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Multiple Phenomena on Colorado Ranch

Report on the Investigation of UFO Experiences
on a Rocky Mountain Ranch

By
John S. Derr, Ph. D.
APRO Consultant in Seismology
and
R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph. D.
APRO Consultant in Psychology

[Editor's note: This incredible report is so lengthy that it will, of necessity, be serialized.]

This report is unusual in several ways: no names of individuals associated with the experiences are given, and no information is given about the location of the area; the individuals describing these events have not subjected themselves to polygraph examinations, personality inventories, or other methods of personal assessment. The reasons for these procedures are not because the participants are fearful, on a personal basis, of any evaluation; rather, they are concerned, on a social basis, with revealing information about the identities of persons with whom they have experienced these unusual events. They do not wish to subject their friends and families to inquiries from the general public or from military or governmental representatives.

Thus, the investigators share some responsibility in providing information about the claimed UFO experiences but in preventing information about the witnesses and locations being known to others. This request for confidentiality of information was made, and approved, on the basis it was the only way for information about these UFO experiences to be shared.

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

Dr. Derr, who serves as a Seismologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver, Colorado,

received a telephone call from individuals who expressed an interest in his credentials as a scientist and as a UFO investigator. At first, the individuals did not wish to give their names and addresses; however, after initial discussions, the persons agreed to conversations in the home of John and Janet Derr, with the understanding that they were representing several persons who do not wish to have their names and addresses revealed.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

Dr. and Mrs. Derr met with the two individuals and talked with them about the events which have occurred on a ranch near a small Rocky Mountain community. For this report, we have called it "Clearview, Colorado." The participants in these various experiences will be identified as follows (titles and relationships are correct, but fictitious names have been used):

The Business Partner [Jim]: The Business Partner is a middle-aged man who has professional training in physical and biological sciences, and who has served in the U.S. military services, including a position as a Public Information Officer. The man is intelligent, educated, articulate, and familiar with the techniques of military operations, including military secrecy.

The Family: Husband and Wife [John and Barbara]: The Husband is in a management position in a large corporation; his position could be threatened by any undue personal publicity. The Wife is a middle-aged woman, who is intelligent, articulate, and perceptive in regard to people's feelings and attitudes. Their teenage sons share the interest and concerns of others in the community, and the oldest son (Joe) was allowed by his mother to describe events in which he had participated.

Others: Others who have described events in which they had personal experiences are the Photographer (Roger), who photographed areas of unusual conditions; the Neighbor (Connie), a friend of the family who has known the Family and Business Partner for several years and who was willing to describe her UFO sightings; the Law Officer, who was willing to describe his sightings and his investigations of animal mutilations.

FURTHER INVESTIGATION

After the initial statements by the Business Partner and the Wife, Dr. Derr and Dr. Sprinkle continued to participate in further investigations. Dr. Sprinkle serves as Director of Counseling and Testing and Professor of Counseling Services at the University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming. He has been interested in UFO investigations for many years, and serves as APRO consultant in Psychology. Because Dr. Derr has a private airplane as well as a private automobile, he is able to travel long distances in a relatively short time. Dr. Sprinkle met with Dr. and Mrs. Derr to

discuss the preliminary investigation and to travel to the community to meet with the concerned individuals. Interviews were conducted with the Family and the Business Partner, the Neighbor, and the Law Officer. In each instance, the individuals requested that no publicity be given to their names and locations, although they were willing to discuss the events which have occurred and their own reactions to these events.

It was obvious to Dr. and Mrs. Derr and to Dr. Sprinkle that the individuals involved were under some stress as they described their experiences (nervousness in voices; concern about not talking while in public places; willingness to talk with trusted friends, but a wish not to discuss matters with persons who might disrupt the friendly relationships between individuals in the community). The "escalation hypothesis" to account for these strange events went from "tricks by neighbor boys" to "military operations" as possible UFO events. The evidence, according to the claims of these people, is massive that unusual events have occurred; however, the evidence provides little in the way of "proof" that these events have occurred. The significant effect is the emotional impact on these people; they all state that the events have altered their lives, and they believe that the unusual experiences are part of a huge operation.

The Business Partner and the Family are willing for the investigation to continue, although they are no longer living on the ranch. The events caused them such concern that the felt they were forced to abandon their hopes and dreams for a Rocky Mountain ranch life.

SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS

(For detailed information of statements, see Appendix I: *Chronology of Unusual Events*).

The UFO witnesses have described, in various conversations, a variety of UFO sightings and related experiences. These events are summarized as follows:

A few years ago, the Business Partner and the Husband and Wife pooled their financial resources to buy a ranch in the Rocky Mountain area. The ranch was to be renovated and established as a working cattle ranch. Despite the long distance from their original location, they were pleased with the size and features of the ranch, including adequate grazing area, woods and springs feeding a pond near the ranch house. They were puzzled because the ranch had been abandoned for several years, prior to their settling on the ranch. Also, they were puzzled because of the "unspoken" mystery surrounding a building which had "disappeared" more than a decade earlier. After settling on the ranch, they experienced a variety of unusual events: 1) A humming sound often was experienced in their house, although the hum could not be traced to electrical systems (which had been rewired), or to any other devices in the house.

Often the humming sound was loud and distinct; but seemed to follow a pattern of being heard during a wind storm and for an hour or so after a wind storm. 2) Noises indicated that someone was walking around outside the ranch house; at times, someone seemed to open the car door and beat upon the walls or doors of the house and then run away. 3) Creatures who looked like "Big Foot" were seen in the woods. 4) UFO sightings included nine glowing discs, which set down in the pasture near the pond; during that observation, a light flash was observed by two men, including the Business Partner; at that same moment, the Wife, who was looking out of the window, experienced a "blow to the head;" she fell unconscious to the floor and was revived within a few seconds. 5) The Photographer took a picture of a large "circle" (approximately 75 feet in diameter) in a clearing; initially, the "circle" supported no vegetation, but now the grass and weeds are beginning to grow again. 6) The Business Partner observed a landed disk in the woods, and saw two humanoids nearby. He and the oldest son in the family saw a "box" (approximately 3 feet long and 18 inches wide and 18 inches thick) which emitted strange hums and other sounds, while flashing on and off with multi-colored lights, giving an appearance of an electronic device. 7) One morning the Business Partner awoke, unable to move, and saw a tall, skinny creature wearing a helmet standing in the room by the glass door, observing him.

8) There were many instances in which the electrical power of the ranch house and buildings were cut off, causing the area to be plunged into darkness; however, other ranchers did not have electrical power blackouts during these episodes. 9) On one occasion, during an electrical black-out, the radio and stereo systems of the ranch house and bunk house emitted sounds of a voice saying "you have been allowed to remain. Do not cause us to take action which you will regret." 10) The Business Partner described his experience of seeing two small "humanoids" near a landed disk in the woods. 11) A cattle mutilation occurred around the time of increased UFO activities, and the cow was identified as belonging to the ranch. 12) A body of a young bull was found shortly after a hunting episode. The oldest son and his friend were frightened when they discovered the cow because they had seen either a bear or Big Foot in the area. The young bull, which did not belong to the ranch, was found with his head twisted back and with various organs and parts of his body removed as if by surgical operation. 13) The Business Partner described his experience of being told by a humanoid that he should not go near the "box;" a Big Foot creature was seen walking toward the box and then fell to the ground. The humanoid said to the Business Partner, "As you can see, it can be lethal." 14) The Business Partner described his experience of being in the woods where he saw a disk and two humanoids, who looked and acted as if they expected him to arrive; they spoke to him in

English and told him that they were sorry for the inconvenience and disturbances which had occurred to the people living on the ranch; they said that they expected some changes to occur in the events which were happening at the ranch. However, after the encounter and seeing the "skinny creature," the number of strange events, and the tension associated with the experiences, seemed to increase for the people living on the ranch. 15) A fire began on the front porch of the ranch house, apparently started by electrical wiring in contact with paint buckets on the porch. With the continuation of the strange experiences, and the fear and stress associated with the events, the Business Partner and the Family decided to abandon their attempts to live at the ranch. Now, the Business Partner and the Family are engaged in a small business operation; however, they are hopeful that someday they may be able to return to the ranch and to develop the property into a working ranch.

After talking with the family and friends of the oldest son, a conversation was held with a woman (Connie) who has been a friend of the family and a member of the community. She described a UFO sighting which occurred 12 or 13 years ago; she also described a later sighting, which increased her puzzlement and concern. At first, she assumed that there was some "military explanation" for the sightings; but as she learned more about the feelings and experiences of her friends and neighbors, she began to wonder if some other explanation might account for these strange events.

The Law Officer was quite explicit in requesting that this information not be publicized; he did not wish to cause any public ridicule to be brought upon his office, and he did not wish to cause any ridicule or publicity which would disrupt the harmony of the community. He said that in 1975 there had been several hundred cases of cattle mutilations reported, and he had investigated many of these cases. In 1976, there were fewer than a hundred, and in 1977, there were fewer than ten. However, he pointed out that during 1977 he was following a policy that he go out on very few calls regarding reported animal mutilations. This policy apparently was an intentional method of reducing the number of reports of cattle mutilations; however, no one knows whether it is the policy of the Sheriff, or whether it is a policy which is being followed by law officers of other counties, states, or regions. The law officer described his fear and apprehension when, out on night patrol, he saw strange lights near the road. He knew the territory well enough that, if he were to drive down the road, he would know where to find a car or truck, or a vehicle in the road. However, many of these lights seemed to be silent objects which moved "off the road" and into the air, revealing "cockpits" as they flew away. He did not claim to see any humanoids associated with these lights or objects, but has viewed enough of these events to know that they are very real and that they cannot be accounted for by the usual explanations of "airplanes," "helicopters," "hallucina-

tions," or the "planet Venus." Although he cannot verify the events described by the Business Partner and the Family, he knows that their earlier concerns were based upon the assumption that neighbor boys were playing tricks. Later, they questioned him about the "cause" of the reported mutilations. Now, the Law Officer is aware that military operations may not be an adequate explanation for the experiences and the sightings which have occurred near the area. The Law Officer does not profess to have an explanation, but he no longer scoffs at the hypothesis of extraterrestrial visitation.

CONCLUSIONS

Although it is difficult to describe and explain the claimed events, it is quite apparent to the investigators that the people with whom we have been talking are intelligent, articulate, and perceptive individuals. The intellectual and emotional doubts (and courage) which are experienced by these witnesses are apparent in their conversations and in the way they have conducted themselves during the interviews. The UFO witnesses seem to be experiencing a dilemma in which they wish to be seen as conscientious and patriotic Americans, and yet they are convinced that "U.S. military operations" is not sufficient explanation to account for the strange events which they have experienced. Their concern about the meaning of these events is enough that they wish to share information with trusted persons, in the hopes that investigators may be able to provide them with a better explanation for these unusual events.

Within the limitations of maintaining the confidentiality of witnesses' names, and addresses of witnesses, it is hoped that this report will provide APRO consultants with information about the investigation of the unusual events, and it is hoped that some suggestions can be shared on possible methods for further investigation of the area.

APPENDIX I CHRONOLOGY OF UNUSUAL EVENTS

Note: The following is a condensed transcript of the initial interview with the Business Partner (Jim) and the Wife (Barbara)--not their real names. The conversation has been somewhat condensed for clarity and easier reading, and reordered slightly to group descriptions of the sightings and unusual events at the beginning, leaving their speculations at the end. Some information from subsequent interviews with the Photographer (Roger) and one of the frequent guests (Harry) has been inserted as if said by Jim. Jim and Barbara have reviewed this entire manuscript and approved it for release in this anonymous form.

1. The House Hums

Jim: The first unusual occurrence, after we moved onto the ranch, was a strange hum. We went

out and disconnected all the electrical wires. And at first we just thought it was an unusual occurrence--we had done the wiring ourselves. But the house hummed most particularly during a wind storm and for some time afterwards. I found out later that the ranch may be undermined with a large amount of coal mines. It was one of the largest coal areas in early Colorado history. And supposedly one of the largest is on our ranch, but we've never found any traces of it at all. And I've really looked; I've walked every inch of the land. I still believe that there are some kind of pumps underground that pump the water out due to the barometric changes that raise the water level after a windstorm. It is almost invariably associated with the wind, it is quite loud and distinct; and on the occasions that we have seen UFOs, the hum usually comes along and it is quite similar. I don't believe aircraft would go up every time the wind came but the house does hum almost with every major windstorm. I'll play you a tape of the hum that we recorded. The house does this continuously during a windstorm and usually for an hour or two afterwards, depending on the length and intensity of the storm. It was humming the last time we were there--about six months ago--and I'm sure if you go there and could spend in excess of 8 hours there, you would hear it. The most practical time to hear it is about 6 or 7 o'clock in the morning--almost religiously, it is like an alarm clock. It does come on at other times during the day but it is easier to hear it at night. There is a particular area that it emanates from stronger and that is where we put the microphone to record it. If you want to make a tape of this and can do anything with it to analyze it, feel free to do it but I don't want to give up the tape.

Barbara: It sounds almost like a turbine of some kind. The tape doesn't give a clear sound of it. It would come on sometimes louder and sometimes softer. Once, the first year, at Christmas, it came on so loud we had difficulty talking and hearing each other. That is the only time it came on that loudly. It never again came on quite that loudly. My husband was the first one that heard it. We had just finished moving the last few loads in and Jim and I were still in town picking up some more things. John had gotten to the ranch first. The children were at a friend's. The minute we walked in, John said there was something wrong with the wiring and there is this terrific hum in here. And we had put all the wiring in ourselves. We worked on the house for three months before we could even move in. There was dirt all over it 'cause doors had blown open and it was just terrible. Jim had put most of the wiring in and we thought that maybe we had done something wrong so we shut off all the breakers we could find. And that didn't stop it so we went out and turned it off at the pole so there was no electricity at all coming in from the pole which is in the center of the corral.

*To be Continued in the
Next Issue*

MULTIPLE PHENOMENA ON COLORADO RANCH

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PART TWO

2. Bright, Trapezoidal-shaped Light

Jim: I moved to the ranch in October of 1975. When we first moved out there, we had cattle on the ranch and I was watching the cattle and remodeling. And on approximately October 16--we have a dam on the northwest corner of the property and the cattle were braying very heavily that night and I went out to see what was disturbing them. We have a large coon hound that was watching the property and the dog was extremely afraid of something. He was on the porch and wanted in and I grabbed a gun and went out. The cattle--range cattle do not usually come close to you; they usually give you a wide berth--were packing me so tight that I couldn't hardly get through the middle of the herd. I walked about halfway to the dam and above the dam was a large lighted object. It was orange and trapezoidal shaped, and looked much like the top of a light-house. I was going to see what it was, and I got about halfway there when I realized that the cattle were upset, the dog was upset and that whatever it was I didn't need to know! That was during the cattle mutilation days and I had a small caliber rifle and I decided to leave well enough alone. So I went back to the house and just filed it away as something interesting that happened--and tried to forget it. Shortly after that we had several cases of where the dog wouldn't go outside. The dog is not afraid of anything except, we found out later, he's afraid of bears. We have a mountain lion on the property which he aggresses very rapidly so we couldn't figure out why the dog was afraid.

3. Paralysis

Jim: Shortly after that, Barbara moved out there, I think, and John was commuting back and forth to his office and he wasn't there a good part of the time. We didn't have the heat on very adequately and it turned cold and we had electric heaters set up all over the place using the electricity to heat us. We were all in one bedroom in the back watching TV. There were three of us: Steve, a friend from Boston, and Barbara and I. Well, I found that they had a large reward for the cattle mutilators. That night I was going out tracking them. I had a large 12-gauge shotgun and I

fancied myself the great hunter and I was going to go catch the cattle mutilators. Well, I laid down on the couch and I was unable to get up; it was like paralysis--like I was drugged. It was about 8:30 at night. Now, Barbara, you tell what happened to you.

Barbara: We were watching TV, Steve and I, in the bedroom that was fixed up as a sitting room. Without any outside stimulus that I know of, my blood pressure and my heartbeat went up. I do have a high blood pressure problem. I saw spots and had difficulty breathing and thought I was having a heart attack. Steve panicked and I was trying to get Jim awake on the couch because I really thought that was what was happening. I have a perceptual problem with direction. I do not know north, south, east or west. But all of a sudden I knew exactly where I was--a feeling I have never had before and have never had since then. My thinking pattern felt different. I don't think logically. I'm a very emotional person and things that popped into my mind were just like pearls on a string and went right down to the end. I remembered things that I had completely forgotten and that frightened me, and by that time I was screaming and Jim came to from whatever his problem was--he couldn't seem to talk--and I was trying to tell him what had happened. And while I was getting it all out the only thing I wanted to do was leave. Now you have to realize that I loved that place and some part of me still does. I had no place that I wanted to go but my immediate feeling was get out, get in that car and go--anywhere. And I wasn't at the point where anyone had to hold me down, but I was having to hold myself down. I really wanted to run--anywhere. And Jim got me calmed down and Steve was in a panic. And shortly after that, John showed up. I started to tell him what happened but I couldn't talk about it. Everytime I started to, I would stutter. Jim then started telling him what happened, and when Jim started telling him, then I was able to talk about it. That was the first strange thing that happened to me--something like it had never happened to me before in my life. I have never lost control. Even drinking--I watch very carefully what I drink because I might do something wrong and someone might laugh. I was upset for days.

Jim: I'm a late night owl and I couldn't conceive of myself going to sleep at 8:30 and not being able to get up but again we had nothing to relate it to as being an eerie experience except as something strange happening and just forget it.

4. First Mutilation

Jim: Shortly after that, the oldest boy, Joe, had his friends out from Denver. They were out going through the woods--this was a Sunday morning--and they found our first mutilated cow about 200 yards from the house up over the hill. They came back in a panic. They were both 16

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Colorado

(Continued from Page Seven)

years old. It was snowing heavily and we decided the first thing to do was get into town and get the law officer. The boys were pretty upset and we took some time to talk to them cause they felt that something was following them to get them. I assumed it was a natural paranoia. We went out and I followed the route and we found huge footprints that had followed them all the way from the cow to the horse barn and the footprints were even in the soft manure inside the horse barn. They were, I guess, 18 inches; I didn't measure them but they were quite large--what I guess you would call a "big foot" footprint. Then immediately, I decided to go get the law officer. I went to the nearest phone and called the law officer and told him I wanted him out right away. He said he would be out next Wednesday. I explained the footprints--he said well he couldn't make it. But there was a bad snowstorm and he didn't show up the next Wednesday. When we went out the next day, all the footprints in the snow had been removed, even our own footprints. All of them were just gone. That was pretty upsetting and I was pretty angry with the law officer by that time. The mutilation was discovered early Sunday morning. The boys came back about 9 a.m. and the footprints were there all day Sunday, but Monday morning they were all gone. The law officer didn't show up which angered me. Wednesday, when he was supposed to show up, he still didn't show up and we still had a mutilated cow. The udders were removed surgically--the sac under the udders wasn't perforated. One eye was missing. One ear was missing. And that was it. There was no blood. All the blood had been removed. And there were no tracks in the snow around the cow. It was just there--mutilated. John states that the rectum was also removed.

Barbara: There were some funny looking markings in the snow, and we found out later they were caused by owls. We found that it took two weeks after a mutilation before any of the wild animals would touch it.

5. Second Mutilation

Jim: Fourteen days after the first mutilation, a friend of ours from California, a forest ranger, stopped to visit. We went out walking and were showing the ranch to him and other friends, including a photographer, Roger, who had been hired from Denver to take pictures of the mutilated cow. We found our second mutilation, a bull, as we were walking over the property, and the bull wasn't ours! Subsequently I went into town and called the law officer. He said he would like to talk to me, so we met at a restaurant in town. I asked him why I hadn't heard from him and why he wasn't trying to solve this. He explained to me that they knew what the mutilations were and they had known for some

time. They only report one out of four, and in this county alone, there had been over 400 reports by that time. It was being done by extraterrestrials, and they had spoken to the FBI about it. I told him that I couldn't believe it. I said that I could believe that an intelligent race could travel across space but to do some of the things they had done to the cow and bull stretched my credulities a little too far. I told him that if he couldn't solve the crime, as least don't blame it on something like that. I made an enemy of the man and I frankly didn't care because we had lost two cattle.

6. Chased by Dark Shape

Jim: The photographer asked if he could come out the next weekend and bring a friend, Harry, with him. These two and Steve, who worked for us, were standing in front of a log cabin about 10 o'clock at night when they heard a strange noise coming from the cistern which is southeast from the house and about 60 yards up the slope in the direction of the burned spot. All of a sudden, after listening to this noise, a huge, dark object pushed its way through the barbed wire and came straight at them down the hill. They all came running into the house. I went running out right away to catch whatever it was, and then I thought they were putting me on. We subsequently went back and traced the route and sure enough, there were footprints. I removed some of the hair from the fence, noticing that it just pushed its way through the barbed wire--it didn't jump the fence but just by force alone spread it and went through. There were long strands of hair--I collected the hair and got photographs of the footprints coming to the house. By then I was getting more and more upset about the activities that were building up continuously over a period of time. I sent some of the hairs down to Denver to a biogeneticist for examination. His report later was "no known species." By then I was collecting books and discovered that other people had sent in hair and nothing had ever come of it. And one law officer was encouraging me to keep my mouth shut about it because he didn't want a full-scale panic in the county. I told him I wasn't interested in panics--I was interested in finding out who was mutilating my cattle.

7. Disk Cruises by House

Barbara: It got very heavy after that. The closest you can define it is an emotional attack of some kind. Everyone went into absolute feelings of fear and depression with no stimulant. I have very tractable children; it is amazing how well they get along. But everyone was fighting with everyone. Just a lot of little paranoid incidents, one after the other.

[NEXT ISSUE: Communication, Harassment, Chases.]

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Part Three

Jim: By this time I was sleeping on the couch in front of the door with the gun and staying awake most of the night to catch whoever it was. I was beginning to suspect that somehow the real estate man was involved in it; that he was trying to make us break the contract so he could resell the land. I was lying on the couch about 2 a.m. There was a humming noise again and I raised up and looked out the window. The disk came out of the north across our property, very slowly, right in front of the front windows and went up the gully past the whole front of the house.

Barbara: I did not see the disk--what I saw was the glow from the disk--my bedroom was on the other extreme of the house and I could see a glow over a slight hump. I screamed and Jim came running to tell me what he had seen.

8. Friend's Car Chased by Disk

Jim: By then I was getting a little more upset and I went into town. Two of our best friends owned the restaurant and we sat down and we talked to them about it. They then opened up and told us about the property and some of the unusual occurrences. They told us about the people down the road who had just moved into the county and had mentioned an incident just prior to that. Prior to our moving out there, their cousin and nephew were going down the road past our property. A

disk allegedly came off of our property, (it wasn't ours at that time) and followed the car. They went down the road, turned the corner, and pulled into their house. They ran inside and while all the people in the house watched, the disk hovered over the car for approximately 45 minutes. Later, she went into town and talked about it. After hearing this, I went back to the law officer and apologized; I had to eat crow over the fact that there obviously was something going on. We subsequently patched up the friendship and I think we are so-so friends now.

Barbara: He has been very supportive in coming out to help when we have had problems.

Jim: And he moved out there by us shortly thereafter and told me that he, frankly, was quite scared but that it was his duty. He didn't feel that he could do anything but that if we needed him he would come. This made us feel a little bit better.

9. Neighbor Has Seen Lights for Years

Jim: We found out that there was a "Crazy Lady" in the county; we had heard a lot of stories of her calling the law officers with stories of lights over our property, before we moved in.

10. Apparent Harassment by Hairy Creature

Jim: During this time I felt that something was trying to scare us away. We heard a slamming noise and I went out to our car but didn't see anything. Then I saw the trunk light on the dash of the Cadillac. The trunk was locked; I opened it and saw that the pin switch had been bent over to the side. Something had opened and closed the trunk and bent it when only I had the key. I again filed that as something unusual. Something would continuously come up and beat on the sides of the house twice and run--you know, just like Halloween. Again, I decided it was the real estate man. I went down and talked to the law officer again; he requested that I not shoot anything. He was afraid that whatever it was could shoot back harder--much more undesirably than I could. So it continued progressively for some time after that beating on the walls and running. I would run out and I would see a big hairy thing running. I was tolerating it to a certain degree. One night I didn't--I went out and one was running beside the corral and I shot it. Barbara came running out and when Harry and Roger came back from town we went tracking to see if we could find what I had shot. It didn't seem to hurt it at all; there was a little flinch--I'm a good shot so I know I hit it. There was no blood, no traces, no signs. We pursued it onto the property next to us. Then I heard this most unusual sound. They said it was like a double sound--it was a whine with almost a beeping noise intermixed. The closest sound I think I could describe to it is the South American primate of some type. Some people said it sounded mechanical; it didn't to me. And we roamed around looking but didn't find anything except we seemed

to be led in a certain direction. We didn't find anything; we returned to the house and I notified the law officer that I had shot one. He gave me hell and told me I was lucky this time and he didn't want anybody killed.

11. Communications

Jim: They stopped bothering us quite so bad, I think, after that. We came home one night after shopping--the three boys were alone at home. That same sound was going on to the east and one up by the barn (west)--like calling back and forth. It was like they had an intelligent pattern of communication. It was broken syllables--it wasn't like animal sounds. It was like it was their communication. I joked and said, "Well, the least you can do is come down and help us carry the groceries." When we went in the three boys were hidden in the back bedroom, terrified. From what they said, something had been beating on the house continually that night. Well, I have a pretty good temper which I have lost only three or four times in my life. I stormed outside--I don't remember exactly what I said but most of it can't be repeated. I think I threatened that if we can't have the land, then you won't either--I'll blow the whole thing away. I meant it too--I would have destroyed it before I would have moved right then--I was mad. I went into the house, had some coffee and calmed down. Then, since our septic tank and toilet weren't working, I went outside. While outside, this voice just came out of nowhere and said four words, "Dr. Jim, we accept." I think that was the first time I was really shaken rather than just angering or disorienting me. That was all, just like FM stereo, it came from everywhere. I came in the house and was pretty upset.

12. Cars Damaged

Jim: One night "it" destroyed two cars. Barbara has a green Cadillac and a station wagon. One night when we went to leave, the transmissions on both cars were inoperable. We had to have both cars repaired. Again, I assume "they" did it; I've never had two transmissions go out like that on two good cars. I again felt that we were being driven off and I was still trying to believe it was the real estate man. Both cars required total transmissions as all the gears were shot.

13. Shiny Black Box

Barbara: I wasn't feeling well that night and I went back to lie down in the dark for awhile. I had pulled the drape part way on the window creating a triangular area. There were some patches of snow outside and from where I was lying on the bed the triangular area was lit up by a background of snow patches. I lit a cigarette and as the match went out, I realized that the triangular area wasn't lit up anymore. I scrambled down to the foot of the bed and looked out. I could see only a middle section of something that looked

like a box. It was black and very shiny. It wasn't lit but looked like it reflected light. There was a rounded shape around it--it looked like something was carrying it under his arm. It was close to the window--within two or three feet. There is a line of trees behind the house and it was between the trees and the house--the trees are about four or five feet from the house. I ran in to tell everyone what had happened. We ran outside and, as usual, no one could find anything. This has happened more often than not. By the time you tell someone or get your coat on, etc., you couldn't find anything. But we found that if we didn't turn the porch light on, we could get out quickly enough to hear something.

14. More Harassment

Jim: There were many smaller incidents that were unnerving. A friend of mine from Boston came out but I finally had to tell him to go back. He was becoming paranoid and thought that whatever it was had come to get him; he was going to go out and let them get him because he couldn't stand waiting any longer. We had several friends come out who were harassed one way or the other or terrified; a car door opened and closed when it was locked. I went in and talked to the law officer again. If he really felt we were in any danger, I would move the boys. He said that nobody he knew of had been hurt. They had lost horses, a lot of cattle and animals of one kind or another and people had been terrified. The mutilations were going on at a much heavier rate during this period--this was 1976--the mutilations were occurring weekly.

15. Neighbor Family Terrified, Move Away

Jim: About that time, the school bus driver, who was watching a large ranch for the owners and had some cattle of his own, moved back to Nebraska after being terrified. His son's yearling was mutilated and the boy evidently saw something that terrified him.

Barbara: His mother came over and asked me if we had seen anything like her son had seen because his father hadn't believed him. He had seen something very large and was really scared. I didn't want to discuss it because of the children but said that we had had some strange occurrences.

16. Plane Crashes

Jim: Also, during that period, two airline pilots and the son of one of them came out and wanted to put a landing strip on our land in exchange for my use of their plane. I agreed. About three weeks later, one of them and two others were killed in a crash nearby in clear weather. The plane was found in the daytime, but I don't know if it happened in the day or at night. Others who have inquired deeply into the mutilations, I understand, have disappeared, including the editor of a

magazine who was never seen again. I also understand that two National Guard interceptors were up close to here and went down while in pursuit of a UFO at night. All of this was a little unnerving so I decided I was going to stop my own inquiry. I was going to just quietly mind my own business.

17. Nine Disks Land in Front of House

Jim: The forest ranger, David, from California, came again to visit. It was late at night, about 2 a.m. Almost all of these incidents have happened at night; we have never seen anything during the daytime. Peggy and Harry were also visiting. Nine disks landed in the front yard and I got a very clear view of them. They matched exactly one of the pictures I had seen in a book I have. Harry and Barbara were at the window and David was asleep in the bedroom. I called for David and I started out the front door. I was walking toward them as Barbara and Harry watched from the window.

Barbara: Harry and I were watching from the window, both from the same window. What I can't figure out is that Jim and I saw such a large array of them but Harry saw large, dark football shapes as if they were blocking part of the view. We were trying to see what would happen in the whole area--and watching Jim walk out--which I didn't want him to do. I have no awareness of what happened as far as what anyone else saw from that point on. My face was close to the glass and something hit me in the forehead--a forceful impact like something hit me. I was knocked back off the couch and fell to the floor. Harry saw light out of the corner of his eyes, and Jim said he saw a flash of light. I didn't see it.

Jim: Harry yelled to me and I said I saw it. Harry said, "It's Barbara, it's Barbara." And I went running back to the house and found her in the middle of the floor.

Barbara: The next thing I remember after looking out and seeing them was Jim putting a flashlight in my eyes to see if I had a concussion.

Jim: While I was working over Barbara on the floor, they disappeared. I thought about it subsequently and wondered why they didn't do it to me since I was the one walking toward them. But then I began to understand that they did the most practical thing that could be done to get me back inside and get both people away from the window. And I think I really began to respect how clever they were. Then I began to suspect that maybe the government was doing it to us. Except that there were a lot of unusual things. For instance David had been paralyzed during the incident--he could hear us calling but couldn't get up until it was over. But then he went out walking with me and what we call ultrasonics, the extremely high-pitched sounds, were going on out there and continued all night. David was sick then for three days. The sound would sometimes give us headaches but not all of us at once--to different individuals at different times.

*To be Continued in the
Next Issue*

MULTIPLE PHENOMENA ON COLORADO RANCH

Report on the Investigation of UFO Experiences
on a Rocky Mountain Ranch

By

John S. Derr, Ph. D.

APRO Consultant in Seismology

and

R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph. D.

APRO Consultant in Psychology

PART FOUR

18. Box With Blinking Lights

Jim: I went back to the law officer and had a talk with him and he started telling me about some of the incidents that had happened again and about how he had pictures. He said they have a box and he had seen it on occasion. He had seen blinking lights, where there shouldn't be any, in trees, and such. He said he was out on a patrol one night and he saw, in a group of trees, this box that was blinking. He said he didn't want to go in alone so he raced back to town and picked up another law officer to go with him. When he got back, the trees were gone, the box was gone, everything was gone. He thought they had gone into the ground; he had seen things go into the ground before. He is reasonably convinced that they just go into the ground; I've never seen that happen.

19. Black Box Makes Angry Sounds

Jim: There is one piece of what you might call physical evidence on the ranch; there is a big burned spot on the top of the hill approximately 35 feet across where nothing would grow the first year--it's beginning to grow in a little now. On a compulsion, the older boy, Joe, and I drove up there one night and parked at the circle. In the trees, a bright yellow light, not bright I guess, a little dim but yellow--looked like an old car headlight, just shined on the car--the back was toward the trees. We got out and walked over and there was a box on the ground. I told Joe to stay back about 10 feet. It was making a buzzing sound just like zzzzzz and there was light like inside it but not on it. Hard to describe. It was night but there was a full moon and as I walked to about four feet from it, it changed its tone entirely. It sounded like a bunch of angry bees. The sound went up so I back away and I told Joe to go back to the car and watch me as I walked up to the box. We then walked back to the car and I told Joe that whatever happens, do not leave the car. Then I walked back and the box was gone. Following that is the part that Barbara prefers that I leave out.

Barbara: Absolutely!

Investigator: Are you leaving it out because it's personally embarrassing or because it's terrifying.

Jim: Too incredulous, that's the part that is too

kooky, frankly. And she requested that I didn't. And I don't think that close encounters of the third kind are really interesting to anyone except to whom they happen.

Barbara: If something should happen, something should go wrong and our names should be connected with this, I could face it but I could not face this other situation. And I'm too psychologically upset--almost destroyed--by this whole thing anyway and I'm trying very hard to keep from feeling that I have experienced something that I didn't experience--or did I experience it and can't remember, or what.

(At this point, Barbara is shaking so badly she can hardly light her cigarette. She has been practically chain smoking since the beginning of the narrative.)

20. Large Bird, Dog Notes Strange Scent

Jim: There were quite a number of other things. I think they fit pretty much into a pattern. One afternoon I went out walking in the woods and I saw a bird that was about three feet tall. I got one clear side of it--it was brown and had three feather-like appendages on its head. We have a whole set of animal books and I went through them trying to track it down. I didn't find that any such animal existed on earth as I knew it. I tried to follow it and it went around those rolling hills and was gone. I came back to the house, and as I was coming through the fence, there was a slight snowstorm. We have this huge coon hound, and as I approached the fence, the kids saw me coming (they could just barely see me in the snow). The dog saw me and came running, and when he got to the fence, he stopped and started barking and growling when he got close to me. When I passed, he picked up some kind of an odor and wasn't letting me through the fence. That scared the kids and they went running into the house, thinking that something was coming--they could just see the shape on the hill. The dog was still not letting me through the fence even though I was talking to him. It took three or four minutes of hard talking before my own dog let me through the fence. And I had been crawling all around where this unusual bird-like thing was. And I really thought about what it could be or how it could be, and I've come up with no data at all, except that it was a very unusual animal. And then it was just gone. And I don't hallucinate--you know; I mentioned that I took acid--but I've never had a conscious hallucination in my life, that I'm aware of. And I'm sure that if I had, it would be over more than birds at the ranch, because I never had them off the ranch.

21. Buzzing Sound Comes into House

Jim: One night very late, I was lying on my couch--it was a particularly black night--no moonlight, no stars--and I told Barbara that there was not much sense in my staying awake cause I couldn't see anything anyhow. I used to wait for

the chickens to crow to go to sleep. It really messed up my schedule, cause I felt that somehow I had a duty to protect everybody. I slept with a shotgun all night. When I lay down on the couch there was just enough light remaining to see a little. I looked up, and right at the window--there was no place to stand as it was a high window--was the outlined shape of a man looking at me. He had on some tight-fitting apparel--I couldn't see any colors--just the black outline. I got up and I went to Barbara's bedroom.

Barbara: He rapped on the door. Most of what I have told you is what happened to me. This is the other thing that happened to me and me alone. I had the same thing: the blood pressure, the heart beat, the difficult breathing. I was sitting straight up in bed when Jim rapped on the door. I was trying to light a cigarette and I dropped the match on the bed in my state of terror. I opened the door and he came in and said that he had seen something strange out in front and wondered if I was alright. I told him I was having the same kind of symptoms and that I was very concerned that I was developing a heart problem. But I had gone in and had tests and they said no; I was very tense but nothing else was wrong.

Jim: She was very upset so I sat down on the bed and asked if there was anything that I could get her. I took her pulse and sat and talked to her; because when we have had really close contact at the house, it is hard to describe the feeling. People get naturally upset; they don't see anything, but as part of the pattern, I figured she would be upset when I went to the bedroom--and she was. I had put a big black chair in front of the front door. We were sitting in there just talking and the front door opened and it hit the chair with a bang. And I jumped up and went running in the front room and the door was closed again. I went back in the bedroom and I sat down on the bed and I was telling her that it was just the wind or something. The next thing was this voice that came inside of my head just like a loudspeaker. It said, "We don't need to open your door to come into your home." I don't remember if that was the exact wording. And I told Barbara what I had just heard and she looked at me in a funny way.

Barbara: I thought he was losing it--I'll be honest--he knows I thought it.

Jim: And then a noise started in the front room like a buzzing noise like bees.

Barbara: It came all the way through the house to right outside my bedroom door. This I heard too.

Jim: She was holding on to my arm until she gave me black and blue spots and I frankly didn't want to get up and go into the kitchen to see what it was--I was glad she was holding on to me. And the sound just went away then--nothing more. I was sure that something was going to come into the bedroom but it didn't.

22. Huge, Cone-shaped UFO

Barbara: We were going into town very early one morning just after daybreak and just at a sharp bend in the road. . . I think Charlie was the first one that saw it. He said, "Look at that big thing over there." I looked and Harry looked and it was cone-shaped. And I couldn't tell you the size because I don't have the ability to judge size. I didn't think of what it could be. I thought--weather balloon, whatever, I didn't really pay any attention. I told Jim about it. He had gotten some books at that time. He had one that had a picture of a cone-shaped one and that's exactly what it looked like.

Jim: From the description I got from all three of them, it was immense; it was hundreds of feet, at least, across. It was six times the apparent size of a farmhouse $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away, you know, in comparative sizes. It was a huge ship.

23. Hairy Creature Mimicks Barbara

Barbara: I had only one other sighting of the animal that they described to you. I assume from what I saw later that what I saw carrying the box was the animal--only because it looked like that would be what it was--that is an assumption. We have had no less than 20 people see "Big Foot" at the ranch. Jim stepped out onto the porch without turning the porchlight on. I was in the dining room and he rapped on the window several times without turning around and I saw him and I went to the door and opened it and came out behind him. He led me into the porch and said, "If you want to see one, I can show you where it is." And he started lining up the trees. The living room light was not on but the dining room one was casting sort of an oblique light. I leaned forward to look out and he said, "Right between those two trees, look very closely. "I do not have 20-20 vision with my glasses on but I could see it. It was hunched over, and as I leaned out to look at it like this, using my hand to shade my eyes, it leaned out and went exactly like that to me. It was large and it was stooped down and it did lean down and go just exactly like I did.

Jim: The only night that we saw a large number of them was the night we picked up the kids at school. We were going back to the ranch. Do you remember when that meteorite came down over Colorado--some time last year. We got a very clear view of that--it was right ahead of us on the road. It exploded and came down right in front of us. It looked to me like it hit the ranch. We got to the ranch and talked about it and heard about it on TV--I would swear it was magnesium--it flared that brightly.

24. You Can Arouse Their Curiosity: Voice from the Stereo

Jim: We have some friends from Texas who got a pretty big "jolt" at the ranch!

Barbara: They have had some very serious problems develop because they were there when a

very bad thing happened.

Jim: Trust me to tell what I want to tell, will you?

Barbara: Alright.

Jim: We have been guaranteed confidentiality--the man is a professional. I know how to upset "them", and a lot of the things that scare Barbara involve their taking punitive action against us. I found that when I had guests that I wanted to see something, I could get a stack of wires and go out and get very busy with them, like I was putting something up. We would go back to the house and watch, and within a short period of time, they would be up there checking out what we did, and everyone could get a view of them. I did it several times, as sort of half a joke. Dan, the friend from Texas, was giving the old "you're not giving me that kind of junk, are you?" Electronics is his field, and he is a computer expert with a large company, and he is impressed with his own self-importance. Well, I went up deliberately to stir them up. I found that certain elements very much upset them--silver being the main element. I have a large collection of Indian silver jewelry and I discovered inadvertently that they shied away from silver. So I went up to the circle, the burned spot I spoke about, and stuck silver bracelets in the ground along with the wires, like I was really putting something intense up. I came back to the house and we were all sitting playing Risk. I didn't know what would transpire but I hoped I would upset them. About two in the morning, the lights went out in the house, right on schedule. This voice came out of nowhere again and it wasn't FM; it was obviously intended to be terrifying and sounded like a computerized voice--very mechanical-sounding. It was coming out of every radio and TV speaker in the house. We were sitting right in front of a console stereo, and the voice came out of it, and I can almost recite the words exactly. They are burned into my memory. "Attention, we have allowed you to remain. We have interfered with your lives very little. Do not cause us to take action which you will regret. Your friends will be instructed to remain silent concerning us."

Barbara: That's very close.

Jim: That's just about the words. Well, Dan was extremely thrilled when the lights came back on, cause he said, "Now, I'm in my field." He asked if he could take apart our TV set and stereo.

Barbara: He was quite good electronically; he guaranteed that anything he took apart, he could get back together again.

Jim: And he started to dismantle it. He went through the whole unit and he said that he couldn't figure it out, but that his technicians in Texas, when he got back, would. He checked and the stereo was off; the phonograph was on when the lights went off but the radio receiver part was off; it was on phono. We found out that the type of transmitter it would take, from even close range, to cause a signal of that intensity to go through the house would be beyond our means to ever put up.

Barbara: But Dan was still sure that it was a hoax. His wife and children were all upset and crying, and Dan took his daughter off into another room and told her that they needed to find out if it was a trick or not. He told her to go back out and tell us she was frightened and wanted to leave immediately. He thought that if she acted upset enough and if we were playing a trick on them; rather than ruin the whole vacation, we would admit it. I got very upset and said that they couldn't start back to Texas in the middle of the night and I would call a friend in town to see if they could stay there. Then Dan talked to his daughter and they all calmed down and they stayed. And he just told us this weekend that he knew if it was going to ruin the whole vacation, and if it had been a trick, we would have admitted it to him. He had decided, to save his own sanity, that it was somebody else with a massive capacity pulling a hoax on us, and that we were gullible enough to go for it.

Barbara: Needless to say, Dan never found the trick. He went over the whole house; he even dumped the laundry bags. He went over everything. I was glad the house was clean.

25. Don't Trust Senses Unless Two or More See

Barbara: Really, we didn't mention the fact that, often, when the wall pounding was going on or when there would be a larger number of disks or the animal would be around more; quite often all the electricity would go off. I absolutely freaked out if anybody wanted to go out and check the breaker on the corral until after things had calmed down. We would check house breakers and eventually, go out to the corral and the breakers would be on out there. We developed a system of nobody going by themselves and nobody making a big issue out of something that at least two people didn't see or hear. Because it was too easy to get paranoid. Once I went out the back door and heard this horrible sound in the corral and screamed and freaked out and came running in. Everybody went out with flashlights and it was a cow that had gotten trapped in the corral. It's very easy to get into that and I could see my children doing it. Everything strange that happened--a sudden windstorm that came up, a sudden fog that would roll in--would be the space creature. It was becoming an absolutely paranoid thing--it was very frightening.

Jim: I think we suffered as heavy on the mutilations as anyone I had heard of. We lost six cattle in two years. That is a pretty heavy amount of loss. In light of the fact that I was watching that land so carefully, I was determined to catch whoever it was. The reward was so high--I wouldn't have minded it at all. It now comes close to half a million dollars. The paranoia had gone down now--two years ago in the county, you didn't dare stop on the side of the road. Those people were carrying high-powered weapons and they would shoot anything that moved. It was really

tense, and I can see the law officer's point of view, but I don't think you solve it by sweeping it under the rug when it is continuing to go on. The mutilations haven't gone down at all. Remember when the big mutilation thing was going on--well, they haven't gone down at all.

Investigator: When you have a problem you don't know how to deal with, sweeping it under the rug isn't good, but what do you do instead?

Barbara: I wish someone would come up with a very neat package to answer that.

26. CE III

Jim: Will you remove me from my promise?

Barbara: Oh, Jim!

Jim: Trust me.

Barbara: Alright.

Jim: Because I want to get it out of my mind too and then forget it.

Barbara: Alright, go ahead.

(NEXT ISSUE; *The Terror Grows*)

Multiple Phenomena on a Rocky Mountain Ranch

By John S. Derr, Ph.D.

and

R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D.

(Continued)

Jim: Because it's necessary to develop what bothers me. Well, the night that we saw the box, I stopped at the top of the hill and looked down into the trees and there was a light in the trees. I told Joe to go on to the house, and I walked down into the trees, and I think that's the closest I ever came to being afraid. I didn't feel fear, in that sense, but my legs wouldn't move. I had to force my legs to take me down cause I didn't know what I would see. I walked down to the light and there were two individuals waiting for me in the light. The light didn't come from anywhere--I can't describe it--it was just light. They obviously weren't nervous and as soon as I walked up, they spoke to me by name and told me. . . . I can quote that exactly, "How nice of you to come." It was just as though I had been expected. Down below, possibly 50 to 60 feet from us, was a disk on the ground. It was lightly lit, just light enough to see; I can describe it exactly. I've burned that in my memory. I was up there maybe five minutes; they apologized for the inconveniences they had caused us, told us that a more equitable arrangement would be worked out between us, whatever that means. I wanted to ask a lot of questions but found that I didn't--you know, like, where are you from? I didn't ask any of that. There are several things they asked me not to repeat that have no significant meaning at all--they are unrelated to anything. I think maybe they were just checking to see if I would keep my mouth shut. I told them that if they were mutilating cattle, it was very foolish to do so and draw that much attention to themselves. I complained about the damage to the cars; they never admitted doing any of it. One thing they did do was that they mentioned the box and that I did the right thing backing away from it--it was what I called an implied threat. They nodded, and approximately 20 to 30 feet away, "Big Foot" as I called him, got up and walked toward the box. The box changed tone and he dropped. They said, "As you can see, they are quite lethal." They said that they would come back and talk again. There were no goodbyes; I just somehow felt it was time to go. They did tell me that my memory wouldn't be tampered with. I think that is about it. I didn't ask any of the questions that I had figured I would want to ask. Somehow, they seem juvenile. And I had no doubts that these were two men--they were men--I can describe them almost exactly. I had seen them before; this is the thing I hadn't

(See Ranch - Page Six)