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For more recent information about Area 51, see the new [Area 51 Research Center](#) maintained by Don Emory.

## Previous Popular Mechanics Stupidity

From: **Damien Thorn**  
Date: Sat, 28 Jun 1997 07:12:20 -0800  
Subject: Previous Popular Mechanics Stupidity

"Where a calculator on the Eniac is equipped with 18,000 vacuum tubes and weighs 30 tons, computers in the future may have only 1,000 vacuum tubes and perhaps weigh 1-1/2 tons"

- Popular Mechanics  
March, 1949

The above quote proves that articles about the relocation of Area 51 aren't the only stupid predictions to have appeared in Popular Mechanics. Although slightly off-topic, I was amused to find that this quote had been deemed the "Quote of the Century (So Far)" by Information Week magazine (<http://www.informationweek.com>) in their January 6, 1997 issue.

We'll be covering the PopMech blunder in one of the summer issues of Nuts & Volts Magazine (<http://www.nutsvolts.com>), and anyone who knows exactly where the author of the PopMech article took his photo, please contact me at [damien@nutsvolts.com](mailto:damien@nutsvolts.com) so I can get photos of the same gate.

Shortly after the article appeared I headed out on a photo mission, and as I rounded the last bend in Groom Lake road and saw the same signs that have always been there, I actually felt badly for PopMech's Mr. Wilson. If I had made a blunder of such magnitude in print, I'd probably become a hermit and go into hiding <g>!

Damien Thorn

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FROM THE MODERATOR:

I think this is the location of the gate photo in Popular Mechanics: Turn off NV-375 at milepoint 34.6 ("Groom Lake Road"). Go 5.1 miles and turn left ("South Tikaboo Road"), drive 7.3 miles south until you reach the gate. I think that's the one. (It is a gate to Range 61 in the Nellis bombing range, not Area 51.) -GC

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Ufomind Index: [Green River Launch Complex "Area 6413"](#)

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PO Box 30303, Las Vegas, NV 89173 Glenn Campbell, Webmaster & Moderator

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This page: <http://www.aliensonearth.com/area51/list/1997/jun/a28-004.shtml> (12/5/00 15:52)

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