FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ENCLOSURE COVER SHEET

SUBJECT

Animal /

Cattle Motivation

CROSS-REFERENCES

32 PAGES REVIEWED FOR THIS RELEASE

32 PAGES AVAILABLE FOR RELEASE

THIS IS ENCLOSURE ____ OF _____ ENCLOSURES
Clarence H. Kelley
Director
Office of the Solicitor
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Ordoin

I have just received a communication from Mr. George M. Cornett, Esq., and Mr. Charles W. Smith, Esq., superintendent of the Division of Labor, Missouri Agricultural Department, concerning the recent accident of the September 4th, involving the death of the Missouri State Police and the injury of the Missouri State Highway Patrolmen. It appears that the accident was caused by the negligence of the driver of a rural road and that the driver was under the influence of liquor at the time of the accident.

I am writing to inform you of the possibility of a possible violation of the Missouri State Highway Patrolmen's Act, which provides that no person shall be required to perform any duty which would endanger his life or health. I am also writing to request an investigation of the accident by the Missouri State Highway Patrolmen.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence H. Kelley
Director
Office of the Solicitor
Department of Agriculture

September 10, 1974
Mr. Clarence M. Kelley  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

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,

[Signature]

CARL T. CURTIS, USS

Encl.  
CTC: fjp
Are UFO sightings and mutilations related?

Mutilated livestock, helicopters and a "flying saucer" reported.

By the Associated Press

Mutilated livestock, unauthorized helicopters and unidentified flying objects have residents wondering and worrying in some areas of Nebraska.

"Doors and locked and guns are loaded" in rural Oakad, according to one resident.

A quarterhorse was found mutilated Sunday three miles southeast of Norfolk on the Warren Papestein farm.

FIFTH KILLED

This was the fifth animal killed and mutilated in Madison County under mysterious circumstances. Four head of cattle have been found with their organs cut out, in addition one steer had one eye, one ear. Its nose, mouth and tongue chopped off.

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

In Antelope County, Omar Hoffman, four miles west of Clearwater, reported five head of cattle have been mutilated on his ranch.

Law enforcement officials are puzzled by the killings. Madison County Sheriff Marvin Adams says that the cases he has investigated have been done by people probably a cult of some kind.

But Robert Marvin of Wahoo, an investigator for the criminal division of the State Patrol, said, "There are a lot of trains of thought. There have been numerous discoveries of dead animals in Madison and Knox counties and there are indications that predators got several of them. We are not convinced it is a person who is doing this. We haven't even found tracks in most cases." 25-05-74

In Chester County, where there have been over 2000 cases of mysterious killings in Madison County, Sheriff Larry Higgenbottom says he frankly doesn't know what is doing the killings. At first he blamed it on predators.

Antelope County Deputy Sheriff D. H. Hamm said that there has been no definite proof that there were people involved in the killings he had investigated.

"We said, 'In every case we've had, cattle have been found for a few days. Most of them are full of maggots and decay. It is hard to tell anything with maggots in the carcass.'"

The sheriff in Logan, where he has investigated a couple of cases, is currently going to see what has been offered for the crooks.

There have been at least two been discovered between the county sheriff and state police, but little has been accomplished.

"The sheriff has ground to a halt. Few cases have been solved. That is the problem."

Sheriff Higgenbottom says that although the county is now a lot safer, more people are looking into the matter.
UFOs source of wonder, worry

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

OCT. 23

Cattle killings aren't the only strange happenings in northeastern Nebraska. There have been numerous reports of unidentified flying objects in both Antelope 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.

One man was watching a UFO Aug. 21. All of them said 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 flash and it came right down on them. It scared the devil out of them. They came right up to the house."

At the house they watched the light for about four hours.

Later on several gathered in town to watch. Harold Koster said the object looked as if it had a little bluish-green light on each side with a glow surrounding it. It was behind a tree and moved from one side of the tree to the other. We couldn't tell how close it was or how fast it was moving."

ANOTHER LIGHT:

About midnight the same night, police reported seeing another light. The object was not identified.

Mr. Kuster reported seeing another light. He said, "I walked outside in the field and saw a green ball of red light. It raised about five feet and flew west. Since it was dark, I couldn't tell how far away it was or how big it was."

About a month ago there were reports of UFOs in Knox County. Last week the big noise in the county was another unidentified helicopter.

Sheriff Thompson said, "We don't know if they are helicopters or strange lights. There were several reported over the weekend. The people who reported them called them strange lights. Previously we had two positive identifications of helicopters."

Antelope County Sheriff Vernon Blazek
Transmit the following in ___________________________  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via ___________ AIRTEL ___________  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTENTION: FEB LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (900) (63-0-14743)

SUBJECT: MUTILATIONS OF ANIMALS  
MINNESOTA, NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA RESEARCH MATTER

Miscellaneous - Non-Subversive

For the information of the Bureau, animals, mostly livestock, have been reported as mutilated in the three-state area of this division and parts of their bodies missing. The parts listed as missing have been the sexual organs, ears, lips and udders, and in some instances, the blood from the animals was considered "completely drained." No evidence of value ever located at the scene.

State veterinarians, after examination of mutilated animal carcasses, contend dead animals were eaten by other animals or varmints, believed to be foxes due to their sharp side teeth, which were described as "shearing teeth like scissors."

The Bureau is requested to furnish the Minneapolis Division with any supporting information to the above comments made by state veterinarians or, if already contacted by other law enforcement agencies, the results of their investigations or your laboratory results of evidence previously submitted in similar cases.

Enclosed is a xerox clipping of comments made by RICHARD HILDE (NA), Chief Agent, North Dakota Crime Bureau, Bismarck.

Bureau (Enclosure)  
Minneapolis  
HAE: ras (6)

Approved:  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per
To: SAC, Minneapolis (62-0-14743)

From: Director, FBI 63-0 - 35659

MUTILATIONS OF ANIMALS
MINNESOTA, NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA
RESEARCH MATTER


The circumstances set forth in referenced airtel were discussed with Dr. Don Wilson, Chief, Mammalogy Section, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, 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.
BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — An explanation may have been found for a rash of livestock mutilations that have plagued South Dakota and have recently been reported in North Dakota, says an official of the North Dakota Crime Bureau.

Chief Agent Richard Hilde said his office had been getting scattered reports recently of livestock mutilations across North Dakota. These were similar to a rash of mutilation reports from South Dakota earlier this month.

"At this point we in the Crime Bureau feel the animals died of natural causes and that animals 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 Mckinley County and a cow was found in a similar condition in Foster County, he said. In addition, there was a horse reported killed Monday in McIntosh County, which was also reported as being mutilated, he added.

"We had been getting these reports and they had called it mutilation," he said. "Farmers could never find footprints and 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 officials in both states had been indited 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 horses found dead in McIntosh County was relatively "fresh" and no thorough autopsy could be performed, he said.

Dr. Ivan Berg, a veterinarian with the Veterinary Service Department at North Dakota State University, performed an autopsy on the horse. He said the doctor's findings showed the horse had died of dysentery, Hilde added.

He emphasized that foxes and other small animals may have been responsible for the mutilations, but had not killed the animals. He noted that such small animals were not able to kill livestock the size of a horse or bull, but would eat parts of the animal only after they were dead.

Hilde also noted that no evidence of surgical incisions was found on the horse, although it had parts of the body missing.

"What we had been told about the mutilations was that the cut was so clean it looked like a surgical cut," he said. However, he added that the bureau now 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 natural causes and that small animals such as foxes had eaten the soft parts of the animals.

Hilde added that veterinarians had explained that foxes have sharp side teeth, which he described as "shearing teeth like scissors." Because the hide of horses and cattle is tough, the small animals, such as foxes, would eat the softer parts of the animals such as the lips and udders, he said.

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

The Crime Bureau agent also noted that small animals like 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 footprints 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 evaporated, he said.

Hilde said he contacted the South Dakota Crime Bureau Tuesday and "they're satisfied the deaths were natural." He also noted that a doctor in South Dakota had provided an explanation similar to the one being cited by the North Dakota Crime Bureau.
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTENTION: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FROM: SAC, DENVER

SUBJECT: ABATEMENT OF LIVESTOCK Mutilation
STATE OF COLORADO
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Denver airtel 8/29/75.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of an editorial appearing in the "Denver Post" 9/3/75 relating to Senator FLOYD K. HASKELL's request that the FBI enter captioned investigation.

FLOYD HASKELL
 Colo.

On the morning of 9/4/75 SA DONALD J. SEBESTA, Media Relations Representative, and I visited with the editorial staff of the "Denver Post" concerning the article. We met with CHARLES R. BUXTON, Executive Vice President, Editor and Publisher, ROBERT PATRIDGE, Editor of the Editorial Page, and LEE OLSON, Editorial Page writer and writer of enclosed article, and explained to them the manner in which this Bureau enters investigations, stressing the point that unless the FBI has investigative jurisdiction under Federal statute, we cannot enter any investigation. It was pointed out to these individuals that if the FBI were to enter an investigation merely because someone felt we should, we would soon be categorized as a national police force. The limitations placed on the Bureau by Congress and the Department of Justice are well defined and it was pointed out that the FBI would always operate within the scope of its investigative jurisdiction and Departmental guidelines.

These individuals were most receptive to the visit, indicating that they had a better understanding of the FBI's role.

REC-20 63-0-366-33

SEP 8 1975

Approved: 7OSEP29175 AGENT IN CHARGE

Sent: M Per:

ENCLOSURE
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

If the FBI will not enter the investigation of mysterious livestock deaths in Colorado and some adjacent states, then Sen. Floyd Haskell, D-Colo., should take the matter to Congress for 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 cancel a helicopter inventory of its lands in six counties. BLM officials are simply afraid their helicopters might be shot down by ranchers and others frightened by cattle deaths.

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

Kilings 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 if the FBI resists successfully, the senator should go to Congress to get the sort of attention these alarming incidents deserve.
Memorandum

TO: Mr. Adams

FROM: R. J. Gallagher

DATE: September 12, 1975

SUBJECT: MUTATION OF LIVESTOCK

STATE OF COLORADO
INFORMATION CONCERNING

In response to a telephone call from Honorable Floyd K. Haskell, United States Senator from Colorado, to the Director 9/11/75, I 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.

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.

CONTINUED - OVER
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.

[Signature]
September 12, 1975

Honorable Floyd K. Baskett
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Baskett:

Your letter of August 29th to Special Agent in Charge Theodore P. Rosack 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 helicopter by those individuals responsible has been carefully reviewed. I regret to inform you that these actions do not constitute a violation of Federal law coming within the FBI'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,

Clarence H. Kelley
Director

1 - Denver (1-52-0)
   Personal Attention SAC: Reurairel 8/29/75 and verbal 9/9/75.
1 - Mr. Gallagher - Enclosures (2) - Attention Mr. Sheer
1 - Mr. Herington - Enclosures (3) -
1 - Office of Congressional Affairs - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Response coordinated with Legal Counsel and General Investigative Divisions.
TO:        DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM:  SAC, DENVER  
SUBJECT: MUTILATION OF LIVESTOCK  
        STATE OF COLORADO  
        INFORMATION CONCERNING  

Enclosed herewith is the original of a letter from U. S. Senator FLOYD K. HASKELL which was personally handed to me this date relating to incidents involving mutilation of cattle and other livestock in Colorado.

Senator HASKELL indicates that 130 such cases have been reported to local officials. He makes reference to the fact that such mutilation has occurred during the past two years in nine states.

In his communication Senator HASKELL requests that the FBI enter the investigations being conducted in order to provide unified direction to the overall matter of such mutilations.

I indicated to Senator HASKELL that his request would be furnished to FBI Headquarters, Washington, D.C., and that he would receive a reply pertaining to his request. I also pointed out to the Senator that as he well knew, before the FBI can enter any case, we must have investigative jurisdiction primarily by statute. I pointed out that in this instance I was not aware of any statute which would provide for jurisdiction in this matter.

EX-11Q

2. Bureau (Enc. 1) (RM)  
   Denver (1 - 62-0)  
   (1 - 80-NEW)

TPR: jb  
(4)  
9/12/75

Approved:  Special Agent in Charge  
Sent  M Per
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.
United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510  
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 occurred 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.
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 K. Haskell
United States Senator

FKH:enw
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (62-2559) (P)

DATE: 10/14/76
SUBJECT: MUTATION OF TWO COWS
MARSHALL COUNTY, ILLINOIS POLICE COOPERATION

Re: Springfield airtel to Bureau dated 10/1/76.
Enclosed 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 E. 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.

[Handwritten note: "REC-59 63-0-38949"]

[Handwritten note: "ENCLOSURE"]

[Handwritten note: "ENVELOPE ATTACHED"]

[Handwritten note: "U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan"]