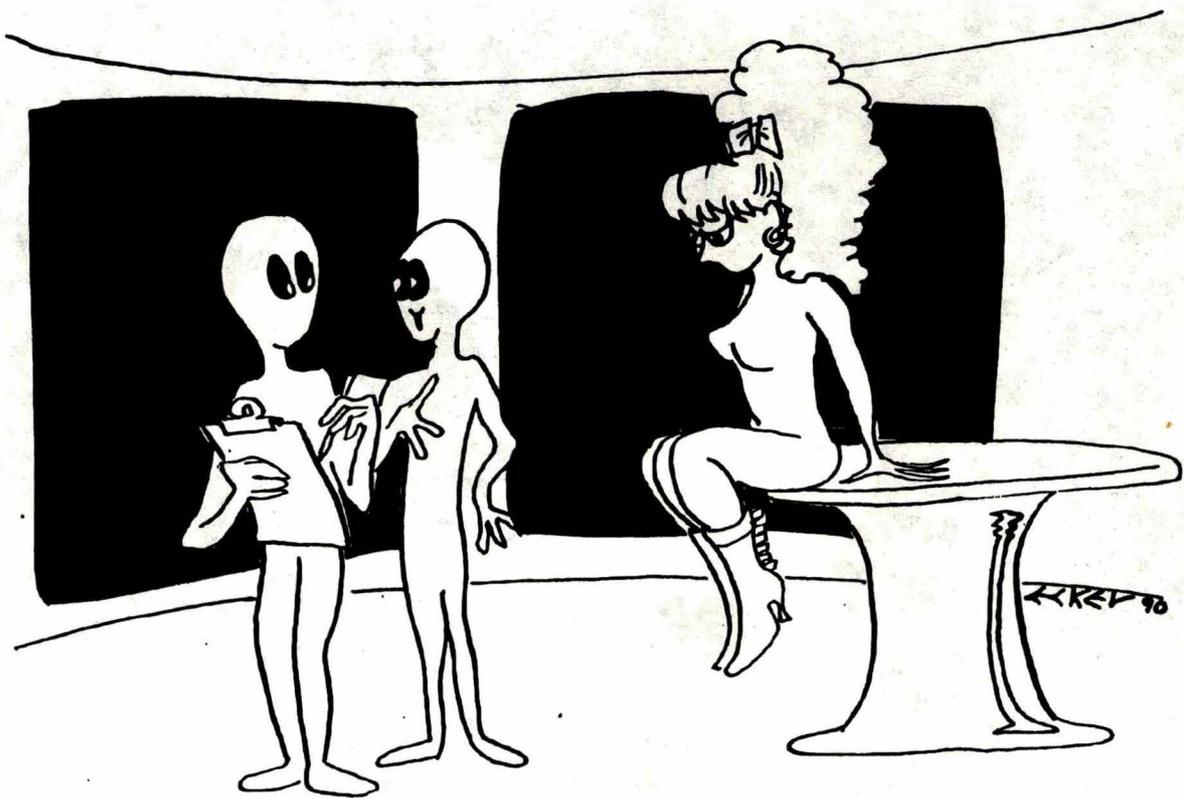


The Alabama Cattle Mutilations



Is there anything behind them?



THIS ONE WAS EASY TO CATCH,
BUT SHE SAYS WEIRD STUFF
IS GOING TO COST EXTRA.

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Don Ecker, *UFO Magazine's* research director and an investigator whose opinions we respect, is convinced through personal experience as a police investigator that there are some truly mysterious mutilations of animals and humans going on. Gabe Valdez, a retired New Mexico state police officer, has offered opinions on cattle mutilations he has investigated that, in our opinion, cannot be discounted. And in Puerto Rico, journalist Jorge Martin has reported eye witness testimony strongly indicating a link between mysterious animal deaths, UFOs and aliens.

On the other hand, there is no dark recess of the universe, no phenomenon or belief so esoteric or recondite that some enterprising person won't try to glean a living from it.

So on mutilations in general, the jury is still out. But what about the recent happenings in northern Alabama?

Our first clue that all was not as it seemed came at the Fyffe Police Department's mutilation press conference. Officer Ted Oliphant, UFO filmmaker turned policeman, had passed out a press release and a guide for mutilation investigators, had recited the press release and was taking questions. A reporter asked, "I think you said that some of the cuts in the past have been found to be between cells?"

"I've never said that," Oliphant replied quickly.

"Oh, you never did?"

"No, I've never heard that or anything like that. Never."

About halfway down the first page of the investigation guide he had just handed out, with his name at the top, we read: "In some cases, mutilator cuts have been accomplished by cutting in-between cells."

That sour little note turned out to be the leitmotif for our Alabama mutilation investigation.

So what's going on in Alabama? Axe grinding: definitely. Genuine UFO sightings: probably. Mysterious mutilations: probably not, but the case isn't closed.

Ufologist

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Readers' Forum

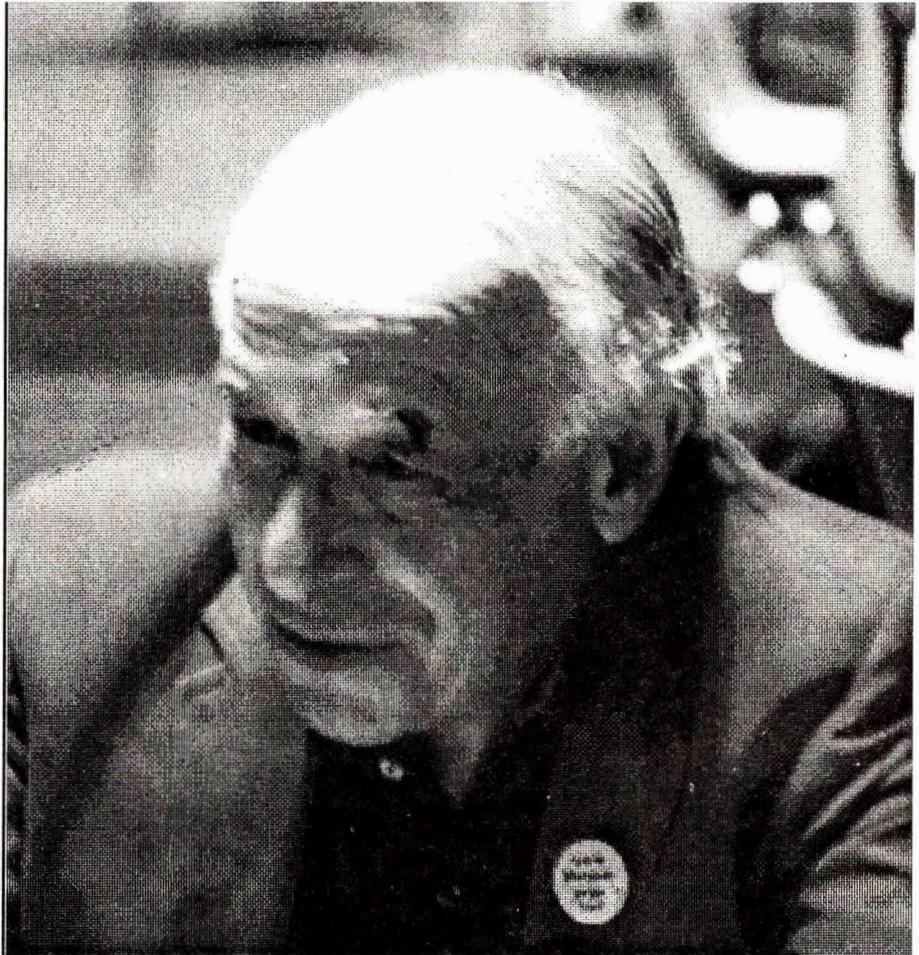
Phil Klass disputes Puerto Rico aerostat story

Am too rushed at the moment to do more than a quick scan through the new issue of the *Ufologist*. But having written some of the earliest stories on Tethered Aerostats for *AV Week* nearly 20 years ago, I paused to reread your article "Puerto Ricans suspicious of aerostat."

I own no stock in Westinghouse, or in T-Com which was spun off as a separate corporation. But your characterization of the tethered balloons as "fragile" is plain wrong—unless you also characterize 747s as "fragile" because they sometimes malfunction and crash.

You ask: "What are aerostats good for?" As any radar or communications engineer can explain: To extend the line-of-sight of radar/communications beyond limits imposed by the earth's curvature. And to provide a "look-down" capability to detect low-flying aircraft carrying illicit drugs. If a drug-smuggler is flying at an altitude of, say, 200 ft., the maximum possible range at which the aircraft can be detected by a ground-based radar is roughly 15 miles. But maximum detection range increases 10-fold (150 miles) if the radar is installed on a tethered aerostat flying at 10,000 ft. altitude.

The Coast Guard does use small jet aircraft and helicopters, outfitted with radar and infrared sensors. But these are expensive to operate and have limited time on station.



Philip J. Klass

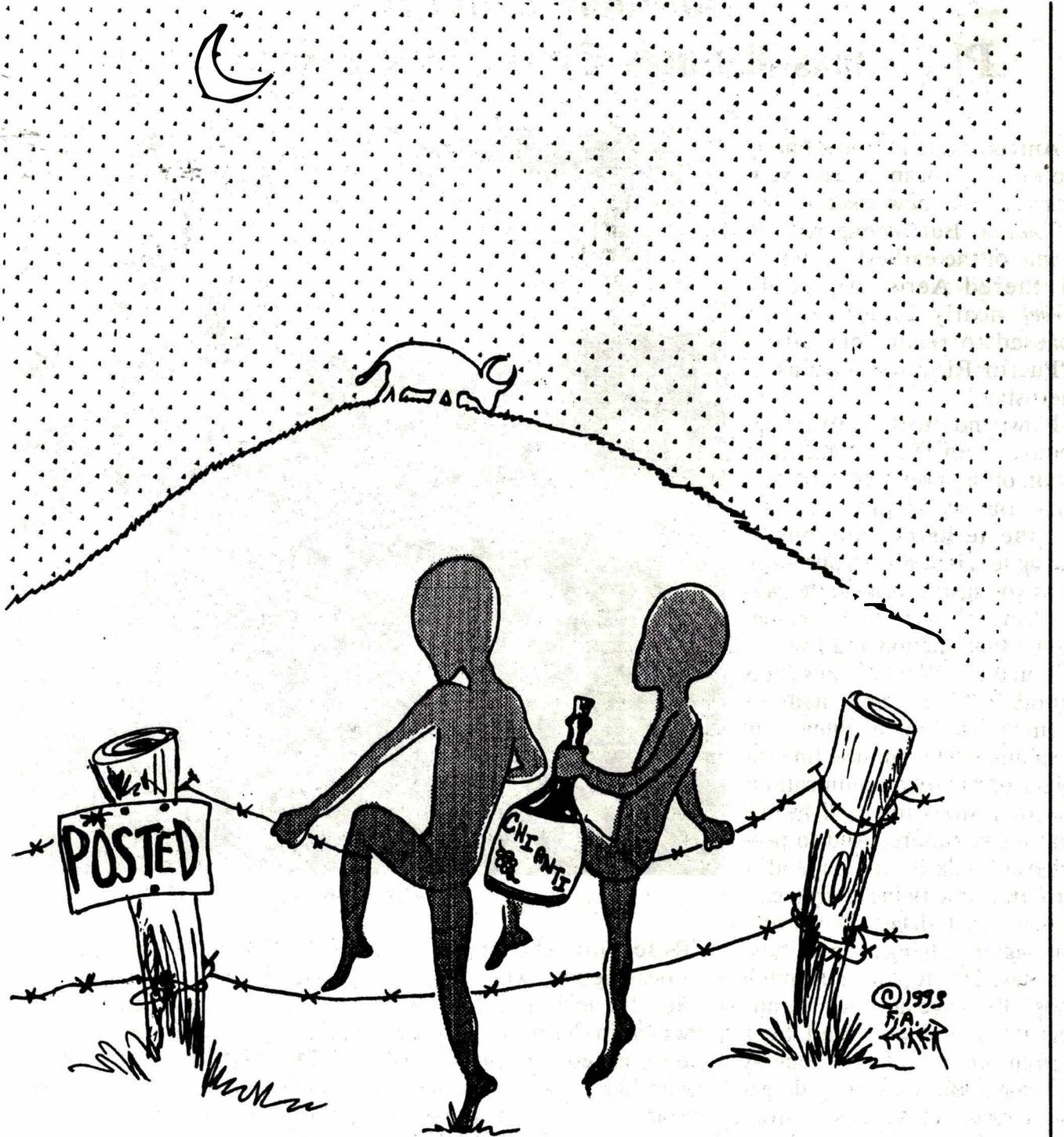
Reference the claim that "Local people who have applied for jobs at the aerostat facility (in Puerto Rico) report being asked questions about their beliefs and experiences regarding UFOs and the possibility of extraterrestrial life..."

I challenge those who make such claims to substantiate them by having 10 persons apply for a job and carry a microcassette recorder hidden in their pockets to record the complete conversation. I will

pay \$100 for each and every tape recorded interview supplied to me in which the applicant is asked his/her views on UFOs. But the tape must include the complete conversation, including the name of the Aerostat facility official doing the interviewing so I can check to be sure that there are no hoax tapes.

Here is an opportunity for those making such claims to substantiate them and win up to \$1,000 of my money.

— Phil J. Klass



The Alabama Cattle Mutilations — an overview

Northeastern Alabama is a pretty, pastoral land in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. Ridges of mountains run diagonally toward the Georgia-Tennessee border, separated by rolling pasture land. Small herds of cattle dot the hillsides and the pylons of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) web across the land.

DeKalb and Marshall Counties comprise the area from the brow of Sand Mountain to the gorge of the Tennessee River. It is a rural area dotted with small towns. Both counties are dry.

Fort Payne, the largest town in the area and a popular tourist spot during the boom of the 1890s, sports an opera house from that era when fancy balls were held in the lighted caverns of Manitou Cave.

There are no large airports in the area, and most air traffic consists of light planes from regional airports, military traffic from surrounding bases, and the blue and grey TVA helicopters that periodically check the power lines.

It is largely an agricultural area. Many residents are part time farmers and own small herds of cattle.

On October 20, 1992 Albertville businessman John Strawn found one of his Black Angus cows dead in the field, its udder removed in a clean circular cut as if made by a knife.

His first thought was that "those devil worshippers are at it again."

He called the Marshall County Sheriff's Office to report the mutilation, and a deputy came out to look at the cow.

"He said it must have walked through a fence or a coyote got it," Strawn said, "But I said 'No way'."

Over the next few months several other farmers in Marshall and DeKalb Counties reported cattle dead under unusual circumstances.

"I don't know for sure that these helicopters have anything to do with the mutilations. I tell people if they catch a helicopter on the ground, it's OK to hold it there . . . But don't shoot somebody out of the air."

P.T. Williams, former Marshall County lawman and coroner, found his seven month old Black Angus calf dead in a pine thicket. Its body was open and empty; its right eye was gone as was its tongue. The meat had not been taken.

"That calf was a healthy little booger, so if someone had wanted meat, they would have taken it," Williams told the *Birmingham Post-Herald*.

Williams discounted the thought that predators had gotten the calf.

"That rib cage was snipped out, not chewed out," he said.

In January, Margaret Pope of DeKalb County found one of her cows dead.

"Her upper and lower teeth were cut out with a clean cut, and her milk sack was gone," she said.

The cow had been sickly after calving, so Pope was not surprised by its death. She assumed coyotes were responsible for damage to the carcass, including a four inch circle of hide missing from the shoulder.

Then she heard about the cattle mutilations in Marshall County, and noted the similarities with her cow's condition.

Also in January, Tommy Cole, the Albertville Police Department's chief of detectives, lost a Black Angus steer. Its underbelly had been neatly removed.

Auburn University ran several tests on the steer carcass but was unable to determine the cause of death.

The night before, his wife had seen a low-flying helicopter over their house (see related story).

Cole, concerned that local farmers might start shooting at overflying helicopters, warned, "I don't know for sure that these helicopters have anything to do with the mutilations. I tell people if they catch a helicopter on the ground, it's OK to hold it there until the nearest law enforcement agency can get there. But don't shoot somebody out of the air."

As word of the mutilations spread, more reports came in to law enforcement officials in the affected counties.

Fyffe police officer Ted Oliphant mounted an investigation into the mystery.

Oliphant, a San Francisco native and former public affairs spokesman for the Strategic Air Command at K.I. Sawyer AFB in Marquette, Michigan, came to northern Alabama in 1990. A documentary filmmaker, he was drawn to the area by the 1989 UFO sightings in Fyffe.

In 1991 he produced a 90 minute video *UFOs - A Need To Know* with partner Bob Brown of Video City, a California chain of video stores.

Fascinated by the Fyffe case, Oliphant went through the police academy and joined Chief Junior Garmany and Assistant Chief Fred Works on the three man Fyffe police force. Garmany and Works were primary witnesses in the 1989 UFO sightings in Fyffe, and as such were locally immortalized on souvenir T-shirts.

According to reports in the Huntsville, Alabama *Times*, Oliphant found that "in all but two of the animals high tech precision instruments using a high level of heat of more than 350 degrees Fahrenheit seemed to have been used."

The animals, save for the two not mutilated with heat instrument, all appeared to be bloodless. Oliphant has said that the two exceptions were probably "copy cat" cases, mutilated with a straight edged instrument.

In many cases the animals had been found days after death. Decomposition made determining cause of death difficult if not impossible. Oliphant encouraged farmers to report sus-



pected mutilations quickly so that samples could be taken for analysis.

On January 30 a Black Angus cow was found dead south of Fyffe in Dawson, the flesh on its jaw stripped to the bone. A white paste was on the animal and a flaky white powder dusted the carcass and the ground in a five foot radius.

Oliphant collected a sample of the powder and air expressed it to a molecular biologist at an unnamed eastern university for analysis.

The results of electromagnetic spectroscopy showed the presence of high levels of titanium, aluminum, oxygen and silicon. According to Oliphant a second analysis is being run and when completed the results and the name of the testing institution will be made public.

Also in late January the UFOs seemed to return to DeKalb County. On January 28, residents of Dogtown on Lookout Mountain reported hearing humming noises and seeing strange lighted objects in the sky.

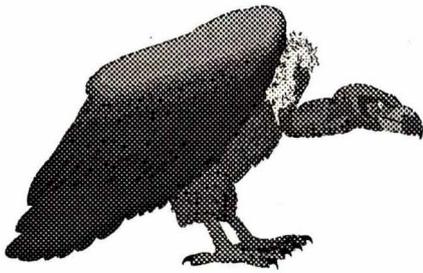
Sue Johnson of Dogtown was getting ready for work before dawn when she was drawn to the window by the humming. Looking outside she saw a car sized object drifting below the treetops.

"It was this thing coming toward the trailer. It had red and green lights, plus white light coming off it somewhere. And the lights were kind of fluttering," she told *The Weekly Post*.

"I've been close to helicopters before, and no way was this a helicopter," she said.

A 28 year old man from Licksillet called State Troopers out to investigate a strange





light in the west. Sergeant Ron Ogletree responded.

Ogletree told the *Post* that "He said it was about the size that a security light would appear from a quarter of a mile. He said it was about 300 feet above the power lines, and he observed it on and off for about twenty minutes."

The witness told Ogletree that he also saw "a triangular formation, a series of white lights with red lights behind them.

"He said it was about 1,500 to 2,000 feet high and moved west to east at about 100 miles per hour."

The witness watched as the lights flashed on and off.

The witnesses' dogs reportedly barked at the object.

"He said they never bark at airplanes," Ogletree said.

February brought more reports of cattle mutilations in the two counties, bringing the total to 21 by mid-month.

When New Harmony farmer Waymon Buttram's cow was found in a bloody patch with its jaw peeled, lawmen came out in force.

According to *The Weekly Post*, DeKalb County Sheriff Harold Richards and Assistant Chief Deputy Dale Orr came to the scene as did Albertville Police Department Chief Investigator Tommy Cole, State trooper

Post Commander Sgt. Ron Ogletree, and Fyffe police officer Ted Oliphant.

By this time three laboratories were being used to analyze evidence; the Alabama State Veterinary laboratory, the unnamed eastern university laboratory, and the privately run laboratory of Dr. John Altshuler in Denver, Colorado.

Altshuler, a hematologist and pathologist who gained fame in the field of cattle mutilations in the 1970s with his findings of high heat dissection and cell-to-cell separation in mutilated animal tissues, was reporting similar heat damage in the Alabama cattle, a finding not corroborated by Alabama State Veterinarian Dr. Lee Alley.

Also in February, cattle mutilation expert and investigative journalist Linda Moulton Howe came to the area to interview witnesses and photograph the carcasses.

Through March lawmen were called out to investigate further cattle deaths. By the end of the month the mutilations ceased as suddenly as they had come, leaving angry farmers, bewil-

dered lawmen, interdepartmental backbiting and veiled accusations of cover-ups and axe grinding in their wake

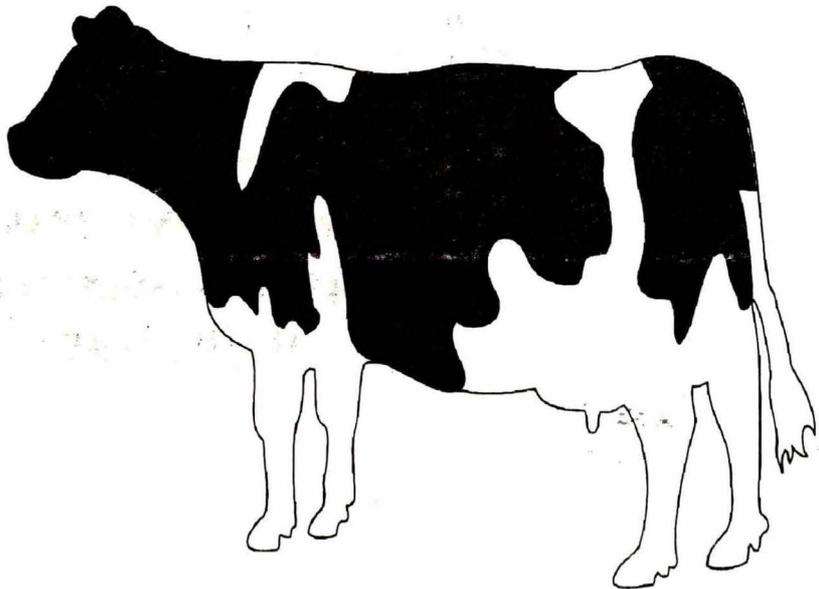
Fire in the Eye

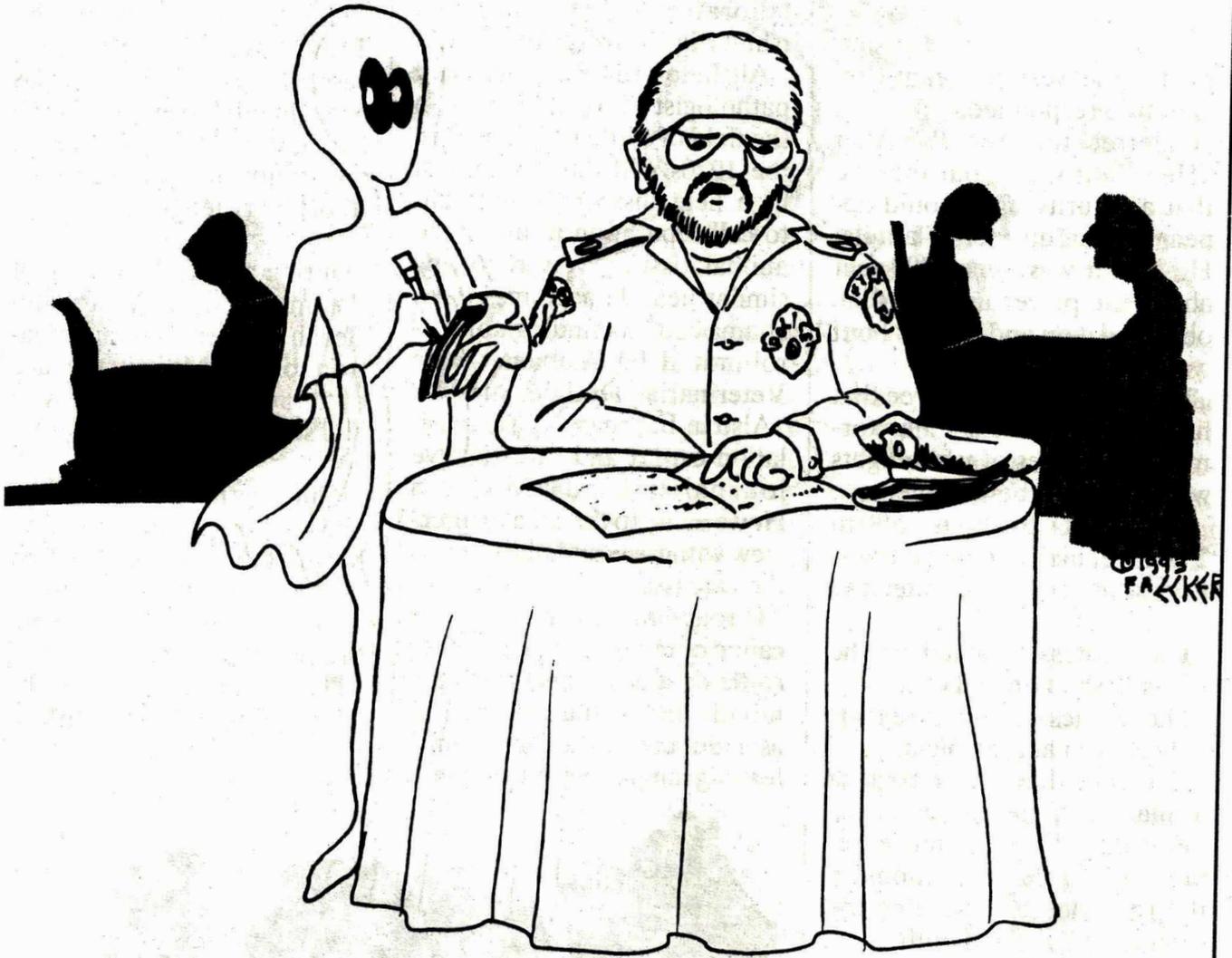
The movie based on the Travis Walton abduction case, *A Fire In The Sky*, has brought mixed reviews. Some like it, some don't, and some, apparently, are moved to extraordinary lengths.

During an April showing of the movie in a West Palm Beach theater a talkative patron sprayed Mace in the face of another moviegoer who had shushed her.

Police say the maced woman had told the other woman to be quiet three times. The first two times, she simply went on talking; the third time brought the Mace.

The victim was treated by paramedics. The assailant fled.





ONE STEAK...VERY PRECISELY CUT...
BLOODLESS... SUBJECTED TO
HIGH HEAT...

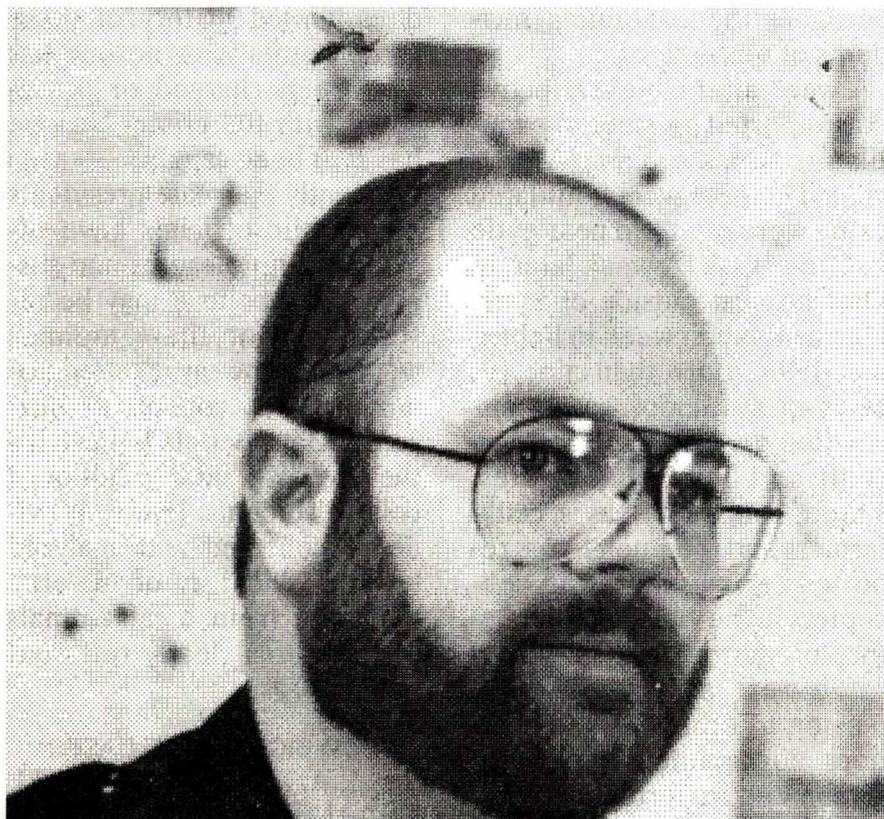
The April 7, 1993, Fyffe Press Conference

On April 7, 1993, a press conference on the cattle mutilations in DeKalb and Marshall counties was held in Fyffe, Alabama. The Investigating Officer, Ted Oliphant, presented the following report:

Beginning in November of 1992, the Fyffe Police Department has been conducting an investigation into unexplained cattle mutilations in cooperation with neighboring police and law enforcement agencies. These reported incidents began on October 20, 1992 and have continued through the last week in Marshall and DeKalb counties.

To date over thirty (30) animals have been discovered dead in pastures with various internal and external organs missing. The incisions examined on these animals exhibit precise surgical cutting. In many of the cases there has been evidence of extremely high heat at the tissue excisions. The absence of physical evidence adds to the mystery at the majority of mutilation sites. Though many animals have been found in soft pasture land, and in many cases mud, there have been no footprints, tracks, or marks found anywhere near the mutilated animals. In multiple cases, there is even the absence of the animal's own hoofprints in the ground.

To date no police agency has established a suspect or motive for these incidents of phantom surgery perpetrated on area livestock. Neither has an eyewitness or informant come for-



TV Producer/Police Officer Ted Oliphant

ward to offer any credible insight or testimony.

The first documented incident of cattle mutilation was reported on October 20, 1992 by Albertville cattle farmer John Strawn. The animal was discovered in a wooded area of Mr. Strawn's pasture by a neighbor who found the animal dead, lying on its side. The animal's entire milk sac was missing with no evidence of blood on the animal, nor on the ground where it lay. The neighbor said the neat, oval incision where the udder had been removed appeared to be charred.

Other farmers in the Albertville area soon started reporting similar cases over the next

two months. The same organs were reported missing, though what was taken varied from animal to animal. In many cases the rectum had been cored out neatly, with no evidence of blood or body fluid present. On female livestock, the sex organs had been removed in an identical fashion with clean, bloodless incisions. On male livestock, the sex organs had also been removed, again in oval, bloodless incisions. In early January Albertville Police Department's Chief of Detectives, Tommy Cole, reported that his ranch, too, had fallen victim to the mutilators when a Black Angus steer fell prey to the phantom surgeons. It was at

that point that the Fyffe Police Department began working closely with the Albertville Police Department to further investigate the continuing incidents of mutilations.

A week after Chief Detective Cole reported his steer, the mutilators struck again in Albertville. The next week mutilated cattle were reported near Fyffe in Grove Oak. A week later, in Dawson, just outside of Fyffe. During the first week in February, 1993, more than nine (9) cases of mutilations were discovered and reported in Marshall and DeKalb counties. Throughout all the cases, cattle farmers and their neighbors reported seeing or hearing helicopters in the vicinity either before or shortly after mutilated cattle were discovered. Comparison to other cattle mutilations documented by law enforcement in forty-eight (48) other states since 1963 shows that the cases recently documented here in northeast Alabama are part of a national problem.

In over ten thousand (10,000) reported cases of livestock mutilations recorded since 1967, the organs and tissue taken are always the same. Sex organs removed, tongue cut deep into the throat and removed. Individual eyes and ears or sometimes both have been excised. The jaw stripped to the bone in a large oval cut and all tissue cut clean. Rectums are cored out, almost like a stovepipe has been inserted and all the tissue and muscle has been pulled out. All of this has been accomplished on these thousands of animals with no evidence of blood present at the incision. In

some cases the entire blood supply of the animal has been drained, yet without cardiovascular collapse. Throughout the documented history of these cattle mutilations, no one has ever been charged or prosecuted with the crime. No one has ever been caught.

Recently many area residents and public officials have offered multiple causes and suspects they believe may be responsible for these animals wounds. Some say it's predator animals, like coyotes or buzzards. Many people believe it's the work of a satanic cult or of college students. However evidence collected and analyzed by Phd. scientists of material collected from local animals and pastures clearly rules out both groups.

TWO SIGNIFICANT CASES

On January 31, 1993, a rancher in the Dawson Community led investigators to the carcass of a Black Angus cow. The animal's genitals and rectum had been cored out in one large incision that left a hole the size of a coffee can. The animal's jaw had been completely stripped in an oval incision that encompassed the entire right side of the animal's face. The tongue was completely gone, cut deep down into the throat. There was no blood present on the animal itself, nor on the ground surrounding it.

Further examination revealed a flaky white material on the animal's right rib cage and on the ground five (5) feet from the carcass. The material was placed in the empty wrapper of a cigarette pack and trans-

ported to the Fyffe Police Department where it was transferred to a glass jar. While removing the flaky particles from the cigarette wrapper, the material came in contact with the brass tip of a ball-point pen. Within one second of contact with the brass, the material melted into an almost clear liquid. To reduce the risk of this happening to the remaining material, the rest was shaken out into the jar where it remained unaffected. This white, flaky material was then air expressed to a molecular biologist at a leading eastern university for analysis.

After two tests, the scientist determined that the substance was composed of aluminum, titanium, oxygen and silicon in significant amounts. He stated that the amount of titanium was larger than he would ever expect to see in any substance and that there was no way this combination of elements could ever occur in nature. This material has now been sent to another scientist for a second opinion. When this second analysis is completed we will release his name and the major eastern university responsible for the analyses. Included in your press package is the preliminary analysis, a photograph of the substance and the technical read out on its composition.

The second significant case in these incidents of livestock mutilation occurred on February 27, 1993. This time in Crossville, Alabama. Cattle farmer David McClendon noticed during his morning head count that he was missing a three-week-old calf. He went searching for found the animal in a wooded

area dead with a large portion of its right hind quarter missing. Examining the animal, Mr. McClendon found that all the calf's internal organs were missing and all that he could see was the clean, empty chest cavity. There was no sign of blood on or near the animal. There were no teeth marks on the tissue nor on the exposed leg bones. David McClendon called local and county law enforcement. Shortly after they arrived the county deputy stated that the animal had been killed by predators and left. Mr. McClendon wasn't satisfied that this was what happened to his animal and later that day he brought the calf to the Fyffe Police Department for a second opinion. A first look at the calf gave the impression that the animal had been eaten on by wild animals, but a closer look revealed something else, according to Oliphant.

The entire edge of the animal's wounds were straight and even. There was no evidence of tearing, ripping or chewing anywhere. Below the right leg joint the hide had been cut in a square, with two (2) right angle incisions. Close examination (videotaped) showed that the actual incision appeared to be serrated, almost like steps with notches at each base. During the initial examinations of the calf, six (6) tissue samples were taken from the animal and preserved in Mason jars. These tissue samples were sent to Dr. John Altschuler, formerly of the University of Colorado, who now runs his own state of the art pathology and hematology laboratory. Dr. Altschuler states that all six (6) tissue sam-

ples he examined from David McClendon's calf had been exposed to high heat, the tissue had been cooked. Dr. Altschuler said the temperature required to do this would have to be in "the hundreds of degrees and possibly higher" to burn the tissue in this manner. As for the "stepped and notched" incisions, Dr. Altschuler stated that since he examined the first mutilated animal back in 1967, he has seen this type of cut over and over again.

CONCLUSION

With these two lab reports of two different samples in two separate cases, we are forced to conclude that the predator animals cannot be blamed for the majority of the mutilation cases documented.

Dr. Jim Armstrong, Auburn professor of zoology and wildlife science concurs. He states, "It would be obvious if a coyote had been tearing through. The wounds would not be similar to a smooth cut. Coyotes bite through and pull to tear away the flesh. It would have a 'chewed on' look. There are other scavenger animals such as vultures that will eat at the softer regions of a cow, but there's not going to be these clean, surgical-type cuts. There is no way a coyote or other predator inflicted those wounds."

In the past week Dr. Armstrong has examined dozens of photographs of mutilated cows taken by the Fyffe Police Department. He states, "I went over the pictures with a USDA expert along with several wildlife biologists. With the excep-

tion of one individual, we all agreed that many of the cases were not typical predatory damage. The caution here is that we're dealing with photos, that there is no other physical evidence for us to look at.

"But the USDA agent and most others agreed with my conclusion that many of the pictures were not coyote or other predator damage."

DeKalb County Auburn Extension Agent Curtis O'Daniel also discounts the likelihood of predator animals removing circles of cowhide. "Predators are not bad about eating hide, they'll eat up the rest of it first. Along with the bones, the hide will be one of the last things to go."

These statements made by expert professionals agree with the statements made earlier this year by the Fyffe Police Department, that predators are not responsible for the mutilations. The conclusion, however, indicates a greater mystery: Who is doing this and why is there a lack (for the most part) of physical evidence at the scene?

Police Chief Junior Garmany and Mayor Boyd Graben, themselves involved in farming, believe the results of our investigation require further attention. It is incumbent on all of us in city, state and federal government to assist farmers to find out who the phantom surgeons are. It seems basic to help the man who is responsible for ensuring there is food available for our dinner tables. The farmer is not interested in politically correct official explanations. He wants to know what has happened to his livestock. It



Linda Howe questions Oliphant after press conference

should be the responsibility of all law enforcement to join together to find an answer to this problem that is adversely affecting the cattle farmer, here, in Alabama.

Laboratory Report:

We have examined the material that was sent by Mr. Oliphant the investigator in Fyffe, Alabama. A cutting of hair from a cow (Black Angus) was received in a glass jar. There was a whitish flaky material on a portion of the hair and pieces (flakes) that had fallen loose from the hair. The material seemed dry and its shape or texture was not affected by touching with a small stainless steel instrument, except for some

breakage indicating some brittleness. Examination with a Geiger counter showed no detectable radioactivity. When a small piece of the material was placed in water it did not appear to dissolve.

We then examined the sample using a scanning electron microscope (SEM). A photograph using an imaging technique called "backscattering" is enclosed. The sample showed up as the brighter material indicating an inclusion of "heavier" elements than those present in the darker areas. The magnification is indicated. We also used the SEM to perform energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) to determine the elemental content of the sample.

Two sites were examined and the resulting scans are enclosed. The "peaks" in the scans reflect X-ray energies characteristic of titanium (Ti) and oxygen (O). The Ti and O levels relative to each other and to the Al and Si levels differed some at the two sites. The technique used here does not necessarily indicate the relative amounts of each element accurately; however, I think we can say there are significant amounts of these 4 elements present in the sample. The data should represent a reasonably good "fingerprint" for comparison to independently obtained samples acquired in the future.

I hope this is of some help in the investigation.

Feelings polarized over mutilation claims

Four years after a series of spectacular UFO reports brought reporters and sky-watchers to northern Alabama a new mystery seems to have descended upon the area.

Since October 20, 1992, when John Strawn of Albertville found one of his Black Angus cows dead with what appeared to be unusual injuries, more than thirty cattle mutilations have been reported in Marshall and DeKalb counties.

Strawn's cow, like so many of the animals suspected of having been mutilated, was missing its udder. The edges of the wound were smooth, as if the skin had been cut. Strawn could find no blood, footprints or tracks around the carcass.

Over the following months there emerged a pattern of reports familiar to those who remembered the cattle mutilation waves of the 1970s and 1980s: animals found with clean, bloodless cuts; carcasses apparently drained of blood; evidence of high heat at the wound site; absence of tracks around the animal; and mysterious lights and helicopters seen in the sky.

By early April the series of mystery cattle deaths seemed to be over. A press conference on the matter was held in Fyffe on April 7, 1993. The *Ufologist* went to Alabama to attend the press conference and interview witnesses.

As with the 1989 Fyffe UFO sightings, law enforcement personnel figure prominently among witnesses. Albertville

police department chief of detectives Tommy Cole has had a 950 pound Black Angus steer mutilated in January. The day before he found the body, his wife had been disturbed by the sound of a helicopter flying low over their house. She went to investigate and saw a white helicopter with blue markings and four men in business suits inside, hovering so low and close to the house that the building seemed to vibrate.

Cole himself has seen the helicopters, which he identifies as Bell Jet Rangers, flying over the area.

"One night I saw four, flying side by side, over highway 75 going toward DeKalb county," he said. "We've seen them circling the pastures with spotlights. When we threw our spotlight on him, every light on the helicopter went off and he took off.

"They're quiet helicopters, just make a swishing sound. One flew so low it blew a farmer's hat off. Usually they show up between midnight and dawn."

What does Cole think of the possibility that predator and scavenger damage is being mistaken for mutilations?

"The State labs seem to think it isn't predators, according to their necropsy reports," Cole said.

The *Ufologist* asked to see the reports.

"I can't show them to you, but I'll read from them," Cole said. People'll tell you it's predator damage, but the reports that

have the case numbers and names on them all say 'cause of death—unknown'. And I have a report just faxed in from Auburn dated March 12 saying that the damage is like no known predator.

"It isn't just here. I've got reports from Arkansas, Oregon, Texas, New Mexico. They're all seeing the same type of helicopters, blue and grey, blue and white in connection with cattle mutilations. Now who can afford to put a fleet of helicopters in the air? I'm not saying it's the government directly, but it wouldn't be hard to get a contractor with some soldier of fortune types who'd fly around and cut up cows just for the fun of it."

Cole displayed some color photographs of dead cattle he had just received from Oregon.

"Looks just like the ones here, doesn't it?" he said, "Same stepped cuts, same parts removed. This is a nationwide problem."

Cole said that in 1986 there were cattle mutilations in connection with helicopter sightings in Marshall County.

What about UFO sightings?

"We haven't had any here," Cole said, "They seem to stop at the DeKalb county line. I don't know why, but they just don't fly over this county."

Randy Amos, Albertville Chief of Police, said that the Auburn pathology reports were "inconclusive as to cause of death".

"We have four confirmed cases in Marshall county where

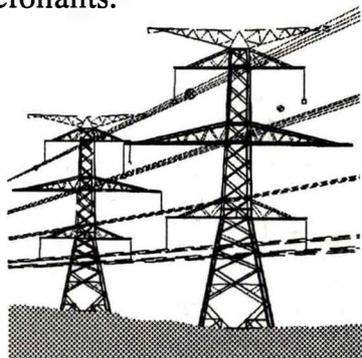
the animals appear to have been cut," Amos said. "Everybody has a theory — aliens, predators, swamp apes from Florida, satanists."

Amos said the area had a small number of self-styled satanists, but no real cult activity. He discounted the theory of cultists being responsible for the mutilations.

"These people celebrate blood sacrifice holidays," he said, "but usually don't do it out in a field. They have an altar, trappings."

"There are a lot of wild dogs and coyotes around here," Amos said, "and predator kill isn't uncommon. But a small number of these animals appear to have been cut on after death. That's not something a cult would do."

"The TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority) used to spray defoliants on their power line right of way to help keep weeds down. Several of the animals have been found near TVA lines, so some people think the TVA is checking dead animals to see if there's any damage from the defoliants."



Cole had also mentioned the TVA defoliant program, but said it had been five years since the rights of way had been sprayed, so he felt it was unlikely the TVA would be checking cattle for toxins.

DeKalb County sheriff Harold Richards took a dim view of the whole mutilation issue.

"I think you got coyotes, buzzards eating these cattle," he said. "I haven't seen a thing that couldn't be explained that way. That picture they're showing of the dead cow with its udder gone 'in a clean cut'? I saw that cow. It was in a shed. When we got there there were two dogs at the front and two at the back of it, and had to be chased off. There were strips of skin hanging from the area. She had clearly been eaten by animals."

"And that white paste they've found on the Dawson cow? I've seen a lot of white paste on carcasses — it's blowfly eggs."

"You might not like what I have to say," Richards said, "but I'll tell it as I see it. There's a fellow up there in Fyffe writing a book about this UFO stuff, and this whole cattle mutilation thing is just part of that. Not a thing to it that I can tell."

"I'm thinking of getting a dead cow myself, and just filming it for a few days to show people what happens."

Carey Baker, editor of the *Rainesville Weekly Post*, said there was a history of mutilations in the area.

"I didn't know about it until I started looking into the present cases, but we found reports of mutilations in the area back in the 'seventies and 'eighties."

Baker, who was one of the witnesses to the 1989 boomerang-shaped UFO that overflowed Fyffe for a few weeks, said there have been few UFO reports in connection with the mutilations.

"There've been some lights in the sky; in fact a professional

photographer out in Skirum took a picture of one back in February."

Baker produced a roll of film showing a dark spot that seemed to change from a teardrop to a fuzzy disc. In one photo the disc was accompanied by a smaller crescent of light.

"Gary Coker, the photographer, saw this light off and on for about two weeks. It looked like a big, bright star, but it rotated and changed colors. It was in the west, about 30 degrees above the horizon, then gradually went to the west northwest."

"A lot of people saw it, and Coker says he knows Venus when he sees it and this went down too fast to be Venus. He says the light looks like it's going away rather than setting. And it seems to go on and off several times before it goes away. He claims to have seen airplanes and helicopters flying close to it, too."

"There's a fellow in McVille, about ten miles from Skirum, who saw it in the East when Coker was seeing it in the west," Baker added, "that means it was between them."

The Ufologist harbors the abiding suspicion that the object really was Venus, and the fellow in McVille was looking at Jupiter which would have approximately the same elevation in the east as Venus had in the west in mid-February, as well as comparable brightness. The Planet Venus, Dr. Donald Menzel's explanation for lights in the sky, didn't get its reputation for nothing.

Baker said he was aware of no entity sightings in the area, and only one sighting of an object.

"It was at dusk, late January or early February. The two witnesses were in an upstairs room when they saw a disc about the size of a car hovering in their pasture. They ran downstairs to get a better look, and it was gone."

With respect to the cattle mutilations, Baker believes for every one reported there are three that are not.

"People around here got burned when *Inside Edition* did their show on the Fyffe UFOs. They don't want to talk to outsiders now.

"There's a real polarization of feeling about the mutilations. Some say it's all predators, some say it's something else. One lawman who says it's all hogwash carries around photos of the mutilations to compare with what he's seeing in the field. He knows it's happening, but doesn't want to be associated with the UFO believers."

As an example, Baker referred to the Sylvania case.

"Back in early March a cow was found out in Sylvania with its udder cut off. The farmer called local lawmen to investigate. Sixteen cops looked at the cow and all said it had been cut. Then Mike James, who's the Chief Investigator with the DeKalb Sheriff's Department, showed up with a vet who just happens to be his father-in-law. The vet took one look, said 'predator - bury it' and walked off:

"The farmer was really mad, so we dug up the cow and with Linda Howe's help got samples to Dr. John Altshuler out in

Denver. He found the cow had been cut. In fact, his report said 'the mutilator and known man-made knife cuts could not be distinguished from each other'. He couldn't tell the cuts we made to take the sample from the mutilator cuts. That doesn't sound like anything a predator could do."

Auburn University professor Dr. James Armstrong, of the Department of Zoology and Wildlife Sciences, concurred with the Colorado report, according to an article in the *Rainesville Weekly Post*.

"It would be obvious if a coyote had been tearing through. The wounds would not be similar to a smooth cut," Armstrong is reported as saying.

Armstrong came to DeKalb County in March to view some of the dead cattle.

"For many of them there is no way a coyote or other predator inflicted those wounds," he said, "There are other animals such as vultures that will eat at the softer regions of a cow but there's not going to be these clean, surgical type cuts."

Multiple attempts by the *Ufologist* to contact Dr. Armstrong failed.

DeKalb County agricultural agent Curtis O'Daniel had this to say about the Sylvania cow: "Somebody took that. And I think when they find out what happened, it'll be somebody, and not some Martian or something."

O'Daniel, who knows something about hoaxes (see the "Lake Lanier Monster" story.), said to the *Ufologist*: "People want to believe in strange things. They want to think

something weird happened to their cattle."

He allowed that maybe three or four out of the thirty two reported mutilations in Marshall and DeKalb counties showed signs of possible human intervention.

"You have a few cases where a swatch of hide was taken; well, scavengers will eat almost everything else before they go for the hide. And here" - he taps a photograph of a dead cow - "there's the bag gone and nothing has gotten into the body cavity or the meat. That's strange. I'd say that's a suspicious one. But here, now" - he produces a close-up of an animal's head haloed in a splash of reddish brown - "here's one of the famous bloodless carcasses."

"This is a bad time of year for cattle," O'Daniel said, "They've come off winter feed, many of them are deficient in magnesium. The ones that calve will many times die from grass tetany. The bulls, steers and cows without calves, don't usually die from it. The calves are good targets for predators, and we have a huge coyote population around here. One of the reasons for it is that farmers don't dispose of their dead cattle, they let them lay in the field. This feeds the predator and scavenger population."



The *Ufologist* interviews the Lake Lanier Monster

In 1960 residents in the small Alabama town of Eclectic were startled and perplexed by a huge, silvery creature that for a short time frequented thickets, leaping out to frighten passers by.

Though the sightings were short lived, the Lake Lanier Monster passed into legend, living on in witnesses' memories and the occasional anniversary article in local newspapers.

Well, he's still around.

While poking around in the thicket that is the Alabama mutilation mystery the *Ufologist* came nose to nose with the famed monster.

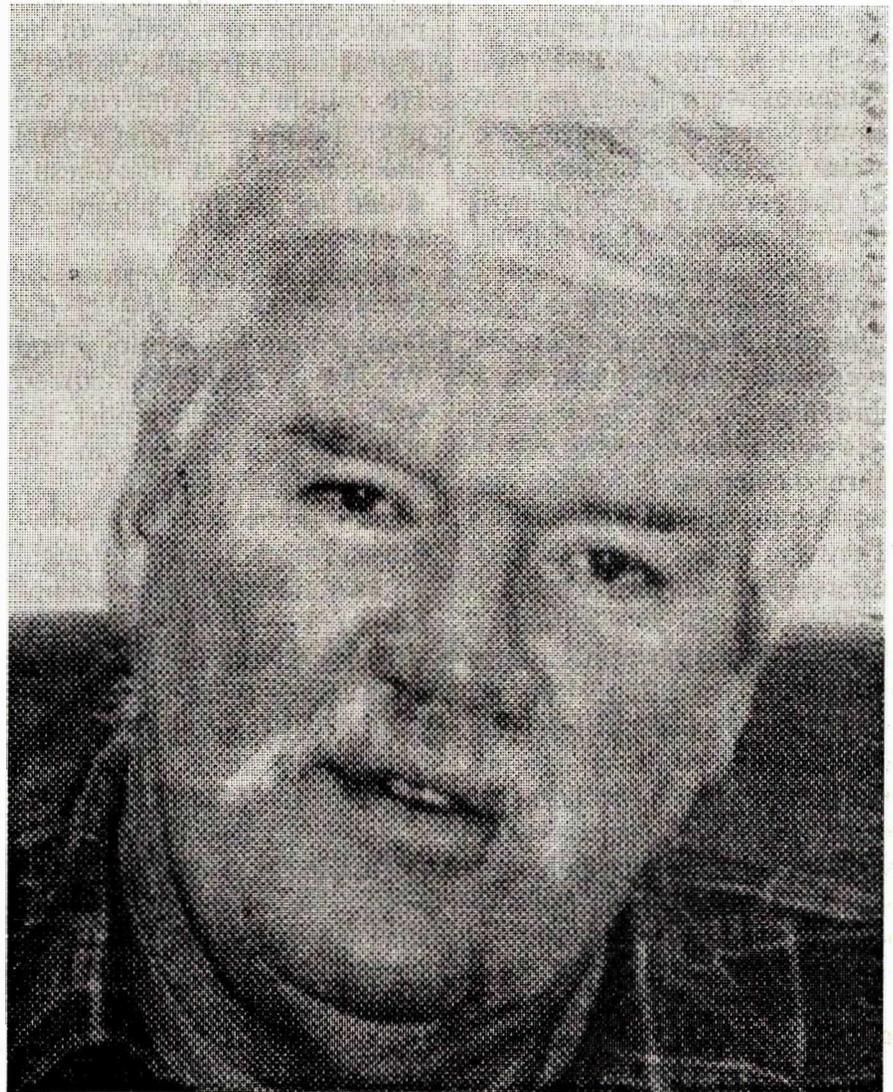
It happened in the office of DeKalb County agricultural agent Curtis O'Daniel.

O'Daniel was flipping through color photographs of dead cows, pointing out salient features of scavenger and predator damage.

"There are a few of these that you can't say for sure what happened," he said, "but only two or three. This is a bad time of year for cattle, they die of blackleg, clostridia, grass tetany. And the couple of animals that look like they've been cut, well, there's no blood on the wound. They were cut after they were dead of something else. There's nothing here worth all the excitement.

"People love a mystery, love to think something unusual has happened. And there's plenty who'll give it to them. It sells papers."

O'Daniel reached behind his desk and brought out a newspaper. "Here's what I mean," he



said. "Thirty three years ago a couple of buddies and I took an Air Force fire fighter's suit. We dressed up in it and ran around after dark scaring people. We didn't do it much, the fun wore out fast. But the newspapers wrote about it, named us 'The Lake Lanier Monster'. There's still people who'll tell you about the UFO that landed in Eclectic, and swear they've seen a space man.

"One of the boys is a businessman down there now. Every so often the newspaper drags up the story, goes out and inter-

views the witnesses again, and does a piece on it. He always sends it to me. See? Here's the monster story again, just a few weeks ago.

"Just a bunch of knotheaded boys."

O'Daniel would have been a formidable monster. He stands well over six feet and is not a slight man.

He eyed the paper.

"One fellow says here that he stuttered for two months after the monster chased him."

That seems perfectly understandable.

Linda Moulton Howe probes Alabama cases

Veteran journalist Linda Moulton Howe has been investigating the cattle deaths in northern Alabama and offered the following analysis:

"It's a mixed story. You've got bloodless excision, but then there are bloody cases. I've not seen bloody cases before, and don't know what it indicates. What's going on in northern Alabama is different from the usual cattle mutilation."

We asked Howe about the mystery helicopters, and whether they had been seen elsewhere in the country in connection with cattle deaths.

"There are reports of helicopters, but that's strange, too. The usual dark, unmarked helicopters are seen, but not exclusively. There are many reports of light helicopters — blue, green, white. This isn't usual.

"There are many eyewitnesses who report discs in the area. There are a dozen camcorder tapes of discs, lights in DeKalb and Marshall counties. And some of these helicopter reports turn out to be something else on probing. You ask a witness exactly what was seen and he'll say he saw a hovering searchlight in the sky and assumed it was a helicopter since they hover and have searchlights.

"And these helicopters do some strange things, like vanish. The vanishing helicopters have been around for a long time. In 1975 in Great falls Montana the police, journalists and sheriff's deputies chased a helicopter. When they got close



to it it just disappeared. The Cascade county sheriff's office has reports of vanishing helicopters — ones that just suddenly turned into mist. So we don't know what it is.

"There's the approach that aliens are coming here and doing these things to the cattle and, if you don't like that solution, you're still left with having to deal with the dark green military helicopters and the notion that the government is flying around doing something underhanded."

With respect to the theory about government involvement, Howe said, "There's the possibility that the government is flying the dark helicopters. Maybe they're conducting their own investigation. Maybe they just want to create some false sightings and confuse the issue. We don't know.

"Tommy Cole, in Albertville, saw a helicopter that suddenly wasn't there. He probably won't talk about it - the people in that area are getting tired of

talking about the cases and getting told they're misidentifying normal, everyday things."

Howe said the phenomenon was not confined to a region or even a country.

"This is happening worldwide. In France recently 300 sheep were found dead. In England thirty horses were mysteriously killed. The pathology reports found evidence of electrosurgery.

"This has been going on for twenty six years. It never went away, the press just stopped covering it, and farmers quit reporting it because they got sick of being told they didn't know what they were seeing and couldn't tell the difference between predator attack and something unusual."

Howe, author of *An Alien Harvest* and award-winning producer of the companion video *A Strange Harvest*, is about to complete a new book on the subject.

"I'm trying to get this information out as quickly as possible due to this recent rash of cases," she said.

According to the Mutual UFO Network *UFO Journal*, Howe will present a paper on the Alabama mutilations at the 1993 MUFON Symposium in Richmond, Virginia.



FAA confirms Alabama helicopter investigation

During the April 7 press conference on the cattle mutilation investigation, Officer Ted Oliphant said that "Ninety per cent of the mutilation cases here report seeing Bell Jet Ranger helicopters."

The reported helicopters are small, relatively quiet, and come in a variety of colors, white, light blue, blue with light grey trim, and light green. This is a departure from the standard unmarked black helicopters which are often reported as dogging UFO witnesses.

Though the helicopters are most often described as being unmarked, Oliphant told the press that a witness had recently obtained the numbers on one of the craft. Oliphant said the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had checked the numbers and found that it was not a listed number.

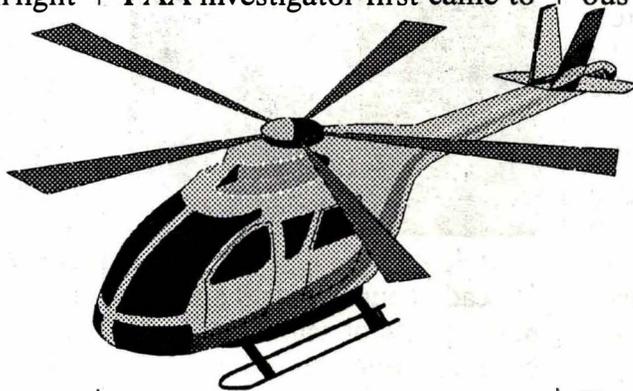
The FAA confirmed that it was working with local law enforcement investigating the illegally low flying craft in northeastern Alabama, and confirmed that the number given them was not listed as being a registered aircraft. However, the FAA believes the number was erroneously reported. FAA spokeswoman Anne Aldridge told the *Ufologist* that had that number been issued, it would have been issued to a fixed rather than rotary wing aircraft.

Tommy Cole, Chief of Detectives for the Albertville police department, has had to field

calls from residents angry at the low-level helicopter flights. Cole and his family have seen the helicopters, too.

Cole has been working with the FAA, trying to identify the origin of the often unmarked aircraft.

Cole recently told an independent researcher that when the FAA investigator first came to



Albertville he was skeptical about the witnesses' claims of overflights of low, unmarked helicopters. Cole suggested they go on site where the FAA investigator could talk with the witnesses themselves.

Following up on this suggestion, they were at a farm listening to the farmer describe the craft he had seen when a blue and grey unmarked helicopter flew over at treetop level.

According to Cole, the FAA investigator tried to contact the errant helicopter by radio. The craft failed to acknowledge his call, did not identify itself, simply turned and hurried back in the direction from which it had come. Cole contacted Fort McClellan using his police radio and described the incident, asking that the army track the flight on their radar.

Cole said although the men in the field had visual contact with the helicopter and were able to give an accurate description of its location and flight direction, McClellan radar was unable to spot it.

The failure of McClellan to pick up the target in the Albertville area may be less mysterious than it sounds. The area is mountainous, and even over flat terrain standard radar does not pick up aircraft below around one thousand feet.

As of press time the FAA had neither confirmed nor denied this report to the *Ufologist*.

Bovine Aids risk disputed

According to the *San Francisco Examiner*, government researchers at the Agriculture Department's National Animal Disease Center in Ames, Iowa say that Bovine Immunodeficiency Virus is not harmful to human health.

The virus, which researchers believe impairs the immune system of cattle, is prevalent among dairy cattle in the south.

BIV is used in AIDS research conducted by the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Matthew Gonda of the NCR said the virus is a safe model to work with

The Foundation on Economic Trends has called for a quarantine of infected cows and testing of milk, dairy products, and beef while potential health risks to humans are evaluated.

And now: The Oregon Chainsaw Mutilations

"These just came in from Portland, Oregon," Albertville Chief of Detectives Tommy Cole said as he spread a series of glossy dead cow photographs across his desk.

"Stepped cuts; bloodless incisions; and helicopters – same as we're seeing here."

Linda Mouton Howe had this to say about the Oregon mutes:

"The Oregon State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory did an analysis of samples from a Portland cow back in October of 1990 and found serrated cuts and evidence of high heat."

The *Ufologist* contacted a representative of the Oregon Beef Producer's Association who said the cattle deaths in Oregon were due to chainsaw wielding poachers looking for beef. She said four poachers had been arrested; Two had been prosecuted and two were awaiting trials. She claimed no knowledge of any mystery deaths or mutilations involving heat, precision surgery, helicopter sightings or strange lights in the sky.

Attempts to reach the Oregon State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory failed through failure to locate any entity by that name in the Portland, Salem or Eugene area. Howe offered to fax a copy of this report to the *Ufologist*, at which time we should be able to verify the name of the laboratory and do a follow-up investigation. As of press time the fax had not been received.



Recent newspaper mutilation stories

Arizona Republic, Tucson AZ, August 15, 1991

Eight cattle and a horse have been mutilated in what authorities believe to be satanic rituals.

"The rumors we are hearing, they use this (blood) for baptisms. We believe they use it by putting it possibly into a bathtub or small swimming pool," said Detective Mile Raffety of the Cochise County Sheriff's Office.

Rocky Mountain News, April 7, 1993

San Luis, Colorado-

Cattle mutilations that plagued the southern Colorado area in the 1970s are back, with the same strange features: lack of footprints, vehicle tracks or signs of struggle; surgical - like removal of eyes, udders, genitals; lack of blood in the carcasses.

"I can tell you what it isn't. I don't think it's pranksters or the occult or anything like that," said Las Animas County Sheriff Lou Girodo.

Oregonian, Portland, Ore. December 22, 1989

The mutilated carcass of a five year old cow was discovered near Athena in eastern Oregon in November, near what authorities call a "ritualistic site".

Umatilla County Sheriff Jim Carey said that the damage may be from scavengers, but there were tire tracks at the scene.

Carey described the "ritual site" as rocks arranged in a pattern common to satanic sites, and that there were drawings of sexual themes and UFOs.

Oregonian, Portland, Ore. May 27, 1989

Investigators from the U.S. Forest Service and the Lake County Sheriff's office are investigating the poisoning and possible mutilation of 15 cattle from the Bar W-R and Webster ranches near Fort Rock, Ore. District Attorney Andrew Vanergaw said, "how these things get started, I'll never know."

Well, except for gallstone poachers

Beef industry journal unaware of mute problem

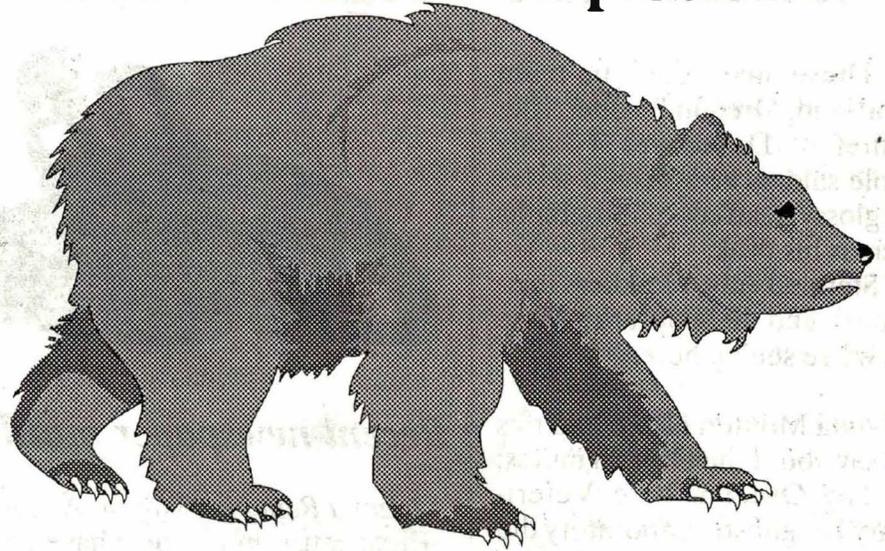
Greg Henderson is editor of *Drover's Journal*, the longest-running livestock magazine in history. It is the journal of the beef industry and is read by professional ranchers and feedlot operators. Henderson's job requires that he be aware of the minutiae of cattle raising, including all manner of bovine woes. The *Ufologist* was interested in his opinion of the mutilations in Alabama and across the west.

Asked whether he was aware of any unusual cattle deaths recently, Henderson said

"Well, there's been some gallstone rustling in the southeast. The gallstones from bears, brown bears and the like, are valuable. They're considered an aphrodisiac in the Orient, apparently. So poachers have been killing brown bears to get the gallstones. It's pretty obvious when a carcass is found - you have to know where the gall bladder is to get the stones out. And poachers have been taking cow's gallstones, too. I suppose that if someone didn't know about this and saw a cow that had been cut for its gallstones, it would look pretty peculiar." Had he heard reports of any animals dead with bloodless cuts, lack of tracks, rectums or sexual organs removed?

"Well, soft parts gone, that sounds like typical scavenger activity. And of course a dead animal won't bleed."

Had Henderson heard any reports of cattle deaths connected with unmarked, low-flying helicopters or other strange



lights in the sky? Any rumors afloat about government testing chemical or biological warfare agents on herds?

"No. You know, the government has its own herds. Re-

search cattle. They don't need to do anything like that.

"I've not heard about anything happening in Alabama, and nothing anywhere like what you're describing. Sorry."



Mystery substance may be common paper filler

Dr. Jamiston Deveroux, wildlife biologist, offered some advice concerning the mystery powder found on the Dawson, Alabama carcass. The powder, which Ted Oliphant of Fyffe had sent to "a molecular biologist at a leading eastern university" had been determined to be largely aluminum, titanium, oxygen and silicon.

At the April 7 press conference Oliphant quoted the lab as saying that the amount of titanium was startlingly high and would "never occur in nature." Deveroux agreed that the elements present in the sample were not likely to be by-products of scavengers.

"It's not what you'd expect to see in buzzard dung," Deveroux offered. "That would be high in sulfur, and for a carrion bird to excrete high levels of titanium he'd almost have to be picking it up off the ground when he eats gizzard stones. I'd say it's definitely not from scavenger birds."

It's not likely to be from a high-tech intermetallic superalloy, either. Those high-temperature, low density structural alloys that bring to mind amazing aircraft are brittle at room temperature and have other materials alloyed with them to improve ductility. In the case of titanium aluminide the added material is commonly columbium, which does not appear to have been in the sample from the Dawson cow.

Titanium is the fourth most abundant element on earth, and is used in manufacture of

pigments. Aluminum flake is also used in paint production, to increase reflectance and durability. Spray paints are commonly around 95% titanium dioxide in the pigment. Spray paints also contain silicates, alkyd resins, and various pigment agents such as lampblack, iron oxide and zinc oxide, of which only silicon appears in the analysis.

Intrigued, Deveroux took the problem to a chemical engineer who suggested not only an identity for the powder, but a possible source.

"There's a filler and opacifier used in paper production that might fit the description. It has those elements in those ratios, and it's a white powder," Deveroux said.

Barry Michaels, a chemist for the paper industry, confirmed that titanium dioxide is a widely used filler in paper production, as are synthetic aluminosilicates.

Commercial grade titanium dioxide filler known as C.I. Pigment White 6, commonly used in the manufacture of paper plates, towels, writing paper and the like, consists of 90 - 99.9% titanium dioxide and 0 - 20% aluminum, silicon, or zinc oxide according to the NPIRI Raw Materials Data Handbook.

The particle shape is generally spherical, while the white powder found on the carcass is described as flaky and looks like flat flakes in the scanning electron microscope photo published with the Fyffe Police De-

partment press release. Michaels said the filler material would compress to a flat flake if dampened or crushed, things likely to happen to material in a refuse dump.

Also called rutile or anatase, this material is non-soluble in hot or cold water. Because of its heavy use in the paper industry, several companies market the filler dust. These include American Cyanamid, BASF, DuPont, G & W, Harshaw, Kerr-McGee, Mineral Pigments, Ore, SCM, and Tioxide.

How close to the dead cow in Dawson can a source of paper filler be found? About fifteen miles away, at the Keyes Fibre Company in Albertville, Alabama, manufacturer of paper plates and dishes.

"There's a factory in Albertville that makes equipment for paper plate manufacturing."

Albertville is a short drive from Dawson, where the dead animal was found, after allegedly being dragged into a refuse heap.

Since the unnamed laboratory involved in the analysis of the white powder has reported that "the data should represent a reasonably good 'fingerprint' for comparison to independently obtained samples", it should be a simple matter to obtain samples of rutile and confirm or rule out whether it is the mystery powder.

The *Ufologist* has given this information on titanium dioxide to Alabama Agriculture Commissioner Paul Hamrick.

UFO connection seen in Puerto Rico mutilations

by Jorge Martín

Translated by Ron Ecker

from *ENIGMA!* magazine

The 1975 UFO flap in Puerto Rico was accompanied by a wave of animal mutilations, grisly events sensational enough to capture the attention of the national press, which christened the mystery mutilator as the "Vampire of Moca" after the site of the first reported animal deaths.

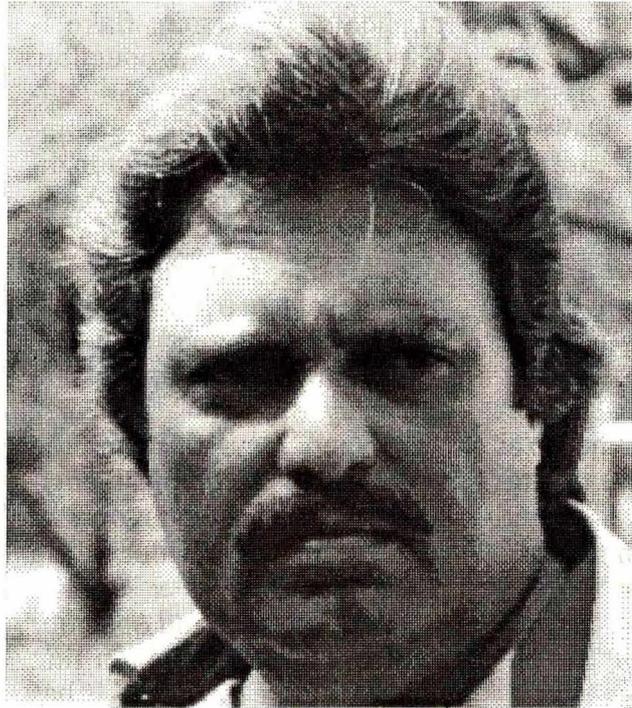
Today these mutilations and UFO sightings are being repeated across the island. And, as in 1975, the authorities are reluctant to talk about it.

ENIGMA! has followed this situation, and has seen an apparent connection between the mutilations and the UFO phenomenon. In this article we present several reports to illustrate this link.

Are civil and military authorities aware of the possible connection between UFOs and mutilations? The answer appears to be yes. Here are two cases illustrating this.

Mr. Buenaventura Bello, then a resident of the city of Los Angeles in Isla Verde, awoke the morning of April 6, 1975, surprised at the silence. Usually his small flock of geese were cawing for food at this hour. He arose and looked out the window and saw to his horror that his ten geese were dead and arranged in a circle on his patio.

On examination, each goose had two puncture wounds a quarter of an inch in diameter



in the center of a circle an inch in diameter from which the feathers had been pulled out.

Alarmed, Bello called a neighbor who was a policeman. On seeing the grotesque scene, the neighbor called the police headquarters which sent a patrol to investigate.

The officer who arrived examined the scene and radioed information to headquarters. Soon several examiners of some sort arrived by white van of a type not then used by the police. After a preliminary scan of the area with what looked like a Geiger counter, the examiners put on white anti-contamination suits and proceeded to enter the patio with much electronic equipment.

They prohibited people from leaving the area while they completed their evidence gathering. Mr. Bello and his wife were sequestered inside their

house and patrols were stationed around the area prohibiting traffic near the scene.

Half an hour after calling the police, Bello received a call from someone who said he was a representative of a university in the southern United States. The caller explained that his university was doing a study of animal mutilations, and asked

for one of the dead geese.

Soon afterwards two North Americans arrived and quickly carried off one of the geese in a plastic bag.

Bello was astonished at how these people knew what had happened. It seemed to indicate that the police had communicated the discovery to these men.

Later attempts to discover the identity of the two North Americans were unsuccessful.

The investigator from CEOVNI (Center of UFO Studies of Puerto Rico), engineer Sebastian Robiou, obtained from investigator Francisco Marin Gandia a copy of the x-ray plates taken of the geese and a copy of the necropsy report made by the pathologist, who has requested anonymity.

The report indicated that the birds received two puncture

wounds that penetrated more than an inch, destroying internal organs. These wounds appeared to converge inside the birds. The edges appeared cauterized, which should have prevented loss of blood. However, the animals' bodies were bloodless.

While Bello's house was under guard he was approached by men dressed in civilian clothes and whose manner and accents led him to believe they were federal agents. These men advised him to move as soon as possible "because there is something here that can be very dangerous to your health and it's best to abandon the place immediately."

Though they were not specific as to the nature of the danger, Bello felt he was being warned about radiation.

Bello and his wife did move from the house. Eighteen days later his German shepherd puppy died suddenly from a fulminating cancer. The dog had lived on the patio and would have been most exposed to any radiation there.

Other cases show a direct relation between the UFOs and the mutilations. These reports were provided to us by Mr. Angel Crespo of Arecibo, Puerto Rico, whom we interviewed several months ago.

In the middle of 1979 Crespo and a group of friends went at night to the land of a cattleman and dairy farmer in a section of the village Sabana Hoyos de Arecibo where unusual events were reported to be taking place. This is his unedited story:

"They, my friends, were from there, and told me about it. I wanted to go see. I have never been afraid of anything, and I told them I was going to go with them. They said that at night some things came, like flying saucers, and positioned themselves to get electricity from the cables that are there. Some high voltage lines of 400,000 volts that cross the island go by the place. "We crossed the barbed wire and went in and hid and watched when these things arrived. They were ships, flying saucers, but not very big. They were like fifteen feet in diameter and round. They were silvery, very bright, very pretty. They weren't from here, they were flying saucers.

"Those ships came and attached onto the cables. You could see how a spark climbed to the saucer. It sat until that one went away and another one came. That's how it was all night. One went and another one came.

"And something happened also with the cattle, the cows. They turned up dry. They had been thrown to the ground, but dry, without any blood in the body.

"Those saucers came down and put out three legs. There were no wheels at the ends but some things like little plates. They descended to the ground and at times there came things like little scoops from them. These collected earth, or were checking something. We could see little square windows in the middle, and below they had something like a turbine, but with many colored lights, blue, yellow, green, that were turning inside. When the lights turned

rapidly, the saucer went up and was lost in the sky.

"When they had gone, we went to check the area and found some circles of violet powder on the ground. We picked up a stick and checked the violet stuff, keeping at a distance because it might cause harm; we didn't know. And then the cattle, the cows, turned up dead.

"We saw that on various occasions, until one night when we entered and went to cross the wires someone shouted at us 'Hey, hey, hey, you've gone far enough, you can't come back here!' When we looked there were many people there dressed in military green. They were soldiers. There were several of them, and they were armed with cannons and guns and automatic weapons. They told us we could not go on the land any more. The place was full of military trucks and those soldiers. We also saw some pretty high and mighty types we thought were from intelligence. They all seemed to be Puerto Rican, and they had the most modern electronic equipment.

"Apparently they were checking what was happening there, watching those saucers and the cows and didn't want anyone else to know. They took us out of there and we never went back."

Goat deaths and UFOs

Two strange and apparently related events happened in the early mornings of March 31 and April 1, 1991. Both cases involve the strange deaths and mutilation of fourteen goats in an enclosed courtyard of a house in the El Rancho sector,

behind the eighth section of the city of Santa Juanita in Bayamon.

On those two mornings, the householder discovered his goats dead and bloodless, with round holes in their necks. Disturbing as this was, it was made more so by the realization that it had happened on two successive nights with no one in the house being aware of any unusual activity. No one heard bellows or animals running, or any of the sounds associated with such slaughter.

These cases would still be completely baffling were it not for the fact that there were witnesses to something else unusual happening in the area.

On both mornings witnesses saw a UFO suspended over the house where the animals were found.

One of the witnesses was a neighbor, 28 year old Mr. Jan Rivera Casas. Rivera Casas told UFO investigator Osvaldo Alvarado that:

"On that date I was working at night, so I had just arisen at three in the morning. I looked outside, because I like to look at the sky and stars and such. When I looked, I noticed a thing, a big object in the sky. I know it was not a plane, because a plane has lights. This was big and low. It was the size of five passenger planes in line, with lights all the way around.

"I stopped to look at it, I looked at it for a while, then I called my brother because I wanted witnesses to what I was seeing, so it wouldn't be just me. Being awake and hearing me calling, he came running. I pointed and said 'Look! Do you see what I'm looking at? Do

you see it?' And he said to me, 'Yes, I see it! But what is it?'

"It was there a while in the same place, lit up. It seemed like it knew we were looking at it. Then my mother, who had been sleeping, heard us talking and arose. She did not get there in time to see the object all lit up, but is a witness to its going away. It dimmed little by little and turned red. It was as if it were a red spot, but it did not move. Then it continued to vanish little by little until it completely disappeared."

Casas explained that the object "was round with many lights around it." It stopped quietly in the air over the woods some 500 feet from where he was. It was over a neighboring mango tree forest. The owner of the land had goats, cows, other animals. Casas told the investigator that he could see an association between the deaths of the animals and the presence of the UFO.

"I was speaking with my uncle and was explaining to him what we saw and that other people had spoken to me about seeing flying saucers. Then he told me that the owner of the land had told him that some fourteen goats had turned up dead. He believed it could be dogs, because their wounds look like they were made by fangs.

"That happened the same day I saw the UFO stopped over his land."

Alvarado verified with the owner of the land that indeed his goats had turned up dead in the conditions described and on the date in question. Because of his Pentecostal religious beliefs, the owner did not want to believe a strange object

had hovered over his house when his goats died. He insisted the goats had been killed either by dogs or satanists.

The investigator, respecting the man's religious beliefs, left the discussion there but he felt he could see an association between the deaths and the presence of the UFO.

On the same date a Doberman dog was the victim of a mutilation, but in this case the details were even more disquieting.

The incident occurred in Cabo Rojo in the village of Palmarejo and was investigated by Frankie Rivera and Jose E. Rivera of San German and Edgardo Lozada of Cabo Rojo.

The dog's owners were neighbors of Lozada. They had noticed that for two nights their Doberman dogs, a male and female, were restless and howling as if frightened.

At the same time, the owners heard a strange sound like a recording being played too fast.

Whatever was producing this sound seemed to be near the house, because the couple could sense the movement of the sound around the house. The owners did not go out and look for the source of the noise that was frightening the dogs.

As the noise continued, one dog was heard to shriek. A silence descended. The husband decided to go outside and see what had happened.

In the darkness of his patio he came face to face with two beings he described as "some three to four feet tall, of grey color, big heads, big black eyes and almost imperceptible nose,

and with a mouth like a little cut."

Upon seeing him, the beings fled "running rapidly, like a scud" and disappeared.

Startled, the man searched for his dogs. The female was all right, but on finding the male he discovered the dog was "empty, with nothing inside. It was as if all had been sucked out through the eyes. It had empty eye sockets and all the internal organs had disappeared. It had only the bones inside the skin. It was hollow."

Not wanting his wife to see the carcass, he picked it up and threw it in a plastic garbage bag and tossed it into a nearby ravine where, months later, investigators were unable to find it.

The animal's owner is sure that the beings he saw are responsible for the death of his dog.

Another of these cases occurred on Monday, July 22, 1991, in the city of Rexville in Bayamon.

Mr. Eduardo Velasco Maura found, to his alarm, that his rabbit cages had been broken into and twelve of his adult rabbits and six kits were dead, and dismembered.

Luis Javier Marrero investigated the case immediately.

When Marrero arrived at the scene, he was astonished at the destruction. The rabbits were essentially dismembered, decapitated and some with the organs protruding. They had been thrown around the courtyard of the house. The owners had discovered the mess when they returned from work that afternoon at five. Velasco said, "I went out to the patio to give

food and water to the animals and I found two of the rabbits dead. Then I found some more, massacred, as if something had sucked their blood. The cages were broken. It wasn't the cage doors broken, but the metal grating. The sides were torn to get to the rabbits. What's more, in a cage with strong grating, it wasn't easy to break it. Whatever seized the rabbits had to raise a heavy slab of plywood that covered the grate."

Marrero, who is quite strong, found he could only lift the slab with great difficulty.

Velasco added, "That had to be a diabolical animal, because it's as if the rabbits' blood was sucked. Some of them had round wounds in their heads and chests. These were strange, about half an inch wide and going right into the animal. This is not a normal thing. A dog would bite and tear, it would not be like that.

"Moreover, the back grating is adjacent to the Casiano building and there is a grating of some four feet that separates the two patios. It has steel wire. The wire has no openings and isn't broken, so whatever did this didn't come in there. This is something that has all of us nervous."

The Velascos and their neighbors were alarmed by the killings, especially when it came to light that no one had noticed anything strange the night before.

The Velascos and their neighbors appealed to the Department of Natural Resources and other governmental agencies to look for an explanation. Policemen from Rexville went to the

site and conducted their own investigation.

Velasco told Marrero that as soon as the word was out about what had happened, a man and woman came to his house. They identified themselves as members of the Civil Defense of Bayamon.

The man, white and about 5 feet 9 inches tall with chestnut hair, identified himself as Martinez, while the woman, whose name was in English, limited herself to accompanying the man.

Both presented identification of the Civil Defense of the city of Bayamon and said after they had examined the remains of the animals that it was not normal. They asked permission to take some of the rabbits for further study. Velasco agreed and they carried off some bodies in plastic bags, promising to tell him what was learned. No one has heard any more about these people. When Marrero tried to corroborate their identification, the Civil Defense of Bayamon had not heard of them. They had never been employees of that agency. During Marrero's investigation he learned that a few days before the rabbits were killed, some of the neighbors had seen a ball of white light some three feet in diameter floating over the Velascos' patio.

The same sort of balls of light have been seen for years in UFO cases. And while we can't say with certainty that the light was connected with the rabbit's deaths, we believe suspicion of an association is justified.

Mutilation report out of print but worth finding

Mute Evidence

Daniel Kagan and Ian Summers

Bantam Books, 1984

502 pages

It's unusual to review an out of print book, but *Mute Evidence* is a work that should be read by anyone with even a passing interest in the cattle mutilation phenomenon. Anyone intending to offer opinions on the nature of cattle mutilations would be well advised to own a copy as a reference. It's useful for settling arguments.

Kagan and Summers are as unlikely a pair of researchers one could imagine. Kagan, a former rock singer, theater director, and writer and Summers, a graphic artist turned writer, became intrigued in late 1979 with the cattle mutilation phenomenon. They decided to travel the country interviewing the principals in the story — the veterinarians, ranchers, law enforcement officials, and journalists — to hear firsthand their pieces of the mystery. Then they hoped to organize and analyze their data, plug their findings back into the system, and "with luck, help the authorities make the first arrest of a cattle mutilator."

The book details the research, the interviews and the conclusions the authors are led to. The interview with Dr. John King, a veterinary pathologist and director of the Necropsy Laboratory at Cornell University's New York School Of Veterinary Medicine, provides an invaluable seventeen page

expert's view of the damage commonly reported in suspected mutilation cases.

What Summers and Kagan find is a small number of genuine animal mutilations, almost all of them postmortem. The most likely suspects in these few cases, they say, are various cultists and petty vandals. The other reported cases melt away under scrutiny like an ice cube under a sunlamp. Through interviews, the believers and debunkers, experts and con artists are revealed as motivated more by self interest than a desire for truth.

The less than attractive side of human nature — good, regular folk succumbing consciously and unconsciously to the temptations of politics, ambition, greed, power and ego — makes for such a depressing read that by comparison the odd misfit in a hood slicing the ear off a dead cow looks as harmless as a jaywalker. The conclusions are as reasonable as they are uncomfortable. This is how we are. This is why doors have locks, and children have to be forced to share.

The authors offer what they see as essential ingredients for turning a minor cattle death mystery into an unexplained phenomenon: significant numbers of part time ranchers whose herds tended to have higher death rates than those of the professional cattle ranchers and who were less experienced at recognizing the varied appearances of predator and scavenger behavior; a willing-

ness in the press to sensationalise the occurrence and act as a vector for the spread of misinformation; paranormal experts advancing unsupported opinions; and officials — lawmen, veterinarians, agricultural agents — polarizing into camps of believers and debunkers.

Mute Evidence is difficult to read, neither elegantly written nor entertaining. The authors occasionally seem out of their element in both the terrain and culture of the west and southwest. (As an example, they describe the ride Dulce policeman Gabe Valdez takes them on over the back roads of the Jicarilla Reservation as a terrifying experience at breakneck speed. Valdez indicated in an interview with the *Ufologist* that he was stung by this characterization. The *Ufologist* is familiar with that road, and can attest that it is a perfectly normal narrow mountain road. Its twists and turns can sometimes make legal speeds feel near sonic. Two New Yorkers being tossed across its roller coaster curves in the dark might be tempted to recall it in exaggerated terms.)

Readers familiar with the complex nature of ufology will probably be rankled by Kagan and Summers' tendency to read "extraterrestrial spacecraft" when they see UFO. It's a minor aggravation that does not detract from the value of the book, which is definitely worth a search through used book stores to find.

— Anne Ecker

Strike Two

Jenny Randles takes another swing at Bentwaters

From Out of the Blue

Jenny Randles

Berkley Paperback

233 pages, \$4.99

Jenny Randles is selling Bentwaters again, and her new, improved version of the case is worth reading.

Randles first detailed the 1980 case in *Sky Crash*, an ill-organized and poorly executed 1984 book co-written with Brenda Butler and Dot Street. Her new effort, *From Out of the Blue*, provides a coherent, easy to read chronicle of a complex UFO event. It could have been subtitled "Everything you always wanted to know about Bentwaters but were too confused to ask".

The twin Royal Air Force bases of Woodbridge and Bentwaters, situated in East Anglia, provided maintenance for NATO forces in Germany. Both were under RAF control, but Woodbridge was staffed entirely by American troops.

On two consecutive nights in late December, 1980 USAF personnel witnessed overflights and an apparent landing of an unknown lighted metallic object that appeared to be under intelligent control. Among the witnesses was the assistant base commander Colonel Charles Halt, whose audiotape of the UFO chase in the forest in the middle of the night is one of the eeriest, most compelling pieces of UFO lore.

Bentwaters seems to have all the features one could want in a late-model UFO case: multiple witnesses of high reliability, radar confirmation, extended

sighting time, physical evidence, a live tape recording of the witnesses' reactions and an official military report confirming all of the above. Still, Randles senses something funny about it. No matter how solidly it rings when you slam the doors, she seems to harbor the underlying suspicion that we are being asked to buy a lemon.

Randles builds a careful case for the government and the military wanting the events of Bentwaters-Woodbridge to be perceived as a UFO encounter, whatever the reason. The fact that word of the encounter was leaked to British UFO researchers by military sources within days of the events should be adequate tip off that our publicly financed tricksters are on the job.

After an outstanding recounting of what is known about the Bentwaters-Woodbridge case, Randles spends the last twenty pages of the book exploring the possible explanations.

Randles reports being tipped off by a Ministry of Defense scientist that the event was a test of Star Wars weaponry involving an attempted course alteration of the Soviet satellite Cosmos 749 as it reentered the atmosphere:

"He suggested that particle beam weapons - as being developed for Reagan's "Space Defense Initiative" to "kill" orbiting satellites by firing high energy beams at them - might conceivably be involved in this case."

One suspects the MOD scientist was not being quite candid with the Randles. In 1980 when Colonel Halt and his men were bedazzled in Rendlesham Forest, SDI was three years from being proposed and Reagan had not been inaugurated.

Still, this is a book worth having for its well organized description of the Bentwaters-Woodbridge case.

— Anne Ecker

Jorge Martín will speak at 1993 MUFON Symposium

Jorge Martín, editor and publisher of the Spanish language magazine *ENIGMA!*, will present a paper on ongoing UFO events in Puerto Rico at the 1993 Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) Symposium.

The symposium will be held July 2, 3, and 4 in Richmond, Virginia. The theme of this year's event is "UFOLOGY: The Emergence of A New Science."

According to MUFON, other confirmed speakers include crop circle lecturer Colin Andrews, Spanish investigator Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, Cynthia Hind on abductions in Africa, Illobrand von Ludwiger on German sightings, Dr. Hoang-Yung Chiang on UFO events in China. Budd Hopkins will be updating the controversial Linda Cortile case and Linda Moulton Howe is scheduled to talk on UFO activity and animal mutilations in Alabama.

The event will be held at the Hyatt Richmond Hotel, 6624 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23230, phone (804)

285-1234 or FAX (804) 288-3961.

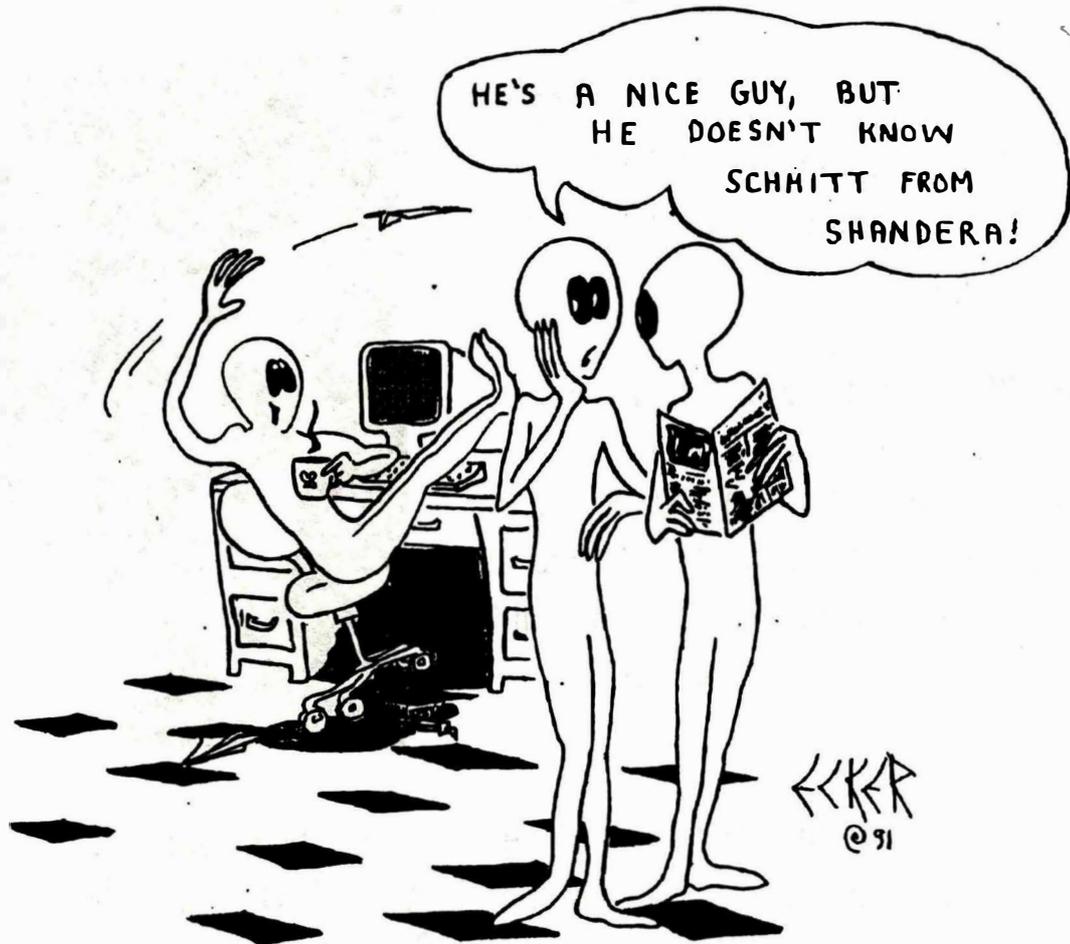
Symposium goers would do well to announce themselves

when making reservations: the hotel is extending a special rate of \$62 per night to those attending the symposium.

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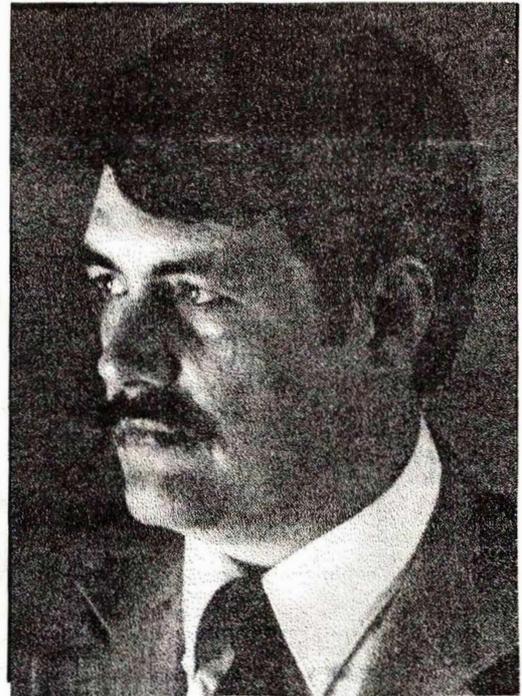
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