

# INTRODUCTION TO THE REVISED EDITION

THE CHOPPERS...AND THE CHOPPERS WAS A LIMITED-EDITION REPORT PUBLISHED IN 1980. THERE HAVE BEEN MANY REQUESTS FOR A RE-ISSUE OF THE PUBLICATION. WE ARE PRESENTING THIS EXPANDED, UPDATED EDITION, AS WE HAD MUCH ADDITIONAL DATA TO ADD - PLUS WE REMAIN CONVINCED THAT THIS INFORMATION IS SIGNIFICANT AND THAT IT NEEDS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE. THE PREFACE AND INTRODUCTION REMAIN UNCHANGED FROM THE ORIGINAL EDITION. WE HAVE ADDED OVER TWO DOZEN ENTRIES TO THE CATALOG OF EVENTS (PLUS REFERENCES FOR THE NEW LISTINGS). SOME OF THE CATALOG LISTINGS FROM THE ORIGINAL EDITION HAVE BEEN REVISED, CORRECTED OR EXPANDED UPON, AS NECESSARY. WE HAVE ADDED SOME MORE DETAILED ACCOUNTS IN THE FORM OF A NEW SELECTION OF APPENDICES. THE APPENDIX FROM THE ORIGINAL EDITION - THE "DISTRIBUTION" OF REPORTS - REMAINS UNCHANGED AND REFLECTS CASES THROUGH 1979. AS ALWAYS, WE SOLICIT ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REPORTS RELATING TO "PHANTOM HELICOPTERS" AND THE HELICOPTER-ANIMAL MUTILATION CONNECTION. THE "CONNECTION" EXISTS. AND THE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES.

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THOMAS R. ADAMS

# THE CHOPPERS — AND THE CHOPPERS

MYSTERY HELICOPTERS AND ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

**REVISED EDITION**

40 PAGES

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## PREFACE

Any investigation which intends to probe the systematic occurrence of the mutilation attacks upon livestock and other animals in the United States and Canada must include within its purview certain factors which may or may not be directly related to the acts of mutilation themselves. These mutilations - the killing and furtive removal of external and/or internal parts - have been directed at literally thousands of animals (primarily livestock) since the late 1960's. The surgery on these animals is primarily - though not always - conducted with uncanny precision, suggesting the use of highly sophisticated implements and techniques. Then, the numbing and persistent regularity of the mutilations and the seemingly-casual disposal of the useless carcasses - a trail of discarded bovine husks strewn across the terrain - all hints at the confidence - even arrogance - of the mutilators; an arrogance which appears to be justified by the freedom and impunity with which these acts have been carried out.

The pertinence of a specific element of the problem will shortly be revealed in the course of any thorough investigation into the mutilations. We refer to the appearance of unmarked and otherwise unidentified helicopters within a spatial and temporal proximity of animal mutilation sites. The occurrence of these helicopter sightings in apparent conjunction with the mutilations has been persistent enough to supercede coincidence.

These "mystery helicopters" are almost always without identifying markings, or markings may appear to have been painted over or covered with something. The aircraft are frequently reported flying at abnormal, unsafe or illegal altitudes. They may shy away if witnesses or law officers try to approach. But there are several accounts of aggressive behavior on the part of the helicopter occupants, with witnesses chased, "buzzed", hovered-over or even fired upon. At times these choppers appear very near mutilation sites, even hovering over a pasture where a mutilated carcass is later found. They may be observed shortly before or after mutilations occur - or within days of a mutilation. There are not always hard and fast rules to determine the difference between an "ordinary" helicopter sighting and that of a mystery helicopter, but the factors mentioned here should be taken into consideration. The preponderance of evidence - much of which may reasonably be deemed circumstantial - suggests that once we learn something substantial regarding the unidentified helicopters, we will have gained a more accurate perspective on the mutilations problem as a whole. Our intention is merely to stress that the "mystery helicopter" element is a part of the issue which deserves scrutiny.

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## INTRODUCTION

The idea of "mystery helicopters" did not develop concurrently with the animal mutilations themselves. Such helicopters - unmarked, flying at low levels, soundless (or sounding unlike helicopters) - have been reported for years, and have been linked to an even more widespread phenomenon - the "phantom" (fixed-wing) aircraft. The helicopters themselves have been seen in areas where UFOs were reported, in many countries. In some of the more interesting accounts, the mystery choppers were seen with UFOs, or shortly after UFOs were sighted. For the most part, this paper will be restricted to those mystery helicopters with a mutilation (or cattle rustling) "link". Our purpose is merely to point out the supportability - and the reality - of this connection. We'll provide the following representative cases:

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After a two-week siege of livestock mutilations in late September and early October of 1975, Uinta County in far southwestern Wyoming led its state in the number of mute reports, with at least 16 having transpired. To the east, the larger neighboring county of Sweetwater reported no more than one or two mutilations during this period. A rancher who lives in Sweetwater County was deputized by the sheriffs of both Sweetwater and Uinta Counties. One day about dusk, during the first week of October, this deputy/rancher was traveling on a dirt road in SE Uinta County in his own pickup, equipped with radio, rifle and shotgun. Suddenly, a dark green helicopter swooped down and began to pace the pickup. The chase accelerated to 90 mph, and still the chopper was there beside the truck, almost on the ground with it. The truck driver could see a patch or covering on the side of the craft - as though markings underneath were being concealed. And in the chopper - a pilot and two passengers, looking remarkably and crazily alike - all with cowboy hats, "western" shirts and long hair. The deputy was close enough to see their smiles. But they weren't just smiling; they were laughing vigorously. The helicopter accelerated down the road, turned to face the truck and landed in the middle of the road. The deputy, who had been calling for help on his radio, stopped the truck. A high-powered rifle and a shotgun lay on the seat beside him. Without looking, he grabbed the shotgun and stepped from the truck (if he had grabbed the rifle, he believes, he might have disabled the chopper). As the helicopter lifted off, he fired three shots at it without apparent effect. A state trooper responding to the call for assistance saw the craft as it passed over a hill near Highway 414.(1)

Later, the deputy was shown pictures of helicopters. He thought the one involved looked like a French Alouette III. R. Martin Wolf of the Society for the Investigation of The Unexplained learned of the case in Wyoming. Wolf also determined, as he explained in the Winter 1977 edition of the SITU journal, PURSUIT, that someone driving a white van purchased 400 gallons of aviation fuel from airports in the area. Also, a "military-type" helicopter had landed at one of the airports to refuel, and paid for the transaction in cash.(2) As Wolf notes, this may be unrelated to the "shootout" story. In Colorado in 1975, authorities noted several reports of large white vans - sometimes pulling trailers - in areas where mutilations were occurring,

the off-handed speculation being that some kind of ground support was being provided for the mutilators.

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Twenty-two confirmed cattle mutilations had occurred in Madison County, Montana between June and October of 1976, accompanied by reports throughout the county of silent, unmarked, jet-black helicopters, flashing or steady anomalous lights in the air and near the ground, unmarked fixed-wing aircraft and white vans in remote and previously-inaccessible areas (see the Wyoming account, above). Toward the latter part of this period, in early autumn of 1976, a hunter from Bozeman, Montana was out alone around 3:00 PM one day in the Red Mountain area near Norris. He watched as a black helicopter without markings flew overhead and disappeared below a small hill. The curious hunter climbed to the top of the hill. There was the black chopper (a Bell Jet Ranger, he thought) on the ground, the engine still running. Seven men had apparently exited from the craft and were walking up the hill toward the observer. As the hunter advanced toward the seven, he waved and shouted congenial greetings. It was then that he realized there was something different about the men - they were all Oriental - Chinese, Japanese - he wasn't sure. They had slanted eyes and olive skin and were jabbering among themselves in some indecipherable language. They wore "everyday" clothes, not uniforms. Suddenly they began to return to the helicopter. The hunter, still waving and shouting friendly greetings, started after them. The Orientals quickened their pace. When the hunter approached to within 5 or 6 feet, they broke into a dead run, crowded into the chopper and took off.

In a documented "mystery helicopter" wave in England, an as-yet unsubstantiated account places Oriental-appearing occupants in an unidentified chopper. In seeking other correlations: a psychic analyst in New Jersey "saw" both North Koreans and Russians in helicopters who were involved in the mutilations. And, slanted-eyed, olive-skinned, Oriental-seeming occupants have been a staple at the heart and at the periphery of UFO accounts for years. (3, 4, 5)

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In the fall of 1976, it was round-up time for ranchers in southern Colorado. Four ranchers - partners in a family operation - were on horseback one day, rounding up and herding their cattle near Model, Las Animas County, Colorado. One rider glanced around to see 4 helicopters silently flying in their direction, arrayed in a "perfect diamond formation". As the other three hovered, one chopper flew down over the cattle, scattering the herd. By then the ranchers could hear the swish of the props, but no more. As one rider pulled out a rifle, the lone chopper rejoined the others and the four departed to the south. Each helicopter was yellow and black, with "smoky" glass over the cockpits. The observers weren't sure, but thought the craft were Bell Jet Rangers. District Attorney's Investigator Lou Girodo of Trinidad attempted to trace the helicopters, but without success. No known mutilations were occurring at that time, but mutilations have occurred (along with mystery helicopters) sporadically in Las Animas County for several years, from August of 1975 until as late as November of 1979. (6, 7)

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By November 12, 1978, at least eighteen confirmed livestock mutilations had occurred in Benton County, Arkansas. Three more were found on the 12th, each in pastures miles apart. One calf belonged to Lt. Don Rystrom, an ex-Marine and rancher who happened to be spearheading the Benton County Sheriff's Office's investigation. The mutilation occurred on the night of November 11th-12th, but the two previous nights had not been without incident. At 10:00 PM on Thursday, the 9th, a helicopter was heard flying out of the east. It flew above the plateau where Rystrom's ranch is located (the highest elevation in the county, 5 miles from the Missouri line), down over the pasture where the mutilated calf would be found on Sunday and, after following a high-voltage power line to the end of the pasture, the chopper turned north and disappeared toward Missouri. Although Rystrom heard the craft go over, he caught only a glimpse of it when he went out to look. It appeared to be a "Huey" ("I flew in many of them in the Marine Corps") with a single white light on the back or belly of the fuselage. At 10:00 o'clock on the night of the 10th, it was back. Rystrom heard what sounded like a helicopter and he rushed outside. He directed the spotlight on his police cruiser up toward the craft, which then accelerated alarmingly and disappeared again to the north in less than ten seconds. It had followed the same flight path as on the previous night, to a spot directly over the mutilation site-to-be. When Rystrom turned his spotlight on the craft, he noted that - unlike the initial sound he had heard - he could now hear only a sort of popping sound, which surprised him, as close as the chopper was. When the light hit it, Rystrom could see that it was plainly a helicopter. It was without lights and unmarked. The color could have been dark blue, dark purple or black: "I'd never seen a chopper that color".

In other parts of the country, from Colorado to New England, individual mystery cop-  
 ters are reported to emit a variety of sounds - like a normal chopper; like a jet air-  
 craft; a soft swishing; the "popping" Don Rystrom described; or a whistle. Mere prin-  
 ciples of aerodynamics would seem to preclude the development of a totally silent hel-  
 icopter. Indeed, some military sources deny that such a thing is possible. Perhaps  
 the term "silent" is only a relative consideration, referring to helicopter engines that  
 are simply less noisy than before. Producer Linda M. Howe, while preparing a doc-  
 umentary on livestock mutilations for KMGH-TV in Denver, learned of a helicopter  
 with a 12-second "window" during which it can be heard by a stationary observer.  
 That is, the helicopter is truly not-heard until 6 seconds before passing overhead. It  
 then becomes "silent" again 6 seconds after passing over. (8, 9)

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"The helicopter has come of age" (Bell Helicopter Textron spokesman Pat McGuire). (10)  
 If the seventies saw an increasingly-progressing Age of Helicopters, the same decade  
 was also the heyday of the animal mutilators. In most mutilation events, nothing is  
 seen and nothing is heard, in the air or on the ground. But in hundreds of incidents  
 (compared to thousands of mutilations), suspicious, low-flying, unmarked, unidenti-  
 fied helicopters have been seen and heard by witnesses.

Are there any "conventional" explanations for the mystery helicopters seen in areas of  
 mutilation activity, and do any such explanations hold water?

Helicopters used in drug smuggling? District Attorney's Investigator Lou Girodo of Trinidad, Colorado is often thrust into drug-smuggling probes in his area, and fixed-wing craft are often involved. But the use of helicopters in such operations has been largely discounted by Girodo and his contacts in the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Customs. The choppers are "just not feasible... They're not long-range enough; they're too expensive to operate and they just don't hold that much cargo. So choppers have been all but discounted in smuggling operations."

Military helicopters on "maneuvers" or choppers in transit to other military bases? As an example: Information Officer Major Arne Anderson of the Army's Fort Carson Military Reservation near Colorado Springs was interviewed by Bella Stumbo of the LOS ANGELES TIMES during the height of the mutilation/helicopter siege in Colorado in 1975. Anderson's comment:

We have three helicopters, all clearly marked with large red crosses on their sides, which often fly all over Colorado on emergency rescue calls from local sheriffs. Otherwise our helicopters (about 80) do all their practice and training drills on the Army reservation. They do not leave the base unless it's to assist in a National Guard operation or to move to another military base. And, when off base, they never fly below 1800 feet. Our choppers are so controlled it's unbelievable. When not in use, they're locked 24 hours a day. And every pilot lifting off the pad must file a complete clearance report on his destination. (11)

In STIGMATA No. 5 (Fall-Winter 1978), we outlined the most prominent speculative explanations accounting for the mutilation/helicopter link, including the following:

\*\*The helicopters are themselves UFOs, disguised to appear as terrestrial craft.

\*\* The choppers originate from within the U.S. Government/military and are directly involved in conducting the actual mutilations.

\*\* The helicopters are governmental/military and are not involved in the mutilations, but are investigating and monitoring the activities of the real mutilators. The problem here arises in attempting to explain the presence of mystery helicopters at mutilation sites well in advance of the mutilation itself (the Rystrom case, for instance).

\*\*The helicopters are governmental/military. The operatives and their superiors are very knowledgeable about the identity and motives of the mutilators and, by their presence, they are diverting our attention to the possibility of direct involvement by the military or the U.S. government, for whatever the reason might be.

\*\*Or, the answer could lie in some combination of the above. On the other hand, the choppers could be "para-governmental"; perhaps a renegade cadre from within the government, without official sanction because of the clandestine, even illegal, nature of the operation. Or the choppers might belong to an ultra-government, an international cabal. Any or all of these groups could be involved in biological experimentation, chemical-biological-bacteriological warfare experimentation, weapons research, or the geobotanical pursuit of petroleum and mineral deposits; or something not considered yet.



The question arises: If such helicopters have been reported, looking and acting as they (and their pilots) act - shouldn't authorities such as the Federal Aviation Administration be extremely interested? In late 1975, following several weeks of mutilations and mystery helicopter and UFO reports in northeastern New Mexico, the Tucumcari, New Mexico NEWS (11-7-75) announced that:

James Gordon, Federal Aviation Adm. local Area Coordinator, announced late Wednesday (11-5-75) the FAA has officially entered into the investigation of the sightings of the air craft over northeastern New Mexico. At the present time the FAA investigators are in the field taking depositions from individuals who have actually seen these air crafts.

In response to Freedom of Information Act requests in 1978 and 1979 to FAA offices in Albuquerque and Tucumcari, to the Southwest Region office in Fort Worth and to the Rocky Mountain Region office in Denver, the FAA denied having any information about the NE New Mexico mystery helicopters and UFOs or any investigation thereof. If there was such an investigation, what did it find? Reason not to announce its findings?

Among the more interesting - and disquieting revelations extracted from federal agencies via the FOIA are tales of helicopter/UFO overflights over such Air Force bases as Loring in Maine, Wurtsmith in Michigan and Malmstrom in Montana in the autumn of 1975. Some of the craft involved were firmly identified as helicopters. At other times, they were just "low-flying aircraft" or simply anomalous lights. Whatever they were, they were brazenly invading restricted air space, flying dangerously low, ignoring radio contact, and exhibiting no identifying markings.

But the helicopters that are of special interest to this study - beyond almost always being unmarked and flying at low altitudes - pay an inordinate amount of attention to herds of cattle and to mutilation sites, past and future. These aircraft are an integral part of the complete animal mutilation picture. They will have to be accounted for.

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The following is a chronological catalog of "mystery helicopter events". Due to space limitations, we will not mention it in every case, but these events occurred in the general or specific vicinity of animal mutilation sites, as many familiar with the distribution of the phenomenon will be aware. Hopefully a more comprehensive enumeration will be available in the future.

We hope that any factual errors are minor and we will appreciate corrections from anyone with knowledge of specific cases.

We encourage investigators to submit additional reports to us, as we are certain that there are many incidents of which we are unaware and many about which we have few details. Further information will aid in producing a more meaningful analysis of the "mystery helicopter" aspect of the livestock mutilation problem.

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CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF EVENTS -

UNIDENTIFIED HELICOPTERS ASSOCIATED WITH ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

1971

AUGUST

Date and time unknown  
COLORADO - Lake County  
40 sheep were found dead, their carcasses "blistered", after a Basque rancher saw a helicopter go over his flock. (1)

1973

MARCH

Dates and times unknown  
NEBRASKA - Sarpy County  
A wave of cattle rustling and helicopter sightings occurred here. (1)

APRIL

Date and time unknown  
IOWA - Wayne County, near Corydon.  
A farmer spotted a helicopter hovering above a pasture, shining a spotlight to the ground. Lawmen in 20 vehicles unsuccessfully gave chase. (2)  
17th, Tuesday, early AM  
IOWA - Davis County, near Mark -  
A non-bubble-type chopper rose out of a field, headed north then turned south toward the Missouri line, then vanished. (3)

Date and time unknown  
IOWA - Audubon County  
When a deputy saw a helicopter hovering over a farm, he turned off the lights on his cruiser and the lights on the helicopter went out. Hog-rustlings had occurred in the area. (4)

SPRING

Exact date unknown, likely April or May -  
ARKANSAS - Carroll County -  
One night, a woman searched on foot for her dog in a rural area near Berryville. She saw what appeared to be a silver helicopter sitting on an adjacent golf course. Approaching a clearing, she saw humans in white coats or uniforms, plus 2 non-humans she had encountered weeks before - all gathered over a horse which seemed to be in pain. She was spotted, ran through the woods, back by the golf course (the helicopter was gone). She was "zapped" with something, burning her, making her ill. This is the "Ordeal In Arkansas" case from STIGMATA #4(1978). At that time, it was not known that the event actually occurred in 1973. (21)

MAY

3rd, Thursday, 5:30 PM  
IOWA - Henry County, near Rome.  
Six witnesses saw a dark green helicopter flying low over pastures. (5)

Date unknown  
ILLINOIS - Randolph County, near Percy.  
Farmer saw green helicopter without markings. 3 to 4 days later, 35 head of cattle turned up missing. (6)

Exact date and month unknown  
ILLINOIS - Jersey County -  
A "white, unmarked cargo-type helicopter" was observed by Mrs. Phyllis Beutell and her son as the craft lifted up from a field containing cattle. A neighbor's cow disappeared a day or 2 later. (7)

Summer Months

Exact dates unknown  
MINNESOTA - Lincoln County -  
Two or three reports of low-flying helicopters circling cattle in fields. At least one mutilation occurred in the area in May. (8)

Exact dates unknown  
KANSAS - Ottawa & Cloud Counties -  
Reports of low-flying helicopters without lights "all summer long", preceding a mutilation wave that erupted in August. Cloud County Sheriff Fred Modlin said helicopters had been seen over cattle-loading pens. (9)

JULY

Dates unknown  
MISSOURI - Ste. Genevieve, Reynolds & Iron Counties - Several mystery helicopter reports, plus rustling complaints in latter 2 counties. (10)

AUGUST

17th, Friday PM  
MISSOURI - Perry County -  
Deputy Louis Layton reported seeing an unmarked transport-type helicopter over a ranch near St. Marys. (11)

mid-August  
MISSOURI - St. Francois County -  
Two deputies watch helicopter hovering 20-25 feet over cattle on a ranch. (12)

20th, Monday  
ILLINOIS - Randolph County -  
Between Chester and Red Bud. A helicopter was observed which matched "the description of the one suspected of being used for rustling". (13)

21st, Tuesday, 9:00 PM  
ILLINOIS - Union County -  
A Mr. Peters fired two warning shots over a helicopter which he observed hovering low and shining a light on his cattle. The chopper, described as "quiet-running", turned out its lights and fled. (14)

22nd, Wednesday, beginning 12 AM -  
ILLINOIS - Union County -  
Witness heard sound of an apparent helicopter for 30 minutes near Jonesboro. (15)

AUGUST 1973 (Continued)

25th, 26th, 27th (Sat.-Sun.-Mon.)  
MISSOURI - Lincoln & Pike Counties.  
41 reports of unmarked helicopters  
were received by the Pike County  
sheriff. (16)

28th, Tuesday PM  
ILLINOIS - Pike County -  
Lights on a helicopter suddenly went  
out as a deputy watched. Radar picked  
up low-flying aircraft slowly cir-  
cling in Pike and Adams Counties. (17)

SEPTEMBER 1973

9th, Sunday  
MISSOURI - St. Francois County -  
A low-flying "Army-type helicopter"  
upsets a man's cattle, flying over  
several times. The witness, through  
field glasses, notes a "large white  
spot" near the tail of the chopper. (19)

SEPTEMBER or OCTOBER

MISSOURI - St. Louis County, near Pond.  
James Hagler, a victim of pig-nappers,  
saw a helicopter over his property on  
3 occasions. The third time, he was  
fired upon from the chopper. Hagler  
fired back, then someone on the ground  
fired at Hagler. Law officers searched  
but found nothing. After they left, Hag-  
ler was fired upon again. A second  
search was again fruitless. (20)

1974

Month and day unknown  
NEW YORK - Long Island -  
Unmarked, charcoal-black "Chinook"  
helicopter lands on a beach early one  
morning. Men in black pajama-type uni-  
forms & carrying M-16 rifles get out;  
threaten local lawman who asks too  
many questions. Other choppers, black  
but smaller, seen out over ocean. Re-  
portedly, Air Force was transporting  
warheads; one chopper had trouble and  
had to land. The men in the Chinook  
were said to be a security unit pro-  
tecting the downed craft. (9)

JULY 1974

15th, Monday, 5:00 PM  
IOWA - Pottawattamie County -  
Twenty shots were fired from a black  
twin-engine plane and a white helicop-  
ter at Robert Smith as he cultivated  
a cornfield on his tractor. Neither  
craft was marked. Smith could see a  
figure brace himself against the  
helicopter door as he fired. Both the  
helicopter and the airplane had been  
seen over the area "all spring". (1)

AUGUST 1974

11th thru 14th (Sun.thru Wed.evenings)  
NEBRASKA - Knox County  
Helicopters, strange lights seen each  
night, said sheriff. In July, August, 7  
mutilations occurred near Bloomfield. (2)

14th, Wednesday night  
NEBRASKA - Lancaster County  
A helicopter hovered and directed  
a beam of light onto a pasture.  
A mutilated cow was found in the  
same pasture on 8-18-74. (3)

15-16-17th (Thurs. thru Sat.)  
NEBRASKA - Knox County  
Sheriff Herb Thompson reported  
that helicopters were seen  
"every night". (4)

Exact date unknown  
NEBRASKA - Cedar County  
Joel Dendinger, driving SW of  
Hartington, saw a helicopter  
scanning his neighbor's field  
with a searchlight. A car was  
also seen shining a spotlight  
in the same direction. A dead  
cow - not mutilated - was found  
the next morning where the  
helicopter had been seen clo-  
sest to the ground. (10)

SEPTEMBER 1974

Exact dates unknown  
NEBRASKA - Antelope County -  
Mutilated calf found 9-6-74. No  
helicopters were seen that date  
but several sightings were re-  
ported in the Elgin area around  
that time. (5)

14th, Saturday, 9:30 PM  
NEBRASKA - Cedar County -  
Gerry Hochstein & Gerry Lammers  
saw a helicopter which they fol-  
lowed for 3 miles until it ap-  
peared to land on the Rudy Wes-  
sels farm. A mutilated calf was  
found on the adjoining Klein-  
schmidt property 9-16-74. (6)

OCTOBER 1974

Dates unknown  
Nebraska - Holt County -  
Two unidentified helicopters  
sighted, one north and one south  
of Atkinson. At least two mutila-  
tions occurred in the county in  
October. (7)

NOVEMBER 1974

13th, Wednesday night, 8:35 on  
NEBRASKA - Madison County -  
A neighbor had seen a cow down  
on the Douglas Werkmeister farm  
Tuesday evening. It was examined  
Wednesday morning and found to  
be mutilated. The deafening pop-  
ping sound of a helicopter was  
heard over the farm on Wed. night.  
A chopper circled low over other  
area farms that night. (8)

1975JANUARY 1975

22nd, Wednesday, 8:00 AM  
TEXAS - Lamar County -  
Possibly-mutilated cow found at  
7:00 AM. Chopper seen circling  
about 1 hour later. (1)

FEBRUARY 1975

Early to mid-February  
TEXAS - Wood County -  
Mrs. A.D. Cruse said her family heard an "awfully loud" low-flying helicopter around 10:30 one night. A cow of theirs was found mutilated the next morning. Other mutilations occurred in the area.(2)

Early to mid-February  
TEXAS - Hopkins County -  
There was at least one unidentified helicopter sighting in the county during a period in which two, possibly three, mutilations occurred. (3)

6th, Thursday, 8:00 AM  
TEXAS - Smith County -  
A trooper was advised by a motorist that he saw a small, black helicopter as it lifted off the ground near Owentown, NE of Tyler. Mutilations were occurring in the area during this period.(4)

6th, Thursday, 8:00 AM  
TEXAS - Smith County  
An unidentified caller reported to the sheriff's office that a helicopter was seen along US highway 271 north of Tyler. Something was hanging beneath the craft and the caller thought it looked like a calf. The report was classified as "unfounded" but is of interest in view of the other report in the same area at the same time (above). (5)

6th, Thursday, 10:30 PM  
TEXAS - Smith County  
Winona cattleman Billy Joe Davis had suffered 3 mutilations and patrolled his farm at night. He saw a helicopter with a bright blinking light on the sides and a constant white light underneath. The craft flew away as he approached it. (6)

7th, Friday, 10:30 PM  
TEXAS - Smith County -  
Billy Joe Davis had a helicopter sighting identical to that of the previous night. (7)

8th, Saturday  
TEXAS - Gregg County -  
Several reports of helicopters along the Sabine River bottoms. A mutilated cow was found on the Kenneth Johnson property in this area on 2-9-75. (8)

Dates unknown  
TEXAS - Bosque, Coryell, Hamilton Co.-  
Unidentified helicopters began a several-month flyover of these counties, spotlighting cattle herds. 3 mutes in Coryell Co. in Feb.(9)

24th, Monday, 10:30 PM  
TEXAS - Camp County  
Uncertain whether mutilations occurred here; but some did occur in adjoining Morris, Wood & Upshur Counties. On this night, law officers talked with the occupants of a landed helicopter. They claimed to be student pilots from Barksdale AFB in NW Louisiana. The exact location of this incident is unconfirmed but is believed to have been Camp County. (10)

24th, Monday night  
Texas - Kaufman County -  
A helicopter chased a car for 5 miles near Becker. A mutilation had been discovered on 2-22-75 in Henderson Co., south of Becker. There were at least 4 additional helicopter sightings in Kaufman & Henderson Counties. (11)

24th, Monday night  
TEXAS - Kaufman County -  
Two deputies - Carl Hall and Alton Ashworth - each responded to separate reports of helicopters on the ground. When each drove up, they saw a helicopter which took off immediately. (12)

25th, Tuesday, early AM  
TEXAS - Kaufman County -  
Other helicopter sightings occurred after midnight. Also, unetailed reports from adjoining Henderson County. (13)

25th, Tuesday  
TEXAS - Bexar County -  
Stanley Jasik was 1/4-mile away when he watched a silver helicopter land in a grassy field, 2 miles from the San Antonio River. Jasik saw a dead cow in the area. The owner then examined the carcass on 2-26-75 and found it to be mutilated. (14)

25th, Tuesday night  
TEXAS - Kaufman County -  
Deputy Carl Hall reported that at least 3 helicopter sightings occurred in south and east Kaufman County. There was one report of a "red flare" seen by witnesses following the departure of a helicopter from the area.(15)

27th, Thursday  
TEXAS - Smith County -  
A farmer watched an unmarked helicopter hover over his property. It flew away as he prepared to shoot at it.(16)

MARCH 1975

1st, Saturday (est. date)  
TEXAS - Smith County -  
TV reporter Horace McQueen rode with a trooper as they chased a low-flying chopper several miles.(17)

MARCH 1975 (Continued)

4th, Tuesday, 9:30 PM  
CONNECTICUT - Hartford County -  
No mutilation link, but...An oval object emitting multi-colored lights was seen hovering over a field; observed by two witnesses for 45+ minutes. A helicopter flew near the object. Inquiries to determine the origin of the chopper were fruitless.(131)

13th, Thursday  
TEXAS - Gregg County -  
A "military helicopter" encountered icing problems in bad weather and had to land at the Dairy Queen in Liberty City. The pilot obtained an alternate flight plan from Barksdale AFB in NW Louisiana and resumed the trip.(18)

Dates unknown  
TEXAS - Bosque County -  
A continuation of a series of low-flying unidentified helicopter sightings that began in February.(19)

APRIL 1975

6th, Sunday, 8:00 AM  
KANSAS - Marshall County -  
SW of Marysville, farmer Art Seematter saw a helicopter go over his property. Later that day he found the carcass of a mutilated cow. The mutilation had occurred sometime since noon on April 5, 1975. (20)

MAY 1975

Early May  
COLORADO - Alamosa County -  
A helicopter with red, green and white lights on it was seen 3 nights in a row at about 10:00 PM over the Great Sand Dunes National Monument. No known mutilations occurred at that time although some occurred in late summer. This eastern and southern portion of the San Luis Valley is historically a mutilation and mystery helicopter-prone region(the "Snippy The Horse" event occurred here in 1967). (21)

Dates unknown  
TEXAS - Bosque County -  
The reports of low-flying helicopters spotlighting cattle ended (apparently) in May. In response to citizen complaints, the Federal Aviation Administration conducted an investigation in July and August. The Air Force denied having any helicopter activity in the area and, according to the FAA: "The Army was operating some helicopters in (the) area earlier this year, but without more definite information on dates, times, etc., they cannot confirm any specific flights. They stated it is not their policy to fly at night with their lights off. Two military reservations are located to the south of the area in question: The Army's Fort Hood in Coryell County and Gray Air Force Base in Bell County. Cattle mutilations occurred in both counties, with one on Fort Hood

MAY 1975 (Continued)

29th, Thursday night  
COLORADO - Elbert County -  
Daryl Evans of Elizabeth heard a helicopter over his property on the same night a heifer of his was mutilated. (23)

JUNE 1975

19th, Thursday, early AM  
COLORADO - Elbert County -  
A rancher saw a red & white helicopter land on a knoll 1/4-mile from his house, 16 miles SW of Kiowa. When a witness tried to reach the site, the chopper flew off. (24)

JULY 1975

17th, Thursday night  
COLORADO - El Paso County -  
Three girls on horseback were chased by a low-flying helicopter around 6:00 PM on the Frank Fuchs ranch. At 11:00 PM a helicopter returned to fly low over the ranch. A "brilliant white light" was seen on the bottom of the craft by the frightened witnesses. Another Witness who had seen a similar craft in the same area remarked that "once you see that bright light, you'll never forget it". (25)

17th, Thursday, 7:00 PM  
COLORADO - El Paso County -  
Near the Frank Fuchs ranch, south of Ramah, RANGLAND FARM NEWS editor-publisher John Hines saw a suspiciously-low-flying helicopter and photographed the craft.(26)

17th, Thursday night  
COLORADO - El Paso County -  
"A lot of helicopter activity" was reported in the Peyton area of NE El Paso County. An undetermined number of mutilated sheep were found near here on 7-12-75. In mid-to-late 1975, El Paso Co., Elbert Co., and the eastern plains of Colorado experienced one of the most virulent epidemics of livestock mutilations on record. (27)

23rd, Wednesday  
COLORADO - Elbert County -  
Undersheriff Bill Waugh saw a helicopter west of the county seat of Kiowa. The craft could not be heard but its outline and its cockpit lights could be seen through binoculars by Waugh.(28)

JULY 1975 (Continued)

23rd, Wednesday night  
 COLORADO - Teller County -  
 Law officers, a military helicopter crew and civilian volunteers launched an unsuccessful air and ground search for a "mysterious aircraft", thought to be a helicopter, seen from east of Cripple Creek westward into Park County. The craft alternately flew with and without lights. It appeared to land near Guffey and ground lights were seen approaching the landing site. The craft was seen back in the Cripple Creek area before it finally vanished around 11:00 PM. At least 40 livestock mutilations had been reported in Teller and surrounding counties "in recent weeks". (29)

27th, Sunday (afternoon or evening)  
 COLORADO - Elbert County -  
 In the Elizabeth area, two girls on foot reported being "chased" by a helicopter which flew off when a man on horseback approached. The chopper in this incident was allegedly photographed and tentatively identified as an "Army Bell Ranger". (30)

AUGUST 1975

7th, Thursday night  
 COLORADO - El Paso County -  
 James Pavlica reported hearing a helicopter north of Calhan (see August 9th). (31)

8th, Friday  
 COLORADO - Douglas County -  
 Near Franktown, a helicopter chased a rancher who had ridden out on a trail bike to check his cattle. (32)

9th, Saturday night  
 COLORADO - El Paso County -  
 As on August 7, James Pavlica heard a helicopter north of Calhan. On this date, Pavlica found a black angus steer dead and mutilated. (33)

9th, Saturday  
 COLORADO - Gunnison County -  
 An unidentified helicopter was reported in the Crested Butte area. (34)

Early August, afternoon or evening  
 COLORADO - Elbert County -  
 A youth was baling hay on a tractor when a helicopter "buzzed" him. He fled to his house on the tractor; the helicopter followed and hovered over the house for several minutes. (35)

Early August  
 COLORADO - Morgan County -  
 2 separate reports on 1 day of a helicopter landing on ranches. Mutilations had occurred in the general area. (36)

August, date unknown  
 COLORADO - Phillips County -  
 Near Haxtun, a man chased the flashing lights of what he described as a helicopter. (37)

week of August 10-16  
 COLORADO - (county unknown) -  
 A helicopter was chased off a farm when it attempted to "take a pig". Later that same night, a pig was taken from another farm in the area. (38)

12th, Tuesday, 7:30 PM  
 COLORADO - Gunnison County -  
 An unidentified helicopter is seen over the Gothic area. (39)

12th, Tuesday, 4:30 PM  
 COLORADO - Gunnison County -  
 Unidentified helicopter over the Saw Tooth area. During August, in addition to several reports of mystery helicopters, at least a half-dozen livestock mutilations occurred in the county. (40)

13th, Wednesday  
 COLORADO - Gunnison County -  
 An unidentified helicopter was seen over the rugged Marshall Pass area along the Gunnison/Saguache County line. (41)

15th, Friday, PM  
 COLORADO - Morgan County -  
 A helicopter was heard over a field near rancher Leon Irey's house. One of Irey's calves was found mutilated the next morning. Irey had also been struck by mutilators two weeks earlier. (42)

15th, Friday night  
 COLORADO - Weld County -  
 Rancher Victor Hillman saw two helicopters in his area, just south of the Kimball County (Nabr.) line. Hillman found, on 8-17-75, a bull of his that had been mutilated. (43)

16th, Saturday, 8:45 PM  
 COLORADO - Gunnison County -  
 An unidentified helicopter was reported over the Spring Creek area. (44)

21st, Thursday, early AM  
 NEBRASKA - Kimball County  
 COLORADO - Logan County  
 A low-flying helicopter was pursued by several law officers in both counties (See Appendix for a more detailed account). At one point the chopper hovered over a SAC missile silo near Bushnell, Nebraska. This last action would turn out to be a precursor of similar activity over military installations in Montana, Maine and Michigan in the following months (again, see Appendix). (45)

AUGUST 1975 (Continued)

date unknown

COLORADO - Costilla County -  
Cows were mutilated on each of three succeeding nights and were found the following mornings. During the first night, sheriff Ernest Sandoval was cruising a dirt road when he noticed a fire in a rocky area, with a group of people around it. The sheriff radioed for help. Immediately the group of people ran to a nearby helicopter and took off. (132)

21st, Thursday afternoon

COLORADO - Gunnison County -  
Leaving the sheriff's office after discussing mutilation investigations with Deputy David Ellis, Project Stigma investigators Tom Adams and Gary Massey drove south toward Saguache County on Colorado highway 114. Nearing the county line, they observed a small helicopter (of the Hughes "Cayuse" type) flying west-southwest across the highway toward the Powderhorn-Los Pinos Pass area, where a cattle mutilation had occurred earlier in the week. The helicopter was filmed on Super 8 movie film as it passed out of sight over a ridge. The distance was too great to discern details. (46)

22nd, Friday night

NEBRASKA - Kimball County -  
A low-flying helicopter which vanished quickly was seen northwest of Kimball. (47)

26th, Tuesday noon

WYOMING - Laramie County -  
Farm worker Fred Annance saw a helicopter flying low around the bluffs on a farm south of Pine Bluffs near the Colorado line. Pilot Dave Butler took to the air in a plane but did not see the helicopter. Other strange craft (nocturnal lights) and "many" mutilated animals had been reported in the area around this time. (48)

28th, Thursday, 2:30 PM

COLORADO - Gunnison County -  
An unidentified helicopter was reported near Taylor Park, in an area where a mutilation occurred approx. 1 to 1½ weeks previously. (49)

Summer, date unknown

COLORADO - Douglas County -  
An unidentified helicopter landed briefly 300 feet from a house near Franktown. The chopper was described as the size of a "police helicopter"; solid metal, no bubble, "Army green", with no markings. A woman witness was reportedly "frightened almost to death". (50, 51)

Summer, date unknown

COLORADO - Sedgwick County -  
A woman observed a helicopter making "low passes" over a pasture near Julesburg. (52)

date unknown

COLORADO - Huerfano County -  
Near La Veta, in August, two men watched a helicopter on the ground which quickly took off. (53)

SEPTEMBER 1975

1st, Monday night

COLORADO - Sedgwick County -  
Unidentified helicopter was seen flying low near Sedgwick. (54)

1st, Monday night

COLORADO - Costilla County -  
Deputy John Lobato observed an unidentified helicopter south of San Luis. (55)

2nd, Tuesday morning

COLORADO - Teller County -  
A small blue helicopter was seen NE of Cripple Creek around 8:00 AM, then was reported hovering over cattle west of Cripple Creek an hour later. Shortly after that, a helicopter was seen NW of Cripple Creek. In this third sighting, photos were reportedly taken of a blue helicopter with a plain white spot on the side. At least 2 very recent livestock mutilations had occurred in the county. (56)

2nd, Tuesday noon

NEBRASKA - Kimball County -  
An unidentified helicopter was spotted near Kimball. (57)

2nd, Tuesday night

COLORADO - Sedgwick County -  
Another low-flying helicopter was seen near Sedgwick, in the area of a possible cattle mutilation - the first in the county - discovered on this date. (58)

2nd, Tuesday night

COLORADO - Costilla County -  
Deputy John Lobato saw an unidentified helicopter south of San Luis. Two mutilations occurred in the county during the week, including one discovered 9-3-75. (59)

3rd, Wednesday, 3:00 AM

COLORADO - Costilla County -  
Sheriff Ernest Sandoval saw what he believed to be a helicopter flying south into New Mexico. (60)

3rd, Wednesday night

COLORADO - Sedgwick County -  
A helicopter flying "underneath radar" was spotted in the area of Sedgwick. (61)

SEPTEMBER 1975 (Continued)

3rd, Wednesday, 8:00-11:00 PM - CALIFORNIA - Los Angeles County - Near Tujunga, in the mountains north of Burbank and Glendale. Three witnesses watched a brilliant, multi-colored, shape-changing object high in the sky. Also seen, with the naked eye and with binoculars, was one, then 2, helicopters which seemed to fly in a cautious surveillance pattern below the object. Watched off & on for 3 hours before object & 1 chopper vanished together to the west. All the witnesses eyes hurt following the incident. Writer & investigator Ann Druffel tried to no avail to learn the source of the helicopters. (133)

4th, Thursday  
COLORADO - Weld County - Sheriff's personnel chased an unidentified helicopter across rangelands around dawn. The mutilated carcass of a cow had been found in the area. (134)

early September  
COLORADO - Huerfano County - Two telephone company employees working on a mountaintop relay system saw a helicopter land in a field below. One occupant got out then quickly re-entered and the copter flew away. On the same date, two hours later, a deputy saw a dark gray "bubble-top" helicopter flying east out of Mosca Pass (from the direction of the Great Sand Dunes National Monument). The craft had no markings and possessed, thought the deputy, a "noise arrester". (62)

early September  
COLORADO - Rio Grande County - A family saw a helicopter with something like a "litter basket" hanging beneath it. The yellow and red craft flew over a ridge. The next day a mutilated bull was found beyond the ridge (63)

September, dates unknown  
COLORADO - Park County - Several helicopter sightings and 2 or 3 mutilations occurred in the county. On 2 occasions, Sheriff Norman Howey observed a helicopter flying low between ridges. (64)

weekend of September 6-7  
COLORADO - Logan County - Two cattle mutilations and at least ten mystery helicopter sightings were reported during the weekend. (65)

6th, Saturday  
COLORADO - Sedgwick County - An unidentified helicopter was reported southwest of Julesburg. (66)

Week of September 7-11  
COLORADO - Teller County - A green helicopter with "gas tanks" on the side was observed on 2 occasions. (67)

September, second week  
WYOMING - Carbon County - Residents of Savery area near Colorado border reported unidentified helicopters roaming the area and flickering lights in the mountains after a calf was found mutilated in the area. (135)

12th, Friday  
TEXAS - Dallas County - Mrs. Nancy Hing saw and heard a helicopter (an "old beat-up thing") flying low and circling the Balch Springs area east of Dallas. On the 13th, a twin-engine plane was seen circling a pasture where the mutilated carcass of a cow was discovered the following week. At least one other mutilation occurred in the area during that week. (68)

15th, Monday evening  
MONTANA - Cascade County - Deputy Arne Sand heard but did not see what sounded like a helicopter, though unlike any helicopter he had ever heard - "more of a quiet whirr". It was a clear night but Sand could see nothing even when the craft sounded as though it was directly overhead. (69)

15th, Monday evening  
MONTANA - Teton County - Between Fort Shaw and Choteau, a ranch couple saw a helicopter flying south which turned off its lights as they watched it. (70)

16th, Tuesday, 11:00 PM  
WYOMING - Albany County - An unidentified helicopter landed on a mountain behind the ranch house of Tod Sermon before taking off again and turning on red, green and white lights as it reached an altitude of about 300 feet. (71)

19th, Friday night  
COLORADO - Pueblo County - A family reported that a helicopter chased them as they drove in their truck north of Boone. A second helicopter appeared and the two flew off quickly together. (72)

22nd, Monday night  
COLORADO - Kiowa County - Mystery helicopter seen near Eads. (73)

22nd, Monday, approx. 9:00 PM  
COLORADO - Pueblo County - On Sunday, the 21st, an independent investigator set up a mobile trailer in eastern Pueblo Co. Equipped with observational hardware and monitoring instrumentation, he maintained watch for UFO & helicopter activity. On the 2nd night of his observation, he fell ill & was taken by friends to Pueblo. Ranch family nearby saw 3 helicopters swoop down & hover over trailer, directing a bright spotlight on the trailer. A small airplane had circled the area previously. (74)



SEPTEMBER 1975 (Continued)

22nd, Monday night  
 COLORADO - Crowley & Pueblo Counties -  
 A man in a pickup truck was run off a dirt road by a helicopter. He called for help on his CB radio and two auxiliary policemen responded to find the victim "frantic". One policeman fired a shot from a 30-30 rifle at the still-hovering helicopter and heard a ricochet. Deputies from 3 counties, guards from the Pueblo Army Depot and Colorado State Policemen chased the helicopter west to the Pueblo airport before it turned to the north and disappeared. The chopper made a noise "like the whistling of air coming from a tire". Other area residents reported being chased by helicopters during this period. (75)

22nd, Monday night  
 COLORADO - Pueblo County -  
 A state patrolman saw two helicopters which appeared to set down in a prairie 6 miles east of Boone. (76)

Weekend of 20th-21st (Sat.-Sun.)  
 COLORADO - Baca County -  
 An unidentified helicopter was heard twice but not seen. (77)

22nd, Monday night  
 COLORADO - Pueblo County -  
 A ranch family saw three helicopters together north of Boone. One was directing a bright spotlight toward the ground. (78)

25th, Thursday night  
 COLORADO - Costilla County -  
 A bright airborne light which was thought to be attached to a helicopter appeared to land near Sanchez Reservoir. It quickly took off as deputies began to move in. At least 6 livestock mutilations occurred in Costilla County in late September. (79)

late September  
 MONTANA - Judith Basin County -  
 A gray helicopter was seen between 3:00 and 3:30 PM and a green helicopter was reported between 4:30 & 5:00 PM in the same area - both unmarked. Two choppers were seen in the same area later. A cow in the area was seen alive at 3:30 PM and was found dead and mutilated at about 4:00 PM. (80)

late September  
 WYOMING - Carbon County -  
 Several sightings of an olive green helicopter in the Saratoga area. At least 9 recent mutilations had occurred in the county, with most in the Saratoga area. (81)

OCTOBER 1975

Around the first of October  
 WYOMING - Carbon County -  
 A mutilated heifer was found in the Shirley Basin area of northern Carbon County on Sat., Oct. 4th; thought to have been dead 4-5 days. Mine crewmen had reported a low-flying helicopter near uranium pits "earlier in the week". (136)

2nd, Thurs., beginning at 8:00 PM  
 COLORADO - Baca County -  
 An unidentified helicopter was observed as it flew around in an area near Campo for 1½ hours. Perhaps 12 mutilations occurred in Baca County from September through November. (82)

3rd, Friday, 11:00 AM  
 COLORADO - Baca County -  
 Two helicopters flew over grazing lands. (83)

4th, Saturday, 9:00 PM  
 COLORADO - Baca County -  
 Two helicopters flew over Laverne Jenkins' property, where a mutilated cow had been found this date (dead perhaps 3-5 days). (84)

5th, Sunday, 3:00 AM  
 COLORADO - Alamosa County -  
 A helicopter with a bright searchlight was seen and chased NE of Alamosa by Undersheriff Barney Bauer and Deputy Bill Lobato. A similar helicopter was seen SE of Alamosa, moving east with a bright light shining on and off. (85)

6th, Monday, 8:00 PM  
 COLORADO - Costilla County -  
 A helicopter with red and green blinking lights was seen landing on a mountain southeast of San Luis. A mutilated cow was discovered in the same area on 10-7-75. (86)

6th, Monday night  
 WISCONSIN - Crawford County -  
 Near Eastman on Sat., Oct. 4th, 6 cows were found dead, 3 mutilated; owned by Richard & Dwight Boom and Don Beckett. One other cow seemed to be ailing. When they tried to catch and attend to her, she collapsed and died; 4 other cows also seemed to be ill. Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture diagnostician Dr. A.F. Krohn verified the mutilation of the 3 animals with "a very sharp cutting instrument". Richard Boom reported that a helicopter flew over his property on the night of the 6th. A cow was believed to have been killed & mutilated a few mi. north of Eastman on Oct. 8th or 9th. The cow had just given birth; the calf was dead but untouched. (137)

## OCTOBER 1975 (Continued)

7th, Tuesday

COLORADO - El Paso County -  
A UH-1 "Huey" helicopter crashed in a remote area of the Fort Carson Military Reservation, killing 5 men and injuring five. Speculation was that high winds in the area may have caused the crash, but Public Information Officer Major Arne Anderson refused to speculate on the cause or to release any information on the investigation. However, Lt.Col. S.K. Fisk told the DENVER POST that the cause of the crash was considered to be "unknown". (87, 88)

7th, Tuesday PM

COLORADO - Baca County -  
Two reports of helicopters flying low over ranches were called in to the sheriff's office. (89)

7th, Tuesday PM

WYOMING - Weston County -  
On Sept. 29th, a mutilated cow was found near Upton. Near Newcastle, on the early morning of Friday, October 3rd, around 3:00 AM, Raymond "Spud" Jones was awakened by a "high-pitched whine, like a jet turbine starting". Neighbors heard it, too. Other neighbors reported to Jones later that day that they had noticed a cow of his lying in a pasture. On Monday, Oct. 6th, Jones found the carcass, which had been mutilated. He notified Sheriff Willis Larson. Then, on the night of Tuesday, October 7th, Larson had just returned from delivering specimens from the cow to a crime lab in Cheyenne when, at 8:45 PM, a woman called to report an object that looked like and sounded like a helicopter was hovering over a ridge NE of Newcastle. The sheriff knew the local airport mgr., John Bockman, had a helicopter. But a phone call to Bockman was answered by him; he said he would go out to look for the craft. Larson drove to the top of an adjacent ridge. He told the Univ. of Wyoming BRANDING IRON (10-14-75):

"I reached the top of the ridge and saw an object to the west, near Highway 85 North", the sheriff said. "It was an orange, wedge-shaped object, resembling a helicopter in appearance. The tapered end had a bright red light. I was confused and looked at it through the binoculars", he said. "It was making sudden, jerky "Z" movements, very fast, I thought. I called my wife and asked her to call Bockman to look at it". Bockman was already looking at the object, however. He reported it in the same position as the sheriff. The object descended and Larson lost sight of it. Bockman continued to observe it and saw it go down and its lights go out... "I called for a special deputy to take my position and dispatched another deputy to the south so we could bracket the object in a triangle", said the sheriff. "I then went to the airport. The mail plane was landing at the airport just as I arrived. Bockman pointed the object out to me. Thirty seconds later it went up

and disappeared, just like shutting out a light. Later, as we were returning to town, a sudden bright flash lit the sky, like a flash-bulb." An hour and a half later, the same lady called and reported the object in the same location. "I went out to check on it again, and the sky was split by five sudden flashes, in very quick succession, centered in the northeast", said the sheriff. Later, a glowing light would appear in the eastern sky, and would be viewed by many residents. Lights rising over trees were reported by campers, brilliant flashes were reported by a motorist, and home owners saw strange lights. Obviously something strange was happening in the sky around Newcastle on the night of October 7. (138)

8th, Wednesday, early AM

COLORADO - Baca County -  
Gloria Claunch saw, through binoculars, a helicopter shining a light on the ground, illuminating what she thought were two men. (90)

8th, Wednesday, 7:00 PM

COLORADO - Costilla County -  
A low-flying helicopter with a bright red light was seen by several witnesses. (91)

9th, Thursday night

COLORADO - Costilla County -  
Deputies watched a helicopter land and remain on the ground 3 minutes before taking off. Two "fresh" mutilations were discovered in the area on this date. (92)

Week of Oct. 5th through 9th  
COLORADO - Alamosa County -  
Undersheriff Barney Bauer reported that unidentified helicopters were seen all over the county between 10:30 PM and 3:00 AM each night. Some high-flying craft with regulation lights were seen as well as others flying low without lights. Helicopters were sometimes reported with bright searchlights here and in adjoining Costilla County. This light was frequently described by witnesses as "very, very powerful". (93)

Week of October 9th

COLORADO - Weld County -  
Near Carr, CO, near the Wyoming border, a small blue & white helicopter was seen circling & landing on the Sidwell ranch and other area ranches. (139)

October, first half

WYOMING - Uinta County -  
A reserve lawman engages in a shootout with a chopper. (See INTRODUCTION) (94)

OCTOBER 1975 (Continued)

11th, Saturday (daylight)  
MONTANA - Cascade County -  
A woman reported seeing a black helicopter without markings flying from east to west. The bubble on front was tinted dark and the witness could not see inside. (95)

13th or 14th (Monday or Tuesday)  
COLORADO - Weld County -  
A fairly small blue and white helicopter circled low over cattle on ranches in NW Weld County. (96)

13th-17th (Monday through Friday)  
COLORADO - Alamosa County -  
On each of these dates an "Army green" helicopter, apparently unmarked, flew west over Mosca Pass near the Great Sand Dunes National Monument during the day and returned by the same route in the evenings (see early Sept.-Huerfano Co., CO). It "sounded just like an airplane but we could see the top revolving propeller". (97)

20th, Monday, 8:10 AM  
MONTANA - Cascade County -  
A woman reported a black and white helicopter without markings flying at an altitude of about 100 feet over her property. (98)

20th, Monday afternoon  
OKLAHOMA - Cimarron County -  
Three unidentified helicopters were seen near Wheelless, near the New Mexico border. (99)

20th, Monday, 8:00 PM  
NEW MEXICO - Union County -  
Three observers reported a low-flying helicopter without lights over the Bill Watters ranch north of Clayton. (100)

21st, Tuesday  
COLORADO - Las Animas County -  
Several unidentified helicopter sightings were reported this date; one known mutilation occurred in the county this week. Fort Carson Military Reservation near Colorado Springs announced that a group of military helicopters had moved through this area on the 21st, en route to Fort Hood, Texas. (101)

21st, Tuesday, early AM  
OKLAHOMA - Cimarron County -  
A family reported seven helicopters flying low over their home near Felt. Five dead cattle had been found in the area around this time; unconfirmed as mutilations. (102)

21st, Tuesday, 10:00 AM  
NEW MEXICO - Union County -  
Five helicopters buzzed a herd of cattle on the Kennann Ranch near Seneca. Note: Union Co., NM adjoins Cimarron Co., OK which adjoins Baca Co., Colorado. (103)

## October - Third Week

COLORADO - Baca County -  
Scattered reports of mystery choppers. In the early AM on the 20th, a blue helicopter circled "real low" near Midway and a dark green, "almost black" small helicopter was seen heading south into Oklahoma. (104)

27th, Monday evening  
NEW MEXICO - Union County -  
Five helicopters "milled around" over the Heinmann Ranch, flying close together but not in formation. Three helicopters were reported in another sighting and, during a four-hour period, several "single" choppers were seen in the area. (105)

28th, Tuesday  
NEW MEXICO - Union, Quay Counties -  
There were several sightings of unidentified helicopters this date in eastern Union and NE Quay Counties. (106)

29th, Wednesday  
NEW MEXICO - Union County -  
Observers reported several separate sightings of unidentified helicopters in the area east of Nara Visa. (107)

mid-to-late October  
COLORADO - Routt County -  
Around the time that a 5-year-old cow was mutilated near Hayden, an unidentified blue-green helicopter was seen in the area. (108)

Fall 1975 (month unknown)  
COLORADO - Washington County -  
During the time area residents were reporting mystery helicopters, one rancher had 4 cattle mutilated. One night, the rancher's daughter was in the house alone. She saw a helicopter fly over a field about 100 yards away. It flew down below a building on the property, then flew to within 100 feet of the house. The sound seemed "muffled". The rancher was convinced that at least one of his mutilated cows had been dropped (into a pool of water) from above. (140)

NOVEMBER 1975

2nd, Sunday night  
NEW MEXICO - Quay County -  
A helicopter flew over 2 ranches, flashing red, white and blue lights, with beams of white light shooting out intermittently. (109)

2nd, Sunday night  
COLORADO - Baca County -  
A helicopter flew low over a house south of Springfield. Perhaps 12 mutilations occurred in the county in Sept.-November, along with scattered accounts of unidentified helicopters. (110)

NOVEMBER 1975 (Continued)

early November

NEW MEXICO - Valencia County -  
A rancher who had seen low-flying helicopters over his property during this period found that 4 of his cattle had disappeared. (111)

November - First Week

WYOMING - Johnson County -  
Hunters and ranchers reported sightings of a low-flying helicopter with a "pontoon-type" landing gear in the Buffalo vicinity. Four calves were mutilated in the Buffalo area during this period. (112)

3rd, Monday night (approx. date)

NEW MEXICO - Union County -  
Three unidentified helicopters flew over the Howard Robinson property and, on another night during the week, two helicopters flew over the Robinson house. (113)

6th, Thursday night

NEW MEXICO - Union County -  
The Clayton Police Dept. reported that an unidentified helicopter landed just east of town. Other airborne lights were observed NE of Clayton and were thought to be helicopters. (114)

Between October 30 & November 13

NEW MEXICO - Union, Quay Counties -  
At least 30 unidentified helicopter and/or UFO sightings occurred during this period, while at least 4 cattle mutilations were reported. The FAA announced an investigation into the sightings of the unknown aircraft. Despite that announcement, the FAA has since denied having any knowledge or information about such an investigation. (115)

2nd & 3rd (Tues. night, Wed. morning)

MONTANA - Cascade, Teton, Pondera and Chouteau Counties -  
Unidentified helicopters were seen over a wide area. Included were overflights over missile installations. Some objects seen were reported as helicopters, others simply nocturnal lights. At least two helicopters were involved as there were simultaneous sightings in widely-separated areas. (119)

3rd, Wednesday night

MONTANA - Cascade, Teton, Pondera and Chouteau Counties -  
The previous night's helicopter/UFO wave was repeated. At least 2 helicopters were reported at once over a missile site. Malmstrom Air Force Base verified that unidentified helicopters were in the area. (120)

4th, Thursday night

MONTANA - Cascade County -  
On the southeast edge of Great Falls, a law officer observed an unidentified helicopter which lifted off the ground and flew away. (121)

7th & 8th (Fri. and Sat. nights)

MONTANA - Fergus, Wheatland Counties -  
UFOs were reported over missile installations. In a reply to press queries, the Strategic Air Command stated that "the craft were suspected to have been helicopters due to hovering ability of the craft, witness interpretations of the sound produced and placement of lights on the craft". Positive identification of the UFOs as helicopters was "precluded" due to darkness. (117)

mid-November

TEXAS - Guadalupe County -  
A mutilated calf was found on the 10th. There were unconfirmed reports of "silent helicopters" in the area at about that time. (118)

Between Aug. 1975 & May 1976

MONTANA - Cascade County and surrounding counties -  
Approximately 130 reports of unidentified helicopters and/or UFOs were logged during this period. It should be noted that this Montana flap (during a period in which livestock mutilations were being consistently reported), which involved craft over military installations, occurred at about the same time as similar "overflight" phenomena over military bases in Michigan and Maine. (122)

Late 1975 through early 1976

MAINE, MASSACHUSETTS, NEW HAMPSHIRE -  
Though cattle mutilations have occurred in New England, none were known during this period. However, there were disappearances of smaller animals and the mutilation of fowl such as geese. Some of the animal-owners had seen low-flying, suspiciously-behaving unmarked helicopters. Ufologist and well-known abductee Betty Hill investigated these events and compiled a report on the New England mystery choppers in 1976. (116)

DECEMBER 1975

early December

KANSAS - Franklin County -  
Three troop-carrier size helicopters were seen flying and landing near Lane - one of many mystery chopper reports during several weeks in this area. (123)

MAY 1976 (Continued)

31st, Tuesday  
 COLORADO - Elbert County -  
 (Continued)

When the sheriff and the complainant reached the mutilation site, the victim's son and a hired hand were at the scene. They said the helicopter had circled over them, flying very low. It was so low and so close that the witnesses could read a number on the craft: N9143F, which was apparently found to be registered to "City Car Terminal Company" of Detroit, Michigan. (19)

JUNE 1976

approx. the 24th, Thursday  
 COLORADO - Huerfano County -  
 A rancher complained to the sheriff that, while he was on horseback, he saw a "military chopper" harrasing his cattle. (7)

JULY 1976

8th, Thursday morning  
 NEW MEXICO - Colfax County -  
 A white helicopter was seen in the area of the Philmont Scout Ranch. A buffalo calf was found mutilated along an aircraft runway on the Scout Ranch on July 10th. (8)

AUGUST 1976

27th, Friday, early AM  
 MONTANA - Cascade County -  
 Investigators from the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained (SITU), looking into mutilations in Montana, see & photograph a black helicopter over their campsite. "No one at any of the airports, military installations or local agencies would claim it as theirs". (9)

SEPTEMBER 1976

26th, Sunday night  
 KANSAS - Pawnee County -  
 A helicopter was heard flying low over a pasture after dark. One mutilated cow was found in the area on Monday and another on Tuesday. It was thought that both mutilations were done on the 26th. (10)

OCTOBER 1976

10th, Sunday, 7:00 PM  
 MINNESOTA - Wadena County -  
 When a helicopter touched down on a farm, a group of children ran toward it, and it took off. There were other sightings in the area around this time. It was described at least once as being silver and blue. A classically-mutilated calf was found on the same farm (on Oct. 1st) upon which the helicopter had landed. (11)

Early Oct., late Sept., 1976  
 COLORADO - Las Animas County -  
 Four ranches reported 4 almost-soundless helicopters, and one was observed as it harrassed and broke up a cattle herd (see Introduction). (12)

NOVEMBER 1976

early November  
 ILLINOIS - La Salle County -  
 Sightings of a helicopter manned by a crew wearing red suits were verified by multiple independent witnesses. One classic mutilation occurred in the county in October. There were rumors of continued mutilations in November; but by then the authorities had clamped a firm lid on the matter. (13, 14)

20th, 21st (Saturday & Sunday)  
 COLORADO - Logan County -  
 There were sightings of strange lights over several communities. They were thought to be helicopters but officers could not get close enough to make positive identification possible. (15)

DECEMBER 1976

4th, Saturday, 9:30 PM  
 ILLINOIS - Marshall County -  
 A helicopter with two occupants was heard and seen flying low over farmland, while a second chopper was heard but not seen. (16)

December, date unknown  
 ILLINOIS - Warren County -  
 A few nights before a classically-mutilated cow was discovered, 3 objects identified as helicopters were seen flying low, and slowly. Two troopers were closing in when the objects rapidly gained altitude and vanished. One had a bright light on the bottom, running lengthwise "like a lighted rod". (17)

mid-December  
 COLORADO - Logan County -  
 A helicopter was seen flying out of the South Platte River bottoms and flying to the east, low over the river. A mutilated cow was discovered in the area on 12-17-76 and a calf turned up missing. (18)

1977JANUARY 1977

17th, Monday night  
 ARIZONA - Cochise County -  
 Albert Thomas saw a helicopter lift up & fly around his property. Thomas discovered the carcass of one of his cows, mutilated, the next day, January 18th. Other mutilations were reported in Cochise County during early 1977. (1)

1977 (Continued)JULY 1977

17th, Sunday, early AM  
TEXAS - Johnson County -  
Mrs. C.D. Kirkham heard a helicopter go over. A mutilated cow was found on the property at 7:00 AM, Sunday. A fixed-wing aircraft was seen flying low over the same pasture the previous evening. (2)

NOVEMBER 1977

30th, Wednesday, 4:00 AM  
COLORADO - Costilla County -  
Three witnesses heard a helicopter flying over an area where 3 mutilations were reported during the week. One witness saw "bright, revolving lights". (3)

1978JANUARY 1978

early January  
NEBRASKA - Perkins County -  
Two helicopters flew low over a ranch where a bull was found mutilated the next day. (1)

JUNE 1978

early June  
COLORADO - Las Animas County -  
On two occasions a cowboy "ran off" a low-flying black helicopter. At least two mutilations occurred in June in Huerfano County, adjoining Las Animas County (and the area of the sightings) on the north. (2)

OCTOBER 1978

mid-October  
WYOMING - Sublette County -  
On a ranch 17 miles NW of Daniel Junction, several witnesses watched a white helicopter with a blue bubble fly over the ranch house. The chopper was so low that children were throwing things at it. "Shortly after that" a mutilated cow was discovered on the ranch. (7)

October (date unknown)  
SOUTH DAKOTA - Yankton County -  
A lady in a farmhouse was awakened by a barking dog and looked out to see a "stock truck" backed up to a gate. The truck left when she turned on an outside light. The witness then heard the "distinct sound of a helicopter" nearby, and she could hear her cattle running around in the pasture. (3)

NOVEMBER 1978

9th, 10th (10:00 PM each date)  
ARKANSAS - Benton County -  
a mystery helicopter sighting at same time each night by sheriff's investigator Don Rystrom, who had a calf of his mutilated (see Introduction). (4)

NOVEMBER 1978 (Continued)

13th, Monday, early AM  
NEW MEXICO - Los Alamos, Santa Fe and Rio Arriba Counties -  
On the Santa Clara Indian Reservation, two cows were mutilated within a day or two of each other, including one done on the night of November 12-13 during bad, rainy weather. A Santa Clara Pueblo resident reported hearing a helicopter early on the morning of the 13th. (5,6)

1979JANUARY 1979

Exact dates unknown  
NEW MEXICO - Eddy County -  
Five horses were killed and mutilated in January in the Malaga area, south and east of Carlsbad. There were two or more helicopter sightings in the area of the mute sites, mostly during a period a day or two after a mutilation had occurred. Helicopters are not uncommonly seen in the area, though, and it is unclear whether these were marked or identified. (1)

APRIL 1979

8th, Sunday, between 2:00-3:00 AM  
NEW MEXICO - Rio Arriba County -  
Near consistently-mutilation-plagued Dulce, NM. Police observed an object which might have been a helicopter - with green & red (like infra-red) lights hovering a directing a spotlight on the area of a mixing plant on land owned by rancher Manuel Gomez, who has had many cattle mutilated. The noiseless object rose and flew over the mountains NW of Dulce. As it passed over the mountains, State Policeman Gabe Valdez said he could faintly make out a form much like that of a hot-air balloon (There had been speculation that sophisticated balloon-type craft had been designed for the CIA and they were employed in mutilation events. Implicated in this scenario were famed balloonists from New Mexico. Also, 2 psychics in New Jersey stated their impressions around this time (Mar-Apr. 1979) that lighter-than-air craft were somehow involved in the mutilations.). (9, 10)

May and June 1979

exact dates unknown  
COLORADO - El Paso County -  
During a period in which 4 or 5 mutilations occurred, "dark" helicopters were reported flying around ranches and homes. (2)

1979 (Continued)

JULY 1979

8th, Sunday afternoon  
ARKANSAS - Faulkner County -  
Dairyman Charles Reynolds found a mutilated calf on July 10th, but estimated it died on the 8th. On that day he saw a helicopter hovering over his pasture. Reynolds heard the motor, went out for a look, and the craft flew away. Reynolds cited a helicopter/mutilation incident which had occurred in previous weeks near Martindale, Arkansas. (3)

21st, Saturday, AM  
ARKANSAS - Conway County -  
A helicopter flew over an area shortly before a cow turned up missing. The same cow was found mutilated on July 23rd. There were no tracks or ground markings, but limbs on trees just above the site were broken. (4)

AUGUST 1979

12th, Sunday afternoon  
ARKANSAS - Conway County -  
A blue helicopter without markings was seen near a site where, on Aug. 14th, a mutilated cow was found. (5)

throughout August  
ARKANSAS - Faulkner, Conway Counties -  
Several cattle mutilations, as well as unidentified (low-flying) helicopter sightings, were reported. In order to service an array of missile silos north of Little Rock Air Force Base regularly flew across this area, but at altitudes much greater than 500 feet. (6)

26th, Sunday  
NEBRASKA - Perkins County -  
Two helicopters flew over the day before a mutilated cow was discovered. A slow, low-flying, white fixed-wing airplane flew over on Saturday, the 25th. (7)

first week of August  
CANADA - ALBERTA -  
Near Blackie - About a week before the well-publicized mutilation of a valuable 2500-lb. Simmental bull, a helicopter hovered over the ranch on which the bull was found. The chopper hovered "for quite a while", according to the landowner's wife, who added: "We're in the path of the airport, and lots of planes fly overhead, but this helicopter was different. It stayed over our land for a long time". (8)

1980

SEPTEMBER 1980

23rd, Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
COLORADO - Arapahoe County -  
Littleton resident John Cumby watched

was watching from his house. He called to his mother-in-law, who ran into the back yard. After the object had ascended out of Cumby's view, she could still see it. She watched the "ball" shape assume a "square" shape, with an appendage hanging out of it and "fluttering". The object vanished, then re-appeared a second or two later and a considerable distance to the (viewer's) right. It finally shot straight up and was lost from sight. No direct mutilation connection. However, in the autumn of 1980, a substantial number of classic livestock mutilations were reported in Colorado. (1)

OCTOBER 1980

27th, Monday  
ARIZONA - Apache County -  
A mutilated bull was found, with the carcass burned on several areas as though "partially cooked in an oven". An unaccounted-for beam of light had swept over this valley near Springerville on the 24th or 25th. On the 29th, Wednesday, a helicopter flew directly over the mutilation site. (2)

1981

SEPTEMBER 1981

28th, Monday  
CANADA - ALBERTA - near Balzac -  
A bull was found mutilated on the Stan Jones farm north of Calgary. Three triangular patches were worn into the nearby grass. A helicopter had been heard the night before (Sept. 27-28). A helicopter was seen nearby on the 28th, as the Jones family examined the bull at the site. (1)

night of Wed., Sept. 30/Thurs. Oct. 1  
NEW HAMPSHIRE - Carroll County -  
A 7-year-old Hereford cow was found dead & mutilated on the Charles Whitten property, under mysterious circumstances (see referenced source). That next day, Oct. 1, the Whittens heard a helicopter but could not see it. Then a low-flying airplane circled the pasture. There had been "talk" in a nearby town of "black helicopters" in the area. (2)

1982

MAY 1982 & JUNE 1982

end of May, first of June  
NEW MEXICO - San Juan County -  
A mutilated cow was found near Bloomfield on Fri., May 28. The owner's wife reported seeing a helicopter on the night of Mon., May 31. Then, around 6:00 PM on Tues., June 1, a witness saw a small green helicopter hovering over the multi-

1982 (Continued)

SEPTEMBER 1982

29th, around 3:00 AM  
COLORADO - El Paso County  
A cow was mutilated on September 16 on the Bill Dzuris ranch near Calhan - a most interesting case (see reference plus the book AN ALIEN HARVEST by Linda Moulton Howe). Mr. Dzuris's sister, a Mrs. Kobilan, lives on a ranch nearby. Several times earlier in September, she could hear a helicopter but she was unable to see it. Then, at 3:00 AM on the 29th, she could both see and hear a chopper, flying low over the nearby Larry Mikita ranch. Later on the morning of the 29th, Mikita found a 6-year-old cow (like the Dzurises') dead and mutilated on his property. (2)

OCTOBER 1982

(late September-early November)  
WYOMING - Sweetwater County -  
Several livestock mutilations were reported here (and in adjoining Daggett County, Utah) during this period. According to Sweetwater County Deputy Sheriff Theron Wilde, helicopters were also being reported. On Sunday, the 10th of October, Wilde, whose own ranch is in the area of the mutilations, saw a small two-seater helicopter, with a glass bubble and a silver tail with red at the end of the tail. It was circling over the pasture lands. On November 7, the same or a similar chopper flew over in the same circling pattern. This area was the scene of a "shootout" of sorts between a reserve lawman and a mystery helicopter in 1977. (3) (Also, see INTRODUCTION)

1983

MAY 1983

May 21st  
COLORADO - Washington County -  
A ranching couple near Lindon discovered a mutilated cow (their 3rd). A neighbor reported having seen a helicopter over the same pasture within one or two days of the discovery of the mutilated animal. (1)

1984

JUNE 1984

June 3rd (daytime)  
WASHINGTON - King County -  
No mutilation connection in this particular incident (although animal mutilations have been reported consistently for well over a decade in the area of Snohomish, King & Pierce Counties) - but it is of interest because of the description of the helicopter. Michael D. Hart and three

JUNE 1984 (Continued)

June 3rd (daytime)  
WASHINGTON - King County(Cont.) -  
other witnesses were camping near a river in Central King County. They heard a helicopter, then they finally saw it circling low over a dairy farm near North Bend. Through binoculars, the craft was seen to be all black, with no discernible markings whatsoever. The windows appeared tinted to prevent viewing into the cockpit. The witnesses said the chopper was a "Huey".(1)

1985

late November or early December  
COLORADO - El Paso County -  
A mutilated Hereford cow was found on the Eldon Butler ranch. The night before, Butler had heard a helicopter hovering about 300 yards from his house. Initially - although it was hovering and was "real loud" - he thought little of it, as military helicopters often flew over his property. (1)

1986

APRIL 1986

April 21  
ALABAMA - Marshall County -  
A female bovine was found with the heart and vagina missing and one teat missing from the udder. There was a small amount of blood on the animal's carcass, but none on the ground. Investigator Ed Teal of the Sheriff's office said the parts were "not just ripped out. They're specifically cut out. It's very weird." The site of the mutilation was on the Vandervoort farm, which adjoins the Tidmore farm, where a cow carcass was found with just the genitals missing approximately a year previously - around April 21, 1985. Both the Tidmore and Vandervoort farms adjoin yet another property - that of school principal Les Click. The night after the Vandervoort mutilation, Click heard a helicopter flying low over his farm. (1)



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(1) Neill, John; Carlsbad, New Mexico (2) Perkins, David; Animal Mutilations Probe; Farisita, Colorado (3) LOG CABIN DEMOCRAT; Conway, Arkansas; 7-19-79 (4) Coffman, Ray; Conway County Sheriff's Office; Morrilton, Arkansas (5) Idem. (6) LOG CABIN DEMOCRAT, August 6, 23, 27, 31 and September 2, 1979 (7) Nutt, Earl; Madrid, Nebraska (8) HIGH RIVER TIMES; High River, Alberta; 8-23-79.

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NEW REFERENCES ADDED TO THE UPDATED EDITION1973:

(21) STIGMATA #4, 1978.

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(9) Fawcett, Lawrence and Greenwood, Barry: CLEAR INTENT, Prentice-Hall; Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1984. (10) OMAHA WORLD-HERALD, date unknown, 1974.

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(131) SKYLOOK (Mutual UFO Network), Feb. 1976. (132) FBI; Albuquerque, NM, report dated 4/10/79 (133) SKYLOOK; Feb. 1976 (134) CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE (Wyoming); 9/17/75 (135) CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE, 9/17/75 (136) CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE, 10/6/75 (137) several Wisconsin newspapers, Oct. 1975 (138) BRANDING IRON; Univ. of Wyoming, Laramie, 10/14/75 (139) RECORD-STOCKMAN; Denver, CO, 10/16/75 (140) BERKELEY BARB (CA), Feb. 27-March 4, 1976.

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(19) sheriff's report, Elbert County, CO (credit: Linda M. Howe).

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(1) STIGMATA #13, p. 12 (2) STIGMATA #12, p. 14.

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(1) STIGMATA #14, p. 10 (2) STIGMATA #17.

1982:

(1) FARMINGTON DAILY TIMES (NM), 6/2/82 (2) STIGMATA #20, p. 11 (3) STIGMATA #20, p. 25.

1983:

(1) STIGMATA #22, p. 4.

1984:

(1) Michael D. Hart, personal communication.

1985:

(1) STIGMATA #23 (incorporated in CRUX #2), pp. 19-21.

1986:

(1) STIGMATA #24, pp. 3-4

# APPENDIX NO. 1

## NORTHEASTERN NEW MEXICO - THE SIEGE OF '75

During the last quarter of 1975, there were perhaps a half-dozen known livestock mutilation reports - not all that many compared to other areas in the West during the same period. Other mutilations were reported in the adjoining Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, with most being reported in the adjoining southern Colorado counties of Las Animas and Baca. But the mutilations themselves were not the biggest story in the northeastern New Mexico counties of Colfax, Harding, Quay - and primarily Union County. There were the unidentified helicopters. In the counties hardest-hit by the chopper siege - Union and Quay - there were at least 30 "mystery helicopter" or UFO sightings and at least 4 cattle mutilations between October 30th and November 13th - with even more before and after that period. The low-flying choppers so upset both ranchers and their cattle that the public furor led the Federal Aviation Administration to launch an investigation. The FAA later denied any knowledge of such an investigation (see Introduction). Typical of the newspaper articles of the period is one from the TUCUMCARI NEWS of Wednesday, November 5, 1975, written by Kathy Cammack, a resident of the Nara Visa area in northern Quay County:

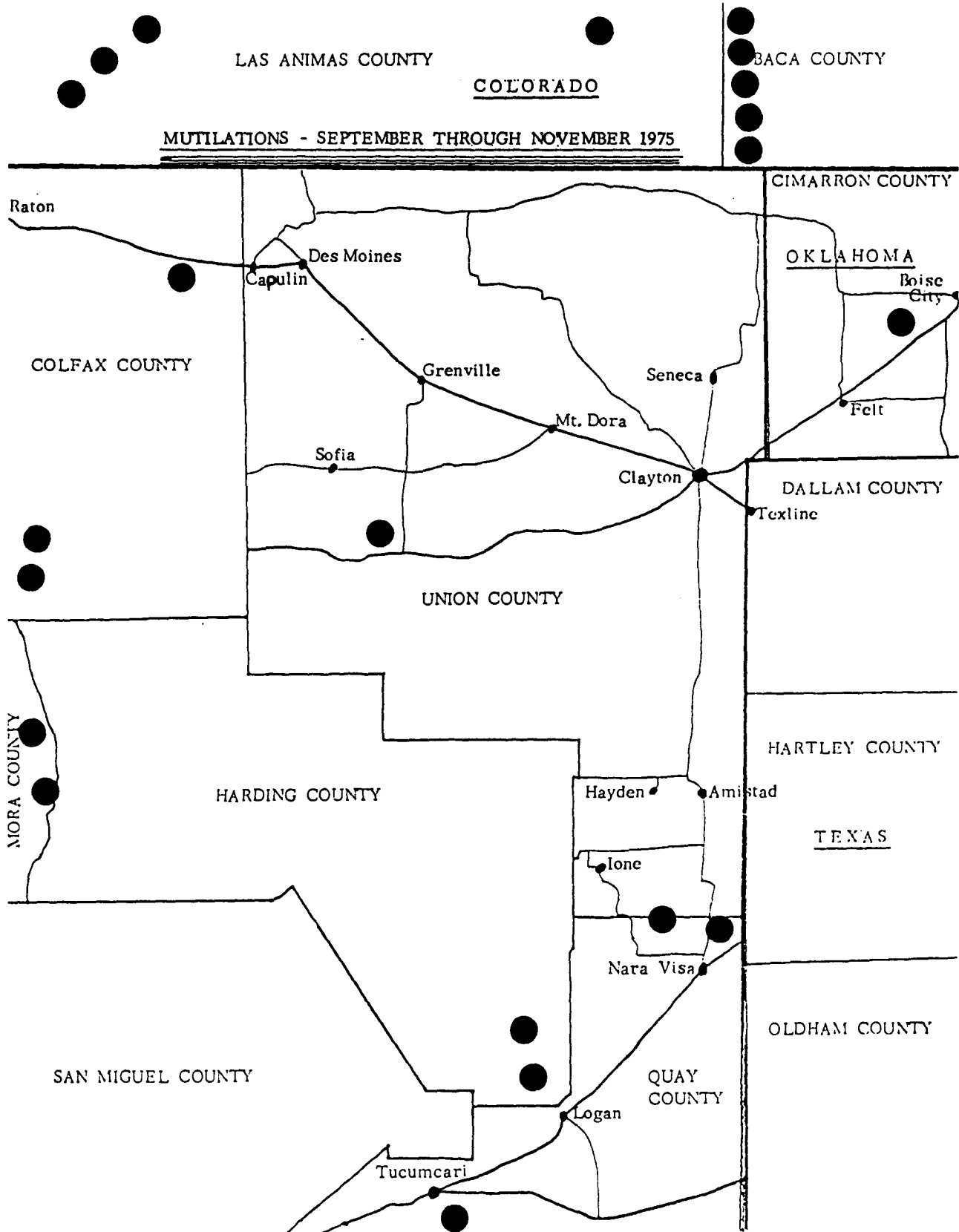
Psychologically, we have been conditioned to think helicopters. Within the past few weeks we have read in the newspapers, heard over radios and watched on television as helicopters were reported to be near Clayton and Wheelless, Oklahoma, and had been seen arriving in strength of all the way from two, three, five and seven in number; had been seen chasing horses in corrals, cattle on the range and/or hovering over herds of cattle or pastures, and homes. For the past two weeks unusual lights have been seen throughout the Amistad, Hayden, Stead and Nara Visa area. Please note I said "unusual lights", not helicopters, per se. In my own case I can only report unusual lights from some airborne vehicle which I have as yet been unable to see a silhouette. Neither have I heard any noise whatsoever while the lights were being observed. The lights flash red, white and bluish-green and every so often a beam or ray of brilliant white shoots forward. There have been some reports to me of a "helicopter" going directly above their house at low altitude and emitting a "terrific" noise.

By the simultaneous arrival of helicopters and unusual lights and that of cattle mutilation, the two have become associated, at least in the minds of people, although no concrete evidence has yet been established. One cow was found on the R.F. Rock ranch 1/2-mile south of headquarters. In an interview with co-owner Junior Rock, he stated the cow was discovered Oct. 15. It is not unusual for all ranchers to lose livestock occasionally, but the unusual position of this cow aroused Junior's curiosity. She was lying flat on her back with all four legs in the air. Upon closer scrutiny he discovered the teats had been neatly severed from the udder, which was left intact. Via the rectum, the female reproductive organs had been removed. Union County sheriff and other officials were called to observe, which they did. Pictures were taken three days later. This carcass still had eyes, ears and tongue. Near Logan a rancher, Arthur Cain, was interviewed about a bull found by ranch manager, Eloy Arguello. Cain says the predators had started eating on the carcass before it was found and that he could not say at all what happened, but Mr. Arguello feels there is no doubt the bull was mutilated. The tongue, one ear and sexual organs were gone.

The mystery remains whether the two - unusual lights or helicopters and cattle mutilation - are associated. And it must be stressed to be careful to balance the scales in reporting, not to exaggerate inadvertently and at the same time not to be too conservative and withhold information that might be valuable. If this is Army maneuvers or government experiments, it is time people were informed. To say there are experiments in process but are classified would set many minds at ease. And at the same time America could be pleased and appreciative of their endeavor. We are called on to provide extra tax money, and to send our young men into battle; surely we deserve being kept informed. When asked, "Are you afraid of all this?", my reply was, "I'm intensely interested and very curious. Afraid? Not really. Yet on second thought if while watching these unusual lights someone slipped up and laid his hand across my shoulder, I'm sure I would join those in the sky, whatever they are!"

To provide an inkling of the frequency and intensity of the helicopter (& strange light) sightings we present the following excerpts from the log of the Union County Sheriff's office in Clayton, New Mexico. The copy of the log which we have covers the period October 20-December 8. The sheriff at the time was Doitchin (Doitch) Doitchinoff. The undersheriff, Leroy Howard, would later become sheriff himself:

- 10-20-75: First helicopter was spotted about 7:30 PM by Rocky Watters, Mark and John Arnett. Helicopter was hovering over their ranch house located 11 miles north of Hwy. 370. Sheriff Doitchinoff, Leroy Howard, Frank Best and Dwayne Massey also observed 7 different lights which possibly were helicopters.
- 10-21-75: Mr. Mock, rancher in the Seneca area, reported seeing 7 helicopters flying just above ground level (about 9:00 AM).
- 10:30 AM - Mort Baker, Seneca area, saw 5 helicopters. Two of them flew within rock-throwing range. They were chasing the cattle.
- Jesse Swagerty - helicopter west of Clayton. Heimann Ranch - south of Clayton, helicopter in the area. Harlan Ranch - 7 helicopters chasing cattle.



APPROXIMATE NUMERICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF LIVESTOCK MUTILATION REPORTS DURING THE PERIOD OF UNIDENTIFIED HELICOPTER SIGHTINGS IN AUTUMN 1975 IN UNION COUNTY, NEW MEXICO AND ADJOINING COUNTIES IN NEW MEXICO, COLORADO, OKLAHOMA AND TEXAS.

- 10-23-75: McDaniels advised helicopters harrassing cattle between Felt and Texline towards Dalhart. Dalhart advised these were Army helicopters, going south out of the north.
- 10-27-75: 6:15 PM - J. Heimann - 5 helicopters north of the house. One of the 5 came up close to the house and stopped. The other 4 went around the house and went on south. The one stayed out north of the house. J.D. Heimann and boys went out to the chopper with their lights out. When they turned on their lights, the chopper left.  
Tucumcari - Unit 67 - between 6:00 and 6:30 PM, received word of a helicopter at Kuter and Roch ranches north on Hwy. 18 - turned west and went down a gravel road.  
Dick Russell - Oct. 26 & 27 - 2 miles north of Bueyeros. 5 choppers west of the house, low, just after dark. Surry Roberts - 2 or 3 choppers over Hayden from his house 1 mile east, 2½ miles south of Hayden - after dark. Van Robertson - 2 helicopters over Logan 5:45 or 6:00 PM.
- 10-28-75: J. Heimann ranch - 5 helicopters, started at 9:00 AM, SW of Clayton.  
J. Heimann ranch - saw 4 of them west of the house. Watched them from 7:30 to 11:30 PM. When they left they went southeast. Gloria James - reported objects in the air north of Clayton Cattle Feeders.
- 10-29-75: Robert Cristman - 1 mile south & 6 west of Amistad - observed a white chopper over the house going from south to north.  
Tucumcari to Clayton - Charles Snyder - 2 choppers, low, about 50 ft. off the ground, 5 miles north of Nara Visa. A minute later, Mrs. Cooper called in and advised a vehicle with red lights flashing a long way off.
- 10-30-75: J. Heimann - 3 helicopters west of the house just after dark.  
8:18 PM, Raton sheriff's office - 1 helicopter heading SE from Trinchera, Colorado, to Clayton. 8:25 PM - Dwayne Massey saw a helicopter south of Clayton headed southeast. Clarence Kimber - near Amistad, 1 chopper headed west, pretty low. Leroy Howard and Frank Best - 500 ft. up, gaining altitude, south of town headed west.
- 11-1-75: Ben Wooten - observed a helicopter silver in color near milepost 40 state road 120. when his unit was spotted, the chopper left.  
Robert Cristman - observed chopper traveling east; landed near Heimann ranch.
- 11-3-75: 1 helicopter seen east of Clayton about 7:30 PM. Another one reported south of Nara Visa about the same time. At approx. same time, 3 choppers east of Trinidad, picked up on radar; lost in Johnson Mesa area.
- 11-4-75: Charles Gentry with US Senator Dominici's office called and advised Clayton sheriff's department that it was affirmed that these helicopters were definitely not military. A complete check had been made. Also affirmed that FAA was not fueling them.
- 11-5-75: 5:55 PM, a helicopter going by Don Cooper's, Nara Visa. 6:48 PM - 3 helicopters east of Des Moines by Billy Ellis's. 6:55 PM - brand inspector advised 4 to 5 helicopters 6 mi. NE of Logan, traveling east and west. 6:57 PM - Gloria James - bright lights, by the Clayton Cattle Feeders.
- 11-6-75: Fred Laster - one helicopter followed him for some ways on the Bueyeros Road; also on the Rosebud road with its landing lights on him at the way; then it went in another direction about dusk.  
6:03 PM - Aircraft east of Clayton Cattle Feeders, white, red lights.  
6:20 PM - lights in sky 10 miles north of Nara Visa.  
7:40 PM - bright red lights NE of Clayton Cattle Feeders  
7:52 PM - 3 bright red & white lights, 2 going NE, 1 going west  
9:23 PM - 2 helicopters on ground SE of Logan, seen by several persons  
Between 8:00 & 8:30 PM - helicopter seen circling in the Rosebud area, headed toward Amistad, then towards Stead, then heading due west; going slow and lit up (about 3 weeks ago, witness saw 2 gray helicopters in the same area).
- 11-7-75: Between 6:00 & 7:00 PM - Gloria James reported several lights in area of Clayton Cattle feeders; one light only about 100 yards off ground, in area of pasture where cattle are thick as flies.  
7:24 PM - helicopter west of Clayton, went South.  
Gloria James continued to report lights in feedlot area until 11:00 PM. Through binoculars, she could see orange lights, plus red lights low to the ground.  
Report was received that on 11-3-75 (Monday), 3 helicopters were seen in the Mt. Dora area, just south of Hwy. 87. Two choppers were on ground, 1 hovering at about 500 ft. NM State Police reported that between 8:00 & 9:00 PM on 11-7-75, 4 men from the Fort Worth, Texas area observed a helicopter in the area of Trinchera, Colorado, just north of the New Mexico border. One subject, Mr. Kemp, stated he has had 13 years experience in helicopter manufacturing with Bell Helicopter - that he has been in every helicopter manufactured by Bell - that there is no doubt whatsoever the object he saw was a helicopter. He observed it through binoculars. He observed it hover a couple of times, also using a spotlight of some sort. Mr. Kemp stated that it was either a J-47 or a Jet Ranger. He would say a Jet 47. Mr. Kemp stated that these two aircrafts with standard tanks mounted would have a range of 180-190 miles and with auxiliary tanks mounted, range could be extended to 300 miles.
- 11-10-75: (Mon.) Witnesses reported that sometime last week a helicopter chased cows in the Sedan area, running them through fences and corrals. Also seen in Thomas community.
- 11-11-75: Cow mutilation near Sofia, est. to have occurred on Nov. 8 or 9.

- 11-12-75: Helicopter reported NW of Felt, Oklahoma.
- 11-14-75: Hunting camp near Trinchera, Colorado - 3 helicopters seen above mesa about 6:00 PM. Two appeared to have set down while 3rd hovered for about 20 minutes before flying off to the west. The other two moved north along rim of mesa, appeared to set down again. One chopper had only a white strobe light; the other two with red & green lights.
- 11-20-75: Leroy Montaya, hunting near Watters ranch on Hwy 370 - observed helicopter chasing cattle about 2:30 PM. It had two men in it; chopper was silver & black; chasing cattle down in canyon.
- 11-21-75: Several flashing lights in sky in Clayton area.
- 11-26-75: Helicopters reported tonight in area of Clayton Cattle Feeders and southeast of Clayton. Some sightings were of 3 helicopters (SE heading toward Texline); some were of 4 helicopters (near feedlot).
- 11-30-75: More lights in area of Clayton Cattle Feeders. At 6:30 PM, Sheriff Doitchinoff observed a helicopter flying 300-400 feet above ground, near Rabbit Ears Mt., headed west.
- 12-1-75: Helicopter flew over feedlot, headed west(1:49 PM). Maxine Doitchinoff observed helicopter flying low over house toward northwest. Tan colored; had several windows.
- 12-2-75: 2 choppers sighted in Clayton area.
- 12-8-75: 3:30 or 4:00 AM - 2 choppers flying SW over Clayton about 450 ft. high.

As we reported in STIGMATA No. 4 (Summer 1978), we spoke with a pilot who grew up in the area around Nara Visa, in northern Quay County, just south of Union County. On a date not recalled in the fall of 1975, during a time in which mystery helicopters and flashing, meandering nocturnal lights were being seen, the pilot gathered three friends plus infrared cameras and flew in his personal airplane to the Nara Visa area. One night, while the UFOs were being seen in abundance, the foursome took to the air. Their efforts were coordinated with ground observers who could see both the airplane and the UFOs. Those on the ground attempted to direct the airplane to the vicinity of the strange lights, but the four in the plane could not see the UFOs at all. They flew around the area for two hours as the frustrated ground observers told them where the lights appeared to be - but the hapless occupants of the plane never saw the unknown lights.

## APPENDIX NO.2

### THE AIR FORCE AND THE GREAT CHASE OF NORTHERN COLORADO

By Ed Sanders (originally published in Sanders' THE CATTLE REPORT, Issue No. 1; March 1977)

The night of Wednesday, August 21, 1975 provided an example of a possible deliberate deception maneuver by cattle mutilators near Logan County, Colorado. The incident involved possible decoy men disguised as Air Force officers who may have been used to confuse and to throw off course a concerted land and air chase of helicopters thought to be involved in the plague of cattle mutilations in Logan County and nearby counties. Logan County is located in northeast Colorado sugar beet, grain and cattle country. During that summer the helicopters had been flying by night over Logan County, and the cattle had been found mutilated in the morning. Sheriff's officers and even private groups (such as I-80 Control, a group of CBers) had been organizing to give chase to these phantom copters.

Around 10 PM on Wed., Aug. 21, a helicopter was reported heading into Logan Co. from the east, and Sheriff Tex Graves and his staff took chase. In addition to some 17 ground units that ultimately took part in the chase, Sheriff Graves rented a private plane in which 2 sheriff's officers and a pilot rode. The night was clear and the aircraft could run without lights. During the night, a pickup truck containing two purported Air Force officers began to assist the chase, claiming to be receiving over the radio in the truck radar information from Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming, located northwest of Logan County. (There are a number of Minuteman missile sites in Logan Co. under the control of Warren Air Force Base). The sheriff's vehicles on the ground were not equipped to pick up the Air Force frequencies so had to rely on the information relayed from the pickup with the Air Force men, who would relate the supposed location of the aircraft being chased as indicated by radar at the Air Force base.

Only the next day, after the chase was long over, did reporters and sheriff's officers learn from Warren AFB that they had no radar system that could have been used to track the copters. The only radar facilities they had, they said, were weather radar facilities. Sheriff Graves later referred to the alleged helpers as a "pickup with Air Force jokers playing games". During the chase, which spilled over into southern Nebraska, the putative Air Force men in the pickup kept announcing that "radar" indicated that there was another aircraft flying near the chase plane at various times, but the officers and pilot, three men with glasses, never saw a thing, Sheriff Graves told the Greeley, Colorado, TRIBUNE. The chase ended around 4:30 in the morning near a missile site in SW Nebraska, when the spotter plane lost sight of the phantom copter. The plane, reporter Bill Jackson of the Sterling, CO, JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, told us, "saw the lights of the thing below them, and you know, it was a clear night. And when the light went out, that's what everybody thought, that they'd landed, but when the plane came down to 100-150 feet, he couldn't see anything.....The only thing that was there was a missile silo". Several questions remain after this incident: (1) Were the 2 officers from the Air Force merely practical jokers having fun with local law enforcement? (It must be remembered that, in addition to Logan Co. officers, the Nebraska State Police and the Kimball Co., Nebraska, sheriff's office were also involved.) (2) Were the 2 men merely masquerading as Air Force personnel & were they actually part of a mutilation network? (This network must have spent millions of dollars on copter fuel, maintenance, security and man-hours in the many states that have suffered mutilations) (3) Sad to ask is this: Is the United States Air Force involved in supplying cover for the mutilators?



## APPENDIX NO. 3

A CITIZEN COMPLAINS TO THE FAA REGARDING MYSTERY HELICOPTERS IN CENTRAL TEXAS

Fort Hood is a rather sizeable military reservation in Central Texas, mostly in Coryell County with a portion in Bell County. North of Coryell County, along the Hamilton-Bosque County line, is the community of Cranfills Gap, over 20 air miles and over 30 road miles from Fort Hood. In June through August of 1975, there was an exchange of correspondence between a resident of the Cranfills Gap area, Mrs. Sparks (pseudonym) and the Federal Aviation Administration. Mrs. Sparks was complaining about low-flying unidentified helicopters in southern Bosque County. An FAA inspector conducted an investigation on July 25th. One question to answer was whether the helicopters might be out of the Army's Fort Hood. Fort Hood figures prominently in other mystery helicopter accounts (see appendix regarding the Cash-Landrum case). A Freedom Of Information Act request to the FAA elicited the following correspondence:

Item No. 1. From Mrs, Sparks of rural Cranfills Gap, received by the Federal Aviation Administration on June 30, 1975:

May I please ask your attention on a subject that has everyone in the area more than a little worried and annoyed? We do not know to whom to go, because none of the authorities here seem either interested or able to do anything about this matter at all. For many months now Bosque County, particularly the vicinity of Cranfills Gap, has been haunted by two helicopters. They are dark gray, very large and of the type used by the military. They are unmarked either by numbers or letters, they hover over our land, cattle, small groups of people and circle the town at a very low height. At night from 10:00 Pm to around 3:00 AM they fly mostly without lights and one of them has a very bright spotlight with which it searches the ground, paying particular attention to livestock. When the sheriff's dept. is called, they are noncommittal, say that we should report these sightings, but what can they do from a patrol car. There are no airborne police units any closer than Fort Worth. These aircraft have been seen in the vicinity of the cattle mutilations, but the authorities do not seem concerned. When told that the helicopters were connected with the Army, I wrote to Fort Hood, which is our nearest Army installation and asked for information. I was visited by the liaison officer, Captain E. Newton, who assured me that although they answered the description of Army helicopters, they were in no way connected with the Army. We here are all familiar with service helicopters and these do not behave as they. We believe that these vehicles must be contravening some laws governing aviation, thus I am writing to you. Can you please tell me if it is lawful for large helicopters to fly in endless month-long apparent surveillance over our community? To fly without markings or other identification visible from the ground? To fly at night without lights and to spotlight the animals and property of U.S. citizens? If these vehicles are in violation of the Civil Aeronautics Board code governing flying, why are they allowed to continue to thus flagrantly break the law? Since we are assured that they are neither police nor military, they must be civil or the authorities are lying! Either way, we are all sick to death of being constantly spied upon, watched and our property suspiciously inspected. If it is illegal to drive an unlighted unidentified automobile in this country why does the law cease to operate a few feet off the ground? Should not the pilots lose their licenses? If you are not the correct authority to contact please tell me where to write. There could quite possibly be violence..... many are considering rifles and shooting them down. (Signed)

Item No. 2. Field notes of FAA inspector Blakely, July 1975:

Contacted Mrs. Sparks in Cranfills Gap on July 25. Mrs. Sparks stated that she had written the letter quite some time ago but that the helicopters still come into the area at night and shine the light on her cattle. From her description there is a UH-1 and a CH 47. She stated that others had seen them but could furnish only one other name, a Mrs. Karnes (pseudonym). Mrs. Karnes was contacted and she stated that she had kept a log of helicopters flying in the area up until April of this year when she had discontinued this because she had gone to school. She stated that the records she had kept on the helicopters were flights that occurred between 6 AM and 3 PM and had only seen an occasional helicopter at night but these were in the distance, several of which they tried to drive to but they had always departed before they would arrive. She also stated she had heard other people say they had seen them but the only name she could furnish was a Mrs. Lawrence Mason (pseudonym). Mrs. Mason was contacted but she also said that the time frame the helicopters were seen in the vicinity was during Feb., Mar. and Apr. and possibly as late as May but had not seen any during the last few months. She stated that she had seen or heard helicopters flying during this time without lights (not frequently). The sheriff of Bosque, a Mr. Baxter, was contacted and he stated several months ago they had reports of helicopters without lights in the area at night. Also possibility of helicopters spotlighting cattle. The City Manager of Clifton was contacted as the Chief of Police was on vacation and he stated he was not aware of any reports around there. However, Mr. Barnes, City Manager of Valley View stated that there had been some reports but not recently. Captain Newton of Fort Hood was contacted and he had been in contact with Mrs. Sparks earlier in the year and he stated that during the Feb. to Mar. time frame they had some helicopters operating in that area but not recently. He did say that he had contacted a Mr. Horace Simmons

on Monday. Will check it out then and let us know.....It appears that this had taken place early this year and most of it was helicopters operating during the day with an occasional night operation which all but Mrs. Sparks say they have seen the helicopters at night recently and the ones they see during the day are just passing over. Mrs. Sparks was surprised when I showed up as she said she had wrote the letter months ago.

Item No. 3. Letter to Mrs. Sparks (August 18, 1975) from Paul J. Baker, Chief, Flight Standards Division of the Federal Aviation Administration:

Dear Mrs. Sparks: We have investigated your report of unusual, low altitude helicopter activities in the area near Cranfills Gap, Texas. Our inspector interviewed those neighbors you suggested, the Bosque County sheriff and law enforcement and city officials in the towns of Clifton, Valley Mills and Meridian. He also contacted the Army at Fort Hood and the Air Force at Austin to determine if either was conducting any flight activities in your area. The Air Force denies any helicopter activity in this area. The Army was operating some helicopters in your area earlier this year, but without more definite information on dates, times, etc., they cannot confirm any specific flights. They stated it is not their policy to fly at night with their lights off....The Federal Aviation Regulations do not specify a minimum altitude above the surface for helicopter flights, but they do prohibit flights that endanger persons or property on the surface. In order for us to initiate legal enforcement action against anyone accused of violating these regulations, we must have factual information about the incident and some method of positive identification of the aircraft....Please accept our regrets that this investigation failed to provide more positive results, but our information does have to be more specific to initiate corrective action. We appreciate your interest in aviation safety and the sense of civic responsibility exhibited by your report.

Item No. 4. Letter from Mrs. Sparks to Paul J. Baker of FAA, August 29, 1975:

May I thank you for your time and trouble in the recent investigation into the mysterious helicopter activity in our area. I have your letter of Aug. 18th in which you tell me of your findings. I would like to point out one or two small things, however. You say you interviewed the law officers and the Army personnel in our area, but without more specific information on dates, times, etc. there was nothing. Every time I saw unlighted helicopters or helicopters spotlighting my cattle, I called both Captain Newton and the sheriff in Meridian. Every time they informed me earnestly of their concern and intention of "getting right onto it". I did not contact the Air Force because Captain Newton informed me that there should be no such activity by the Air Force in this area.

My neighbor, Mrs. Karnes, kept a log of notes on the sightings with dates, times, etc., which I could send you. I can only regret that I did not contact you at once when these sightings first occurred, as you are the only one who has offered any material help. If I see these helicopters again, I will most certainly call you at once.

The fact that this activity has apparently ceased, unless it is continued when we are all asleep, seems to me to suggest that it has been some sort of service-related operation which has been discontinued because of annoying, insistent housewives!

Whatever the case may be, if any unlighted helicopters spotlight my cattle again, I shall not hesitate to shoot at them. I may not do any damage, indeed I don't want to, but calling the local authorities is obviously a waste of time.

In closing I would like to say that in my opinion all aircraft should be clearly marked in such a manner as to easily identified from the ground. We hapless civilians should be able to clearly identify any aircraft in order to report clearly on them. However, if they have no letters, numbers, large white star, skull & crossbones, etc., it is impossible for us to be able to identify them at all, and if the Army personnel and the office of Sheriff Baxter will not provide you with the time and dates of the sightings that I reported, then there is very little I can do except say that this makes it look to me as if they already do not wish to share their knowledge with us.

No one objects to our forces practicing their activities in order to perfect their techniques. But since we, the people, are not, theoretically at least, the enemy, we might be considered harmless enough to be taken into their confidence. Anyway, I must add... not on my cattle they don't!

May I thank you once again for all your work and time in pursuing this investigation for us. People here are all relieved that you looked into it, and will pass on to me any sightings they are worried about. (Signed)

For further reading on mystery helicopters, especially associated with UFOs:

- (1) THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO UFOs by Editors of Science & Mechanics magazine, 1968.
- (2) REPORT ON COMMUNION by Ed Conroy; Morrow, 1989.
- (3) CALIFORNIA UFO magazine (1800 S. Robertson Blvd; Los Angeles, CA 90035); Vol. 4, No. 1, 1989 (this issue features several articles on mystery helicopters, including those associated with Betty & Bob Luca and with George & Shirley Coyne; plus a report on events on Long Island, NY, and an article featuring Dennis Stillings' own unique perspective on "The Chopper & the Psyche").

THE CASH-LANDRUM CASE - A VERITABLE PLETHORA OF WHIRLYBIRDS

Mention must be made of this important case. Although there is no direct mutilation connection with this event, the helicopter aspect is most pertinent. We are reprinting below the coverage of the case we published in STIGMATA NO. 17 (2nd Quarter 1982), then in STIGMATA No. 19 (4th Quarter 1982). We are then presenting a crucial report from a military insider, previously unpublished.

From STIGMATA No. 17:

Most of our readers are already familiar with reports regarding an extraordinary UFO incident which occurred northeast of Houston, Texas on the night of December 29, 1980. Three people were involved - two women: Betty Cash and Vickie Landrum - and Mrs. Landrum's 7-year-old grandson, Colby. The Cash-Landrum case has been under investigation by John Schuessler, Alan Holt and other members of the Houston area Project VISIT UFO group, which includes several NASA personnel. The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) and the Center For UFO Studies (CUFOS) have also been involved in the investigation. In the April 1981 MUFON UFO JOURNAL, editor (at that time) Richard Hall writes that the Cash-Landrum case "promises to be one of the most significant physical evidence cases in modern UFO history". Dr. J. Allen Hynek of CUFOS termed it a "really crucial case" because of the "absolutely unequivocal physical effects" suffered by the witnesses. Investigator Bill English, formerly of APRO, called it "the most incredible UFO sighting reported in the U.S. in recent years...an unimpeachable case of three common people who find themselves suddenly caught up in events stranger than the wildest of science fiction". MUFON's John Schuessler says: "I believe fully that (the witnesses) saw a UFO. To not believe them would be foolish, especially after seeing the physical pain they've experienced from it".

The dramatic event unfolded as Betty Cash was driving Vickie Landrum and Colby along a tree-lined rural road in the Dayton-Huffman-New Caney area north of Houston at around 9:00 P.M. They were confronted by a roughly diamond-shaped object, glowing, sporadically spewing fire, emitting a roaring noise and off and on beeping sounds - eventually hovering over the otherwise-deserted road in front of Betty Cash's car. All three witnesses got out of the car to watch. Colby, then Vickie, returned to the ostensible safety of the car while Betty remained outside, watching. Eventually the object departed and the three harried percipients were able to make it home. Soon, all three witnesses began to suffer from a myriad of physiological ills. In the MUFON UFO JOURNAL (November 1981), Schuessler said that, while standing outside her car, Betty Cash had been exposed to the object for 5 to 10 minutes, Vickie for 3 to 5 minutes and Colby for about a minute. Although the temperature was in the 40's, the car became so heated from exposure to the craft that the air conditioner had to be turned on to even begin to approach a modicum of comfort. Schuessler summarized the medical effects exhibited on each of the witnesses:

Colby: Erythema (reddening of the skin); eyes swollen and watery; stomach pains; diarrhea; anorexia (loss of appetite); some weight loss; increase in tooth cavities.

Vickie: Erythema; photophthalmia (eyes swollen, watery and painful); vision diminished; stomach pains; diarrhea; anorexia; ulceration on the arms, resulting in scarring and loss of pigmentation; haratin affected resulting in fingernail damage; hair loss; hair re-growth of a different texture.

Betty: Erythema; acute photophthalmia; vision impaired; stomach pains; vomiting; diarrhea; anorexia; loss of energy, lethargy; scarring and loss of skin pigmentation; excessive hair loss; hair re-growth of a different texture.

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Betty Cash, who was outside the car the longest, seemed to suffer the most, and Colby the least - although he, convinced at the time that it was "the end of the world", later suffered from nightmares and increased fear and anxiety.

John Schuessler reported in the newsstand publication UFO REPORT (Winter 1981) that MUFON's radiology consultant...

...concluded that "we have strong evidence that these patients have suffered damage secondary to ionizing radiation. It is also possible there was an infrared or ultraviolet component as well". This means that the symptoms...could have been caused by ionizing radiation plus ultraviolet and infrared radiation.

Open case...insert helicopters. This, to us, is fully as intriguing an aspect of the case as the physiological effects. As the roaring object (periodically belching flames and almost seeming to struggle to stay airborne) began to leave the area, flying off to the southwest (in the general direction of Houston), at least 20 and perhaps as many as 23 helicopters appeared. They moved in, surrounded the object, and seemed to "escort" it off into the night. Using helicopter identification charts, the witnesses were able to identify many of the helicopters as Boeing-Vertol CH-47's, commonly known as "Chinooks" or "flying bananas". The other helicopters were smaller and single-rotored. It wasn't certain, but they appeared to be "Hueys". Additional witnesses have been located in the area who saw either the UFO itself or one or more helicopters that night. It seems that we can offer three potential scenarios for what occurred on that night of December 29, 1980:

(1) The UFO itself was extraterrestrial, non-terrestrial, alien or otherwise extramundane in origin, and the "helicopters" were nothing more than UFOs themselves, perhaps attending to their "mother ship" while wanting terrestrials to think they were "just" helicopters, after all.

(2) The UFO was "alien", but the helicopters were conventional terrestrial craft, probably attached to the military.

(3) The UFO was terrestrial in origin, representing a secret or experimental operation, and the choppers were operating under military auspices.

As they lived through their encounter that night, the witnesses, Vickie Landrum in particular, surmised they were having a religious experience, maybe even the Second Coming itself. Looking back on the incident, however, they felt the object they saw was most likely part of a government-military operation, rather than an intrusion from outer space.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek said of the case: "...we're not sure if it's a government exercise or a UFO sighting". Arizonan Bill English believed the helicopters may very well be "unmanned probes" attached to the extraterrestrial UFO. John Schuessler of MUFON and Project VISIT said, regarding the helicopters: "It had to be a military operation. It was a military operation. I'm convinced of that. There are no Ch-47's on the Gulf Coast that are not military. We've checked very thoroughly".

Some investigators have felt there is a possibility that some, if not all of the helicopters came from the Army's massive Fort Hood in Central Texas or the adjacent Gray Air Force Base. The existence of "Gray Field" is no secret, but for some reason it has long been surrounded by an aura of mystery, largely because so few people seem to know what really goes on there. In fact, it was rumored in the mid-1970's that the military was conducting a UFO investigation from a secret installation on either Fort Hood or Gray Field. In November of 1973, ufologist and paranormal investigator Tommy Roy Blann was investigating the UFO "flap" of that period around Calvert, Texas, about 60 miles east of the Fort Hood/Gray Field area. On the night of November 21, 1973, Blann, his wife Linda and two other witnesses had been watching UFOs cavort over the Brazos River. Blann told writer Timothy Green Beckley (in the newsstand publication UFO ANNUAL, 1976) that: "As the UFOs bobbed around overhead, we became aware of aircraft and helicopter activity to the north. At one point, one of our military planes circled directly over the UFOs, but kept at a respectable - and safe - distance. Checking with officials at Gray Air Force Base - the closest military installation from where they could have originated - it was admitted that there had been a routine reconnaissance mission in progress that night. However, the officer I spoke with emphatically denied any knowledge of 'flying saucers'. To my way of thinking...there is no way on earth...that their pilots could have missed seeing the UFOs unless they were totally blind".

John Schuessler stated in UFO REPORT (Winter 1981) that: "Most military installations powered down for the Christmas holidays and flew very few missions..." during that time. Oddly enough, it seems that Gray Air Force Base has admitted that sometime during that period "more than 100 helicopters came in from the field 'for effect'" - whatever that means. Over the years, even soldiers and guardsmen at Fort Hood have been curious about the operations at Gray AFB. Schuessler and his team did manage to make contact with an Army major in the Houston area - a helicopter pilot who claimed to have been piloting a CH-47 on a mission (which he would not detail) on that night. Unfortunately, the major soon decided he would have nothing more to say on the matter.

For further reading regarding this crucial case: MUFON UFO JOURNAL (April 1981 and November 1981 and others); APRO BULLETIN (Vol. 29, no. 8, 1981); UFO REPORT (now defunct - Winter 1981). The nationally-distributed tabloids got into the act, of course (example: GLOBE; April 28, 1981). One of the first reporters on the scene was Dick Donovan of the WEEKLY WORLD NEWS (March 24, 1981), a sister publication of the NATIONAL ENQUIRER organization. Deviating from the approach taken by some of his peers, Donovan's article is most credible and minus unnecessary sensationalizing (strange for the WEEKLY WORLD NEWS, even). The NATIONAL ENQUIRER itself later published a full-page article on the subject. Yet strangely and incredibly and suspiciously, the article made no mention whatsoever of the helicopters involved in the case. In the fall of 1981, the Cash/Landrum case was covered in an unusually-long segment of ABC-TV's "That's Incredible".

From STIGMATA No. 19:

The investigation into the important Cash/Landrum case of December 1980 continues. Readers are directed to the "UFO Update" in the "Anti Matter" section in the February 1983 OMNI magazine. The unfortunate aftermath drags on for Betty Cash (heart attack stroke in recent months, reports of cancer), Vickie Landrum (worsening cataract, weakness, sores that leave scars) and young Colby Landrum (vision impairment, sores, nausea, and potentially (according to OMNI) leukemia. The witnesses, in fact, sued the U.S. government seeking 20 million dollars in damages. The case apparently and ultimately went nowhere. There were unconfirmed rumors in later years that the government or some other mysterious source was paying all or part of the witnesses medical expenses. An investigation led by McDonnell Douglas engineer John Schuessler (an officer in both the MUFON and VISIT (Vehicle Internal Systems Investigative Team) UFO organizations) uncovered a number of witnesses who saw Chinook-type helicopters that night and in that area. Schuessler wrote in a 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 physi-

cal 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.

Schuessler reports that during the follow-up investigation Ft. Hood (the Army reservation in Central Texas), Ellington Air Force Base (near Houston), the Army Inspector General's office 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. (Furthermore, a reliable and trusted military contact has informed Project Stigma of his involvement in an alien crash-retrieval operation between Christmas and New Year's Day one year. Obviously, military operations will be conducted during the holiday season if the circumstances warrant.). The source of the helicopters in the Cash/Landrum incident remains a mystery. At least, nothing has been proven. Following the incident, helicopter operations of various kinds continued in the Houston area. On Tuesday, December 28, 1982, a CH-47 Chinook with Army markings approached the Clear Lake, Texas area (near NASA) from the south at 3:01 PM, made a turn over the Johnson Space Center, and landed at Ellington Air Force Base. 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.

Schuessler also found that a Dayton, Texas police officer, L.L. Walker and his wife saw CH-47 helicopters in the area of the Cash/Landrum incident on the same night, December 29, 1980. Walker reported seeing four groups of three helicopters each, flying in "V" formations, with the lead helicopter in each group shining a spotlight on the ground. They were flying at around 500 feet altitude. They eventually altered their course and flew off in the direction of the Gulf of Mexico.

Project Stigma has a source in the military community whom we shall call "Victor". While being normally stationed in a particular area, Victor periodically visited yet another military base in the U.S. during 1989. While at this second base, he was contacted by another military man ("Tony") who had sought to meet Victor, knowing of the latter's interest in UFOs. He wanted to tell Victor of an experience he had had while stationed at Fort Hood, Texas in December of 1980. While Tony related his story, Victor closely observed his facial expressions and noted every nuance in his tone and manner of speaking. Victor felt that Tony was being sincere.

Tony was a helicopter pilot at Fort Hood. Between Christmas and the end of 1980, there was a "special alert". The helicopter pilots (not known how many participated, other than Tony) were told where they would be going - that once they reached the general area, they would vectored in. They were told they would see an "unusual aircraft" there - that their mission was to "cover" this craft and to try to force it to land by keeping it at a low altitude. Once the craft landed, they were to "mark" the spot, radio in, and wait for "other people" to move in. The choppers would then be dismissed to return to their base. Tony told Victor that the whole operation happened so suddenly that he was "half-drunk" when he took off from Fort Hood, but that what he saw later sobered him up. They reached the area in question and Tony saw a craft he described as "the biggest damndest diamond he ever saw in his life". As the choppers flew over the top of the object, trying to "hold it down", it was "throwing off sparks like a 4th of July sparkler". Sometimes the sparks would hit the ground; sometimes they would appear to burn out before hitting the ground. The craft began to move off and the choppers followed it for 7 to 10 miles. As they were following it, it stopped throwing off sparks and started to "glow". The craft then became stationary again. At that moment, the choppers received word that they were to abort the mission and "return to their various bases" (i.e., they had come from more than one base). Later, all the Fort Hood personnel who had been involved in the mission were re-assigned. Tony ended up in Germany.

After their arrival back at Fort Hood, everyone was de-briefed. They were told that what they had encountered was an "experimental aircraft" that had gone astray outside of its flight pattern and had started to "experience problems". It was crucial to insure that no one (civilians) got too close to it. Not all of the choppers were CH-47 "Chinooks"; some were UH-1 "Hueys", which is what Tony was piloting. The Chinooks had "contact teams" in them. If the craft had crashed or set down, these "contact teams" were to go down and secure the area. From what Tony had understood, there had been 4 contact teams.

Tony couldn't verify the total number of choppers (23?) since they had come from different bases. Tony had no idea what the "diamond object" really was. They were told they would be vectored into the location; but then they would have to "go visual" because the object they were looking for would be flying below radar. Apparently, thought Tony, whatever malfunction had occurred on board the strange craft, it was corrected. Tony said he had kept his mouth shut about the incident and nothing untoward had happened to him since then. He felt that Victor would be interested in the story, but Tony advised he should keep his mouth shut about it, as well.

## APPENDIX NO. 5

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### THE MILITARY BASE OVERFLIGHTS

In late 1975 there were overflights by unknown aircraft over sensitive military installations in Maine (Loring Air Force Base), Michigan (Wurtsmith Air Force Base), North Dakota (Minot Air Force Base), Montana (Malmstrom Air Force Base, plus a number of missile silos in Montana under the control of Malmstrom AFB) and in the area of Canadian Forces Station and radar site at Falconbridge, Ontario. Some of these craft were clearly identified as helicopters; some, however, were unknown craft with lights of various colors, and exhibiting actions atypical of helicopters. There has been criticism that the U.S. military purposely identified some of the unknown craft as helicopters, when there had been adequate reason to think they were anything but helicopters. Most of the information concerning these events is derived from U.S. government documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. Some of these documents we acquired directly from the agencies themselves, although most of the documents on this subject that we have are courtesy of US Army Sgt. First Class Clifford E. Stone, who has used the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to obtain documents indicating the government's true interest and concern about UFOs despite their protestations to the contrary. As Clifford Stone has said: "These documents, in my opinion, clearly show that it is highly possible to penetrate the U.S. Air Space and not be detected. As a soldier, this in itself greatly disturbs me, as it should every American". For more information on the 1975 military base overflights, see CLEAR INTENT by Lawrence Fawcett & Barry J. Greenwood (Prentice Hall, 1984) and ABOVE TOP SECRET by Timothy Good (Morrow, 1988). A work-in-progress by Clifford E. Stone will provide more details regarding government documentation, and will indicate just how truly interested the government of the United States is in the subject of UFOs.

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## APPENDIX NO. 6

### MYSTERY HELICOPTERS AND UFO'S

Unidentified helicopters have been reported in conjunction with UFO events, beginning long before mystery choppers were linked to animal mutilations. Perhaps the most prominent UFO/helicopter case was the Cash/Landrum incident of 1980 (see Appendix IV in this report). A prominent earlier case was the classic sighting over Wanaque Reservoir in New Jersey on October 11, 1966. Policemen watched a disc-shaped object with a dome which gave off a literally-blinding white light. When the object was over the reservoir, an interesting effect was noticed; the water was "pulled up" toward the object as it flew over, then would subside as the object passed. Then, passing over a forested area, the tops of the trees seemed to be "pulled together" as the craft traversed the area. Soon after the UFO departed, 10 or 12 jet airplanes and 6 or 7 helicopters appeared on the scene. Their origins could never be determined. In Middletown, Ohio, in January 1971, mystery airplanes were reported, along with a helicopter which made a "strange humming sound". Ann Druffel has written of helicopter/UFO cases in 1975 in California and Connecticut (see chronological listing in this report). Near Lewiston, Idaho in January 1977, a witness saw 2 UFOs which "looked at first like helicopters...But the longer he watched them, the more convinced he was that they were extra-terrestrial. The U.S. does not have a monopoly on the mystery choppers. England has been plagued periodically by phantom choppers, including one account, as mentioned in our Introduction, of Oriental-looking occupants. On Long Island, New York, in the late 1980's, there were numerous reports, not only of UFOs, abductions and animal mutilations, but unidentified helicopters, as well, according to John Ford and Richard Stout of the Long Island UFO Network.

Numerous phantom chopper sightings have been linked to UFO abductees. (For additional reading on this, see the references, bottom of p.35). Some abductees have been harrassed in an overbearingly absurd manner by overflights and fly-bys of unidentified helicopters - most notable Betty (Andreasson) Luca and her husband Bob Luca, and Shirley Coyne and her husband George. Ed Conroy of San Antonio, TX, author of a book about Whitley Strieber's COMMUNION, began to be plagued by phantom choppers in 1988, while preparing his book on Strieber. Many of the copters, seen from his downtown office building, appeared at exactly 4:00 PM, others at precisely 3:33 PM. Speculation continues in all of these cases over whether the phantom helicopters are military, bent on intimidating percipients, abductees and investigators, or whether the mystery choppers are not necessarily what they appear to be, and are an integral part of the UFO phenomenon itself.

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