

STIGMATA

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THE PROJECT STIGMA REPORT ON THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE OCCURRENCE OF ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

STIGMATA SUBSCRIPTIONS: STIGMATA is published quarterly through 1982. STIGMATA will not be published quarterly in 1983, and the first 1983 issue may not appear until as late as Summer. But we will continue to publish, as neither the mutilations nor the investigations into same have abated. Subscriptions (for 1983 only) to addresses in the United States, Canada and Mexico are \$5.00 (U.S.) per year.

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NOTE TO ALL READERS: We sincerely regret our publication delays (as elaborated upon in our recent supplemental sheet) which find us producing the final 1982 issue in 1983. Unfortunately, the delays will continue, at least where STIGMATA is concerned(see above). The next STIGMATA, once it does appear, will update the continuing developments on the mutilation scene which have occurred throughout 1982. CRUX, a journal loosely described as "Fortean" in content and orientation, will appear within the next few months. Orders for CRUX #1 can be sent to the address above: \$3.00 (foreign: \$5.00 U.S.) (Specify CRUX).

ENDANGERED SPECIES

THE MOVIE THAT NOT EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT

If the number of people who have actually seen this film can be taken as some indication of the number of people who are talking about it, our sub-title stands. Reports from around the country indicate that "Endangered Species" has been doing less than "boffo" business at movie theaters. That's too bad. It's far from perfect. But it is worth seeing, and it deserves much more of a chance than MGM/United Artists seems to be giving it.

It has not been clear from the newspaper & theater ads that "Endangered Species" deals (in part) with livestock mutilations. We have wondered if an ad campaign that was more explicit in that regard would have made any difference in the attendance figures, especially in areas where livestock mutilations have occurred. Some of the actors and a consultant toured major cities and did receive some media coverage, but it did not seem to make much difference.

The film had been scheduled for release in October 1982. But for some reason the studio elected to release it in some markets in early September, so the publicists were caught a bit off guard and may not have been able to handle the publicity as they would have liked. The film did indeed open in parts of the West in September, then some areas in October, and it finally opened in New York City (in one theater) in November (see comments to follow by Keel and Jordan). Screenings were held for the press and other groups. In Washington, D.C., invitations to free screenings were extended to Pentagon personnel and to CIA personnel. In neither case did anyone show up to see the movie. A military source told one Washington columnist that the Pentagon had actually considered trying to "ban" the film (who knows - maybe it worked!). In Hollywood, it was speculated that there might be an effort later to promote "Species" as sort of a "cult" film, maybe re-releasing it in a revitalized campaign as in the case of films like "Cutter & Bone" (later and more successfully re-issued as "Cutter's Way"). Or, maybe more likely, "Endangered Species" will next be seen on cable TV.

Can the film itself be blamed for the poor box office showing? We don't think so. While a definitive mutilation-document it is not, it is an imaginative, even at times compelling movie, with an adroit use of sound and lighting, and it is directed with verve by Alan Rudolph (who co-authored the screenplay with John Binder). There is a good and solid cast - Robert Urich as a burnt-out New York cop headin' west (trying to outgrow his airhead TV roles, he really does a very commendable job). There is Jo Beth Williams as a lady sheriff of a fictional Colorado county (a most competent actress, and she shows it here, though she gets glopped up in an unnecessary & contrived romance with Urich (had to get that shower scene in there somehow, though). There's a solid

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performance from Hoyt Axton as a rancher, and likewise from Paul Dooley as a newspaperman. And Peter Coyote, in a role quite the antithesis of his sympathetic scientist in "E.T.", is a villain who really doesn't seem to be a nice person at all. And it's nice to see that Harry Carey, Jr. is still plugging away. Another familiar old-timer, Gene Evans, portrayed a former sheriff (Ms. Williams' father); but alas, he ended up on the cutting room floor.

There are holes in the story, and it is too easy for us long-time mute investigators to pick nits out of it. As we anticipated in our last issue, the denouement is not satisfying. But, given the framework and limitations of the story, the movie - if looked at as a "movie" and not a "mutilation movie" - is actually very well done. Actually, some investigators deem it a valid treatment of one of the more prominently suggested scenarios (quasi-military experimenters spurred by "patriotic" motives).

Attending a screening in Dallas, we were frankly prepared to be more dis-satisfied and disappointed than we were. "Endangered Species" is obviously the product of a very talented team of filmmakers at Alive Enterprises (including Rudolph, producers Carolyn Pfeiffer and Zalman King, and classy technicians on down the line).

We will not re-hash the plot here. Rather we feel it more important to emphasize that this is a film that deserves a chance - and certainly better box-office numbers. As Linda Moulton Howe of KMGH-TV in Denver (Linda wrote, produced & directed the mutilation documentary, "A Strange Harvest") has said, anyone involved in mutilation research will not be embarrassed by association with "Endangered Species". We do recommend that our readers see the movie - if you can, as it has yet to appear in many areas (including our town of 25,000), and may indeed not be in release at all by the time this goes to press.

Overall, we have been surprised at the positive tone of many of the reviews. We must have expected more bad reviews, just as we expected the movie itself to be worse than it was. What follows are a few of the critics responses to "Endangered Species":

TIME (Richard Schickel): "...The picture is stylishly made and suspenseful..."

NEWSWEEK (David Ansen): "Edgy, paranoid and flamboyant, "Endangered Species" is never boring, but it consistently rings false. It's a shame Rudolph felt the need to pump up the conventional, melodramatic aspects of his tale: you can't take any of it seriously, and his speculations end up looking more crackpot than they had to. When a real conundrum is as outlandish as the case of the cattle 'mutes', the story would have been much better served using documentary restraint. Next time just the facts, ma'am."

US (Stephen Schaefer): "...One of the year's most exhilarating action thrillers...a daz-

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zling, assured cross-cutting style...an eerie, mesmerizing sound aura by Gary Wright."

ROLLING STONE: "Unfortunately, what could have been a political thriller with sci-fi overtones or a sci-fi thriller with political overtones ends up being a non-thriller."

LOS ANGELES TIMES (Kevin Thomas): "...the premise for 'Endangered Species'... is as chilling as it is persuasive, even if the film as a whole is less so...A thriller with a political hook...could have been lots more than the pretty good, if not always convincing, picture (that) it is."

DALLAS MORNING NEWS (Philip Wuntch): "...this deftly made cautionary thriller eventually preys on our paranoia about the destruction of our existence as we know it... may be seen as a purely visceral chiller with several crackerjack chase sequences, hampered primarily by a washout of an ending...but Rudolph has obtained first-rate performances from a well-chosen cast..."

DALLAS TIMES HERALD (John Bloom): "'Endangered Species' is the bovine version of 'Missing' (with a little 'China Syndrome' added)...There is nothing terribly wrong with 'Endangered Species' - it moves along at a fairly rapid clip, has nice photography and adequate acting - that a good script couldn't have solved."

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, Denver (Robert Denerstein): "Rudolph...serves up a sometimes quirky movie, but it's almost as though he's working with two films; a second-rate melodrama built around shallow contemporary themes and a thriller with political overtones."

WACO (Texas) TRIBUNE (Bob Darden): "'Endangered Species' is a well-constructed little thriller that is at its best when playing on a strong groundswell of American paranoia. Fired by an immensely believable (and likeable) performance by JoBeth Williams as the embattled sheriff, 'Species' has all the earmarks of a first-rate science-fiction action yarn. Alas, having the earmarks and actually producing the goods are two different things entirely. It's good but not great. 'Endangered Species' flounders at the precise minute it should be soaring. And that's despite what initially appeared to be a taut script and a half-dozen crackjack acting jobs."

CALIFORNIA (Kenneth Turan): "...the premise at the heart of 'Endangered Species' - the informed speculation about what is behind the wave of real-life cattle mutilations that has swept the western states - is provocative and well enough thought out to excuse most of the film's weaknesses."

COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE TELEGRAPH (Joe Barber): "...The film is chillingly persuasive...well laced with humor, tension and action."

CINEFANTASTIQUE (David Hogan): "The true-life rash of cattle mutilations that has plagued the American west over the last decade could have become the springboard for a supremely silly movie - a sort of Sunn Classics version of the NATIONAL ENQUIRER - but writer John Binder and director/co-writer Alan Rudolph have created a high-energy thriller so crammed with incident and intelligent characterization that it rises above its chilling but unremarkable plot."

WALL STREET JOURNAL (Joy Gould Boyum): "Such films often start with fascinating ideas and a good deal of force. But because of confused intentions, desperate efforts to be entertaining, or a simple failure of nerve, such films end up betraying their powerful beginnings."

LOG CABIN DEMOCRAT;Conway, Arkansas (Alton J. Robertson): "A film that has one of the greatest combinations found in any cinematic journey: the mixture of popular entertainment and a thought-provoking theme...The late Alfred Hitchcock would have most likely loved the pair (Urich & Williams) and their edgy and uncertain relationship and how that relationship plays upon the central problem within the story...Peter Coyote is a genuine villain in a manner that would please Hitchcock, who firmly believed the stronger the villain, the better the film. Coyote is prime nastiness. (The film) made me a nervous wreck, and I haven't felt that way after seeing a movie in more than a decade. I loved it. I look forward to seeing it again."

Also of interest are the comments of JoBeth Williams, interviewed by Bob Porter of the DALLAS TIMES HERALD (September 14, 1982). She elaborated on some of the people and ideas that she encountered while on location for "Endangered Species" (set in Colorado, and filmed mostly in Wyoming, partially in Colorado):

"Yes, I met a number of ranchers whose cattle had been mutilated. It was interesting to talk to them. Those were first-hand reports. There are a lot of people who support the theory (of germ warfare tests). But the ranchers I talked to, oddly enough, most of them thought it was UFOs. I was really shocked by that. Because, here are these salt-of-the-earth kind of guys, these rugged ranchmen, saying, "Oh, yeah! I think it is UFOs"...That kind of blew me away."

The ranchers reach this conclusion, she believes, because typically no tracks of any kind are found around the dead cattle and bright lights in the night are frequently reported around the sites. That would lead one to think of UFOs, a catch-all for unexplainable phenomena. For herself, she's comfortable enough with the germ warfare theory. She arrived at that stance, she said, after having talked extensively with a private investigator who had studied the phenomenon for several years. The use of helicopters to pick up and redeposit the cattle in their grazing land offers an explanation to both the lack of tracks

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and the bright lights. Those mutilations, Miss Williams said, have been found in 40 states and in numerous places around the globe, from Canada to Brazil. There have been more than 10,000 separate reports. She thinks there must have been five or six times as many cases of mysterious mutilations go unreported(sic) because ranchers have difficulty getting officialdom to respond.

"They (officials) all say the deaths of the cattle are by natural causes or predators. The ranchers are no fools", she explained. "They say if the coyotes killed the cattle they brought along their scalpels. The mutilations are that precise. The government won't do anything about it and the local sheriffs, who are close to the scene, and at least sympathetic to the ranchmen, just give up because they don't get any support."

An interview with JoBeth Williams' co-star, Robert Urich, was conducted by Arthur Bell for his "Bell Tells" column in the VILLAGE VOICE (New York City). In the edition of November 23, 1982, Bell reports that Urich.....

.....believed the movie had merit and MGM had let it slip by unheralded. "Species" is a political potboiler about cattle mutilation aimed at vegetarians and the SPCA. Yet the story of how the government kills off cows isn't as enthralling as the tale of how Urich gets Sheriff JoBeth ("Poltergeist") Williams to finally say moo to him: they're a steamy team, and their love scenes are worth the price of bacon. According to the actor, whose demeanor reminds one of Burt Reynolds, "We started production on "Endangered Species" when David Begelman was head of MGM, but half-way through, Freddie Fields replaced him, and he brought along a bunch of bible salesmen in pin-striped suits. They didn't understand what we were doing. They thought they were getting this guy from TV - me - in a high-style action mystery suited for drive-ins. Their heads weren't geared for anything different."

Consequently, MGM released the movie nationwide over a two-week period, five months after it was ready for distribution, refusing to hire a project manager to work on publicity. If handled properly, Urich believes, "Species" could have become the subject of political editorials and articles on the news pages, much like "Missing". He says there was noise out of the Pentagon - when questioned about the noise, poor Urich is vague, though he knows the head guys down there refused to attend a screening. "Certainly people in power know things that we don't about chemical warfare against animals, and they want to keep us dumb." Urich confesses he was anything but ecstatic filming scenes with his bovine brothers and sisters. He was gentleman enough, however, to refrain from eating meat while shooting seq-

uences of cattle slaughter, he offers between bites of a burger from room service. Cows aren't thoughtful or compassionate creatures when it comes to hogging scenes with live actors. "There are three basic things God created them to do", claims the charming Urich. "To eat. Then to do what they have to when the food comes out the other end. And, eventually, to make good rump roast. Anyone who says moviemaking was easy ought to have their heads examined. I was stepped on, kicked by, and pissed on by more cows than I care to remember."

Something else came to light in early 1983. The studio, MGM/UA Entertainment Co., elected a new member to its board of directors: Gen. Alexander Haig, the former Secretary of State. And, according to the WALL STREET JOURNAL (Jan. 10, 1983), he will also be paid \$25,000 a year as a consultant to MGM/UA.

Now, a few comments from STIGMATA readers. E. Edwin Austin of the Mutilation Data Center (4623 E. Washington, Apt. 20; Orange, CA 92669) offers his review of "Endangered Species":

Somebody has done one hell of a research job! The movie is fiction, based on fact. The strange part is that this movie reaches the same conclusions I reached long ago, from different data. Their stuff reinforces mine and vice versa. They use a genuine silent helicopter, short wide blades, muffled jet engine and all. But they inserted a brand new factor, originally from a law enforcement investigator, Louis Girodo, District Attorney's Office, Trinidad, Colorado. Large, white trucks - he says, hauling the choppers out to the approximate area, then flown. This truck thing would doggone sure explain all the screwy appearances and disappearances of the choppers!

The movie brings another new element into the picture, with the statement that the nerve and reproductive systems of cattle almost exactly duplicate humans. That puts a new light on something else they didn't have. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture noises about "the possibility of Parvo Virus mutating into man". Considering that USDA is the largest single CBW research agency in the world, anything they say about anything bears close examination.

Still another element is the connection into human murders. They treat them as assassinations. When you put that together with the (Ted) Bundy tie to Oregon cattle mutilations and the (Richard) Chase tie to the Nevada calf mutilation, then add in the fact that Chase's father is an Air Force intelligence officer and Chase's first victim was a law enforcement-connected BLM surveyor supervisor -- and Bundy's 30-plus victims plus his three or four failed attempts were 100% government connected, over 50% law enforcement connected -- the theme holds up. Also, I have a highly suspicious case from Elsberry, Missouri, that brought me an implied threat from the funeral director who handled the body. I have been saying for a long time that we are not giving enough attention

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to related or connected murders. Maybe this movie will point it up better.

They describe chemically induced "heart attacks". I have a list of over 200 such unexplained heart attacks, among opponents to one of the more violent cults, which fit this pattern perfectly. The cult is right-wing extremist and may have been involved in CBW experiments in the Kansas City area some years ago, done by a closely associated right-wing extremist political group. This is something I never connected into the mutes before.

There are several items of the same nature.

I have two basic complaints about the movie. First, they treat cults as pure red herring - military disinformation. I have at least half a dozen cases in my own files out of Missouri that I know for an absolute fact are cult. STIGMATA has more that can't be anything else. Thus, I would have been happier if they treated cults as real, but part, not all. Second - all semi-documentaries of this kind pack too much information into too little time. This one is no exception - take your notebook if you go see it.

But it is well worth seeing. This is the first movie with reasonably good research behind it. It is a good way to get some background available no where else. After talking to Louis Girodo, it appears that mutilations continue at a slightly lower pace, but that owners have stopped reporting them. If so, that indicates secret vigilante action - far more dangerous in the long run than the mutes. If so, the movie may be a timely way of reinstating the subject.

When "Endangered Species" opened in New York City in November 1982, the response (at the one theater where it was showing) was less than overwhelming. Fortean writer and mute researcher Peter Jordan saw the picture in New York and reports:

As docudrama, the film succeeds in ways I frankly would not have thought possible...The dialogue turned awkward one or two times, but I doubt if the majority of viewers even noticed, since the tension the film evokes seems to mask any minor flaws which appear. There's a nice flow, superb editing, and even some nice metaphor for enthusiasts like me. This is simply low-budget at its highest potential. What's simply astonishing, though, is that there were only 20 of us in attendance (on a Saturday), when I can tell you that openings such as this usually guarantee that one will have to remain stuck in lines that extend two or more city blocks in length!

Noted Fortean author John A. Keel saw "Species" at the same theater attended by Peter Jordan, and he offered these comments:

As you probably know, the producers opted for the Ed Sanders explanation and tried very hard to make it plausible. The flick got lukewarm-to-good

reviews here but it is a terrible flop. According to Variety, it grossed \$11,578 the first week here, and \$7,500 the second week. The nut (expenses) of the theater are \$8,800 per week. So the producers won't get a nickel out of the brief NYC run (it closed yesterday)(ed.note: 11-20-82). There were six showings daily so that means it averaged out to about 45 tickets sold per showing. The producer would end up with less than \$1500 for a two-week run in Gotham. If it did as poorly elsewhere, the picture will rank as a very large bomb. The day I saw it, there were about eight people in the audience. Tim Beckley saw it on a Sat. night and there were 13 people in the audience! I imagine the costs of TV commercials, ads, and pressagent hype will far exceed the miserable \$1500 and the distributor will probably back off and shelve the picture...if he hasn't already.

Keel is all too prophetic. As of mid-January 1983, Alive Enterprises, "Endangered Species"'s production company, indicated that the picture was dead-in-the-water (or on-the-prairie) and that there had not even been any efforts thus far to strike a deal with either network TV or subscription TV (HBO, Showtime, etc.).

THE CONSULTANT

In making "Endangered Species", Alive Enterprises hired a livestock mutilation consultant, George C. Erianne of Colorado Springs, Colorado - where, until recently, he worked as "The Detective", a private eye specializing in (from his business card) "exclusive private investigations, national & international". Before that he had worked as a cop and as a "super spook" for a number of intelligence agencies. A man not without "connections". He has investigated the mutilations extensively, both on his own and for such organizations as ABC News, during preparation of their aborted "20-20" mutilation probe.

It's no secret that "Endangered Species" depicts the mutilations as the by-product of unauthorized military (or quasi-military) research into germ warfare; and the scenario for the mutilations as presented in the movie closely parallels Erianne's findings and tentative conclusions. Erianne told the COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE TELEGRAPH (8-25-82) and the LOS ANGELES TIMES (9-10-82) that he felt the scenario in "Species" was about 75 per cent accurate. However - "Species" was premiered at the Telluride (Colorado) Film Festival in September 1982. Erianne was overheard in informal conversation in Telluride saying that he felt the UFO hypothesis was the most likely to explain the mutes, and that he had no real proof regarding any other theory. Around this time (Aug. 29, 1982), the ROCKY MT. NEWS in Denver published an exhaustive interview/article on Erianne & his provocative cloak-and-dagger background; but there was no mention whatsoever in the article about Erianne's extensive mutilation investigations.

LETTERS

Before he wrote to us regarding "Endangered Species", John Keel fired off a response to the article in STIGMATA 18 - "Tome To Torpedo Mutes", wherein is described the efforts of authors Dan Kagan & Ian Summers and Bantam Books to publish a pointless book in which the mutilation problem is (to the satisfaction of the authors) debunked and defused. Since Keel wrote in Summer 1982, the late word is that Bantam still plans to publish the book, possibly in mid-1983. Keel's comments.....

Don't hold your breath waiting for the appearance of Bantam's mutilation mess by Kagan and Summers. Actually, Kagan wrote it and Summers, a literary agent, just went along for the ride. Kagan is a victim of the (Philip) Klass syndrome...that is, he is tussling with his own insecurities and obsessions. He has no real credentials, no journalistic or literary credits or experience. His manuscript was an awesomely undisciplined brew of repetitious, egoistic, unqualified speculations covering over a thousand pages. Various free-lance editors were called in to whittle it down. At last report it had been reduced to about 500 pages (To be publishable in today's market, the ms. should not be longer than 250-300 pages).

Although Bantam paid out a hefty five-figure advance for the book, they would be smart to scrap the whole project. Before they set out on their grand tour, I had dinner with the dashing duo and advised them to investigate The Phenomenon and not waste time investigating the investigators...but, of course, they ended up doing the latter because it was easier and because mute investigators (and all Fortean types) are very vulnerable. Kagan, a washed out pre-med student, delighted himself in animal dissections and autopsies. I warned him repeatedly - having grown up on a farm myself - that farmers and local vets are not the ignorant yokels he believed them to be. But his whole anti-mute posture had to be constructed around the yokel premise. Nor could Kagan grasp the fact that mutilations have actually received a minimum of publicity, even in the areas where they were occurring with great frequency. He didn't bother to do any basic library research (For example, he was unfamiliar with Fort's references to the 1905 mute wave. He didn't even know about the fascinating Kansas wave in 1973-74.).

Like Klass, he found it easier to discredit or ignore whatever failed to conform to his negative hypothesis. A large part of his book was devoted to discrediting mute investigators. Most of this libelous trash has been edited out but the Bantam editors realize it is a book without a market. The affected farmers are not interested in buying and wading through a hefty book that assumes a negative position and tells them nothing useful. The general public doesn't give a damn. The Forteans (there are only about 1800 of them in the U.S.) won't be at all interested in reading such an ill-informed, insulting mish-mash. However, perhaps Kagan has a horde of relatives who will buy the book.

Keel also adds that:

Ivan Sanderson and I were investigating animal mutilations throughout the north-east in the 1960's. In 1966, I looked into thirty mutilations in the Scranton, PA area alone. A year or so later, the frustrated farmers of PA tried to form an association to halt the growing number of mutes. They failed to get any real government support and the effort eventually died out. When I first started examining the UFO literature of the 1940's and 50's I was struck by the number of animal mutilation cases that had filtered into them. These phenomena are consistent over a long period of time and I doubt very much if any simple-minded government project is the culprit.

The pseudonymous "X-9" has been consistently critical of the "Grudge 13" allegations offered up by the equally pseudonymous "Toulinet", claims that we began reporting on in STIGMATA #14. "X-9" is decidedly skeptical of Toulinet's claim to have investigated (as part of a Special Forces operation) the crash of an "intact" B-52 bomber that may have been downed by a UFO in Vietnam. "X-9" mulls over that supposed operation:

The first thing to do would be to secure the perimeter from possible hostile attack to ensure the safety of the ECM goodies. This would more properly be entrusted to a company (more likely a battalion) of airborne. This done, the plane would be searched, but because of the uncertainty of what would be found and the status of the various destruct devices, such a search would not be given to a glorified infantry unit like the SF, but USAF techs flown in. You will note that this same "individual" (love that military parlance) received no less than three battlefield promotions. Bunk. I'll be triple of nothing for my issue of CRUX that the sum of all battlefield commissions awarded to US forces in 'nam equals ZERO. In fact, none since the Korean War.

There is more to report on our "Grudge 13" source, "Toulinet", in the following unconfirmed account. In May of 1982, Toulinet was contacted by his former commanding officer at the listening post near London (where he read & analyzed the "Grudge 13" report). This colonel had been unceremoniously dumped from the service as had Toulinet; the colonel retired to New Mexico. In May he told Toulinet that he had information regarding the site of an apparent UFO crash and/or landing in New Mexico. Accompanied by a third man, Toulinet & the colonel drove a four-wheel-drive van to the suspected site late that month. They parked the van, Toulinet walked some distance from the van while examining the area, and the other two men were near the van working with equipment. Suddenly, a noise & flash attracted Toulinet's attention, and he watch as a "rocket" tore through the night sky, exploded on or near the van, apparently killing the other two. Toulinet ran, hitchhiked back to his hometown, went to a friend to spill the story and, saying that his life was not then worth two cents, he left, and he has not been seen or heard from since.

Schmitt Revisited

In the summer of 1982, U.S. Senator Harrison "Jack" Schmitt of New Mexico, who co-sponsored the 1979 mutilation conference in Albuquerque, was interviewed by the RIO GRANDE SUN of Espanola, New Mexico, the principal newspaper of mule-plagued Rio Arriba County. The Senator reiterated his concern over the mutilation problem, his belief that "individuals" (humans, that is, not predatory animals) were responsible for at least some mutilations, and he discussed the "mystery helicopters" as a relevant aspect of the problem. Schmitt had been criticized for holding the 1979 conference at public expense. But the SUN cites Schmitt aide Wayne Ciddio as pointing out that the conference was held in a public building and "cost no money to speak of" while Kenneth Rommel received an LEAA grant on the order of \$50,000 for his "investigation".

When questioned about the few mutilations that had been reported in Northern New Mexico in the spring and summer of 1982 and whether this renewed activity might justify another conference, Schmitt replied:

I think that depends upon whether a pattern of mutilations starts to develop again. Clearly right after that (1979) conference we found that there was almost no mutilation activity in the state of New Mexico. So that if nothing else, it appears that the conference had the purpose of protecting the property of many small ranchers and farmers for that period of time. Now if these individuals have returned to New Mexico and are continuing to violate federal law and state law, then clearly it would warrant.....

Schmitt at that point was cut off & interrupted by the reporters, Tom and Lester Kinsolving, but he later returned to the subject of the 1979 conference:

...As a consequence of that conference, or seemingly as a consequence of it, the mutilations stopped for a number of years (STIGMATA note: certainly not true for the U.S., and not even for New Mexico). And I see nothing wrong with that cost-benefit analysis. Every one of those cows was worth several hundred dollars, and there were many, many reported instances of the loss of cows.

Schmitt was asked how he managed to "keep a straight face" at the 1979 conference:

I always keep a straight face when the property - and potentially the lives of New Mexicans are involved. Clearly, whatever the explanation of the cattle mutilations has been or is - or explanations, plural - it has involved the loss of property by individual ranchers and farmers - small ranchers and farmers for the most part - and they had asked me to try to do something about this. The first step was to get the Justice Department to admit that there was a federal jurisdiction - which they didn't want to admit under

the Carter administration, but finally did - and then agree to have a joint hearing conference on this subject to air the issues publicly, and then to see where we would proceed from there.

The federal authorities have been very reluctant to step forward and exercise their jurisdiction in this matter. I don't know why, unless they just didn't want to be dragged into something they don't think they can explain. But clearly the rustling of cattle and the killing of cattle represents a crime in the state of New Mexico and if committed on federal property represents a federal crime. And the law is very clear on that, no matter what the Justice Department may have originally said.

The article ends with Schmitt remarking that he knows of "no definitive evidence" leading to whatever forces are behind the mutilations, and, to Schmitt's mind, there has simply been "no full explanation".

Ex-astronaut and moon-walker Schmitt clearly had something else to worry about - his reelection campaign to retain his U.S. Senate seat. His opponent was New Mexico Attorney General Jeff Bingaman - one of his campaign slogans was "What on earth has Jack Schmitt done for New Mexico?", or something to that effect. In a campaign that got a little nasty toward the end, Bingaman won.

MDC Report

(by E. Edwin Austin; Mutilation Data Center; 4623 E. Washington, Apt. 20; Orange, CA 92669)

LANDALUCE

The recent death of Landaluce, the multi-million-dollar race horse who was favored to win Santa Anita, spawned an absolute Pandora's Box. Local vets could not determine the cause of death, so the carcass was shipped to the University of California's veterinary school at Davis. Dr. Bennie Osborn controlled all publicity and supervised or did the post-mortem. Dr. Osborn issued a press release saying that the horse died from blood clots all through it, probably caused by "an unknown virus". The clotting phenomenon - along with other anomalies - appear all through cattle mutilations. I also have one human case from Elsberry, Missouri. Naturally, I burned up the phone trying to get to Dr. Osborn. No answer for two days. I called around and was told that he was "on vacation". Huh? He takes a vacation right in the middle of the biggest necropsy in his career? And his secretary with him? Whoa, now - what's this?

I tried to get hold of Landaluce's owners. The racetrack at Santa Anita says they don't

know who they are or how to mail anything to them. A multi-million-dollar horse racing for one of the world's largest purses and the track doesn't have the name and address of the owners? Now we're getting to the point of cover-up.

It's funny --- I got the same thing in the human blood-clotting case. When I wrote Rick's Funeral Home in Elsberry, Missouri - who embalmed the body - I got an angry, insulting letter back that contained thinly-veiled threats. The owners are part of a political machine that was at one time controlling drug trade, fencing, gambling, etc., in the county and I brought them down in a shambles, so I credited their hostility to that - now I wonder.

The blood-clotting phenomenon and other blood anomalies appear all over the place in our livestock cases. It also appears in books as far back as 1969 dealing with chemical/biological warfare. One of these books, "Yellow Rain", ties the chemicals to reconnaissance aircraft positively identified as U.S. origin.

Considering all the systematic interference with state and local investigations, it appears that any future press releases from Dr. Osborn should be regarded as a combination of propaganda and scapegoat stuff - like the Williams prosecution in Atlanta, the Son-of-Sam cover-up in New York and refusal to follow through on loose ends in the Chase, Bianchi and Bundy killings. This, of course, ignores unanswered questions in both Kennedy and the King assassinations.

Without personal and long-term contact with Landaluce's owners, this one stops here, blocked by cover-up.

An Investigation Still - In - Progress

The investigation into the important Cash/Landrum case of December 1980 continues (see STIGMATA #17). Readers are directed to the "UFO Update" in the "Anti Matter" section of the February 1983 OMNI magazine. The unfortunate aftermath drags on for Betty Cash (heart attack, stroke in recent months), Vickie Landrum (worsening cataract, weakness, sores that leave scars) and young Colby Landrum (vision impairment, sores, nausea, anemia and potentially (according to OMNI) leukemia). An investigation led by McDonnell Douglas engineer John Schuessler (an officer in both the MUFON and VISIT UFO-investigative organizations) has uncovered a number of witnesses who saw Chinook-type helicopters that night and in that area. The latest on the helicopter aspect is revealed by Schuessler in this December 1982 report:

The Cash/Landrum incident took place during Monday evening, 29 December 1980. During the incident the three victims were exposed to something that caused

lasting physical injury and impairment. Also during the incident the victims reported sighting more than 20 helicopters. Many of the helicopters were of the large twin-rotor type - distinctly military.

During the follow-up investigation Ft. Hood, Ellington AFB, the Inspector General's representative and others excused the possibility of military helicopter operations during the incident, by stating that military units don't operate during the Christmas holiday period. Ellington people went one step further by stating they fly only on weekends. VISIT investigators proved both statements to be incorrect by citing specific activities of helicopter units as proof. Now, two years later, the source of the helicopters that participated in the Cash/Landrum incident is still a mystery. However, helicopter operations continue in the Houston area. On Tuesday, 28 December 1982, a CH-47 Chinook in Army markings approached the Clear Lake, Texas area from the south at 3:01 PM, made a turn over the Johnson Space Center, and landed at Ellington AFB. Additional CH-47 flights out of Ellington were observed at 6:19 PM, 6:41 PM, and 7:19 PM. Later flights were mixed with F-4 Phantom flights until after 9:30 PM. Again, CH-47's flew on a week-night and during Christmas week.

MISCELLANY

MOSQUITO MADNESS: Writing in the September 1979 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC magazine, mosquito authority & University of Utah biologist Lewis T. Nielsen pointed out that: "With the possible exception of man himself, (the mosquito) bears responsibility for more death and discomfort than any other single form of animal life on our planet". The insects are responsible for afflictions ranging from malaria and yellow fever to dog heartworms. Hurricane Allen battered the coast of Texas in August of 1980. Its high tides left salt marshes festering with a zillion-legged army of "skeeters". A month or so later, four cows and a calf were found dead on a Brazoria County ranch. As much as half of the blood was missing from the carcasses, with "no external or internal hemorrhaging to account for the severe anemia". Veterinarian L.G. Gayle of Texas A&M University felt it a strong probability that mosquitos extracted the animals' blood, and that the cattle either died directly from blood loss or later from heat & exhaustion. The cattle had come in at 4:00 PM and were dead the next morning. Gayle suspected that mosquitos may have been responsible for other similar cattle deaths along the coast. (MILWAUKEE JOURNAL, 9-20-80).

STARK - RAVEN - MADNESS: In the Dryden/Oxdrift area of Western Ontario, Canada, ravens were observed plucking the eyes from cattle during the spring of 1982. The cow would drop to the ground (as soon as the eye was plucked out) "like it had been hit with a sledgehammer". Following the eye-removal, the birds would retire to the rectum for a leisurely pecking-away at that area. Oxdrift farmer George Wall suffered a number of cat-

tle losses in this fashion, and he claimed that some of the animals were "absolutely bled dry". But though Dryden veterinarian David Millar agreed that the cattle suffered some bleeding from the eye cavities, neither this nor the pecking-away at the rectum should have been enough to cause death. He theorized that the sudden death may in some way relate to the shock accompanying the severing of the optic nerve. Farmer Wall estimated that he had lost 40 cattle, valued at \$10,000, in this way. Farmers in the Kenora, Ontario area, some 100 km. to the west, suffered similar cattle losses (attributed to ravens) in the spring of 1982. And in far west-central Manitoba, near The Pas, farmer John Yaworski lost 10 calves to raven attacks that spring. NEW SCIENTIST (May 27, 1982), PURSUIT (1st Quarter 1982), NIAGARA FALLS REVIEW (April 13, 1982), THE EXPOSITOR (Brantford, Ont.) (April 13, 1982), TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL (April 17, 1982). Credit: Bill Banks, Jerome Clark, Dwight Whalen.

In 1980 New Jersey Fortean researcher Peter A. Jordan published a monograph, GLIMPSES THROUGH A LOOKING GLASS, in which he reported on the use of psychometry (psychic analysis) in his mutilation-related investigations. GLIMPSES was & is must reading for serious mutilation researchers, regardless of ones initial reaction to the potential "practical" use of psychometry. Jordan's report has now been reprinted in the British publication, the pre-eminent FORTEAN TIMES (\$12.00 for 1 year, \$4.00 single copy). Jordan's piece appears in issue no. 38. Write:

BM - FORTEAN TIMES, London WC 1H 3XX, United Kingdom

Highly recommended for its text (for Spanish-readers) and for its pictorial content (for anyone into mute research) is a new Spanish-language publication by adventurer-investigator Danny Liska, who divides his time between his Nebraska homeland and Colombia, South America. Send \$5.00(U.S.) and ask for publication no. 12, regarding livestock mutilations. Write: Danny Liska; Niobrara, Nebraska 68760.

Scattered throughout the U.S. are scores of defensive missiles in "silos" maintained by the military. Many of the sites are unmanned, though monitored from a central location. The security arrangements are so highly sophisticated as to (we are told) "defy description". On the Western plains in the mid-to-late 1970's, security police arrived at one such site to find the gate and the silo wide open. Baffling was the fact that no security alarms had been set off. But there was no sabotage, nothing missing. Along the fence around the perimeter of the site was "a sprinkling of silvery-colored residue that had kind of coagulated". We are told that "Blue Book" (!?) personnel confiscated the material.

Our next publication will be CRUX, to be followed by however-many STIGMATA's there will be in 1983. This is your final STIGMATA, if you have not renewed for 1983.
