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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	ENCLOSURE COVER SHEET	
	ANIMAL /	
SUBJECT	CATTLE MUTILATION	

CROSS-REFERENCES

32	PAGES	REVIEWED	FOR	THIS	RELEASE	
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THIS IS ENCLOSURE ____ OF ___ ENCLOSURES

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September 10, 1976

Honorable Carl T. Curtis United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Curtis:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 4th, with enclosure, concerning the recent maining and killing of cattle in several Nebraska communities. ·

On August 23rd I answered your letter of August 21st and indicated I was having a representative of our Quaha Office contact Mr. George Mitchcock of Stuart, Webraska, to determine whether the facts constituted a possible violation of law within the investigative jurisdiction of the PRI.

Thave just received a communication from o Chaha Office which sets forth the results of interviews With Mr. Mitchcock and Charles Fox, Sheriff of Bolt County, hebraskasu Gased on the information farmished by these individuals, it appears that no Federal law within the investigative judisdiction of the PNI has been violated, incomed as there is no indication of interstate transportation of the pained or killed animals. I am informed that this matter is currently under investigation by the Mebraska State Petrol and law enforgement officers in the counties involved, : 0x

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley Director :

Omaha (62-3410) + Enclosures (2)

Regraires : 2-5-74. Congressional Services Office - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Bureau has had prior cordial correspondence with Emi_ Curtis (R-Neb.) An constituent matters. - JWS:nlm (6)

O PE BOOK STATE STATES OF THE

United States Senate 10

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20810

September 4, 1974

Dear Mr. Kelley:

This will refer to my previous letter of August 21 to you regarding the series of incidents stretching from Oklahoma to Nebraska in which cattle have been dismembered in some kind of strange witchcraft cult.

Enclosed is a newspaper article which appeared in the Hastings, Nebraska, Daily Tribune concerning these weird events. Articles similar to this one have appeared in many of the Nebraska newspapers. I thought you would want to see this article in order to substantiate the claims which have been made.

I am wondering if your good offices have instigated an investigation into this situation either in Nebraska or any of the other states experiencing similar acts of mutilation to livestock. I will appreciate hearing from you.

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,

CARL T. CURTIS, USS

Encl.

CTC: fjp

Mr. Clarence M. Kelley Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Department of Justice Washington, D. C.

Assac Dir. ... Dep.-A.D.-Adm...

Intell ... Laboratory Plan. & Eval. Spec. Inv.

Training .

Legal Coun.

Telephone Rm. .

Director Sec'y _ ..

Dep.-A.D.-Inv._ Asst. Dir.:



sightings and mutilations related?

By the Associated Mutilated livestock. helicopters are unidentified flying objects have residents wondering and worrying in

some areas of Nebraska. "Doors and locked and guss are loaded" In rural Oakland, according to one

resident.

A quarterborse was found mutilated Sunday three miles southeast of Norfolk on the Warren Papstein farm. PIFTH KILLED

This was the fifth animal killed and mutilated in Medison County under anysterious circumstances. Four head of cattle have been found with their see ergans cut out, in addition one steer ha one eye, one ear, its nose, mouth and gue chopped eff.

The killings have been reported all over the state. Similar cases have been reported in Texas, lows and other. Midwestern states. Each case involves the removal of the animal's sex organs.

In Antelope County, Omer Holfman, Four miles west of Clearwater, reported five bend of cattle have been multilated on

Law enforcement efficials are pumbe the killings. Madison County Sheriff larvin Adams says that the ones he has investigated have been done by people

probably a cult of some kind.
But Robert Mavis of Wakefield, investigator for the criminal division of the State Patrol, said, "There are a lot of trains of thought. There Mave been unerous discoveries of dead animals in Kadison and Kaox counties and there are indications that predators got several of them. We are not convinced it in a person who is doing this. We haven't even

and tracks in most cases. 4.4.5. In Caster County, where there have b Sear times as many killings as in Medison County, Sheriff Larry Riggeshottoni says he frankly doesn't know what is doing the killings. At first he blamed it on predators, Harnen said that there h

Game and Parks Commission, city police, mayors and township officials from all of the towns in the county. OTHER HAPPENINGS

Cattle killings aren't the only strange happenings in northeast Nebraska. There have been numerous reports of unidentified flying objects in both Asialope and Knox counties.

Sheriff Herbert Thompson of Knox County said that it is possible the unidentified flying objects and lights are connected with the livestock killings, but there is nothing definite to connect them.

Tue people were gathered on a farm near Clearwater Aug. 21. All of them said they saw a strange light in the sky.

they saw a strange light in the sky.

One of the men at the gathering described the incident. "Two of the boys were out in the field to move equipment. They didn't get it all moved. They spotted a light and it came right down at them. It scared the devil out of them.. They came right up to the house."

At the house they watched the light for hour hours.

Later on several gathered in town to

watch. Harold Kester still the object Mooked as if it had a little bluish-groun light on each side with a glow surrounding it. It was behind a true and moved from one side of the true to the other. We couldn't tell how close it was or how fast it was moving."

ANOTHER LIGHT
About midbight the same night, Mile
Eruger reported seeing another light.

He said, "I walked outside to got some calves in shd saw a hig ball of red fine. It raised off the gound and then went out. Since it was dark, I couldn't tell how for dway it was or how high it minest" ... f. ... About a month ago blace were reports of

About a month ago Mane wate reports of UPOs in Knox County, Last week the big stir in the county was unauthorized helicopters.

Theriff Thompson said. We don't know it they are helicopters or stronge lights for the meet part. There were several reported over the weekend. The people who reported them called them stronge lights. Previously we had two positive identifications of helicopters.

Anteloge County Sheriff Warnes Street

and the he decer? Shall helicophers ar their in with the hillings, although helicopters have been about ?

He and that burded sight he was record but many persons in the arts who saw an inidentified light. It had a below people specked. The checked-II and with the highway pairs, and brind get it, was a printing, and drive the fact.





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Airtel

1-Office, 7133 1-Mr. Clark

1/27/75

To: SAC, Minneapolis (62-0-14743)

From: Director, FBI 63-0 - 3565

MUTILATIONS OF ANIMALS MINNESOTA, NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA RESEARCH MATTER

Reference Minneapolis airtel dated January 21, 1975.

The circumstances set forth in referenced airtel were discussed with Dr. Don Wilson, Chief, Mammalogy Section, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vashington, D. C.

Dr. Wilson said that the circumstances set forth in referenced airtel are consistent with natural phenomena. According to Dr. Wilson, when small mammals such as foxes and opposums feed on the carcasses of large mammals such as cattle that have not decayed they first feed on soft tissues such as the nose, lips, udders and genital areas. He said that it has been frequently observed that the genital area, is most often the first soft tissue to be attacked.

Dr. Wilson had no information concerning the specific appearance of tissue bitten by foxes.

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FELETTYPE UNDT

Official says mutiliations

formed for a rash of livestock monlations that have plagued Sooria Deunta and have recently been reported in North Dakota. says an official of the North Dateta Crisie Bureau

Chief Azent Richard Hilde said his office had been getting scattered reports recently of livestick mutilations across North Dakott which were sim-That to a racin of mulilation reports from South Dakota earlier

this mocia.

"At this point we in the Crime उद्याच्या (स्थे 'अर अर्थाच्यक व्यंख्य व

BISHARCK, N.D. (AP) — An matural causes and that animals explanation may have been have eaten the parts of the livestock after they are dead," Hilde said.

> Recently, the bureau has received reports of livestock mutilations in several North Dakota counties, he said. Two cows and a bull were reported as killed in McHenry County, four cattle were found dead with parts of their bodies missing in Dickey County and a cow was found in a similar condition in Foster County, he said. In addition, there was a horse reported killed Morday in Michaels County,

which was also reported as being mutilated, he added.

"We had been getting these reports and they had called it they could never find vehicle tracks."

In most cases there was also no blood reportedly found, he said. However, parts of the dead animals, including sexual organs, ears, lips and udders were found missing on the animals leading the assumption the mutilations might have been the work of humans, he said.

"I'm completely satisfied at

this point that we do not have a maniac or cult on the loose," Hilde said.

He noted that law enforcement mutilation," he said. "Farmers officials in both states had been could never find footprints and hindered in their investigations because the bodies of the dead. livestock were usually found days after they had died "in various stages of being decomposed." The horse found dead in McIntosh County was relatively "fresh" and so a thorough autopay could be performed, be said.

Dr. Ivan Berg, a veterinarian with the Veterinary Service Department at North Daketa State

may have been found

University, performed an aucomy on the torse, Hilde sank The descript lineings showed the begin and their of dysectory, Erice sched.

The emphasized that foxes and other stull arimals may have been restonsible for the mutilations, out had not killed the animals. He noted that such small amenais were not able to kill Eventuris the size of a horse or hall, has would eat parts of the accord only after they were dend

Exice time acted that as enideser d surgical incisions was formed on the horse, although it had parts of the body missing.

What we had been told about the mutilations was that the Culwas so clean it looked like a surgical cut," té said. However. he added that the bureau news "believes the cuts were made by the side teeth of animals, probably foxes."

He said the dead animals in North Dakota had been found in scattered locations, and the Bureau believes they died of satural causes and then small enimals such as foxes had ealen the soft parts of the animals.

Hilde said veterinarians had explained that foxes have sharp

side teeth, which he described as "shearing teeth like science." Because the hide of horses and cattle is tough, the small animals, such as lozes, would eat the solter parts of the animals such as the lips and udders, he said.

"He (the enimal) is esting with the side of his mouth with shearing teeth that make it look like a surgical cut," Hilde said.

The Crime Bureau ageni also noted that small animals - bke foxes-would leave no tracks in rough areas and pastures. Since " they would not leave tracks that would provide the explanation as

to why no human footorists or vehicle tracks were found at the scene of the livestock mutilations, he added.

In addition, if the animals had been dead for several days there would be little, if any blood, since it would have congulated. he said.

Hilde said be contacted the South Dakots Crime Bureau Tuesday "and they're satisfied the deaths were ratural." He also noted that a distart in South Dakota had provided an explanation similar to the one being cited by the North Dakota' Crime Bureau

63-0-35659 DISCOGNES

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jurisdiction as a result of this meeting and expressed sincere appreciation for the visit from this office. It is believed that this meeting was extremely beneficial, both to the representatives of the "Denver Post" and to this office since it gave me a good reason not only to meet them personally but to discuss matters of mutual interest.

At the conclusion of this meeting an invitation was extended to these individuals to visit the Denver FBI Office at any time, which they readily accepted.

The above is being submitted for the information of the Bureau since it appears there will continue to be press interest in Senator HASKELL's request that the FBI enter the livestock mutilation case.

Cattle Deaths and the FBI

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If the FBI will not enter the investigation of rhysterious livestock deaths in Colorado and some adjacent states then Sen. Floyd Hasker, p-Colo., should take the matter to Congress or resolution.

The incidents are too widespread—and potentially too dangerous to public order—to ignore. Narrow interpretations of what the FBI's role is vis-a-vis state authority are not adequate to the need.

There is already federal involvement. Consider this: Because of the gun-happy frame of mind developing in eastern Colorado (where most of the incidents have been occurring), the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has had to vancel a helicopter inventory of its lands in aix bounties. BLM officials are simply affaid their helicopters might be shot down by ranchers adopthers frightened by cattle deaths.

If that isn't a reason for federal involvement, we don't know what is. And the question of which lederal agency investigates isn't as important as the need to bring a focus on the incidents that is broader than the jurisdiction of one state.

Kitings and mutilations of livestock have been occurring in Wyoming. Nebraska, Kansas and elsewhere—not just in Colorado. If there is a pattern to the incidents it would seem that the broadest possible study of them is indicated.

in any case, Senator Haskell should keep the pressure on the FBI. It has manpower and a wide range of investigatory tools. And it the FBI resists successfully, the senator should go to Congress to get the sort of attention these alarming indidents deserve.

<u> </u>
24 The Denver Post Denver, Colorado
Dote: '9/3/75 Edition: Home Edition Author: Editor:Charles R. Buxton Title: "Cattle Deaths And The FBI"
Character: er Classification: Submitting Office: Denver Being Investigated

(indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Memoràndum

: Mr. Adams

Giliscellaneous · Non-Subversive SUBJECT MUTILATION OF LIVESTOCK.

STATE OF COLORADO

INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: September 12, 1975

1 - Mr. Adams

1 - Mr. Gallagher

1 - Mr. O'Connell

1 - Mr. Cooke

1 - Mr. Sheer

1 - Mr. Bowers

In response to a telephone call from Honorable Floyd K. / Haskell, United States Senator from Colorado, to the Director 9/11/75, T contacted Senator Haskell telephonically today, 9/12/75.

Senator Haskell indicated his concern for a situation occurring in the western states where cattle have been discovered mutilated. The bizarre mutilations involve loss of left ear, left eye, sex organ, and the blood drained from the carcass with no traces of blood left on the ground and no footprints.

Senator Haskell repeated his request that the FBI enter the investigation. The provisions of the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Cattle Statute, Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 2311, were explained to him. It was pointed out that there must be an interstate transportation. Senator Haskell said that he had no information that an interstate transportation had occurred in any of these cases. He said he felt this was too big for the local authorities, and the FBI with its resources could come to a solution. He said the ranchers are getting considerably worried out there and he felt if the FBI would just enter the investigation it would have a deterrent effect. Our jurisdiction was explained to Senator Haskell and he said that he understood our statutory limitations and inquired as to whether a resolution would give us the necessary investigative jurisdiction REC-50 (- 2 - 1) -

Senator Haskell was advised that it probably would take a law, whereupon he asked if there were anyone that he could discuss this matter with. He was referred to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice.

Senator Haskell thanked me for calling him and stated he understood but he wished there was something we could do.

RJG:ige 7 0 0 CT 1 0 1975 CONTINUED - OVER

3526-

EKCLOSUKE

Memorandum to Mr. Adams
RE: MUTILATION OF LIVESTOCK
STATE OF COLORADO

Senator Haskell recontacted me this afternoon and said that he had received a call from Dane Edwards, editor of the paper in Brush, Colorado, who furnished information that U. S. Army helicopters had been seen in the vicinity of where some of the cattle were mutilated and that he, Edwards, had been threatened but Senator Haskell did not know what sort of threats Edwards had received or by whom.

He was advised that this information would be furnished to our Denver Office and that Denver would closely follow the situation. Senator Haskell expressed his appreciation.

Inasmuch as Senator Haskell stated he might call the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, John Keeney, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, was telephonically advised of my contact with Senator Haskell and he was furnished background information concerning this situation.

The above information was also furnished to SA Jim Bristol, Denver Office. Bristol was instructed to have Mr. Edwards contacted concerning the alleged threats that he has received.

ACTION:

For information.

September 12, Bonorable Floyd K. Easkell United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510 Dear Senator Haskell: Your letter of August 29th to Special Agent in Charge Theodore P. Rosach has been forwarded to my office and I deeply appreciate the sincere concern expressed by you and your constituents. The information set forth in your letter regarding the mutilation of cattle in Colorado and several other Western states and the reported use of an unidentified belicopter by those individuals responsible has been carefully reviewed. I regret to inform you that these actions do not constitute a Violation of Federal lay coming within the FFI's investigative jurisdiction. I am sorry that I cannot give you a more favorable response and I hope the investigation currently being conducted by local law enforcement agencies regarding this. matter will soon be successfully concluded. Sincerely yours, L M. Kaley Clarence M. Kelley Director Denver (1-62-0) , Personal Attention SAC: Reurairtel 8/29/V5 and urcal 9/9/75. Mr. Gallagher - Enclosures (2)-betacket Attention Mr. Sheer 1 - Mr. Herington - Enclosures (3) 18 Office of Congressional Affairs - Enclosures NOTE: Response goordinated with Legal Counsel and Investigative Divisions.

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DN 62-0

On this date I personally contacted United States Attorney JAMES L. TREECE, District of Colorado, discussed Senator's HASKELL's letter with him, and he concurred with my comments to Senator HASKELL.

In connection with furnishing me this letter, Senator HASKELL, in advance, had released a statement to the press indicating that he was asking the FBI to enter the investigation. Several inquiries have been received and I have indicated to the news media that the Senator's letter was being referred to FBI Headquarters in Washington and that his request would be resolved. Upon being pressed I indicated that I, personally, knew of no legislation specifically covering the mutilation of livestock which would enable the FBI to enter such an investigation.

The above is being furnished to the Bureau for information and for an official reply to Senator HASKELL's request. Senator HASKELL indicated that he is returning to Washington, D.C. in connection with the reconvening of the Senate session.

FLOYD K. HASKELL

Alniled Slales Senale

WASHINGTON, D.C. 2009 August 29, 1975

Theodore P. Rosack Special Agent In Charge Denver Federal Building 1961 Stout Street Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Mr. Rosack:

For several months my office has been receiving reports of cattle mutilations throughout Colorado and other western states. At least 130 cases in Colorado alone have been reported to local officials and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI); the CBI has verified that the incidents have occured for the last two years in nine states.

The ranchers and rural residents of Colorado are concerned and frightened by these incidents. The bizarre mutilations are frightening in themselves: in virtually all the cases, the left ear, left eye, rectum and sex organ of each animal has been cut away and the blood drained from the carcass, but with no traces of blood left on the ground and no footprints.

In Colorado's Morgan County area, there has also been reports that a helicopter was used by those who mutilated the carcasses of the cattle, and several persons have reported being chased by a similar helicopter.

Because I am gravely concerned by this situation, I am asking that the Federal Bureau of Investigation enter the case. Although the CBI has been investigating the incidents, and local officials also have been involved, the lack of a central unified direction has frustrated the investigation. It seems to have progressed little, except for the recognition at long last that the incidents must be taken seriously.

Now it appears that ranchers are arming themselves to protect their livestock, as well as their families and themselves, because they are frustrated by the unsuccessful investigation. Clearly something must be done before someone gets hurt.

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The fact that allegations have been made of the loss of livestock in 21 states under similar circumstances strongly suggests the very real possibility that the crossing of state lines is involved and, this alone, I feel, should justify the participation of the FBI in this case.

I urge you to begin your investigation as soon as possible, and to contact my office to discuss in more detail the incidents I have described. We stand ready to give you all possible assistance.

Sincerely,

Floyd KX Haskell United States Senator

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emorandum DIRECTOR, FBI SPRINGFIELD (62-2559) (P) MISCELLANEOUS NEN-BURYERSIVE SUBJECT <u>MUTILATION_OF_TWO_LXORS</u> RSHALL COUNTY. ILLINOIS POLICE COOPERATION Re Springfield airtel to Bureau dated 10/1/76. Englosed for the Bureau is one copy of an article entitled "The Mutilation Mystery", which allegedly appeared in Oui Magazine, September, 1976 issue. For the information of the Bureau, Sheriff RUSSELL CREWS, Marshall County, Illinois Sheriff's Department, Lacon, Illinois, on 9/30/76, furnished enclosed article to SA DONALD SORENSEN since it pertained to widespread incidents such as those set forth in referenced airtel. This is furnished to the Bureau in view of numerous references in this article to Federal investigative agencies and also theories that these mutilations of cattle are only a forerunner for later mutilations of human beings. EMCLOSURE MARK HALLES A. 113 Bureau (Encl 1) Springfield (62-OCT 20 1976

They U.S. Seeings Bends Regularly on the Payroll Seeings Plan