akron. Bolander said the machine had a bright, spreading light resembling an "illumination that a large incandescent light would produce." John Reed, a railway watchman, and other reliable men saw the same phenomenon. The *Marion Daily Star* commented the next day: "Some might say that it must be a peculiar kind of liquor that would make a man see flying machines, but it is well known that these men are teetotalers, and no such excuse will go with them."⁹

At 11 o'clock the same night several young men and women of Logan were startled by a sudden flash of light. They looked up and saw a large dark object moving slowly over the city and they could hear voices coming from it. Three of the fellows — Henry Rose, Fred Friesner, and Charles Wood — borrowed a buggy and set off in hot pursuit of the airship. When they arrived at a



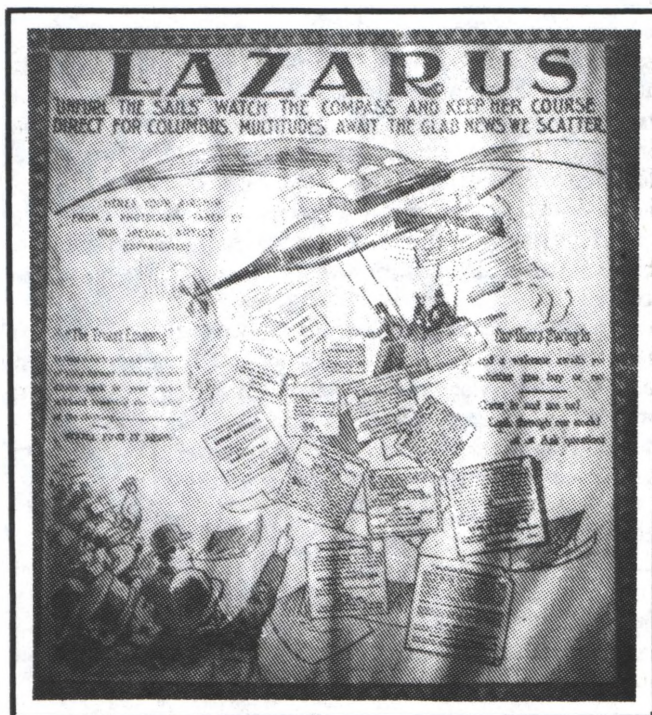
point three miles south of the city they found the craft had descended to a few feet above the ground, and they could again hear loud, excited talk coming from within. The three men climbed out of the buggy and crept silently toward the airship, but when they were 50 feet away the object rose swiftly into the air. Henry Rose claimed the thing was black, about 40 feet long, and similar to a large boat.¹⁰

HALLUCINATIONS?

What were all these people seeing? After the Chicago sightings Professor George Hough of Northwestern University had claimed the phenomenon was caused by the star Alpha Orionis seen under unusual conditions.¹¹ But people were seeing airships after this star had gone below

above: Map of Ohio, showing towns which experienced airship phenomena.

right: An 1897 advertisement for a Columbus department store. From the *Columbus Evening Press*, April 24, 1897.



the horizon. Professor Evelyn Baldwin, a famous meteorologist and Arctic explorer, said he had seen "the airship" at Cairo, Illinois, but he had determined that it was "only the planet Venus."¹²

All the newspaper stories about airships had generated a minor hysteria and many persons were pointing to quite ordinary phenomena and shouting "Airship!" The unfortunate Mrs. Eleanor A. Woodruff, described as a "widow of good family" from Findlay, Ohio, went to her neighbor's house and asked him to build her an airship of her own design so that she could fly it. She was put off with an evasive answer, but that night she became wild and went out into the street, stopping passersby and pointing to Venus. Mrs. Woodruff claimed it was the light of her ship and that when it arrived it would take her and her friends on a round-the-world flight. The *Cincinnati Enquirer* said that it required four men to place her on the train to the Toledo Insane Asylum.¹³

The airship seen early in the morning of April 17 at Upper Sandusky wasn't Venus, however. The object carried purple, yellow, and green lights and was watched by E. T. Kenan and others. Kenan described it as "forty feet in length, of the shape of an auger and had huge wings like a sixteenth-century windmill." Once it dived toward the earth, but then it gained altitude and disappeared to the north.¹⁴

At 8 p.m. that night another object was seen near Mt. Gilead by a farmer and his wife, described as very reliable people. They even wished to remain anonymous for fear of ridicule and didn't report the sighting until three weeks later. The object carried a large red light like a locomotive's and several smaller ones as it passed slowly over the treetops, according to the *Mt. Gilead Union-Register* for May 12. Coolville, Ashland and Alliance also reported airships around the same time.¹⁵

The scene shifted to the Ohio River on Sunday, April 18. Captain W. E. Rose, commanding the steamer *Barnsdall*, and his crew watched a large white light in the air over Sistersville, West Virginia, for three and a half hours.¹⁶ The long duration of the sighting suggests an astronomical origin — perhaps the planet Mars.

The next night people at Cutler, Ohio, about 40 miles away, saw a huge airship with wings and a searchlight moving rapidly and making noises like a gasoline engine.¹⁷ And responsible citizens of Parkersburg, West Virginia, spotted an airship on the 19th.¹⁸

Several people across the river in Marietta, Ohio, were fooled into reporting an airship when some boys sent up a paper balloon. The jokers were beginning to get into the act.¹⁹

The same night William McNabb and Seth Green watched a large object with a strong headlight and a flashing light pass swiftly over Orange Street in Ashland.²⁰ In Massillon from April 20-22 no less than fifteen persons came forward to report airships, and Frank Reed of that city found a letter on his premises that read:

On Board Airship, Bound for Cuba,
April 20, 1897.

To the finder:

Please mail enclosed letter and send your address to Mr. Edison, who will reward you.

WILLIAM R. HARRIS.²¹

This was not the first such airship message, nor would it be the last. Most of them could conceivably be called hoaxes, but this particular one had a very curious sequel. After the Massillon message was printed in the *Toledo Blade* on April 22 the story of another alleged message, again signed William R. Harris, was featured in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* for April 25.

This second message was found by a "prominent townsman" of Lorain. On the outside of the envelope were written the words: "Aboard the Airoia, April 22, 1897." The *Plain Dealer* said:

In the letter the writer stated that the ship was built in an obscure place near Santa Fe, N.M., from which place the journey began. "We have hovered over every state in the union," continued the writer, "fished in the great lakes, crossed the plains and settled on mountains and valleys." He states that the ship is eighty-two feet in length and nineteen feet wide, supported by a balloon thirty-five feet in diameter. A wheel at the stern, he states, is propelled by means of a storage battery, the wheel having eight paddles. He claims that himself, wife and child are the only persons aboard the ship. . . .

In closing the writer says they will return in a few days to New Mexico, where a larger boat is under construction, with which he hopes to cross the sea. He signs the name of William R. Harris.²²

The interesting part of this letter is the location of the inventor's home base in New Mexico. Similar messages found in other states point to an origin in the Southwest or California. Furthermore, the destination of Cuba has cropped up in other messages and the stories told by the airship occupants themselves.

Could these hints of the origin and destination of the airships really be accurate, or might they be false clues deliberately placed to steer the curious away from the real answer?

No journalist of the time took the matter seriously enough to answer, or even ask, that basic question. All the clues left by the mysterious aeronauts — their origin, their destination, even their names — could have been checked out easily enough. Either there was a William R. Harris, airship inventor, or there wasn't. If there was, who was he and what happened to him? If there wasn't, then why did his name appear on two different messages, found miles apart? Was it an alias, a hoax, a code, or a deliberate deception? Unfortunately we may never know the answer.

Meanwhile an army of crank theorists and jokers arose to further confuse an already muddled issue. One Carl Browne claimed that there were six airships, all manned by anarchists who would start a revolution by throwing bombs and chemicals on the helpless population below.²³ A Chicago preacher genuinely believed that the airships heralded the Second Coming of Christ.²⁴

Pranksters set off paper balloons and kites in Bucyrus and Washington Court House. Journalists fabricated wild tales of airships landing to steal coal, oil, and water from bewildered merchants.²⁵ A writer for the *Bellefontaine Republican* claimed he had met the airship's crew, which consisted of George Washington, Patrick Henry,

Roger Sherman, and Anthony Wayne: they had all come down from Mars to see how the government they had devised was doing.²⁶

Not all the stories of airship landings were obvious hoaxes, however. One very detailed account published in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* on April 25 has a ring of truth to it. The landing occurred between Lancaster and Baltimore, Ohio, about 8 o'clock one night in the third week of April. A prominent citizen who wished to remain anonymous watched the airship land 100 yards away. He could see two men inside the craft conversing in a strange language.

One of the occupants was Oriental and the other spoke English with a British accent. The witness walked up to the landed object and began talking to the strange pair. Their craft, the Englishman said, was called the "Aeribarque," and they were on a voyage of experimentation to improve their flight technique. The man said they often landed in remote areas and came to nearby towns for supplies or mechanical parts, posing either as tourists or as "harmless cranks trying to invent perpetual motion."

Although the two occupants refused to let him inside the Aeribarque or explain how it worked, they did give the witness a brief demonstration of its electrical lighting system and the working of the rudder and propeller. Finally they bade him farewell and took off into the sky, leaving him with the impression that the craft used some sort of "volatile substance" that negated the force of gravity. He was now thoroughly convinced, he said, that the air age had finally come and that the inventors he had met had "unlocked one of nature's profoundest secrets."²⁷

OTHER OBJECTS SEEN

On the 21st people in Ashland observed a completely different type of phenomenon. It didn't look at all like an airship — rather it was a vertical line of light that seemed several hundred feet long. The object appeared in the south and moved westward until it disappeared.²⁸

Around 2:00 in the morning of April 22, Judge E. H. Hinman of the Elyria probate court woke up to feed his baby. Looking out his window he saw a cigar-shaped body hovering about 1000 feet in the air. The judge said the craft carried intense lights and had a short blue tail with a brass ring around it. He watched it for ten minutes before he went to wake up his wife, but when he returned the airship was gone.²⁹

A red light maneuvered in the sky above Westerville for two hours on the evening of the 22nd. Hundreds of villagers watched the airship as it flew against the wind toward the east. John Haywood, professor of astronomy at Otterbein College, viewed the light through a telescope and said it looked like a large, bright red disk.³⁰

A cigar-shaped airship with fan-shaped devices on its sides passed over Mahoning county early the next morning. Zanesville, Fitchville, and Portsmouth all reported airships the night of April 23.³¹

Saturday night the 24th was rainy, but Howard Warn and his father saw an airship near their home in Toledo.

The Warns watched the cigar-shaped object through a break in the clouds until its lights disappeared behind a cloudbank to the southwest.³²

Sunday night was also rainy. Mr. W. F. Whittier, editor of the *Sunbury News-Item*, had set up his camera in the printing office to take lightning photographs. He managed to take a photo of a lightning flash that struck nearby and he anxiously developed it the following morning. To his astonishment the negative showed not only the lightning display, but the outline of what seemed to be an airship. Whittier made many copies of the photograph and sold them to Sunbury citizens.³³ Whether or not the photo was ever reproduced in the *News-Item*, I cannot say. Copies of that paper for 1897 are very scarce, and the account comes from a story in the *Dayton Daily*

... Edison had misgivings. Even though he had experimented earlier with aircraft design, in 1897 he said he was "not, however, figuring on inventing an airship. I prefer to devote my time to objects which have some commercial value. At best, airships would be only toys."

Journal. If located, the Sunbury picture might prove to be the only airship photo ever taken, although a rather doubtful one turned up in Chicago earlier in April.³⁴

Airship sightings continued to appear in Ohio newspapers the last week of April. The *Columbus Press* printed a dubious story of five egg-shaped airships seen sailing over the city the night of the 26th.³⁵ Portsmouth citizens watched a cigar-shaped object with a score of brilliant lights at 7:30 the next night and some said they could see men moving around in it, apparently repairing machinery.³⁶

Cleveland residents watched airships the nights of April 27 and 28. On the second night the object appeared as a vertical streak of light or like a "collection of small lights shining through a haze."³⁷ A Munroe Falls man heard his dog barking at 9 p.m. on the 29th and going outside saw a swiftly-moving airship.³⁸

An hour later, police officer John Ringer of Cincinnati watched an aerial spectacle.

I was standing at the corner of Eighth and Walnut streets at 10 o'clock, when my attention was called to a string of lights moving across the sky. I could see one large light in front, like the headlight of an engine, only smaller, while behind this there was a long row of little lights, but much bigger than stars, and one right behind the other.

It was so high up that I could see no outline, and nothing but the lights. They moved rapidly in a southwesterly direction, and I watched them until they disappeared. Half a dozen citizens were standing near me, and they also saw the moving lights.³⁹

On May 2 another police officer at Kenton watched a cigar-shaped airship with a red headlight pass over the railroad depot.⁴⁰ Two days later a number of people in Cincinnati observed a red egg-shaped object cross the sky in five minutes, zigzagging wildly. Dr. Louis Domhoff made a drawing of the airship, which looked as if one portion of it were covered with a curtain, light rays escaping from its center and at each end.⁴¹

SECRET INVENTIONS?

Of course all this time airships were busy in many other states as well as Ohio. If these vehicles were in fact produced and flown by a secret group of quite human inventors, they must have had a nationwide network of bases to account for all the sightings. Stories of odd inventors did turn up, however, and Ohio had at least one.

A Mr. John S. Chamberlain of Shiloh, Ohio, wrote to the *Cleveland Leader* that the airship was the invention of an unusual man living 12 miles away near Savannah. "He is wealthy and owns considerable property in the West," Chamberlain said. "He has lately returned from Nebraska and since his return his neighbors affirm that he has been experimenting with an airship."

The strange craft was kept in a carefully guarded barn on the man's property. After midnight on the morning of May 1, Chamberlain and other people in Shiloh saw the man's airship flying low over some farmland.

It was well lighted and revealed its outline quite plainly. As it appeared to us, it was supported in the air by a narrow, oblong, cylindrical-shaped vessel, which looked to be inflated. Underneath this part was balanced, by the attachment of rope and machinery of the invention.

Although sailing at an angle against the wind, the upper inflated part was turned lengthwise parallel with the wind. Queer small sails were attached to the lower part and there appeared to be several small propellers rotating at a high rate of speed and bearing directly against the wind. The upper part was about seventy feet long and the lower part much smaller and swung beneath. It labored heavily with the wind and imitated somewhat the tactics of a sailing vessel.

When we first saw it, it was moving slowly, but the sails were suddenly changed, and it arose high in the air and was driven back some distance by the wind. After rising to a high altitude it started off in a southerly direction at a great angle to the wind. It sailed at a good rate of speed against the brisk wind, gradually descending. After having passed, perhaps, twelve miles to the south, and almost below the hills, it again rose high in the air and took a northwesterly direction, angling against the wind, and passed some five miles ahead of us. Here again

it repeated the operation of rising in the air, and passed west of Greenwich beyond our sight.⁴²

Although everyone in 1897 seemed to be talking about airships, not many people were doing anything about them. Designing and testing workable aircraft was regarded as an interesting line of work, but hardly a respectable one unless you were someone like Edison. And even Edison had misgivings. Even though he had experimented earlier with aircraft design, in 1897 he said he was "not, however, figuring on inventing an airship. I prefer to devote my time to objects which have some commercial value. At best, airships would only be toys."⁴³

If there were a secret group of Ohio inventors responsible for these sightings, they continued experimenting until mid-May. Citizens of Cuyahoga Falls reported airships several times.⁴⁴ A lighted cigar-shaped airship zoomed over Cincinnati at 100 miles per hour the evening of May 8.⁴⁵

An airship seen in Norwalk the following night was described as round with ten red and white lights. One man followed the craft for over a mile and said the lights were bright enough to cast a distinct shadow.⁴⁶

The last airship reported in Ohio was seen in Sandusky at 10 a.m. on May 11. John E. Hopley was one of a small group of people that watched a "fleecy white bulk" floating far away to the west. Through binoculars the object looked like a white bird with long black wings. Since Hopley guessed the object was 1 or 2 miles high and 20 miles away, it must have been at least 60 feet from tip to tip.⁴⁷

Whatever else these Ohio airships were, they were a diverse lot. Even allowing for faulty memories and misperceptions, the airship witnesses couldn't all have been describing the same object or even a fleet of similar objects. Some airships were round; others were cigar-shaped or bird-shaped or cylindrical. Some were noisy, others musical and still others were silent. The number and color of the lights they carried were different. Their speed, maneuverability and occupants varied.

But all the airships were alike in one respect: none of them fitted the technology of the times. They were as out of place in 1897 as intergalactic spacecraft or time machines are in 1976 — conceivable, perhaps, but not quite a reality. They were premonitions or omens of the future, very real glimpses of a 20th Century that promised to be the most progressive era in the history of Western civilization. As an editor of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* wrote, the airship witnesses saw, "through a trick of the brain, the progress of science, crowned in this latter day of the century, by the realization of aerial navigation. . . ."⁴⁸

This is, of course, no explanation of *what* people were seeing, but it gives us an idea of *how* they perceived it. A similar trend occurred in the 1950s when the spaceship explanation for UFOs was widespread. But now that spaceships are a reality, "ultra-terrestrial" or inter-dimensional theories of UFOs are gaining ground, perhaps as a result of new concepts in nuclear physics and parapsychology. UFO theories seem to be a barometer of the scientific frontier.

Airships and UFOs are basically the same thing, although the phenomenon itself may have changed, just

as our perceptions of it surely have. One indication of the ultimate link between airships and UFOs is the presence of “monsters” in the 1897 flap.

MONSTERS, PHANTOM CATS AND HUMANOIDS

Humanoids and phantom panthers are often reported in areas where UFOs are appearing. In the third week of April, 1897, a wild man was seen running around in the woods near Stout, in Adams County, Ohio. A posse of thirty armed men set out to hunt the creature after it assaulted a young boy. One man who claimed to have seen him said the wild man was very tall, almost naked and able to run like a deer. Another witness said the creature was wearing a pair of tattered pants.⁴⁹

The wild man appeared once more on May 26. Charles Lukins and Bob Forner were cutting timber near Rome when they saw a “gorilla-like” creature about six feet tall covered with a mat of long, curly hair. After a “severe struggle” they drove the wild man into a rocky area along the Ohio River where they lost him.⁵⁰

Another hairy humanoid was seen in late April by two farmers near Sailor, Indiana, about 30 miles from the Ohio line. Adam Gardner and Ed Swinehart reported that the “beast walked on its hind feet and had every appearance of a man, save the body was covered with hair. The height was that of an average sized man. When the animal saw the men approaching it jumped and started for the thick portion of the woods upon its hind legs, but afterwards dropped on its hands and disappeared with rabbitlike bounds. Gardner shot at the animal and thinks he hit it, as the animal seemed lamed. A searching party is being organized to hunt for the mysterious animal.” The party never found anything, of course.⁵¹

Other elusive phantoms that leave no traces are the mysterious panthers that turn up in out-of-the-way places, terrorize the neighborhood for a few days killing sheep and hogs and chickens, then disappear as quickly as they came. These creatures too are occasionally associated with UFO sightings in a given area.

What was described as a ferocious wild cat terrorized the farms around Kenton the first week in May. When farmers came upon it suddenly it would howl fearfully and run into the woods.⁵²

Another sinister feline was reported at the same time around Chillicothe. Several people who saw the animal say it was about four feet long with a large head, short legs

and big feet. According to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, “dogs sent out after the animal came back bleeding and torn, and will not follow it again. Small animals have been killed and some people are afraid to go out at night.”⁵³

Sheep and lambs were the victims of other phantom cats at Pine Lake, Michigan, in April, and south of Logan, Ohio, in late May.⁵⁴ Exactly two years earlier another mysterious “panther” had killed sheep, hogs and even cattle in the area of Lamartine, Ohio. The *Cadiz Sentinel* for May 9, 1895, reported that Emanuel Hendrick, Jr., was attacked by a huge cat that ran up to him from the woods as he was riding in his buggy. He defended himself with his whip and urged his horses into a mad run, but he was pursued over three miles before the panther was out-distanced.⁵⁵

In none of these cases was the phantom cat ever caught. Panthers (also called pumas or mountain lions) were extinct in Ohio by 1830, and the Canadian lynx never roamed that far south in historical times. The only other Ohio cat that might fit the picture is the bobcat, actually a smaller cousin of the lynx. But in 1897 the bobcat was very rare even in Ohio’s southern hills, and the physical characteristics and shy temperament of this cat do not match the unusual size and ferocity of the beasts reported.⁵⁶

Besides, by what freak chance could observations of rare bobcats coincide with reports of hairy wild men and sightings of bizarre aircraft? Maybe if the phenomenon occurred over a period of five or ten years, one might reasonably label it coincidence. But all these things happened in a one-month period (roughly April 14-May 14) in a limited geographical area! Surely the events must be connected — but how?

Each of these mysteries has one thing in common: none of them behave in a way that seems “real.” Certainly they’re real in a sense — the airships can be photographed, they land and people get out, hundreds can see them flying overhead; the wild man can put up a severe struggle; the panthers can go around killing livestock and screeching at humans. However, no conclusive evidence is ever left behind. The airship inventors never turn up to patent their discovery; the wild man is never caught; the panthers or bobcats are never shot. They just step into our reality and step right out again.

Airships, UFOs and monsters all have a different reality as a home base. Until we can begin to discover how that reality operates, it is really anyone’s guess where these things come from. Other realities will always seem like magic to us, whether their source is in the stars, inside the earth, beyond time, or within the mind.

The key that unlocks the secret of UFOs may also open the door to a Universe that man barely suspects.

FOOTNOTES

¹ *Cincinnati Enquirer*, April 16, 1897.

² See the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, April 10; *New York Herald*, April 11; *Chicago Times-Herald*, April 11, for the Chicago sighting. See also the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, April 10, 13-15, for other midwestern sightings.

³ Gordon I. R. Lore, Jr. and Harold H. Deneault, Jr., *Mysteries of the Skies: UFOs in Perspective* (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1968), pp. 22-23.

- 4 Bluffton News, April 22; Kenton News-Republican, April 15.
- 5 Kenton News-Republican, April 16; Cincinnati Enquirer, April 16.
- 6 Lancaster Daily Eagle, April 16.
- 7 Sandusky Register, April 17.
- 8 Akron Beacon and Republican, April 16, 20; Akron Times-Democrat, April 21.
- 9 Marion Daily Star, April 17.
- 10 Columbus Sunday Morning Press, April 18.
- 11 Chicago Daily Tribune, April 11.
- 12 Cincinnati Enquirer, April 17.
- 13 Cincinnati Enquirer, April 20.
- 14 Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 18.
- 15 Mt. Gilead Union-Register, May 12; Athens Messenger and Herald, April 22; Ashland Gazette, April 20; Canton Repository, April 20.
- 16 Marietta Daily Register, April 19.
- 17 Marietta Daily Register, April 20.
- 18 Columbus Evening Press, April 20.
- 19 Marietta Daily Register, April 20.
- 20 Ashland Gazette, April 20.
- 21 Akron Beacon and Republican, April 21; Toledo Blade, April 22.
- 22 Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 25.
- 23 Akron Beacon and Republican, April 22.
- 24 Cincinnati Enquirer, April 21.
- 25 Bucyrus Evening Telegraph, April 22; Washington C.H. Cyclone and Fayette Republican, April 22; Marietta Daily Register, April 22.
- 26 Bellefontaine Republican, May 14.
- 27 Cincinnati Enquirer, April 25.
- 28 Ashland Gazette, April 23.
- 29 Toledo Blade, April 23.
- 30 Columbus Ohio State Journal, April 24; Columbus Evening Press, April 23; Columbus Sunday Morning Press, April 25.
- 31 Norwalk Daily Reflector, April 26; Caldwell Journal, April 29; Columbus Sunday Morning Press, April 25; Portsmouth Blade, April 24.
- 32 Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 28.
- 33 Dayton Daily Journal, April 28.
- 34 New York Herald, April 12.
- 35 Columbus Evening Press, April 27.
- 36 Portsmouth Blade, April 28.
- 37 Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 29; Toledo Blade, April 29.
- 38 Akron Times-Democrat, May 5.
- 39 Toledo Blade, April 30.
- 40 Kenton News-Republican, May 3.
- 41 Cincinnati Enquirer, May 5.
- 42 Ashland Press, May 13.
- 43 Bucyrus Evening Telegraph, May 5; and elsewhere.
- 44 Akron Beacon and Republican, May 6.
- 45 Canton Repository, May 9.
- 46 Norwalk Daily Reflector, May 10; Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 11.
- 47 Bucyrus Evening Telegraph, May 11.
- 48 Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 9.
- 49 Akron Beacon and Republican, April 28; Cincinnati Enquirer, April 27; Portsmouth Blade, April 28.
- 50 Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 27.
- 51 Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 1.
- 52 Bluffton News, May 6.
- 53 Cincinnati Enquirer, May 9.
- 54 Niles (Mich.) Weekly Mirror, April 14; Akron Times-Democrat, May 26.
- 55 Cadiz Sentinel, May 9, 1895.
- 56 A. W. Brayton, "Report on the Mammals of Ohio," *Rept. Geol. Surv. Ohio*, vol. 4, pt. 1, 1882, zool., pp. 5-12; Glover M. Allen, *Extinct and Vanishing Mammals of the Western Hemisphere* (Am. Comm. for Int'l Wild Life Protection, 1942), pp. 234-39.

PREHISTORIC MEGALITHIC ENGINEERING

by T. B. Pawlicki

Scientists, engineers and the general public agree that the Great Pyramids of Egypt and other prehistoric megalithic monuments found all over the world are constructed on such a colossal scale that there is no way ordinary human beings could have done it. The monuments at Abu Simbel had to be cut into pieces to move them a few hundred yards from the water of the Nile backing up from the Aswan Dam because our modern machinery could not otherwise handle the load. A number of authors, professional archaeologists and more or less talented amateurs have published a succession of

Hawkins' *Stonehenge Decoded*, it occurred to me that although Stonehenge could have been built the way the British scientists imagined, it almost certainly would not have been. The methods proposed by the scientists were simply too dangerous; Workmen's Compensation would not have allowed the job to proceed. Estimating the job as I should have done it myself, if "J. Dent Landscape Contracting" had been asked to bid on the contract, I found that the methods available to our men were so simple and efficient that it is inconceivable for any Stone Age construction company to have proceeded any differently.

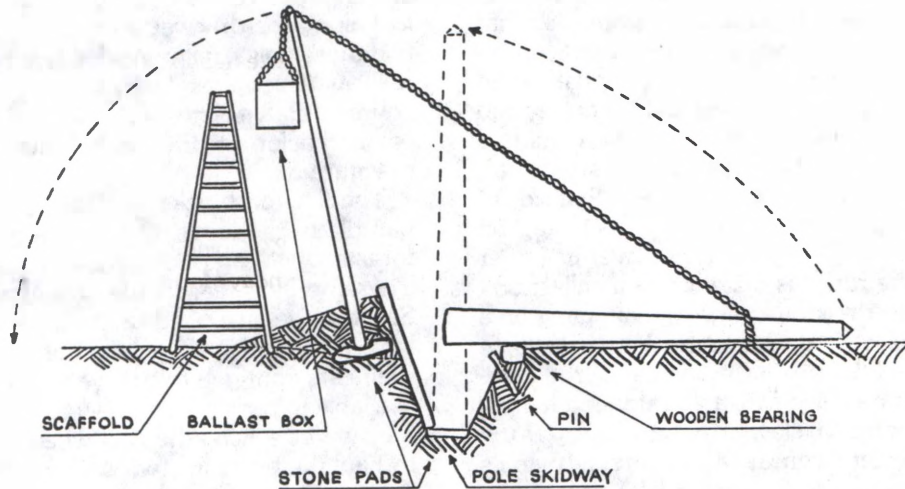


FIGURE 1 COUNTERWEIGHTED A-FRAME FOR RAISING OBELISK

calculations proving that the magnitude of the Pyramids exceeds all human resources known to have been available to the prehistoric builders. Erich von Daniken received fame while his publishers counted fortune for his not-original proposal that the megalithic civilization was a colonial outpost of a super-sophisticated, scientific civilization from outer space that got its rocks off, so to speak, by using inconveniently massive stones to build their cities; and they exercised their advanced technology to import these stones inconvenient distances over the most inconvenient terrain in the world.

Unlike other authors who have puzzled over this riddle of the Sphinx, I have had some personal and professional experience in moving heavy earth with nothing but manpower. In my youth I worked for a landscaping contractor who undertook the largest jobs available in this part of the country, and just before his business was terminated (by his death), he began to train me to act as his supervisor at distant construction sites. While reading Gerald

The extremely massive posts forming the uprights of the triliths at Stonehenge would have been erected by the method shown diagrammatically in Figure 1, which shows a pillar ready to be upended. A pole A-frame is held up in position by the tension of a rope passing over its apex, while its feet rest on stone bearing pads that keep it from sinking into the ground when weight is added. Note well that all other earthen surfaces subject to pressure are also reinforced by rigid material. One end of the rope is attached to the upper end of the pillar and the other end suspends a box to be filled with ballast. A scaffold assembled below the ballast box serves as stairs, up which a chain gang will pass stones to fill the counterweight. When the weight of the ballast becomes sufficient to rotate the pylon on the edge of its supporting posthole — *voila!* — it assumes an upright posture by itself.

The 50-ton lintels raised 30 feet to the tops of the triliths require only a modification of the simple technique

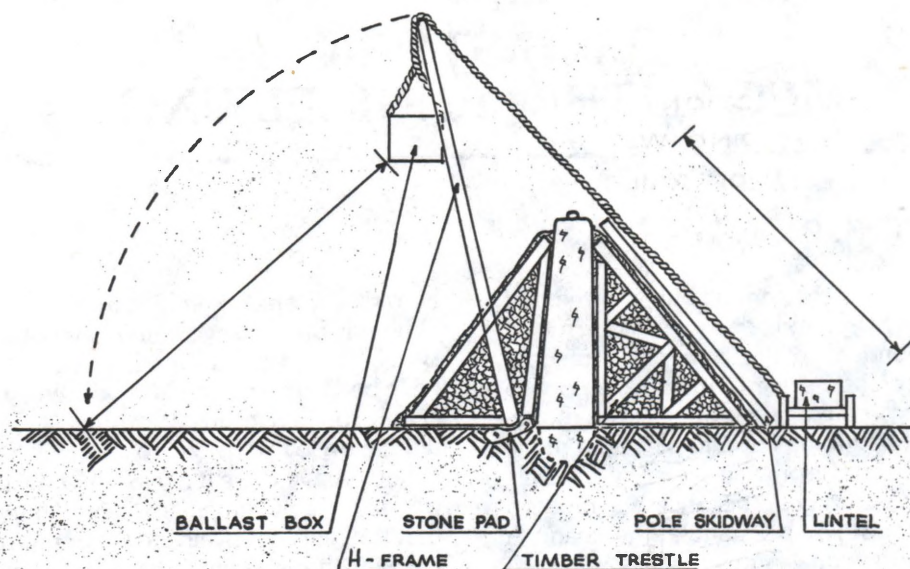


FIGURE 2 RAISING LINTEL WITH COUNTERWEIGHTED H-FRAME

used to raise the posts. As shown in Figure 2, timber buttresses would first be built to support the posts so that they will not topple over when a lateral loading is imposed at the tops; this is a hard-hat job. Earthen fill could be added to the buttressing, if necessary, for any added stabilizing which might be needed. The lintel would be brought to the base of the buttressing on a stoneboat, and a skidway of poles would be laid against that side of the ramp. On the other side, an H-frame is raised on stone pads and held upright by the ropes over its upper ends. One end of the ropes is fastened to a ballast box and the other end to the stoneboat. A chain gang on a scaffold fills the ballast box as before. If the distance through which the ballast box swings is measured carefully to equal the distance over which the stoneboat must slide, the lintel will be drawn slowly up the skidway as the counterweight is filled and come to a stop directly over its pins — no sweat. Read it and weep, Erich.

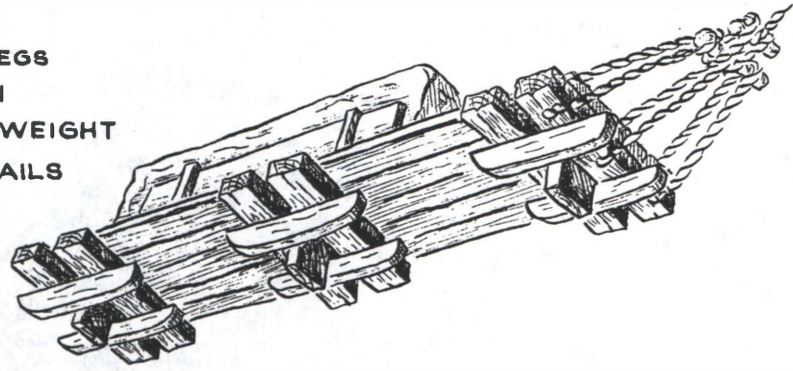
According to the specifications given by Hawkins, an earlier construction at Stonehenge called for about a hundred five-ton monoliths to be hauled in about 25 miles overland, with a net gain in altitude. A later construction called for the same number of monoliths, each weighing from 30 to 50 tons, hauled in from a closer quarry, but with a net loss of altitude en route. Considering the number of units, their weight and shape, the terrain and other available resources, the most likely method of transport is a railway. If railroading strikes you as being overly sophisticated for a tribe of skin-wearing animals, just *what do you call the mathematical computer they were building?* You must bear in mind that while dragging the first small stones for the very earliest construction at Stonehenge, and before beginning either of the two major constructions, the pathways between the quarry and the site would already have been smoothed down to a comfortable grade by the succession of rocks dragged to the site on wooden barges, even if there had been no deliberate attempt to build a proper roadbed. You need only watch a path being trodden between farmhouse and outhouse to see how quickly this is done. Successive teamsters could gradually dig away obstacles, fill in gullies

and bridge over soft spots. Eventually, poles would be laid along the dragway to reduce the friction of towing, and these poles, minimized to two parallel beams, form a railway which has been constructed as a matter of course. All that is needed now is to cut the rails from hard oak and tailor the drays to fit between them as illustrated in Figure 3.

The five-ton blocks hauled 25 miles overland is comparable to the loads which oxen used to skid out of the forests of Western America in early pioneering days. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the builders of Stonehenge also used draft animals to skid their monoliths along their dragway. For some reason, learned scientists continue to believe that the only draft animals available to primitive man is *woman*, and so they thought they were reviving the past when they hired draft labour to haul the building stones for a B.B.C. re-enactment of Stonehenge under construction. Very few people are so primitive as the Eskimos, and none have fewer resources, but even these Stone Age men know enough to hitch dogs to drag their loads on runners.

The dragging of the 50-ton monoliths appears to be an impressive feat even for 20-mule teams. Except for a low ridge between the quarry and the Plain, however, it is downhill all the way. Now, it is not terribly impressive to move stones down a hill. Superintelligent scientists would naturally assume that the dragway would take the easiest route to the summit of the ridge. Stupid but experienced draggermen, however, would do just the opposite. They would seek out the steepest slope up the ridge, along which they would raise the megaliths by a funicular railway operated by counterweights. Later constructions of this kind can still be found operating in Britain. Once the height of the ridge had been gained as quickly as possible, the draggermen would follow the most gradual route to descend from the hill, even if it added a few more miles to the distance they must travel. This distance does not matter as long as it is sloped downward. An excessive declivity, however, could cause the load to go out of control and destroy itself in some location where salvage was impossible.

3 PAIR OF SMALL SKEGS
MINIMIZE FRICTION
WHILE SPREADING WEIGHT
OVER 3 PAIR OF RAILS



RAILS SET IN TRENCH
AND SEPARATED ON INSIDE
BY MEASURED WOODEN
BATTENS

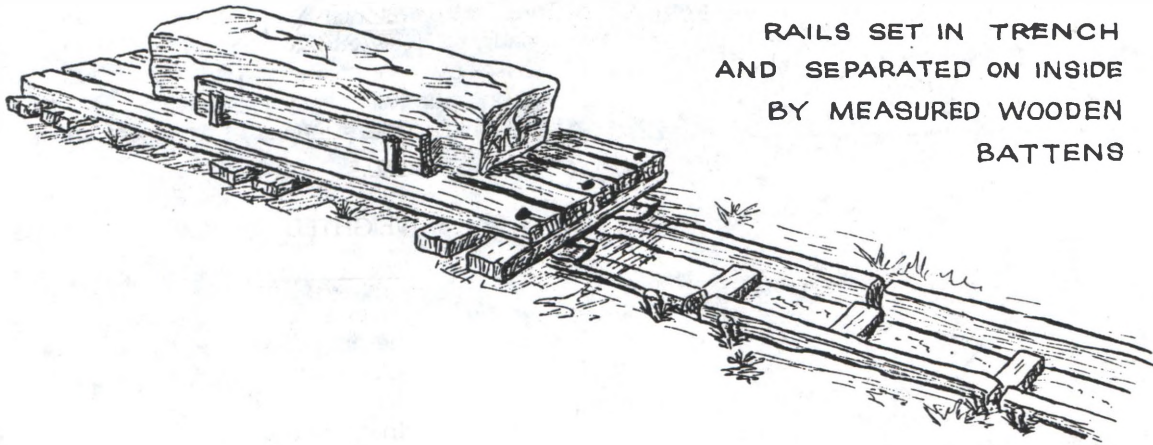


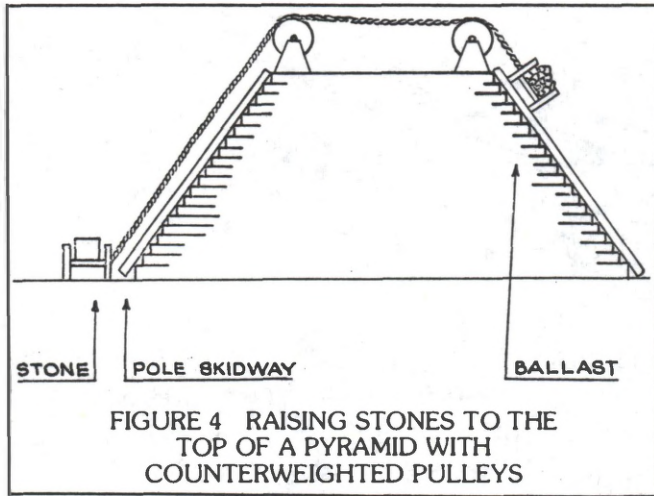
FIGURE 3 LOG RAIL SKIDROAD FOR TRANSPORTING MEGALITHS

The Great Pyramids have both similarities and dissimilarities with Stonehenge. Their engineers would have likewise used similar and different methods in their construction. The sloping sides of the Pyramid form its own ramp; no other ramp need be constructed. To raise the blocks from the base to the level under construction, all the masons have to do is lay a pole skidway against the sides of the Pyramid, as shown in Figure 4. When a block was brought in from the quarry, a line would be run from the stoneboat up over a pulley wheel at the edge of the top deck, over the top deck to a pulley wheel on the opposite side, and there would be attached to another stoneboat carrying an empty ballast box. Before the final sheathing was laid, the stepped sides of the Pyramid functioned as its own scaffolding; none other was needed. A chain gang could pass stone ballast up the side of the Pyramid until the weight in the box is sufficient to drag it downward, thus drawing the stone up the other side. When the transport is completed, both loads are removed from their respective stoneboats, and replaced with their opposite numbers so that the traverse may be repeated in the opposite direction. While the top deck of the Pyramid covered many acres, dozens of these pulley skidways could be in operation at the same time, and the Pyramid would have risen faster than a medieval cathedral.

In days when cargo ships and their crews were small in comparison to the loads swung over the gunwales, the cranes used had to be operated by counterweights, not only to heave the loads but also to prevent the ship from capsizing. It was to meet these needs that the modern cargo ship crane developed into the form seen today.

This same ancient design was quite adequate to move megaliths for the prehistoric monuments. Figure 5 illustrates diagrammatically the principle of the counterweighted crane. The bottom ends of the two main booms rest in depressions which are carved into the upper surface of a circular stone bearing wheel; here they can roll without pins or friction. The top stone disc has a concave undersurface balanced to rotate on the correspondingly convex upper surface of the bottom bearing pad, which in turn rests on the ground. The load suspended from one boom is counterbalanced by ballast on the other. Obviously, this two-dimensional diagram is unstable as a three-dimensional working structure, so another pair of counterbalanced spars stepped at right angles to the main booms are added. From the upper crossline, a control weight is suspended to raise the load from the ground, after which it can be moved by rotating the crane. Finely adjusted, this design makes it possible for a few pounds of control weight to raise several tons of load. A check of engineering tables proves the design capable of spanning up to 100 metres, although half that distance would be more practical. With a multiplication of hawsers, all the stones used in prehistoric monuments could have been moved, with the exception of the 2000 ton monoliths at Baalbeck, for which iron chains could have been forged.

In the prehistoric Age of Gold, all the temple cities were built of stone. The Great Pyramids alone required something like five million blocks. There was as much traffic between quarries and cities in those days as there is now between mine, mill, manufacturer and consumer. There can be no doubt that the prehistoric engineers



justified the construction of a transport system to expedite the flow of material comparable to modern railways and Interstate Highways. A chain of rotating cranes, set from 50 to 100 metres apart, would transfer a steady stream of building stone at walking speed along one side, while on the other side an equal weight of ballast rubble would be transported from the building site to the quarry. A pilot model of this system can be observed in shipyards today, where heavy loads are transported overhead by passing them from one crane to another; the men become so dextrous that the loads do not even touch the ground en route. On the face of it, the system requires a capital investment less than that of a modern roadway: it is labour intensive, it is non-polluting, it passes over rough and soft ground without problem, and its operating efficiency approaches that of a pipeline — the most efficient means of transport known.

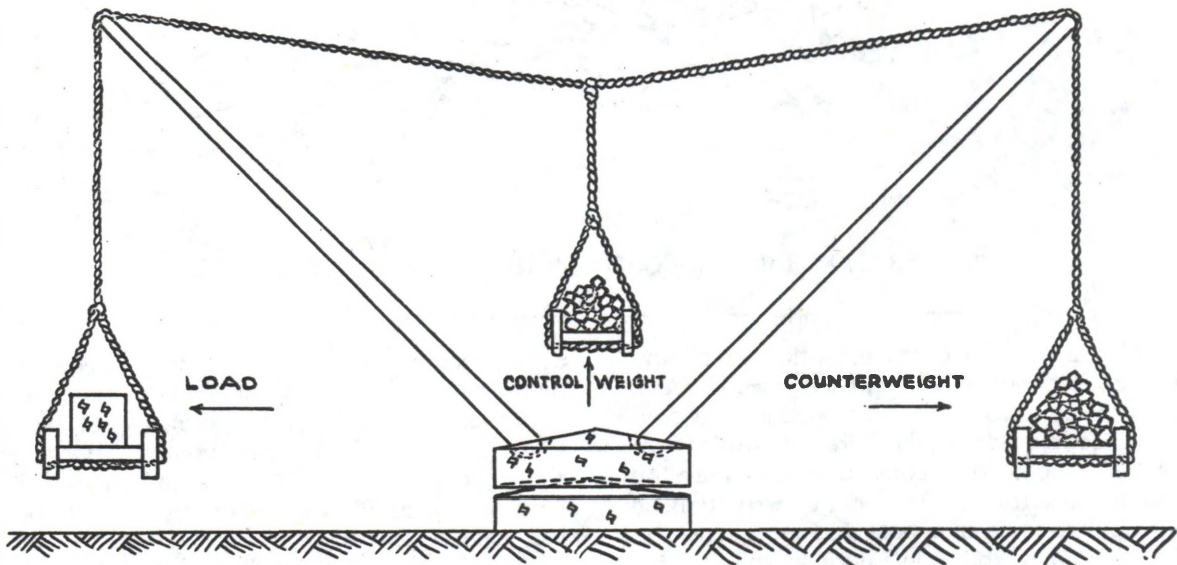


FIGURE 5 PRINCIPLES OF A MEGALITHIC CRANE

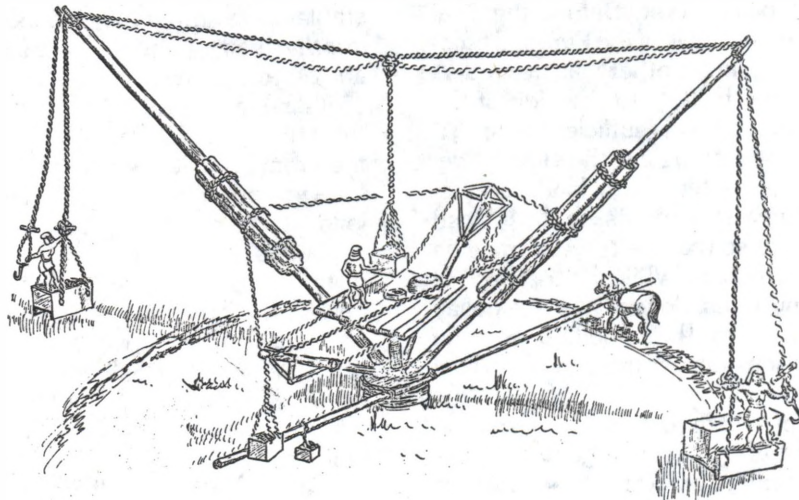
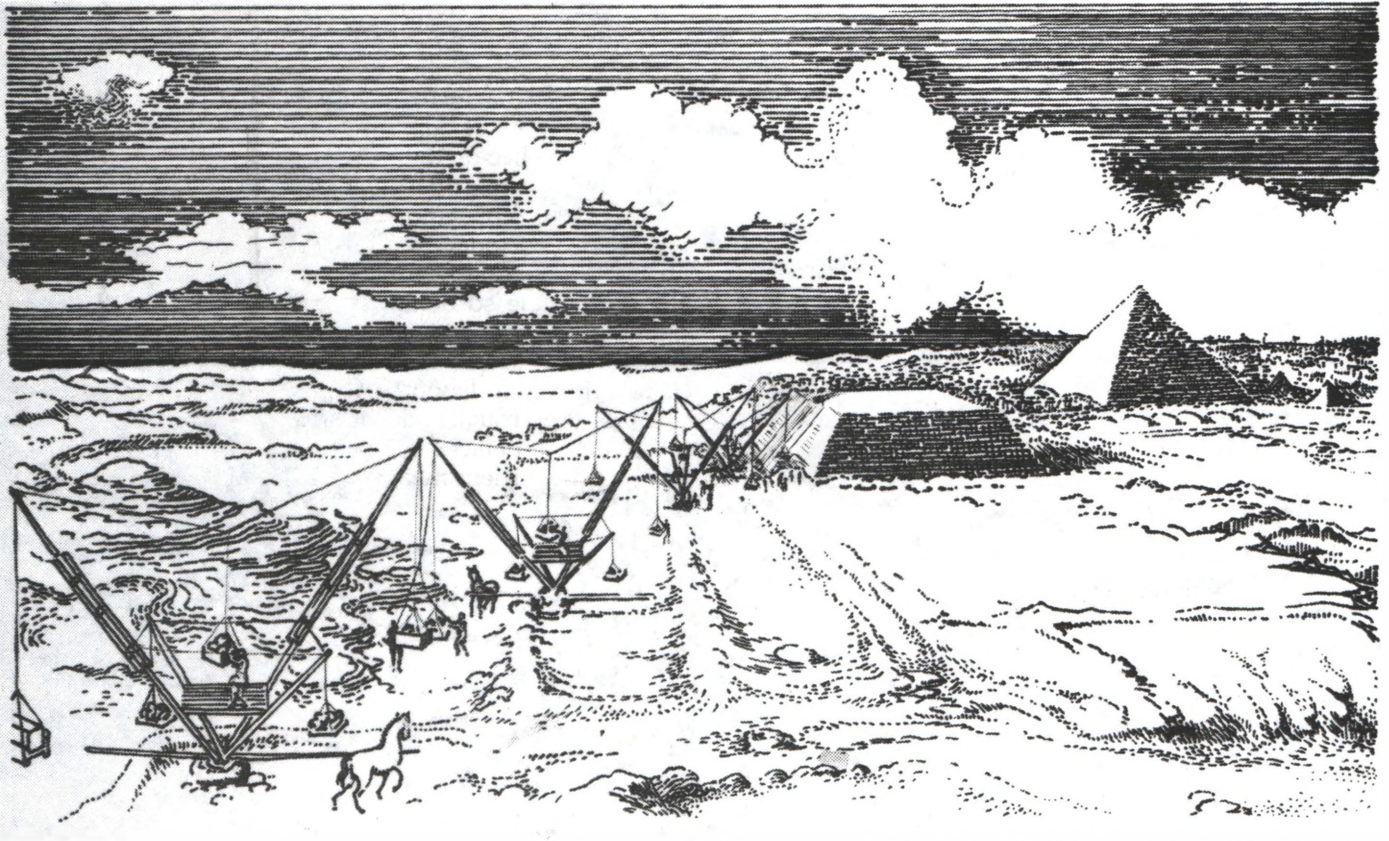


FIGURE 6 A MEGALITHIC CRANE IN OPERATION



Drawing by B. Wilkie after a sketch by the author

FIGURE 7 A CHAIN OF ROTATING CRANES

Invariably, there are objections that the Ancient Egyptians did not have wheels to implement this engineering. I do not know where this information originated because if any record of how the Pyramids were built *did* exist, there never would have been any speculation. Just look at the Pyramids. They were the grandest constructions on the face of the Earth until Grand Coulee Dam. Their construction is so precise that they can be properly measured only by laser beam. Pyramid dimensions incorporate the proportions of the Earth and the Solar System. Their design squared the circle — supposedly one of the three insoluble problems of geometry. They constituted an astronomical observatory. The Great Pyramid was faced with over 15 acres of limestone polished to a perfection surpassing that of the great mirror of the Palomar telescope. The Pyramids constituted a geodetic benchmark system for land survey. All this is just for starters. It can also be shown on the basis of known and practiced principles of radio mechanics that the Great Pyramids form a world-wide system of radio broadcast communications operating on the $7\frac{1}{2}$ Hz. frequency, (identical to the modern Omega Navigational System) and its broadcast power was enough to reach throughout the Solar System — *whether or not* they may have been designed to function in this capacity. And the architects did this without wheels? There is no record that the Great Pyramids at Giza were even built by the Ancient Egyptians; there is only the circumstantial evidence that they are both found on the same piece of real

estate. Until we can find records proving otherwise, I think it is safe to assume that any engineers capable of this level of architecture also used wheels to expedite their labours.

Once we admit the use of wheels, we can simplify the on-site cranes with the design shown in Figure 8. In this design, a wheeled truck rolls along the booms of the crane bearing the load. A crew at a winch moves the truck back and forth. A set of counterweights suspended from the truck raise the load high and low for construction settings. At the rear of the crane, a pair of outrigger spars rotate, bearing counterweights to the load up front. These spars are roped to the truck so that as the truck rolls forward, the booms swing back, and vice versa; in this manner, the crane is kept balanced at all times.

Modifications of these basic designs for various construction problems, engineering proofs, and historical evidence for the usage of this system of engineering for the construction of the megalithic monuments are all included in a manuscript of a book now being considered for publication, but most of this information has been omitted here to keep within adequate space allotments for *Pursuit*. Only pedants would bother to argue which of several different methods of construction were actually used on any specific prehistoric monument. Just as we do today, the prehistoric estimating engineers chose and adapted from as many techniques and resources as were available to them, and they invented new ones as they

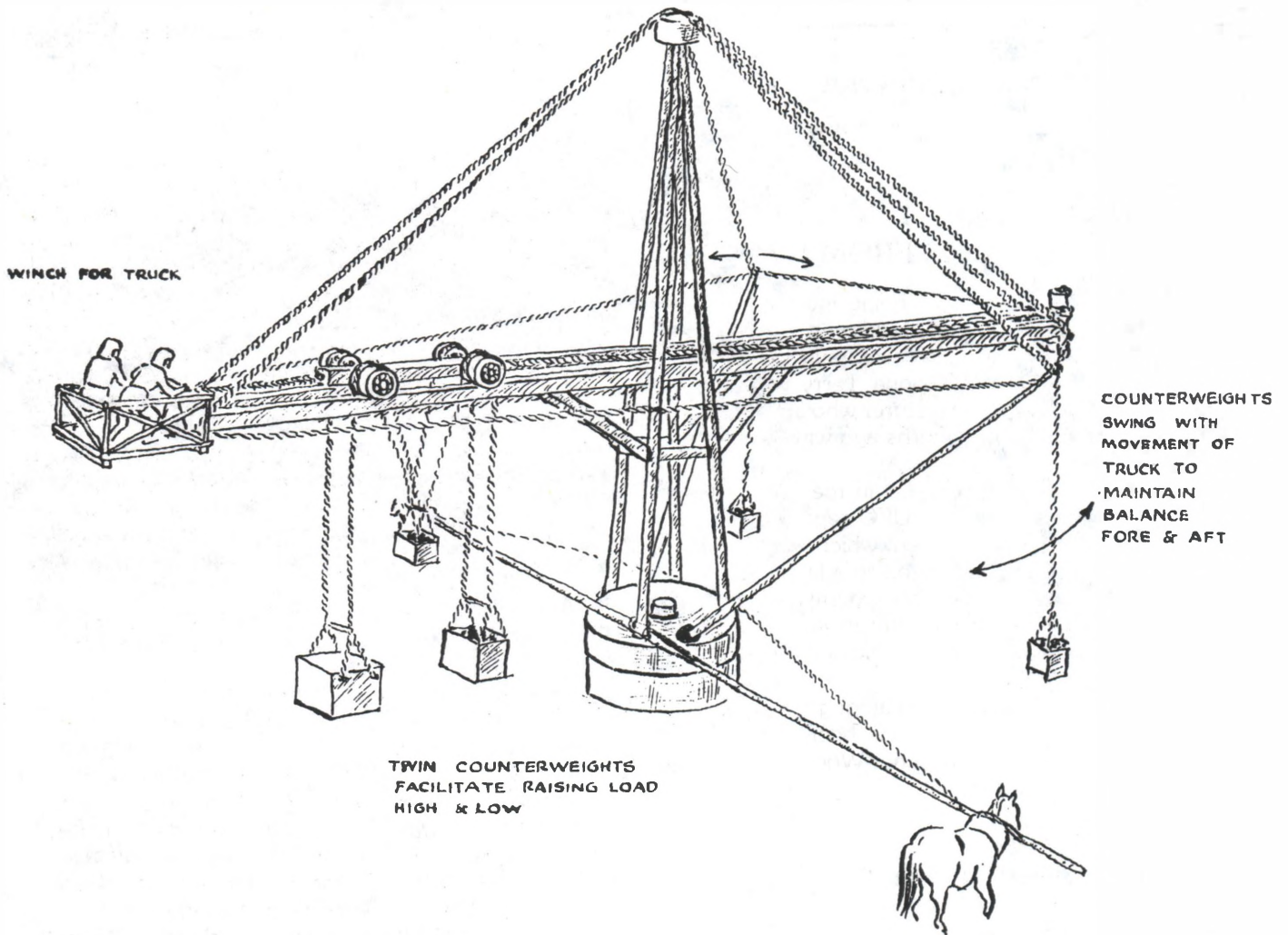
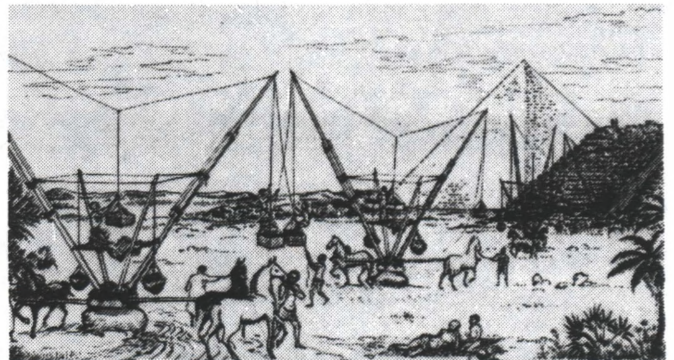


FIGURE 8
ON-SITE CRANE IN OPERATION

went along. Tendered the same specs for a temple, a big contractor like General Pyramids Consolidated may have found it economical to keep its enslaved personnel employed during a slack season by hauling fill for ramps in wicker baskets, while a small outfit like Ali Hakim & Sons Long Distance Trucking and Camel Chips, squeezed between a penalty clause on the contract deadline and retroactive wage increases, would sharpen their stylus to see if they could float a short term loan to rent a team of elephants in order to raise the big rocks. The main point of this exercise is not how it was possible for prehistoric engineers to construct such magnificent monuments, but how it was impossible for any modern scientist or engineer to figure out how they did it.



Drawing by B. Wilkie



MUTILATIONS: WHO—OR WHAT—REALLY IS KILLING THE CATTLE?

by Curt Sutherly

(Continued from last issue)

PART II THE MUTILATORS FROM SPACE

The idea of aliens-from-space being involved in the mutilations is not a new thought. However, it should be noted that the most recent publicized suggestion that such was the case came from one Terry Mitchell, a former reporter and part-time lecturer who appeared on the *Tomorrow* show some months ago with host Tom Snyder.

Mitchell bases most of his belief in the outer space theory on the preponderance of UFO reports from the mutilation areas, and on an incident which transpired in Kansas in 1897. The episode involved a farmer named Alexander Hamilton, of Woodson County, who allegedly watched an "airship" (apparently an early-era UFO) with red and green lights hook a cable about one of his cows and make off with the beast.

The Hamilton case is well-known among "inner-circle" flying saucer investigators, and has been considered genuine by many. The fact that other Woodson County residents attested to Hamilton's sincere nature tends to support this belief. (*Editor's note:* Recent research by Jerome Clark indicates that the alleged incident may very well have been a hoax. See Clark's clarification at the end of this article.)

However, none of this is sufficient grounds on which to substantiate a theory that aliens in spaceships are killing the cattle. What is going on then? Let's look still further.

The mutilations, while possibly reaching back over two hundred years (via Amerindian accounts of slaughtered buffalo on the Midwest plains), first became prominent in American society during the mid-1960's. We might even fix specific notice to Oct. 1967 and the San Luis Valley, Colorado, where an Appaloosa horse named Snippy was found dead, the flesh stripped from its head, vital organs missing.

During the same period ranchers all over the Midwest were reporting similarly strange deaths of their cattle. At that time most of the accounts were termed hysteria.

While the mysterious mutilators were making off with the blood and vital organs of such creatures as Snippy, one individual was searching the land around the small West Virginia community of Point Pleasant in an attempt to track down a "creature" referred to locally as *Mothman*. Said to have had a tremendous wingspan (eight to ten feet), hypnotic red eyes, and standing about eight feet tall with an otherwise man-like shape, *Mothman* was seen by a good many residents of Point Pleasant during 1967. And John Keel was after him.

For those not so well informed, Keel is almost as much of an enigma as are such legendary creatures as *Mothman*. Considered by some to be the leading American UFOlogist (UFO researcher), his many books on the paranormal (beginning with *Jadoo* in 1957) have spellbound readers around the globe. A recent tome, *The Mothman Prophecies*, (Saturday Review Press/Dutton 1975) narrates the tale of Keel's experiences in West Virginia during the period when all hell was quite literally breaking loose, and reality itself seemingly proved to not always be what it normally appears to be.

In addition to *Mothman*, the Point Pleasant region was frequented by such abnormalities as UFO overflights (some rising out of the Ohio River), mysterious unmarked aircraft (sometimes helicopters) that soared low over area fields, and the deaths of numerous cattle, dogs, and other animals — all mutilated!

Keel best sums up his own feeling regarding the mutilations when he says, in chapter nine of *Prophecies*:

Among grimmer memories of 1966-67 are those times when I knelt in farm fields to examine dead animals, particularly dogs, who had suffered amazingly clean and expert cuts. These deaths were not localized, but came in nationwide waves simultaneously with UFO waves. This pattern has been repeated since. Prior to the October 1973 flying saucer flap there was an epidemic of animal deaths throughout the Midwest from Minnesota to Mississippi, causing quite a stir in the local press.

Keel goes on to note: "Europe has been plagued with phantom animal killers for generations. Sweden had a plague of this sort of thing in 1972. The extensive vampire legends of Middle Europe were undoubtedly based on such incidents."

The mutilators are still working on an international scale (something the devil cult theorists prefer to not examine closely since it makes more difficult their task of explaining how the cultists can finance a world-wide operation, as noted earlier). Recent reports of mutilated farm animals have come from such diverse places as Puerto Rico (the north section of the island), the Middle East, and again, Middle Europe. In Nairobi, Kenya, in 1974, reports were issued by wire services of numerous deaths of grazing animals, and "a sinister force" present in the form of a shadowy panther-like killer. As far as is known, the creature was never caught or killed . . .

In 1945 near Pottstown, Pennsylvania, a something referred to as the "thing of Sheep Hill" killed livestock and poultry. In 1973, during that year's tremendous UFO flap, the same force destroyed farm animals outside of Pottstown — two identical sets of occurrences 28 years apart. Law enforcement agencies were baffled, believing a beast

of some sort responsible, yet the victims were never eaten, merely mutilated. The documents are available to substantiate these claims.

Considering the above, it almost appears that the mutilators, some "weird creatures" (a la such as Mothman), and bizarre aerial objects may be associated in some manner. In what way, one must of course ask? Again, we must push our examination still further . . .

MYSTERY AIRCRAFT AND CORNFIELDS

On July 15, 1974 (according to Keith Randolph), two aircraft buzzed a cornfield near Honey Creek, Iowa. One craft was a helicopter; the other an airplane. Robert Smith, Jr., a resident farmer then working his field on a tractor, reported to authorities that the ships were so low he could see a man lean out of the chopper and fire a handgun at the plane. The bullets blitzed the ground some distance from Smith, causing him to dive off the tractor onto the ground. All of this occurred in an area heavy with mutilations.

When Smith checked with officials, he reported that the aircraft had no serial numbers of any sort. In this way the ships were similar to the phantom helicopters reported near other mutilations sites, thus causing Randolph to allude to the idea that these craft were possibly being flown by "Howard's" mutilation squad.

But why shoot at one another, and with hand weapons at that? And where did they originate from, or later return to (as discussed earlier)?

Last autumn, the author's own area, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, underwent a week-long epidemic of phantom airship overflights, the likes of which would have caused Alexander Hamilton to glance anxiously toward his cattle pens. In all instances local authorities denied having any such aircraft aloft at that time (usually between the hours of 9:30 and 10:30 p.m.), as did the Good-year Blimp Division in Akron, Ohio. However, on the night of Oct. 23, 1975 (the first night of reported airship sightings), a trailer park resident cited he had watched two grayish *helicopters* swooping about over a cornfield near the park grounds. Producing a pair of binoculars, he observed *no serial markings of any sort on the craft* which soon thereafter flew away. He didn't learn until the next day that phantom airships were also being seen in the county at that time, and he had no knowledge of the preponderance of mystery helicopter activity elsewhere in the nation.

The following night, Oct. 24, residents of the same trailer park watched a small globular light pass back and forth over the same cornfield several times and vanish.

Thus far, Lebanon County has had no recent mutilations, although state police informed the author that in 1973 two sheep were found dead, mutilated, not far from the above indicated trailer park. Unfortunately complete details are lacking inasmuch as the owner buried the carcasses before authorities could arrive. The incident was never released to the open media.

Witnesses of the Lebanon airships sometimes also reported hearing "a faint whooshing sound." This same

sound was reported in the Randolph article by a rancher (unidentified) living several miles from the residence of one Bob Brown, of Atoka, Oklahoma. The rancher heard the noise early in Feb. 1975, on the same night that Brown's cow herd was invaded by the mutilators. One of the animals was found dead with the body drained of blood, and a "triangular-shaped cut near the jugular vein on the neck." The teats were also cut off, and about eight inches of the tongue removed as was the left shoulder blade. No blood was discovered on the ground . . .

After noting all of the preceding, it tends to become obvious that something complex, something almost nightmarish is occurring. Devil cultists might account for some of the mutilations (the evidence in some cases does indicate possible human activity). But what of the strange creature accounts, and the bizarre aerial objects constantly seen? Are so many people prone to feats of wild imagination? Not necessarily, but the events themselves have certainly confounded the most objective investigators . . .

"I'M JUST NOT INTO THEORIZING"

One investigator who — along with his partner — has been on the trail of the mysterious mutilators for over 18 months (at this writing) in various states recently sent along a summary of events to date. The individual is Tom Adams, of Paris, Texas; his partner is Gary Massey. Adams relates (in part) in a letter dated Nov. 16, 1975:

. . . The total reward being offered in a dozen or so states for identification of mutilators is in the neighborhood of \$45,000, unclaimed . . .

. . . The mutes [contraction for mutilations] have apparently let up a bit out west in Arizona and parts of New Mexico. They're continuing to occur in states such as Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana, but apparently not of the intensity of a month or two ago. I must say, though, that I really haven't checked on the situation in Idaho and Wyoming in a week or two, so I'm not sure what's happening there.

Law enforcement agencies in Arizona seem to be trying to hold a lid on the situation there. And in Colorado, mutilations are actually occurring at a decidedly unknown rate, as many (and perhaps most) incidents simply eke out informally by word-of-mouth.

An increase in the intensity of UFO sightings in Wyoming, Idaho, and Arizona is now at hand. And a great many unidentified helicopters continue to be reported in Colorado and New Mexico.

I probably need not reiterate . . . that I don't find the [devil] cult proposal satisfactory, at least not overall, certainly. The evidence for cultist involvement in some [emphasis Adams'] mutilations is truly compelling, but I can't see where it accounts for the whole picture.

Really, I'm just not into theorizing at this juncture. I've become terribly objective, or tried to, I suppose.

... The sheriff of Elbert County, Colorado, mentioned that he had been contacted by someone in western Pennsylvania, and that there had been some mutilations in that area (in the past couple of months, perhaps). Generally, the mutilations do seem to be sweeping eastward — from the west into Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana; Wisconsin too.

And so it goes. Like Tom Adams, the author isn't into heavy speculation at this time, and strongly suggests that other researchers concentrate on less of the same themselves. Sometimes pet theories tend to blind an individual to events as they really are occurring . . .

Author's Note

Since compiling the data which make up the body of the preceding report, another journalist has completed and had published his own exhaustive findings on the mutilations. That man is Ed Sanders, and his article appears in the Sept. 1976 issue of *Oui Magazine*, a Hugh Hefner publication.

Several bits of information of which I was previously unaware come to light in Sanders' report, and I'll sum them up accordingly.

1) Terry Mitchell never actually appeared on the *Tomorrow Show*. Rather, he was interviewed by long-distance telephone on that program.

2) Regarding the mutilated buffalo found in the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo: Sanders reports that "well-informed sources" told him "traces of a chemical foreign to the animal were found in its blood stream," resulting in a "clamp-down" on further autopsy details. (Recall the comment about the "watery" blood?)

3) The buffalo incident and additional mutilations point a finger to possible toxic agents *injected* into the victimized animals, Sanders says. He also notes in detail that certain "outlaw" bacteriologists may be running loose, shooting their lethal germs into cattle. These men, Sanders says, may once have worked for Uncle Sam until Nixon clamped down on bacteria warfare experimentation in 1970. Being fanatics, these individuals proceeded to go it on their own, using domestic livestock for targets and covering their tracks by making 1) aliens in UFOs, and/or 2) devil cultists look like the culprits.

Sanders' report is extensive, but there are a number of points he ignores completely, such as the obvious global mutilation situation. He also ignores — while mentioning in passing — the possible significance of actual UFO reports in mutilation areas. According to Sanders, the outlaw bacteriologists are responsible for the mystery copers often seen.

From all of this I draw a conclusion: that being that there are probably two aspects to the mutilation scenario, 1) Government or former government agents are killing cattle with toxins or disease agents. 2) *Something* has picked up on the mutilation vibes and has compounded the problem in recent years, making it a global (rather than national) situation. Just as we apparently have "strange creatures" roaming about, and then also have "paracreatures" with glowing eyes, sulfur-like body odor, etc., now it seems we may have human

mutilators and parahuman mutilators. Jerry Clark would call this the "reflective factor," and its bouncing back in horrible fashion.

I recommend that the interested reader obtain a back-copy of the Sept. '76 *Oui* and read Sanders' article in its entirety. This may be done by mailing \$1.50 to: *Oui*, 919 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60611.

And may the fates protect us from Frankensteins created in our midst.)



SOME CLARIFICATIONS ON THE LEROY, KANSAS CALFNAPPING HOAX

by Jerome Clark

(Editor's Note: The following is an open letter from SITU member, Jerome Clark, dealing with the famous "calfnapping" incident said to have occurred in 1897 in Woodson County, Kansas, as witnessed by one Alexander Hamilton [see Part II of *Who — or What — Is Really Killing the Cattle*, elsewhere in this issue]. It is sincerely hoped that the information presented in this letter will lay to rest a long-standing misconception. We give special thanks to the efforts of Jerome Clark, for uncovering the following, and for granting SITU permission to publish this letter in article form.)

Since discovering this past September that the famous Alex Hamilton calfnapping case was a piece of fiction concocted by a local liars' club, with Hamilton and *Yates Center Farmers' Advocate* editor Ed F. Hudson the principal inventors, I have received a number of comments from ufologists. Some were addressed to me directly. Others have been circulated by individuals who did not bother to ask me for clarification or further information. Most have suggested in one way or another that the hoax explanation is a hoax itself.

In order to clarify the issue I am writing this open letter to individuals familiar with the new developments in what has been a classic UFO case. (Articles explaining the matter in more detail will appear in *Fate*, *Fortean Times* and *The APRO Bulletin*.) I believe the following will lay to rest any reasonable doubts about the authenticity of the statements made separately (and over a 33-year period) by Mr. Hudson and Mrs. Shaw.

Several letters have asked me why I did not contact members of the Hamilton family for their reaction. I did just that early in September, shortly after Bob Rickard, editor of England's *Fortean Times* (Post Office Stores, Aldermaston, Berks. RG7 4LJ), sent me a copy of Hudson's statement published in a 1943 *Buffalo Enterprise*. Only one member of the family still lives in Yates

Center, Kansas, and that is Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton Linde, the daughter of Wallace Hamilton (another supposed witness) and the granddaughter of Alex. I made a further phone call just this morning and last month mailed a manuscript copy of my *Fate* article "The Great Airship Hoax," which will appear in the February 1977 issue.

Mrs. Linde, a very nice lady who is 72 years old, told me during both interviews that, though the family believed the story to be true, they never believed it to be true very firmly. They never heard either Alex or Wall discuss the incident. They were familiar with the news accounts which would periodically reappear and they enjoyed the story as a "family legend." They knew that Alex Hamilton, who died in 1912, had a "dam good imagination"; on top of that contemporaries of the elder Hamilton had told them that *the story was a hoax concocted by Alex and the newspaper editor*. This happened, of course, several decades ago, when those who best knew the circumstances surrounding the "incident" were still alive. Asked her opinion of the veracity of Hamilton's account of the calfnapping, Mrs. Linde, who seems reluctant to give up her belief in such a charming family legend, said, "I guess it could have been true or it could have been a lie." I asked her if she believes Mrs. Shaw's statement. Her reply: "If she says that's the way it was, that must be the way it was." Referring to modern aircraft and UFOs, she remarked, "What my grandfather told me has come true, even if it wasn't a fact at the time. That's what is most interesting."

Mrs. Linde confirmed that Mrs. Shaw, then named Ethel Howard, lived near the now-nonexistent village of Vernon and was a close friend of Nell Hamilton, Alex's daughter.

It is extraordinarily improbable that Mrs. Shaw and Mr. Hudson should have lied about this matter. What could their possible motive be? One correspondent suggests it was "to clear the family name." As my wife comments, "Isn't it kind of late to do that now?" If that were the case, why should it be Mrs. Shaw (with whom Mrs. Linde has no social contact) and the late Mr. Hudson who tried to do this — and not a direct descendent such as Mrs. Linde, who apparently wants to believe in the "incident"? Moreover, what kind of attempt is it to "clear the family name" when its patriarch is revealed as a liar?

A second criticism has it that Alex Hamilton never would have revealed the hoax in front of Ethel Howard (Shaw). Nonsense. First of all, the tale was never meant to be much more than a harmless practical joke and there was no great effort to keep the truth a secret from the locals. The only people who were fooled were outsiders. Furthermore, Ethel Howard was a trusted friend of the Hamilton family and in fact later married Mrs. Linde's uncle.

The time has come for us as UFO researchers to admit that we were fooled by the Hamilton yarn, to learn the necessity of caution from it and to go on to deal with the many genuinely puzzling, genuinely unexplained aspects of the UFO mystery. If it is remembered at all, the LeRoy, Kansas, calfnapping should be recalled as a first rate modern fairy tale.



SYMPOSIUM

Comments and Opinions

SITU member Milton LaSalle wants hair samples (20-30 hairs, with roots if possible) of all mammals, wild and domestic, from Northeastern U.S. Send samples to: Milton LaSalle, 511 Jefferson Street, Watertown, NY 13601.

Michael Bradley, member #1428, would like to hear from Northwest and British Columbia SITU members interested in participating in Lake Okanagan search for "Ogopogo" lake monster, in association with Inland Natural Gas Co., Ltd., of Vancouver which is constructing a pipeline across the lake and is sympathetic to possible existence of "Ogopogo." Michael Bradley, P.O. Box 302, Powell River, B.C., Canada V8A 5C2.

SITU member #210 is interested in comments, opinions and data collection exchanges re: 1) Stranded or beached cetaceans; 2) King Tutankhamen's "Curse". Reply to: Member #210, c/o SITU. Mail will be forwarded.

W. M. 'Gerald' Russell

It is with sorrow that we must report that W. M. Russell, Gerald to all his friends, died on the 29th of December, 1976. He was one of Ivan T. Sanderson's oldest friends and a staunch friend and Sponsor of our Society from its inception.

Ivan and Gerald first met at Cambridge University, and it was Gerald, then calling himself George, who in 1932 went out with Ivan to the Cameroons in West Africa to collect animals for the British Museum and other institutions. Their adventures were recounted in Ivan's first book, *Animal Treasure*. In the late 30s Gerald accompanied Ruth Harkness to China and was instrumental in helping to bring back the first live Giant Pandas. Alas, being a modest man, he could never be induced to write an account of that expedition or even to talk about it very much.

In the field of Fortean he will be best remembered for his participation in expeditions in search of the Yeti, the original "Abominable Snowman", the *Daily Mail* expedition in 1954, and then the Tom Slick expeditions. As Ivan pointed out in his book *Abominable Snowmen*, "Russell alone among the whole army of investigators is really the only man qualified to tackle the problem, for he is a professional collector, which is something absolutely different from either hunters or sportsmen on the one hand, or research scientists on the other." In fact, the Slick expeditions came as close as anyone ever has to capturing an ABSM and did collect considerable evidence.

We did not often see Gerald Russell — he was an inveterate traveller — but he will be missed here, and by friends all over the world.

CHAOS IN QUIESCENCE

by R. Martin Wolf

On August 5, 1976, SITU's active investigation began. The subject of cattle mutilations by this time had reached the point where enough convincing evidence had accumulated to warrant an in-depth investigation. We had, while still at SITU headquarters, seen newspaper clippings, police reports, and photographs. We also had heard of the opposing views of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and other various state and local agencies. And following Horace Greeley's advice of long ago, we had decided to go west to where the heart of the problem was beating, perhaps ever so feebly. We were now sitting in the Sheriff's Department's offices in Great Falls, Montana, asking our initial questions concerning the mutilations when the phone rang. A mutilation.

The bull, part Angus and part Charolais, lay on its side in the field, a few hundred yards from, and within sight of, the farmhouse. Following the usual procedure in the case of freshly mutilated carcasses, a veterinarian was brought along to perform an in-field autopsy. This particular vet had not done an autopsy previously on a "mutilation," and before coming with us had warned the deputies and ourselves that he was of the opinion that all so-called "mutilations" were actually the work of predators. This, as we are to see later, is also the "official" view coming from "official" sources.

The bull, other than being quite dead, was not a spectacular example of a mutilation. One ear on the left side of the head (the side facing upward) was cleanly removed, as was a section over the left eye. There were no tracks around the animal, nor were there any traces of vehicle tires showing in the pasture grass although our own and those of local farmers who had come to observe were very obvious. The carcass was quite fresh and had not been noticed lying in its present location the evening before when the owner had checked the field.

While one of the deputies photographed the animal (the Cascade County Sheriff's Department investigates all mutilations called in and documents the situation with photographs), the other assisted the vet with the autopsy. We offered what assistance we could and otherwise occupied ourselves with taking pictures and talking with the neighboring farmers who, like ourselves, had come to observe (a very few weeks later one of the farmers present was to have a mutilation on his property).

After skinning the animal, the veterinarian took samples for laboratory analysis, which is the usual procedure when the animal is fresh enough to allow a complete autopsy. When an animal lies undiscovered for more than a couple of days the ability to perform an autopsy and to take samples is severely hampered by the hot weather and the resulting rapid decomposition of the animal's tissues. Whenever possible specimens are taken from the heart, lungs, liver, skeletal tissue, blood, urine and saliva as well as sections cut away from the mutilation area — if possible the entire cut edge of the skin is removed for analysis.

A 1300 pound bull such as this one would normally have about 130 pints (or 130 pounds) of blood in its body. Since there was none on the ground around the animal, it would be natural to assume that a substantial portion of the blood would have remained in the body. The light color of the underlying tissue (which became apparent as the animal was skinned) indicated that little blood was left in the body. Further examination confirmed this. Although there were present indications of post-mortem lividity (the underside of the animal showed more redness than the upper portion), a good deal of the blood was missing — and what small portion *did* remain (approximately 1/3 of what the animal *should* have contained) appeared to be of a sero-sanguinous (watery) nature. (Editor's note: See reference [Curt Sutherly's article, Part I] to a similar condition observed in the case of a mutilated buffalo reported at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo in Colorado.)

Examination of the liver showed the presence of some abscesses, not of unusual significance. Actual cause of death appeared to be that the bull apparently had suffocated on its own stomach fluids. A good deal of frothy fluid was found in the windpipe and mouth. When questioned as to what could cause this, the vet replied that the only time he had seen this before was when young calves were force-fed. He also theorized that the use of an anaesthetic or a bad fall could accomplish the same result.

After several hours of autopsy and after the last specimen jars had been sealed and the vet had put away his instruments and the neighbors had all gone home and nothing was left on the ground but the remains of organs and various bits and sections of carcass, we put to the vet the question which we had waited hours to ask:

"Well, what do you think now?"

Stripping the wet green transparent gloves off his hands with resounding twin snaps that strangely penetrated the dead and yet somehow pregnant silence, he replied without meeting our eyes:

"I still think it's predators. In this case a coyote with a scalpel."

THE EVIDENCE: A SEARCH FOR CONSISTENCY

The bull described above is not unusual or spectacular as far as mutilations go. It is discussed here because for us it was the first close-up look at the reality that sheriffs and their deputies in a number of western and mid-western states have been experiencing more or less regularly for the last couple of years.

We can by-pass the question of whether or not mutilations really exist. There is no doubt whatsoever that mutilations are occurring. Certainly there are borderline

cases in which it is difficult to ascertain how much has been done by predators and how much has been the work of whoever is doing the mutilations. Previous theories indicated that predators will rarely touch a mutilated cow carcass. Although this is true in a number of cases, it does not hold true overall.

The natural question to ask then, is why is it consistently stated by the "authorities" that all the mutilations are the work of predators? We might look a little deeper into the question of "authority" (let alone the word *predator*!) Question: Who would be more of an authority — a sheriff (or one of his deputies) who has grown up and spent the major part of his life in a farming community and who knows cattle and the techniques used by predatory animals from years of experience and who is a natural "authority" — or someone who sits behind a desk whose bureaucratic preoccupation it is to field answers to genuinely interested parties? There exists a vast difference between an "authority" and a statement made by someone who is "authorized" to do so. The first man usually knows what he is talking about; the other is usually discussing something he knows little or nothing about.

The evidence lies in pastures. In some of the states where mutilations have occurred, the phenomenon has stopped; nothing is left there but a few bleached bones and remnants of emotion when the subject arises (as it still does) from time to time — but the predominant feeling is one of relief that nothing more has transpired.

The mutilations seemingly started in Minnesota around the turn of the decade and spread to other states: Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Colorado and Montana. They are still occurring in Colorado, Wyoming and Montana. They have been known to have occurred in other states as well: California, Oregon, Washington, North Dakota, South Dakota, Arizona, North Carolina, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, etc. Even other countries. The list goes on and on. Consistencies are hard to come by.

Cattle are not the only animals found mutilated. Other animals include: chickens, pigs, sheep, horses and ponies, dogs, goats, deer, one buffalo, one llama, and we wouldn't be at all surprised to hear, perhaps, of a bloodless partridge found in a pear tree.

Animals have been found: strung up (by steel cable) in trees, on tops of inaccessible mesa-tops, in zoos, hanging from fences, near houses, "transported" from where they had been to other pastures (sometimes even other states!), in barns, stuck into wells, lying in plain sight by the highway, left in front of top-secret military installations. . . .

Animals have been found near water and far from it. Some have been mutilated *under* water. Some have been left untouched by predators; others are readily eaten. Occasionally, because of the evidence of broken limbs, the animal appears to have been *dropped* a considerable distance.

Where, then, does any consistency lie? It is difficult to say. As a rule, most of the animals are dead. This is not intended to be a humorous statement; some animals have survived an apparent mutilation. There are those that have lived for a short period of time afterward, continued to eat well, and yet very slowly and steadily lost weight

until there was nothing much left of the animal except bones and the skin — which became progressively hard and leathery until it split open all over the animal's body¹

As stated, many of the animals are mutilated near water. Of course, cattle will often be found near water. It is difficult to determine what percentage of a herd will remain near water for a given period and to then compare to this the percentage of cattle found mutilated near water, but some cattle are known to have been dragged out of water, either before or after they were mutilated.

There are *never* any tracks. This does seem to hold true whether the animal is found lying in mud, sand, snow, dirt or pasture-grass. In one sheriff's office we saw photographs of distinct footprints going into and out of a corral where a mutilation occurred in 1975. We were then shown photographs of the cow itself. It was clearly the work of an amateur. Razor slashes had hurriedly and unceremoniously dispatched the animal, and the actual quality of the cutting performed would be comparable to the palsied efforts of a reject from a home for alcoholic butchers. There was blood not only in evidence in the animal but also all over the ground, the carcass and even splattered on the corral itself.

Which brings us to another consistency. There is *rarely* any blood left in the animal. Or on the ground. Or anywhere else. Let's apply a little arithmetic and ask a single question. If we can believe one sheriff who estimated that in 1975 about 1800 cattle were probably mutilated (remember that a lot of the losses due to mutilations go unreported because some farmers are either polite enough or intimidated enough not to want to let on how dumb the "authorities" are), and if the average weight of a cow could be conservatively estimated at 600 pounds, then that means over 108,000 pints of blood are missing. The simple question to be put forward at this time arises naturally: What would anyone do with over 50 tons of blood? It might be good to keep this thought in mind as we continue with our search for consistency.

Other cattle tend to avoid the carcass of a mutilated cow. This holds true whether it is a bull, cow or calf. Even the *mother* of a mutilated calf will avoid it, although in all other cases when a calf dies the mother will usually stay near the carcass for three or four days following the calf's death. Likewise, and equally strange: a calf will avoid its mutilated mother. Without speculating too deeply at this point, we can nevertheless postulate that there is perhaps some "scent" connected with the victim which renders it either undetectable or undesirable (which only leads us deeper into the question of *why?*).

Dogs show no reaction whatsoever. This is the case even when the carcass is found near a house. In one instance a mutilated cow was discovered (after having been somehow transported either through, around, or over two pastures that were fenced and sealed by locked gates) lying 50 feet from the house. The owner of the farm and his wife were inside all evening, and their dogs — which as vicious protectors of the domicile will not allow visitors to get out of their cars until the farmer appears on the scene — did not react in any way.

Sometimes the cause of death is not readily discernible. At other times, it is; but rarely if ever does this have anything to do with the mutilation. In several cases it has been determined that the animal died of natural causes prior to the mutilation.

There is no proof that the animal has been mutilated where it is discovered. This may be an important fact that is consistently overlooked. It is certainly worth keeping in mind. . . .

No one has seen a mutilation occur.

By now the consistencies (and inconsistencies) mentioned above should have instilled some indication of the feelings that investigators of the mutilation phenomenon have experienced in trying to deal with the situation. Sheriffs, scientists, and genuinely curious investigators have suffered, sometimes for years, the awe, frustration and puzzlement that we have here attempted, in a brief and general introduction, to convey.

And yet there is more. And what remains to be told is far stranger . . . involving bizarre coincidences and enigmas that strain the mind's capability to classify, grasp, understand and rationalize the incoming information. Things that cause sheriffs normally capable of handling almost any situation to wish they had never started investigating cattle mutilations in the first place. There is a good reason, perhaps, why the phenomenon is so readily put to rest with the predator explanation. It is *safer* to believe that small, relatively harmless animals are doing the job: that way the mind is protected and doesn't have to deal with the shadowlands at the edges of rationality, credibility, sanity, and ultimately — reality.

THEORIES/POSSIBILITIES

A number of theories have evolved from the mass of unknowns presented by the phenomenon of cattle mutilation. Many of the theories have sparked in-depth investigation on the part of sheriff's departments and serious investigators: none of them should be lightly discounted, since all of them, however they may be voiced, may have some significance and bearing on the situation. More important than the concept essential to the theory perhaps is the direction from which the theory has come (in terms of the emotional or psychological matrix of the source); and where it may lead us. There are an infinite number of tangents inherent in the theory which may direct us to totally new horizons — beyond any of which may lie real answers.

I. PREDATORS

predatory — 1. Of, pertaining to, characterized by, or consisting in plundering, pillaging, or robbery. 2. Addicted to, or living by plunder; plundering, marauding, thieving. 3. Destructive, wasteful, deleterious. 4. Of an animal: That preys upon other animals; carnivorous. Also, of its organs of capture.

—The Oxford Universal Dictionary

The word "predator" is very misleading to start with. Obviously whatever is causing the mutilations is some kind of predator by the definition of the word. The point is that law enforcement officials, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, state and local brand inspectors, the news media and everybody else so liberally employing this term in an effort to explain away the phenomenon seem to be feeding one another a very simple and time-honored though erroneous dictum: *Ignore it and it will go away.*

If properly (and consistently) exercised, the enforcement of this dictum tends to work — to an extent. Phenomena suffering from *this* kind of predator usually disappears from the eye of the public, but only temporarily; the Snippy incident, for example, which occurred in 1967 has been revived with greater significance in light of the more recent widespread mutilations.

Of what *significance* then is the predator-theory? Disregarding for the moment those who are simply repeating the word because that's what they've "heard" or read (*they* can therefore be excused on the grounds of simple ignorance), and concentrating more on those "official sources" themselves, we find some interesting reasons behind the predator-theory:

1) *It saves face.* Sheriffs are elected as public officials. They (and all law-enforcing state agencies) are supposed to be able to *solve* problems which are associated with criminal activity. Already, then, they are faced with an impossible paradox — natural (but at the same time criminally-oriented) predators which are responsible for mutilations which are not mutilations. Therefore. . . .

2) *The predator theory is convenient.* Most lawmen, because they are habituated to dealing with definite *knowns* and theoretically *solvable* matters are not equipped to regard any aspect of the phenomenon through the Fortean lens that may be required (or at least helpful) in determining the full scope of the situation at hand. There *must* be an answer; therefore pick a convenient one; therefore — predators.

3) *The predator-approach also serves to get rid of (if not to satisfy) inquisitive individuals/groups who might try to publicize or investigate an already embarrassing situation.* In other words, ignore them and *they* (not the problem) will go away.

4) *It helps keep the loonies back behind the woodwork.* This is a problem that most law-enforcement officials face continually. And it is a genuine fear. Eventually, as has in fact already happened, somebody is going to start chopping up cattle for the hell of it; it's more *fun* than putting on a gorilla-suit if you really want to scare the neighbors and maybe get some publicity out of it as well. Which brings us to probably the most significant reason of all.

5) *Fear.* Of all of the above. And more — of the unknown. Fear of losing a grasp on reality.

Keep in mind the significances and qualities of each theory as we proceed. Part(s) of each theory is (are) inherent in the succeeding one(s).

II. CULTS/DEVIL-WORSHIPPERS

Most of the sheriffs have gravitated toward one theory or another through long-term exposure to a phenomenon they know is really occurring — i.e., *not predators*. In order to better show the essence of the cult theory and to save space, I will attempt a composite of reactions. There are also very definite reasons why more specific names and locations are not mentioned in the attempt to look into this particular aspect of the mutilation phenomenon; some of the cases are still undergoing investigation; other cases, because of additional legal complications associated with the problem. I was asked specifically to *delete* names of sheriffs so involved.

Bear in mind that all of the sheriffs who have approached the cattle-mutilation situation from the cult angle have approached the problem from the other end of the *same* spectrum — they have gone from a concept with an unexplained source to an unexplained source with a concept: from cattle mutilations to cults. Already that leaves them back where they started — beyond their pale.

There *are* cults (yes, Virginia, just as there are cattle mutilations). And there are some heavy-duty ones. There are people being cut up in ritual style (in Missoula, Montana), there are someone's fingers being found in someone else's freezer (elsewhere in Montana), and there are cult-sites in the woods (we examined one and heard about more).

Many of the sheriffs delving into the cult/sorcery field have had strange things happen to them. Lives have been threatened (by phone, anonymously, late at night) for all those involved in investigating further mutilations. Strange coincidences that cannot be accounted for have occurred, coincidences that border on another theory/possibility, that of the "para-physical."

The cult possibility ends abruptly when a number of things are taken into consideration. Since most of the reasons negating cult involvement have already been gone into (by other writers), it should be sufficient to indicate here only one important fact: the mutilations, which are so numerous and wide-spread, would involve any group with so much time and expense and air-support and members and expertise, that by now *someone, somewhere would know about it*. After all, and I mean it sincerely, some of the best sheriffs in the country are working on the mutilations (aside from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and the FBI — who *claim* that [fortunately] they are not involved because no dead cows have crossed any state lines).

Besides this, those who have genuinely followed up looking into cult activity in their areas (other than those who just respond quickly and loudly, "I *told* you we shoulda' shot them hippies years ago!"), have found no connection between cults and mutilations. There are cult members who have agreed (for *various* reasons) to tell *everything* they know. When questioned, they do indicate they are telling the truth (polygraph tests and later verification bear out their testimony), but they also indicate that *the cult of which they are a member is in no way connected to the mutilation phenomenon*. (Remember, this is a composite; the important thing here is that *all* of the sheriffs [and there are many] who have investigated the cults in their areas have come up with the same *lack of evidence* connecting cults with cattle mutilations; and I am including here the opinion of one of the deputies who questioned Kenneth Bankston, the man who originally *admitted* to being involved, albeit indirectly, with a cult which in turn was allegedly perpetuating the mutilations.)

If not the local cults, then *who*? A larger cult, the Great Cult, Super-Cult, maybe Satan *himself*? This, aside from showing us either our own paranoia or the relative unlikelihood that a cult is performing the mutilations, brings us to the borderlands of other possibilities: that the mutilations are the result of the activities of an even more awesome paranoia-producing "greater-body" group — UFOs or even, perhaps, *The Government*.

III. UFOs

Yes, it *could* be UFOs. Why not? Cattle mutilations are unexplained: so are UFOs. This is merely a convenient way of attributing a cause-and-effect relationship to two unknowns. Why not go a step further and say they are *equal* — mutilated cattle *are* UFOs.

A large number of UFOs have, in fact, been seen in areas where mutilations have occurred. Sometimes mutilated cattle and UFOs are closely connected (*something* which hovered and directed beams of light onto the ground was seen by three witnesses less than a mile from where a mutilation was discovered the next day); and sometimes only generally connected (one sheriff told us that there had been so many UFO reports occurring during the period of cattle mutilations in his county that the department just didn't have the time to check them all out).

But *very* connected.

Bear in mind that when we talk about one state like Montana we are discussing a state which contains *single counties* almost the size of New Jersey. This is a large space, and it continually impresses itself as such, *visually*. Thus at first glance it would appear to follow naturally that many more UFO reports would come out from this part of the country since there is so much more space in which to see things occur.

And yet there are less than 700,000 people occupying this same space (how would you like to have more than a mile of land around *your* suburban house, New Jersey-ites!) What all this means basically is that there are almost *200 times as many* people per square mile area in New Jersey as there are in Montana capable of witnessing anything which *may* occur at any time.

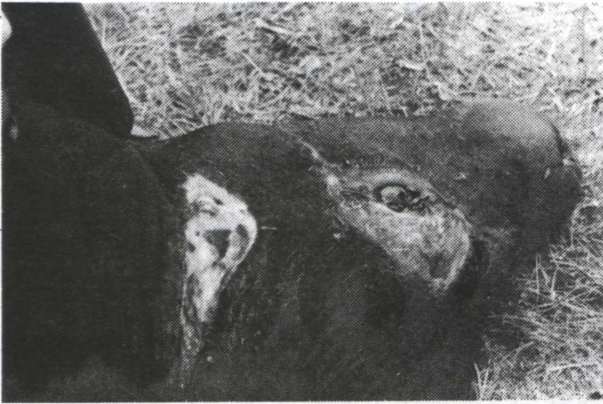
Relatively then, in actuality it is *very unlikely* that there would be as many reported UFO sightings as there are coming out of this area of the country.

Even more "phenomenal" (as opposed to *surprising*) perhaps is the fact that in most states and counties where cattle mutilations have occurred, the number of UFO accounts reported in to the Sheriff's Department has tended to increase around the same time-period as the reported cattle mutilations.

In one county in Idaho, for example, we were told by a deputy sheriff that there had been over 200 "sightings" of UFOs called in or otherwise reported to the Sheriff's Department last year — a proportionately high number of them coinciding with the same one-month period in which there were 34 cattle (22 in his county alone) mutilated. Even without the proper statistics at hand I would hazard a guess that this correlation represents information which cannot be ignored.

Researchers attempting to avoid the connection should be warned: it is certainly possible that there may be some connection between cattle mutilations and UFO reports occurring in the same areas — although *the connection may not be the readily apparent or obvious one*.

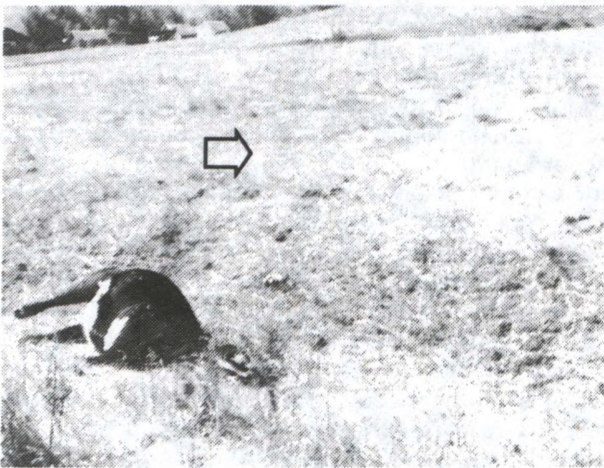
This draws us again toward another theory/possibility, a more parapsychical one, which we have already glimpsed brief mention of above. Before we look more deeply into that one, however, we must consider another.



1. In the company of a veterinarian and two deputy sheriffs from the Cascade County Sheriff's Department, we examined this bull on August 6. One ear and a section above the eye had been removed. Is this the work, perhaps, of a coyote with a scalpel. . . .



2. The same animal, during autopsy. The vet is exposing the neck area. Notice not only the extremely white (bloodless) condition of the underlying tissue, but the central darker area, indicating bruised tissue, possibly caused by a rope.

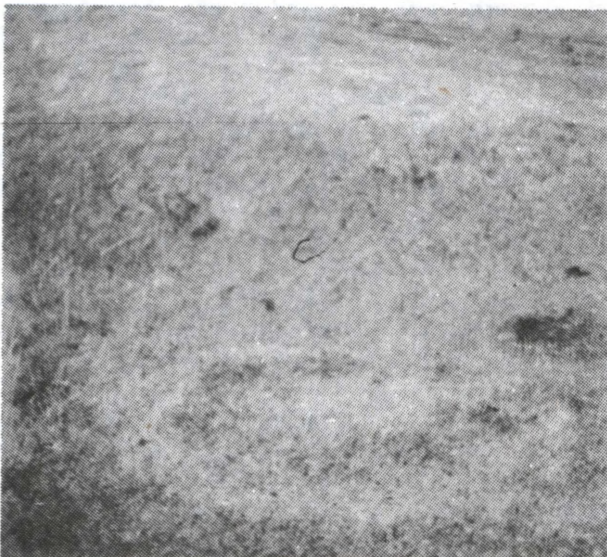


3. Another mutilation. This one was examined by the Cascade County Sheriff's Department on Aug. 28. Note the visual proximity to the house. SITU investigators returned to the area 2 days later to examine the site and to photograph the circle shown by arrow.



4. Close-up of the same animal as shown in 3. The flesh has been clearly removed from the mouth region; one ear had also been removed. Despite the heat and the rapid state of decomposition, the corpse was still untouched by predators.

—Photos 3 and 4 courtesy of the Cascade County (Montana) Sheriff's Department.



5. The circular area found in the grass near the mutilation. The owner of the farm could offer no explanation. The circle is approximately 12 feet in diameter, with a surrounding 16-inch band of deadened pasture-grass.



6. A black helicopter photographed as it flew over our campsite in the early morning hours of Aug. 27. No one at any of the airports, military installations, or local agencies would claim it as theirs.

IV. THE GOVERNMENT

Aha! Here we have something that will psychologically enhance any theory: How well The Government fits — like a hand a glove and *vice-versa* — any large-scale problem.

And, at the same time, let us not under-emphasize the possibility.

The Government is a large independent body, responsible only to itself, and certainly capable of acting out discreet or indiscreet (*their* choice) measures which may or may not adversely affect the populace.

Ed Sanders, in his article for *Oui* (I hope readers will avail themselves of an opportunity to locate and read the article as they were advised to do in Curt Sutherly's article), presents convincing evidence that the government may very well have something to do with the cattle mutilations; and that the "something" would more than likely be related to chemical-biological experimentation.

There are well-known instances of inadvertent (?) animal-kills in connection with chemical-warfare research of this nature. Sanders notes:

Bacteriological and chemical-warfare research, except for purely defensive purposes, has been banned in the United States since 1970. The ban grew out of an incident in Utah in March 1968, when thousands of sheep were accidentally killed by deadly VX nerve gas that apparently floated away from the Dugway Proving Grounds, bacteriological-warfare testing research center located southwest of Salt Lake City. The Army paid local ranchers something like \$376,000 in damages for 6400 snuffed sheep.²

... And there are the less well-known instances. Congressman Richard D. McCarthy, in his book *CBW: Chemical-Biological Warfare: the ultimate folly*, discusses (on page 113)

... a mysterious malady that afflicted some 230 cows on a farm on the Monocacy River — downstream from Detrick's sewage-disposal plant (i.e., Fort Detrick, a Maryland research facility). Since 1962, John H. Hall, who leases the farm, has reported that 80 of his cows died and another 150 became ill and were unable to give milk and were destroyed. An autopsy of a cow that died in February 1969 showed widespread organic destruction but was inconclusive as to the cause. Autopsies on 14 cows killed in 1964 disclosed a urinary infection.

Detrick officials in June 1969 released a report saying that extensive tests on water samples taken from the Monocacy weekly since 1961 show that their installation is not responsible for the sick cows. But the episode sounds remarkably similar to one that occurred at the other major U.S. biological warfare center, Pine Bluff Arsenal, where contamination of a local stream leading into a nearby river with toxic material prompted the Army to buy up the land along the stream.

And then there are the many other unconfirmed but quite probable instances. Diligent readers may remember a more recent Associated Press release that mentioned 40-50 wild horses that were found dead on the Dugway Proving Grounds on July 8, 1976. Despite the fact the Commander there "categorically ruled out" Army experimentation, nobody yet has figured out how the horses died.

Like Sanders, we too found someone who has worked for the government (the U.S. Army Combat Developments Command) developing technologically advanced "nasty" weapons for experimental use in Viet Nam (one of these weapons would make your head spin — that's what it's designed for). This man (whose name will be withheld at his request — for obvious reasons) originally began investigating the cattle mutilation phenomenon two years ago as an admitted bounty-hunter (various figures in the \$45,000-\$65,000 range have been or are being currently offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the mutilators). To his credit is the fact that, despite his conclusions that *the U.S. Government is directly involved with cattle mutilations*, he is still continuing his investigations without any vestiges of hope remaining concerning the reward monies offered.

According to this investigator, all reported mutilations occur within a 300-mile radius of a military installation; and this range is well within logistical feasibility for a Huey (or "jolly green giant," as they were called in Viet Nam) helicopter. These helicopters, which are dark and much more poorly marked than "normal" ones, could account for the numerous reports of unmarked "black" helicopters from areas where the mutilations have occurred.

He cites another occurrence which reinforces the bacteriological-research theory: a heart removed from a mutilated animal was taken to a laboratory for analysis, but by the time they got to the city law enforcement personnel discovered that the heart had "rotted." Compare to this Sanders' claim that "in virtually every state where mutilations have occurred, clostridial infections were found to be the cause of death in some cases." And in one particular case he telephoned the laboratory which had received heart, lung, kidney, and liver samples for analysis: "... in fact, a culture of *Clostridium sordelii* had been removed from the dead animal. The inner organs of the freshly dead animal had already turned to mush — a characteristic of clostridial infection."³

The investigator we talked with thinks that the "researchers" are experimenting with fast-deteriorating viruses that kill the animal within two minutes by destroying the red corpuscles in the blood. Military helicopters involved would have clearance to refuel secretly at any military base; the same jet helicopters would certainly be capable of transporting any necessary technologically advanced equipment and related support systems.

One very interesting incident occurred which may possibly be connected. Although the story was told to us originally by the investigator mentioned above, it was later substantiated by a deputy in charge of investigating the cattle mutilations in his county: A brand inspector reported to the police that while driving down a road in Wyoming he was "attacked" by a dark green, *totally* unmarked helicopter. Although he attempted to outrun the helicopter at speeds up to 90 m.p.h., he was unable to do

so; the helicopter stayed with him, eventually forcing him off the road and landing in front of his car. By this time the brand inspector was emotionally upset enough to step out of his car and fire four shots at the "chopper," causing it, in turn, to take off rapidly and disappear. The witness claimed that there were three men (*in dark clothing . . .*) in the helicopter which was later identified from "mug shots" as an Alouette III, a French-made helicopter. End of story.

Although unrelated directly with the above incident, a check made at airports in the same vicinity show records of someone driving a white van purchasing 400 gallons of aviation fuel; in another instance a military-type helicopter landed, refueled, and *paid for the fuel in cash*. Although none of these instances are directly related, they do indicate that something strange is going on — and that some agency of the U.S. Government may be involved.

Or is it someone masquerading as the government?

Hard-core Fortean may by now have noticed a number of interesting parallels, contradictions, paradoxes, and coincidences running through this narrative.

SUMMARY AND FOREGONE CONCLUSIONS SIMULTANEOUSLY

Aside from the predator-explanation, there remain three *palatable* theory/possibilities: cults, UFOs, and the Military/Govt. All of them (or rather "reports" of all of these) *are prevalent in areas where mutilations occur*.

1) In one sense, we can imagine that some of the most qualified representatives of the public's finest investigatory organs (CBI, FBI, CIA, etc?) *may be looking into the phenomenon, in-depth*.

In another sense, or perhaps by the same token, if any of the three — cults, UFOs, or the Military/Govt. — *were involved in secret research/sampling experiment/experiences*, then it is very well possible that these same investigatory projections of the public appear as mere "pseudopods" which are nothing more than *bumbling cops* simply not qualified to analyze the situation. Which gives away Conclusion Number 1: *We are all fools*.

2) Something definitely strange is going on. There is an unavoidable "unexplained" occurring that produces (and at the same time even *transcends*) *extreme puzzlement* for those sincere Law-enforcement personnel and other investigators taking careful and extreme interest in the phenomenon. Conclusion Number 2: *Cattle are being mutilated*.

3) This inability to cope with the information leads to the ultimate psychological necessity of putting the blame on a larger group basically opposed to, but at the same time exhibiting similarities to, *your way of thinking*. Perhaps, if we listen, these people can tell us something about ourselves.

Let's review the reactions we have seen so far. We have:

—Sheriffs (the LAW AND ORDER in us) who see the phenomena associated with the cattle mutilations as manifestations of *cult* activity. A cult is a tightly-controlled responsibility system with very strict rules and procedures (similar to the legal-system and *laws*). They

therefore oppose *automatically* this other system (which they are forced to reject because it is not mutually compatible with *their* system) and thus it is: evil. Anyone involved in perpetuating the mutilation "atrocities" must, because of the number and frequency of the mutilations over such a widespread area of the country, be a part of a larger-body group of like-minded, organized individuals: hence a cult.

I hope the reader is not so naive as to think that I am in any way trying to denigrate the sheriffs who are seriously attempting to get to the bottom of the phenomenon. Let me reiterate for those readers who may not have understood: I am simply using these "archtypes" as examples of *genuine people exhibiting to us parallels within our own collective way of viewing the phenomenon*. The same goes for the examples that follow.

—Private investigators/ex-govt. employees (the CURIOUS, looking from experience for a source of responsibility to blame) who see the phenomenon as actions of a Greater-Body or one of its organs that they *know is evil* — from experience; they were a part of it.

This placing of responsibility in a negative way on a known larger group also appears naturally in a number of ways in our day-to-day problems. Although it may have validity and certainly brings to light some very interesting questions, there is also a danger inherent in the approach; and that *relevance* may ultimately indicate the labyrinthine workings of the psyche rather than designate a solution to the problem at hand (the phrase introduced earlier in this paper — "the emotional or psychological matrix of the course" — applies equally to all of us).

"I'm not concerned with the nature or question of reality so much as the possibility that I may lose my grasp on it."

—*Many people* who feel "it's the result of UFOs. It has to be." (THE AWED AND AMAZED.) Too many strange things are occurring along with the mutilations. "No human agency or group could be doing *this*." I am including in this concept the opinions of many of the sheriffs with whom we spoke. Although the predominant sheriff's view can be said to gravitate more toward government or cult involvement, the more diligent (either through the continued occurrence of mutilations or the interest engendered by the phenomena) among them have in time become a part of the AWED AND AMAZED category: some have simply stopped investigating; others are trying almost desperately to remain "open" without being blown away by the increasing presence of associated "unexplaineds."

Conclusion Number 3: *It is not readily apparent that any one or combination of theory/possibility concepts can explain either coherently or consistently the phenomena associated with the cattle mutilation phenomenon itself as it is truly occurring*.

I am trying to impress something on the reader's consciousness.

It is *natural* that a large regulatory body should say it is predators.

It is *natural* that the cult theory should evolve from the mind of the Lawman (within us).

It is also *natural* for the disenchanting Govt. Man within us to blame it on the government.

It is *natural* that a great many people would feel that UFOs are involved.

And yet we are concerned here with a phenomena that is *not at all natural*.

Do not all of the above concepts exhibit a basic avoidance-syndrome that is prevalent in us all on a planetary scale?

"I'm not concerned with the nature or question of reality so much as the possibility that I may lose my grasp on it."

Perhaps the difficulty has been in attempting to look at the situation as a *problem* with an *answer* lying somewhere in the *known*, *normal*, or *acceptable* end of the spectrum of conscious understanding.

Perhaps we were wrong.

Even though any or all of the culprits we have glimpsed so far may be involved with some of the mutilations, this may not give us a true perspective or answer. Finding a murderer doesn't solve Murder.

Maybe there is some quality *other* than "wrong" associated with the phenomena. If we try looking in order to see then we must eliminate even that "prerequisite" moral sensation we feel somehow compelled to emoter — the presence of an evil, bad or criminal quality.

And, if we can't find anything tangible in the *known* end of the spectrum, let's look at what is manifesting itself from the other side. Without fear and avoidance. Without examining microscopically the intricacies that *theory* has to offer. Instead of looking *into* (from the explained to the unexplained) for "solutions" to the "problem," perhaps the Scientist in us should condescend to look briefly through what very well may be the *correct* end of the microscope, for all it's worth.

VARIATIONS ON A PARAPHYSICAL PLANE

Many accounts of "black helicopters" and "UFOs" are reported to sheriffs' departments in counties where mutilations are occurring. Those who would like to *narrow* the field of available culprits could easily imply that these reports signify the presence of only *one* or *the other* (depending upon which of them we would like to "blame"). Further investigation into the reports, however, indicate that clear distinctions fade into only increasingly more vague intimations of demarcation so that we find instead of more distinct boundaries only increasingly more subtle shadings.

Oh, there are strange dark and/or unmarked helicopters. We took a photograph (our way of shooting at anything) of one of these. This one was strange only by its actions (it veered away when we filmed it) and by the fact that when questioned, no agency in the area would claim it as their own, nor were there any records of its presence in the area.

There are clear accounts as well of phenomena that could only fit into the UFO category. And then there are the "other" accounts that exist in the *neitherworld* — neither in the one category nor the other, nor likewise do the accounts fit necessarily into the "rational" or "irrational" aspect of those respective realities.

A sheriff in Colorado told us that one evening (during a period of continued mutilations in his county) he was driving on the ground while his deputy flew a light airplane over an area where mutilations had occurred in the past, when they were notified by the Air Force that there was a helicopter (and on radar they can distinguish the

We are going to have to appeal for an interdisciplinary study of all the related phenomena ... only in this way will we ever find the common denominators that may ultimately reveal to us something much more profound about the human psyche and, in turn, the universe, which is reflected through it.

difference between a fixed-wing craft and a helicopter) *fifty feet* below the deputy's plane. For the two hours that the sheriff and the deputy chased the "helicopter," it remained on the radar — sometimes in front of the plane, sometimes behind it, occasionally over or under it; and neither the deputy in the air nor the sheriff in his car on the ground could see it. "There was simply nothing there." It didn't go away. The sheriff and his deputy, running low on fuel and high on frustration, gave up and went home after two hours.

A full accounting of the interplay of coincidence and occurrence would take too much space, so let us simply observe some examples of the undeniably remarkable "other" manifestations of interrelationships that collectively form, almost tangibly, and most delicately, like a tenuous membrane between shifting and sometimes polar physical and parapsychical realities.

Although no one has seen anything that could establish once and for all a direct mutilation/mutilator connection, one incident was reported to us (via a sheriff) of a man who saw "something" in an area where there had been mutilations. ~~This man will not tell what he "saw"~~ even after repeated questioning, cajoling, and pleading (and even the ultimate threat of arrest) on the sheriff's part; all he will say to the sheriff or his own family is that he refuses to ever go back into the high pasture where he camped one night and observed "something." His family, after witnessing the man's original "shaken" condition and his continual adamant refusal to discuss the incident, has found it prudent not to pursue the issue. And we will never know.

In another state, a deputy in charge of the investigations decided that there had been too many mutilations in his county. (*Editor's note:* This example may also serve to make the reader aware of the extent to which some of the sheriffs' departments have gone, attempting to find an answer to the mutilation problem in their areas.) He and several other deputies "staked out" an entire section (640 square acres!) one night. The job of organizing the

stakeout and closing off all roads to the chosen section in order to maintain proper surveillance was one of such dimensions that it required enlisting the aid of some of the farmer/ranchers from the area. A rancher living in the middle of the section helped to organize the others. All vehicles involved were equipped with an alternative communications system (rather than relying on the standard car radio — thereby hopefully hampering any “unauthorized” monitoring system).

They sat at crossroads and in the shadows alongside dark gravel roads. They checked out all cars coming through (or more likely *both* cars — there aren't very many cars on *these* back-country roads in the early morning hours). They waited all night.

And of course nothing happened. And when the sun came up, it was over. A tired deputy who had never really hoped to see anything anyway returned to his office. Just in time to answer a phone call from the farmer living in the center of the 640-acre target section, who had been instrumental in helping to organize others in his area to assist the sheriff's department. And who had walked into the same sunrise to find his registered quarterhorse dead, drained of blood, with several puncture-wounds in the chest. No tracks. And we will never know. . . .

Black-robed figures have been seen in the West. One was seen entering a potato-storage facility. Armed farmers went in after the figure to find only a footprint in the dust on the floor.

White-robed figures in Ohio. And in one town there, an increase of 400-500 per cent in gun sales during a one-week period.

Circles are being found in the grass near or around mutilated cows. Sometimes these circles appear to be burned into the pasture; at other times the grass is “wilted” as though “hot grease” had been poured over it. Occasionally, as in one of the cases we witnessed, the circle appears as a ring of dead grass among otherwise healthy pasture-grass. In one circular area of matted grass in Montana, all of the flattened grass blades were pointed in one direction (toward the east).

Men in Black have been observed parked in old Cadillacs alongside country roads. Accounts of “Hairy Creatures” are coming in regularly from some mutilation areas. In Montana footprints, sightings, and strange screams in the night (sometimes accompanied by the thundering footfalls of a swiftly running, large, bipedal creature) indicate the presence there of something — or *things* — having familiar similarities to “Bigfoot accounts” coming from other areas of the country.

We may *never* really know what is going on. Personally, I doubt that any one of the many views we have observed so far has the answer — if there is one. Instead, we are going to have to appeal for an interdisciplinary study of all the related phenomena, as it seems to me that only in this way will we ever find the common denominators that may ultimately reveal to us something much more profound about the human psyche and, in turn the universe, which is reflected through it.

Since it would be impossible to attempt an interdisciplinary approach in the space provided here, I will have to end on an *extradisciplinary* note. *We don't know*. It is more than likely the “answer” lies beyond any one (and therefore *limited*) approach to the problem. To more clearly illustrate what I mean, I will conclude with a

further word of warning to those Fortean who would accept my appeal for an interdisciplinary study. Although we may not hear about it for many years, it may logically come to pass that, for very good reasons, some government agency will eventually claim that they are responsible for all of the mutilations.

Even though they aren't.

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POST SCRIPT

Although it does not fit appropriately into the text of the article, I must relate the following story in the hopes that its *relevance*, however abstract, will not be ignored.

When we walked into one sheriff's office and explained who we were and what we were investigating, we were extremely surprised to hear the sheriff, who had held that office for more than twenty years, tell us that he knew who was doing the mutilations. Without a doubt. He had the answer.

“Are we talking about the same thing?” we asked.

“If we're talking about cows being found with rectal areas and other parts cut away, then we're talking about the same thing.”

“If you and your department knows, then why not everybody else?” we asked.

“Nobody's asked. We've known all along.”

We waited for a few polite seconds, but he wouldn't volunteer the information. With poised pencils, we finally had to ask.

“Well . . . ? Will you tell us?”

“Sure will. I guess you know it's getting near election time?”

“Yes.”

“Well, you see, they need all those assholes for office.”



SEQUEL TO FOUL-FOCI GRIDS or THE DODECATED GLOBE AGAIN

by William H. Whamond

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article, although it speaks for itself, is actually Part IV of a series. Part I appeared in *Pursuit*, Vol. 8, No. 4, Part II in Vol. 9, No. 2; Part III in Vol. 9, No. 3.

The author's object in writing this series of articles was to defend Ivan T. Sanderson's *findings*, as Sanderson was no longer alive to defend them himself. No doubt there are people around who don't believe in atoms or UFOs because they've never seen either, and who don't believe in "disappearances" in the Bermuda Triangle merely because they haven't (unfortunately) disappeared themselves — yet!

The author therefore attempted to find whether there were any *actual* physical, geometrical or other *scientific* "correspondences" or indications that the Bermuda Triangle zone may be (somehow) unusual. Several such coincidences or potential-significances were indeed uncovered and recently another considerable finding seems to have been "stumbled upon" by the author. Essentially, the author noticed (Fig. 25) that if the Earth's diameter is laid out along the Earth's surface, it will reach from a Pole to the "farside" (very nearly) of the Tropics zone. This is something which one certainly can't find in "Establishment" textbooks, and once again it poses the question, "Is this *really* just a coincidence?"

This discovery arose when the author read that Airline Captain Bruce Cathie of New Zealand had accumulated *data* indicating a relation between atomic-bomb tests and major earthquakes.¹ Captain Cathie found that test-sites and "Quakes" seemed to occur about 3,600 Nautical Miles (i.e. 4145½ Statute Miles) apart! As 3,600 Nautical Miles is 3,600 "Minutes of Arc" (i.e. 60°) at the Earth's surface, this represents 1/6 of a Great Circle and seems a little too neat to dismiss as *mere coincidence*. Such talk of "Quakes" recalled the belief of some UFO-researchers that UFOs "sniff around" the opposite "Pole" (i.e. the "diametrically-opposite" point) of an earthquake, on the theory that "Quakes" send out "shockwaves" around (and directly *through*) the Earth, which meet/collide at said opposite "Pole" of the globe.

The author therefore wondered if he could discover any *reason* for this seeming correlation noted by Captain Cathie. 60° of course suggests a Hexagon; so the author drew a sphere (Fig. 26), showing how a *semicircle* is *roughly* equivalent to a *Semi-Hexagon*. If we assume that a "hefty" impulse is given to (say) the N-Pole [as by a nuclear explosion (N), a volcano like Krakatoa (K), or the Tunguska "meteorite" (T)], then a "Direct" (i.e. Axial)

shockwave would travel straight *through* the Earth to the opposite (i.e. S-) "Pole" (a distance of two radii) and "bounce" back (that's *another* two Radii). A 4-radii trip just to return to the impulse-site (N-Pole). Meanwhile a "surface" shockwave has *also* fled the Impulse-Site (N-Pole), *around* to the opposite (i.e. S) Pole. Remember that the semicircle is being thought of as approximately a *Semi-Hexagon* (shown with a dotted line for simplicity). At the S-Pole, this surface shockwave has now travelled 3-radii (i.e. 3 sides of said Hexagon) and meets a second *identical* wave coming around from the other side of the world. This second surface-wave continues on; back over the path already travelled by the first surface-wave "rebounding." Indeed, we may regard it as *just* that! Suppose this second surface-wave (or first surface-wave "rebound," if we regard it so) has *returned* along one side of the (approximate) Hexagon. That's another 1-radius travel, additional to the 3-radii *already* travelled around the "Hex" to reach the S-Pole. That's a 4-radii trip so far, and places this returning surface-wave at point P.

But we recall that the *direct-wave* has *also* travelled 4-radii (along Earth's diameter, and back) and is now back at the N-Pole.

We now have a situation where the direct-wave has reached point N and the surface-wave has reached point P. These two shockwaves are thus now racing to meet each other at the point Q, located halfway between them. Suppose the direct-wave now "climbs out of the hole" at the explosion-site (i.e. N-Pole) and moves *along the surface* (i.e. approximately one Hexagon-side) to point Q. The *rebounding* surface-wave will also have moved one extra radius from P to Q in the same time. Hence there will be a momentous collision between the "rebounding" direct and surface shockpoints at point Q, occurring after *both* said waves have travelled through about 5-radii (or *radians*) in distance.

Presumably these two shockwaves collide in-phase (i.e. they *add* together) and produce a *doubled* impulse at point Q. The habitual sceptic may care to explain *why* this "Quake"-point Q is the 30° Latitude-line; the very location of the Great Pyramid of Cheops!

Those who regard this "Quake"-Theory as, "overly fanciful" may recall the world's "biggest ever" nuclear explosion, when Russia tested a 60 megaton H-Bomb at Novoya Zemblya. American geophysicists said "the Earth *rang* like a bell" and Khrushchev replied something like, "It worked better than we thought. Our scientists lost a zero somewhere (it was 'State Property') but I don't think we'll shoot them for *that*."

Of course Fig. 26 is probably an oversimplified explanation, but it *does* clearly show that any "Pulse" could

generate a pair of waves which recombine/collide about 60° from the pulse-site (i.e. around the 30° N. Latitude “ring”) after about 5-radii (or radians) of travel. In short, it’s a possible explanation for Capt. Cathie’s actual data.

Now that the Hexagon has given us a rough idea/picture, we can “forget about it” and try calculating point Q more precisely, using Fig. 27. This is a “Per Unit” Diagram of the Earth’s globe (i.e. a diagram where the basic measurement, namely *radius*, is taken to be 1). At point Q we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{direct-wave's path} &= \text{surface-wave's path} \\ (\text{i.e. Out} = \text{Rebound}) &= (\text{Out} + \text{Rebound}) \\ 2 + (2+x) &= \pi + (\pi-x) \\ \text{whence, } x &= \pi - 2 = 1.1416 \text{ radians} = 65^\circ 24\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus point “Q” is actually *South* of the 30° N-Latitude and only about 1° short of falling on the Tropic of Cancer (23½° N). In fact if more exact figures were used, allowing for the 13-mile (21 Km) high “bulge” at the Earth’s Equator, it might well turn out that point Q lies *exactly* on the Tropic of Cancer (approximately 23½° N)?

Note that “2” (in Fig. 27) represents Earth’s (Polar) diameter, and we have just proved above that $x = \pi - 2$ (i.e. Semicircumference minus diameter) so the Arc SQ evidently equals Earth’s diameter SN (as also shown in Fig. 25) in length. In short; Earth’s diameter would “span” an arc extending from either pole to the “farside” of the “Tropics” zone, if “laid out” along a Great-Circle. Is this just coincidence? Is it also coincidence that these same two Tropics-latitudes seemingly coincide with the latitude of “maximum reverberation” expected from any type of Polar disturbance? Is it just another coincidence that ten of Ivan T. Sanderson’s Vile Vortices (or Foul-Foci) are spaced along these two “Tropics” latitudes? And how did the Cheops Pyramid get into the act? The difference between 30° N Latitude (where “Cheops” is) and the Tropic of Cancer (23½° N) is about 6½°. The difference between the two semi-angles (which I call B - X) embodied in the peak of the Cheops Pyramid is 6.4285°. I wonder. Certainly if any auroral disturbances and similar electromagnetic phenomena arise at the N-Pole, the Great Pyramid seems unusually well situated to collect its share of any resulting “vibes.” John Michell² discusses the Ancients’ belief in a worldwide network or grid of “Telluric Currents” on which they sited their temples, etc. (i.e. Stonehenge and the Cheops Pyramid). The French writer Aimé Michel then disclosed his Orthoteny Theory that UFOs travel along some such Straight-Line “grid.” Now Capt. Cathie of New Zealand has come forward with his findings³ of an even more remarkable grid, of awesome (and even slightly sinister) implications (Figs. 28 and 29).

When the author commenced his “Dodecated Globe” article he was completely unaware of the existence of Capt. Cathie. Yet Capt. Cathie’s actual plotting of UFO-tracks and sightings on his navigation charts has uncovered the fact that the UFOs’ courses lie along a system of rectangles similar to the “numbered grid” system employed by the Military Mapmakers of most countries (that’s only the *least* of what Capt. Cathie has discovered, so read his books if you like being startled!).

The author does not pretend to be an authority on Capt. Cathie’s findings, and Capt Cathie in his book freely admits his own researches are by no means concluded as yet. However, it appears that Capt. Cathie has discovered two or three Global-“Grids” which *intermingle* (similar to the way this author’s Icosa/Dodeca Grids intermingle to form the Russian Dual-Grid as demonstrated in the earlier “Dodecated Globe” articles). The simplest of Capt. Cathie’s grids seems to be a “Rhombic-Dodeca”⁴ comprising a total of 12 Diamonds, 4 of which have their long-axes “nose-to-tail” around the Equator, and another 4 of which are grouped at each Pole with their acute-points clustered together to form 4-panel/petal “polar umbrellas.” In their “spherical” mode these Diamonds have angles of 90° and 120° (in Fig. 28), but when “sandpapered down” to form Facets (Fig. 29) they have their acute-angle = 70°31’44” and their obtuse-angle turns out to be our old friend the Maraldi-Angle = 109°28’16”! Such Facet-Diamonds are also “canted” at 120° to each other. (Model-Makers take note: if you can find something like an eggcup which just fits a ping-pong ball — i.e. a split-tube with a ball in each end, you have an *easy and cheap* way of inscribing Great Circles on Mini-Globes such as the 6 Great Circles forming this Rhombic-Dodeca. An Aspirin bottlecap is the exact size for scribing the 45° small circle Latitudes on a ping-pong ball.) The “Cubocta”⁵ may also be involved, as it is the Dual of the Rhombic-Dodeca. The “Rhombic-Cubocta”⁶ results from intermingling the Cube and Octa (which are Duals) and appears likely to turn out to be Capt. Cathie’s basic Globe-Circling Grid. (24 toothpicks will make an excellent Faceted Rhombic-Dodeca model as in Fig. 29. 30 for an Icosa!)

In working out his grid, Capt. Cathie noticed that certain proportions (or “Harmonics”) occurring in it correspond to certain ratios of the atom⁷ and he wonders whether UFOs might be able (somehow) to “tune themselves in” to “Free Power” by keeping to such a Grid-Pattern? Such notions are not as fanciful as some persons may think. For instance, Dr. R. B. Fuller’s formula for the “Closest packing of Spheres” about a central core or “nucleus” is $10h^2 + 2 = n$, where “n” is the number of Spheres in the hth-Layer (or hth-Harmonic). If we make $h = 3$, we get $n = 10(3)^2 + 2$, which is 92.

There happens to be 92 electrons (Spheres) orbiting the nucleus of the Uranium atom!

So the Uranium atom seems to be “tailored” to a 3rd Harmonic of “ye olde” Icosa! It might be revealing to check what all other atoms are “tailored” to, geometrically?

If UFOs actually do tap a Free-Power source, it certainly explains why the public is being kept from learning of this alternative to governments’ present vicious “crisis prices” policy!

Capt. Cathie has obviously done extensive reading and some very deep thinking on the latest atomic theories regarding the nature of the universe. Like this author, he believes in *simplifying* “Establishment”-Formulas. For instance he points out that there’s no valid reason why there *should* be 24 hours in a day; so he uses 27 (smaller) “hours”, as it simplifies his maths! Similarly there’s no reason *whatever* to use 360° for a circle (the French use 100 “Grads”!) and Capt. Cathie seems to use

smaller degrees, which results in his having 371 (smaller) degrees in a complete cycle.⁸

Now *this* devious-minded author realized that this meant a $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle would be $371/4 = 92^{\circ}45'$ of Cathie's (smaller) degrees and when this is converted to radians it is found to be 1.618 radians; which is that (seemingly) inescapable Golden Ratio once again!

There's no indication that Capt. Cathie ever even *heard* of the Golden Ratio (most educated people haven't!) and the skeptics will no doubt again chorus "co-incidence!" But when *dice* come up the same way seven to ten times in a row, such skeptics are always the first to yell "loaded!" Yet the public takes such inconsistent and illogical critics *seriously!*

Those who (like this author) are *disgusted* with the childish and ridiculous *lies* which the World's Rulers dispense regarding UFOs will find in Capt. Cathie's two startling books ample *proof* that governments know *enormously more than they admit*.

For instance, Capt. Cathie decided to delve into the famed Bermuda Triangle mystery of the five missing Avenger torpedo bombers.⁹ However, instead of using his mouth (like so many of the journalist-type scoffers) he used his brain. He consulted an Almanac. He found that *on that particular day* (over a quarter of a century ago) the sun and the search-area had assumed an angular relationship which corresponded to an harmonic of his Grid-System. He finds similar instances elsewhere where such conditions match earthquake sites and volcanic eruptions; from which he concludes that such "Harmonic-Correspondences" are indicative of a localized "warping" or stressing of space. Which seems, (does it not?) to be getting close to some of Einstein's Theories regarding "Spacetime."

It is also significant that the French nuclear scientist Jacques Bergier says something like "I recall my surprise on first learning of the Russian astronomer N. A. Kozyrev's proposal to utilize *time-flow* as an *energy-source*. It was only belatedly that I realized Kozyrev's Proposal was a *perfectly legitimate application* of "Relativity" and "Quantum Mechanics!" Bergier then explains, "For in Quantum Theory (under certain conditions) the product of a particle's energy by the *local time* remains *constant!*"¹⁰

"So if the *local time* changes, it follows that you may have *release* of energy," concludes Bergier. Of course Bergier is here commenting on Kozyrev's proposal to *release* the energy of Time. But the "Constant Product" theorem he mentions above obviously implies you "may also have *energy absorbed* when *local time* changes."

Suppose we assume that on that fateful day a quarter-century ago the Sun had moved to a location such that the "local time" was "right" (or rather *ripe*, as Capt. Cathie's Harmonics seem to suggest!) and that the famed Avenger torpedo-bombers then flew into that very "chancy" location? What would happen to the *energy* of *their* particles?

Is there not somewhere a *NON-"Establishment"* Ph.D. who can do some Quantum-Relativistic calculations we could *trust*? Someone without the usual Establishment/Managerial "connections" which automatically render him suspect of moonlighting for the C.I.A. (by producing false data on UFO matters)? For in his book, *Flying Saucers and the Three Men* (page 8), Albert

K. Bender mentions that UFOs *were* reported around Fort Lauderdale (Florida) on *that* very day; something which seems to have gotten itself "censored" out of all *later* versions of this famous incident. Yet Sanderson mentions *many* sightings of UFOs in the "Triangle" and suggests undersea bases there.

Finally, the Feb/76 issue of SAGA runs an unusual article describing the impressions of the relatives of the victims, that the Government was trying to "cover-up" something. The article concludes by quoting one missing Airman's widow as saying, "My feeling is that the Airmen saw something in 'the Triangle' which fouled up their instruments and so frightened the Flight-Leader that he 'warned off' one rescue plane. Something which the Government doesn't want the public to know about." I'd say *right on!* (To this author it sounds almost like a dress-rehearsal for the famed "Captain Mantell incident" *only two years later.*) A monster UFO, rising from an undersea base directly under Flight 19? Or perhaps surprised on the surface as it was about to submerge to its base? *Hardly* the kind of thing a UFO would likely let people escape to *talk* about (Especially if we were known to possess nuclear "depth charges" and *not* known for our I.Q.!).

The Bermuda Triangle "goings on" have attracted the usual cross-section of "phonies", viz; — the "Crackpot Exhibitionists," the "Fast-Buck Wiseguys," the "Skeptic-Loudmouths," the "Departmental Dinosaurs" (representing some Govt. Dept. or other), etc., etc.

One person who has made a commendable effort to "cull the phonies" is Larry Kusche, who has amassed a great amount of meticulously verified and cross-checked information. Such compilation of *reliable* data is the proper first step in any *scientific* undertaking: Kusche's summary of the current "Bermuda Triangle Legend" couldn't have been improved by *this* author even after reading at least a dozen books and articles on the subject. Kusche's solutions to some disappearances are simple, if shocking — such as that the Govt. seems willing to license canal-type *bulkheadless* Bulk-Carriers for ocean use! Certainly no mystery about *those* disappearances!

However, one *essential* aspect of these mysterious disappearances which Kusche *doesn't* manage to solve is the *off-reported* "radio fading" or "communications blanketing" feature. Yet this "communication blanketing" provides a crucial clue, because:

- 1) In WWI and II armed merchant ships were used as decoys for enemy submarines. These Q-ships (Q for queer?) used to cruise around looking "suspiciously innocent," hoping to entice an enemy Q-ship or submarine. In which event the cabins folded flat to reveal a battery of artillery! Contrary to the Romantic Tradition, the first shot *didn't* go "across the bows!" It went through the Radio-Mast! In other words — communications blanketing.
- 2) There have been so many reports of UFOs causing "electrical interference" to cars and aircraft that one would have to be somewhat "mental" to believe it to be "scientifically impossible."
- 3) The Carribean is so famed for its hurricanes, pirates, revolutionaries, smugglers, hijackers and

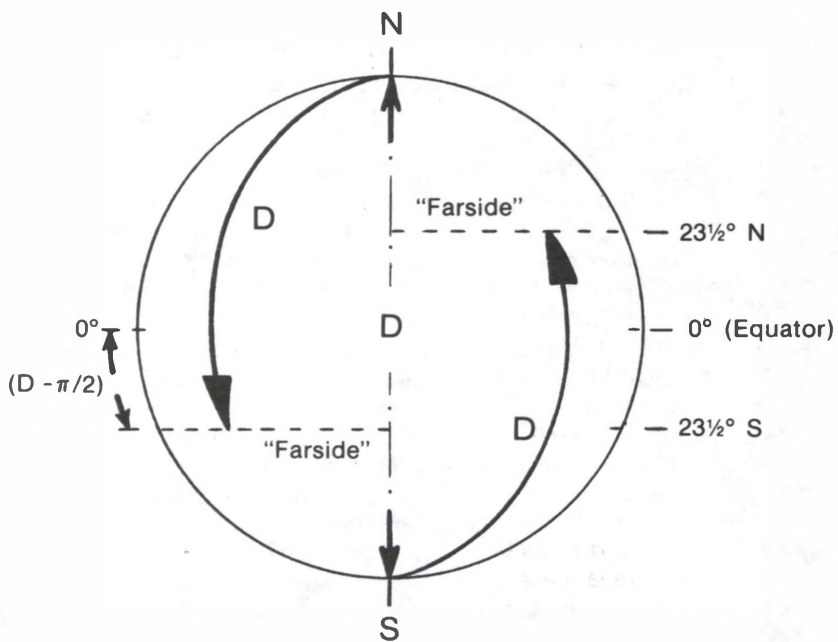


Fig. 25

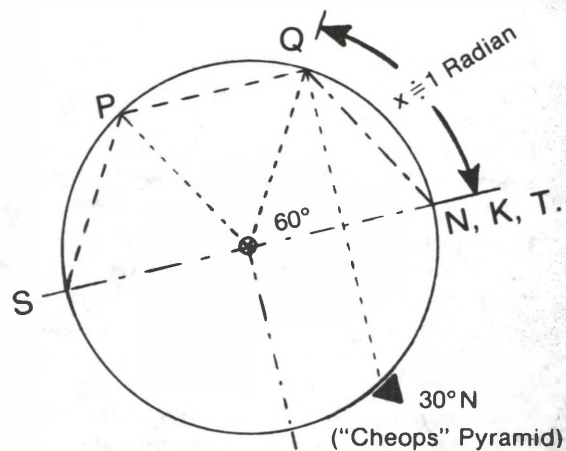


Fig. 26

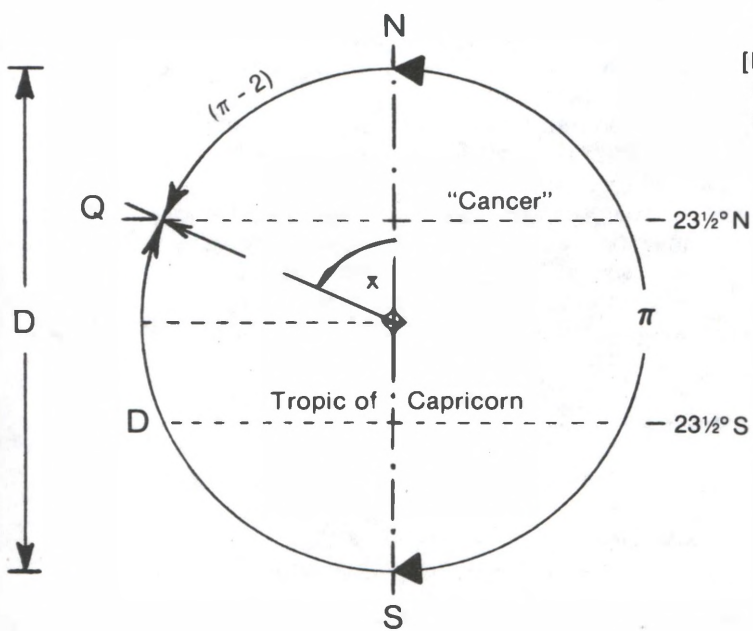


Fig. 27

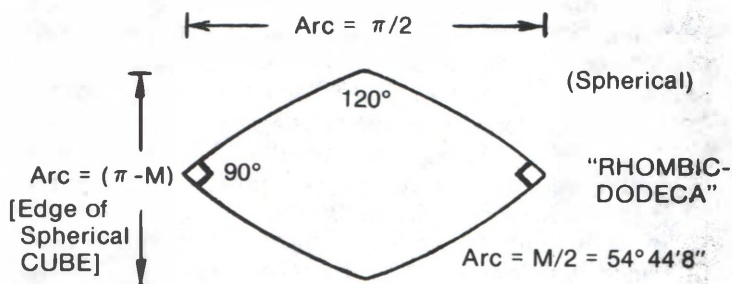


Fig. 28

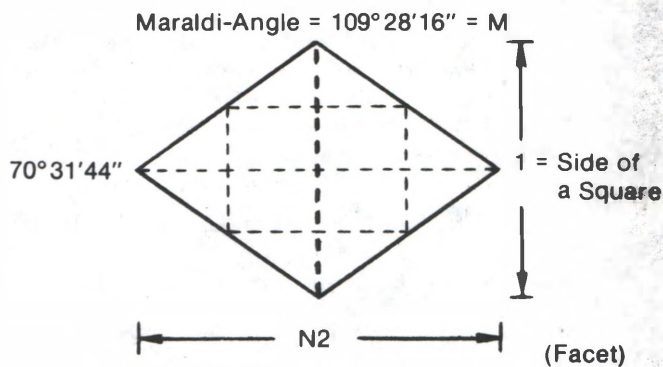


Fig. 29

frustrated "Managemental Talent" sinking their yachts for insurance, that if UFOs wanted a "slice of the action," the Caribbean would obviously be "where it's at!!" Hence UFO "blanket and snatch" operations in the Bermuda Triangle would be less likely to arouse suspicion than elsewhere.

Which all brings us back to the simplest and most likely explanation, as originally given by the late Ivan T. Sanderson,¹¹ namely: *undersea* civilizations and UFO bases.

This still leaves the question of location. *Why* a base in the Caribbean/Bermuda Triangle? Well, it's handy to two continents and two oceans. It's deep and warm/tropic. It contains enough weather and "malarky" to hide any

covert-operations. But the most important reason of *all* (I continue to believe) is that there's something *special* about the *location*. For instance, it may be an intersection-point on Ivan T. Sanderson's Icosa-Grid or on Capt. Cathie's, or the intersection-point of *several different* Grids. Note also confirmation¹² of this author's suspicion (*Pursuit*: Vol. 8, No. 4) that Tectonic-Plates may "equipartition" themselves *Icosa-wise*!

Just as the U.S. Govt. selected Cape Kennedy (instead of say, Baja California) as a rocket-launching site because it lets them safely launch east (which means the rocket gets a free 1000 mph "boost" from the Earth's spin) — so too the UFO-nauts doubtless had *their* compelling technical reasons for "expropriating" the Ber-

muda Triangle! As to just *what* those technical reasons are, we can only sense (particularly after reading Capt. Cathie's "Grid-Harmonic-Tuning" ideas) that they may involve easier or more frequent launch-opportunities for spaceflight. For if 20th Century Science can tune a radio to a "station," who's to say that a 30th Century Science couldn't tune a UFO to another Planet; and then (when the local time was right/ripe!) "snatch" it there? And if five museum-pieces just happen to "gatecrash" the "count-down"? — *tough!* Fringe benefits.

There is a widespread belief that nuclear explosions have somehow "attracted" UFOs. Certainly a stupendous pulse of *neutrinos* should attract attention like a beacon. The author believes that the essential point, however, is being *missed!* Nuclear explosions may have (somehow) *made it easier* for UFOs to reach Earth. One can imagine that while our 20th Century radio-telescopes are "peering out of the fishbowl" so to speak, elsewhere a 30th Century Superscope is scanning in our direction! Its operator (around 1945) suddenly reports that a "soft spot" is developing way out in "Galactic Hind-quarters." "That should bring it within range of our Launches," muses his Chief. The ultra-range *hologrammer* is then focused on the "soft-spot," tuned into resonance, and a UFO is "Fax-blipped" across. Nothin' to it. And if five antique airplanes just happen to *blunder* into the "resonance-focus," well, presumably they just get "swapped" for an equivalent mass of UFOs! In accordance with Einstein's Law of Conservation of Mass-Energy, of course.

Nor is there anything in the least far-fetched in the thought of 30th Century Science using such a "soft-spot" concept. Because that comparatively simplistic *thing* called 20th Century Science *already* uses such a "soft-spot" concept. Only *they* call it a "window." NASA calls *their* soft-spot "Launch-Windows." When electronics-engineers working with microwave, infrared and sonar, etc.

talk about "windows" they mean a tiny few times (or frequencies) when/where *everything* is "just right" for their launch, and for microwave, infrared, or sonar to "go through." A "window" is a fortuitous conjunction of the *technical* "circumstances" involved.

It sounds almost like Astrology, and *in a way, it is!*

Certain authors (e.g. John Keel) have drawn graphs of "number of UFOs sighted" and "number of poltergeist occurrences" for the same period. Such graphs show some close correspondences!

Other authors, (e.g. Capt. Cathie) find a correlation between UFOs, earthquakes and volcanoes. The famed Charles Fort cited a lot of actual records of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions which occurred following "Novas" out in *supposedly* "unreachable" space!

But, once again the *essential* point is being *missed!*; a "window" must have somehow occurred, and UFOs *have made use of it to arrive here.* Now the fact that poltergeists (and maybe astrologers) *also* used said *free* window doesn't have to mean that they "belong" to UFOs in any manner whatsoever!

Put it another way. If you leave your bedroom window open and cats, bats, moths and snails (and maybe even a burglar) enter, does one conclude that there's a "mysterious connection" between all such creatures? *No!* One concludes that *everything that can* takes advantage of an open "window" because it constitutes the *path of least resistance.*

Of course it's no use even trying to explain all *that* to the Old Tyranno-Sore-Arses of the Military/Industrial "Establishment."

No doubt some readers will consider the above "overly imaginative." But at least it's not as bad as those guys who say *nothing could be happening* in the Bermuda Triangle. Now *there's* a bunch of guys who're *really* working their imaginations overtime!



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General Interest:

Flying Saucers and the Three Men, by Albert K. Bender
SAGA Magazine, February 1976

The Bermuda Triangle Mystery; Solved, by Larry Kusche

The Devil's Triangle, by Richard Winer

The Bermuda Triangle, by Charles Berlitz

Fiction:

Three Corners to Nowhere, by Martin Caidin

SITU feels that this winter's weather is worthy of further investigations. We therefore are asking *all* our members to send in clippings, especially *strange* weather events, situations, etc.

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