

# Report on Unusual Animal Injuries in Cache County, Utah

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In the past six years NIDS has received multiple anecdotal reports of unidentified aircraft or helicopter activity that appear to correlate, temporally and geographically, with animal mutilations. In February 2001, NIDS published the first, and to date the only, statistically robust correlation between the presence of unidentified flying objects, helicopters and animal mutilations. To access this report, go to: [http://198.63.56.18/pdf/wolverton\\_report.pdf](http://198.63.56.18/pdf/wolverton_report.pdf). Whether the presence of unidentified aircraft or helicopters can be linked causally to the animal mutilation phenomenon has not been resolved. As a further addition to the accumulating anecdotal evidence on this topic, the present NIDS report describes some unusual injuries perpetrated on a herd of dairy animals in Cache County, Utah in the years 1998–2000. Secondly, through interviews of first hand eyewitnesses, a historical link between unidentified helicopter and aircraft activity and animal mutilations is described. The significance of this link is unknown but coincidence cannot be ruled out.

## Incident 1

NIDS received several calls from an individual in Cache County Utah regarding suspicious injuries being inflicted on his herd of dairy animals. The calls spanned the period February–July 2001. The calls involved two separate series of injuries to the witness's animals. Photos 1–3 are detailed in the interview below.



**Photo 1. Prominent bloodstain and evidence of a hematoma directly above the animal's right jugular vein.**





**Photos 2 & 3. Apparent puncture wounds on the udder.**

Photo 1 shows considerable leakage after an attempt was made at sampling the blood from the animal's jugular vein. The usual method for drawing blood under experimental conditions is simply to insert a large gauge needle into the animal's jugular vein. An evacuated or a standard test tube is placed underneath the needle to collect the flow of blood. Usually, there is no need to use a tourniquet to extract blood from an animal of this size. Thus, the leakage seen in Photo 1 together with the evidence of a hematoma is good indication that the animal's jugular was punctured, probably to collect blood. The owner of the animal was adamant that any collection of blood was unauthorized by him. In the interview below, the owner refers to this procedure as "tapping" the animal. Over the years, the owner reported that this procedure was carried out on several of his animals, with precise timing. All of the injuries related to "tapping" his animals occurred at the beginning of November 1998, November 1999, and November 2000.

#### **Incident 2**

In July 2001 the witness reported one of his animals, a black and white Holstein bull, had severe burns and scabbing on his shoulders and back (Photos 4 and 5). The owner has worked with dairy cows most of his life and he found the pattern highly unusual. The burns appeared to follow the white patches on the animal's hide and were not evident on the black area of hide (see Photos 4 and 5).

In a previous case NIDS had observed toxicity when the owner had mistakenly applied large doses of Famphur on the back of an animal to control lice and grubs (see report at: <http://www.nidsci.org/articles/redriver.html>). Famphur, the active ingredient in Warbex, is a known neurotoxin (cholinesterase inhibitor), but it is not known to cause lesions on the hide of an animal. Further, the owner denied using Warbex or any grub controller on his animals in the previous several months.

It has also been well documented that oats can induce a photosensitivity reaction in cattle, although the exact mechanism (direct contact and/or ingestion) is uncertain. Further, ingestion of other plants such as Klamath weed and St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) can photosensitize cattle skin, leading to sunburn. The skin becomes increasingly susceptible to damage by ultraviolet radiation, and the typical presentation in affected animals is sunburn on the lightly pigmented parts of the body. Both fresh oats and oat straw can cause this type of skin reaction. However, a local veterinarian examined the animal and negated the sunburn hypothesis.

NIDS recommended a blood sample be drawn from the animal to assess hematology and blood chemistry status. However, several days had elapsed between the time the lesions were first noticed and when the blood sample was taken. Thus, it was deemed unlikely that white cell counts or blood chemistry indicators of trauma would not have stabilized by that time. The analyses were conducted in the interests of thoroughness.



**Photo 4. Lesions and scabbing appeared to be distributed according to the pattern of white on the animal's back.**



**Photo 5. Burns or scabbing on the animal's shoulder.**

Patient: \_\_\_\_\_ Species: COW Date: 08/01/01  
 Patient ID: 1114 Test No: 864 Time: 20:39:17

**MASCOT™ HEMATOLOGY PROFILE: HEMAVET® 850**

Parameter(Units)	Results	Normal Range
<b>Leukocytes:</b>		
WBC (K/μL)	6.36	4.0 - 12.0
NE (K/μL)	2.36	0.6 - 4.1
LY (K/μL)	3.19	2.5 - 7.5
MO (K/μL)	0.40	0.0 - 1.2
EO (K/μL)	0.20	0.0 - 2.4
BA (K/μL)	0.20	0.0 - 0.4
NRBC (K/μL)		RARE
NE (%)	37.04	15.0 - 47.0
LY (%)	50.23	45.0 - 75.0
MO (%)	6.33	0.0 - 11.0
EO (%)	3.20	0.0 - 20.0
BA (%)	3.20	0.0 - 3.5
NRBC (%)		RARE
<b>Erythrocytes:</b>		
RBC (M/μL)	7.24	5.00 - 10.00
Hb (g/dL)	9.9	8.0 - 15.0
HCT (%)	31.6	24.0 - 46.0
MCV (fL)	43.6	40.0 - 60.0
MCH (pg)	13.7	11.1 - 17.0
MCHC (g/dL)	31.3	28.2 - 36.0
RDW (%)	23.7	12.0 - 27.0
RSD (fL)		
Retics(M/μL)		0.00 - 0.00
Retics(%)		0.00 - 0.00
<b>Thrombocytes:</b>		
PLT (K/μL)	419	200 - 800
PCT (%)		
MPV (fL)	7.2	5.0 - 20.0
PDW (%)		

**HEMATOLOGICAL ABNORMALITIES**

WBC: LOW <-----> HIGH

NORMAL

LOW <-----> HIGH

RBC: LOW <-----> HIGH

NORMAL

PLT: LOW <-----> HIGH

NORMAL
NORMAL

DIAGNOSTIC CONSIDERATIONS:

RECOMMENDED FOLLOW-UP:

WBC CYTOGRAM

PLT/RBC CYTOGRAM

As can be seen from the lab printout, all hematology parameters were within normal range.

*Blood Chemistry.* The blood from the animal was tested for and was within normal ranges for the following categories of blood chemistry: BUN, GLU, CRE, CA, ALBX, CHOL, DBIC, PO4, TBIL, TG, TP, CL, CO2, K, NA, ALP, ALT, AMY, AST, CK, and GGT.

## Interviews

NIDS interviewed the owner of the animals concerning the recent cases described here as well as some historical events involving animal mutilations in Cache County in 1975-1976. This latter period has been generally acknowledged as the peak of animal mutilation activity in over a dozen states, including Utah, throughout the United States. For corroboration of the testimony, NIDS interviewed the witness's retired boss, an ex-sheriff from Cache County Utah. Both interviews are presented below.

### Interview Primary Eyewitness, Conducted February 2001.

**WITNESS 1:** Hello?

**NIDS:** Hi, is this Witness1?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah.

**NIDS:** This is NIDS.

**WITNESS 1:** And you're with whom, sir?

**NIDS:** I'm with NIDS, which is short for National Institute for Discovery Science we're...we're an organization in Las Vegas. We've been around for just over 5 years and we're tasked with investigating unusual incidents. Everything from animal mutilations to alleged UFO's and everything in-between, so to speak. In other words, what the scientific community will not touch.

**WITNESS 1:** Okay. Might I ask who empowers you?

**NIDS:** Robert Bigelow is the main funder of the organization, and has been since its inception. He...

**WITNESS 1:** That thing sounds...this...he's what? Excuse me?

**NIDS:** He's a real estate entrepreneur in Las Vegas. He's been funding these unusual projects for probably 10-15 years, but 5 years ago he decided to centralize things and fund a specific organization to do the investigations. He used to fund several smaller projects around the United States—actually, around the world. So 5 years ago he centralized everything and NIDS is that organization.

**WITNESS 1:** Excuse me, and...and...and what?

**NIDS:** NIDS is that organization.

**WITNESS 1:** Okay.

**NIDS:** So when we received your fax, this happened to be something that sounded—even though we've got very, very few details, it sounded like something that we might be interested in finding out more about.

**WITNESS 1:** Well my...my goal here is to stop...stop losing money. Quite frankly, I'm upset and uh...I guess you found that out on the fax. How can I help you, sir, in maybe in turn you can give me a little information that might help me?

**NIDS:** Well, we would be interested in finding out what exactly is going on, what kinds of details that you...you are willing to describe, how long it's been going on for, in other words, the observations of what your concerned about, because we didn't quite get that information from the fax.

**WITNESS 1:** No, I was brief and intentionally vague on the fax. I didn't know who I was sending it to.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** And...yeah, I can—the last one occurred on or about the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November of this last November. Uh...they tapped a cow, they tapped—or about the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November the year before.

**NIDS:** 4<sup>th</sup> of November of 2000 was the last time?

**WITNESS 1:** Yes sir.

**NIDS:** Okay. Now what do you mean by 'tapping'? I would like as many details as possible.

**WITNESS 1:** Well, what happens on this is they tap the jugular vein. It happened...it's happened...let's see...November 2000, November 1999, November 1998.

**NIDS:** So it...it happens just once a year?

**WITNESS 1:** To the best of my knowledge. I can...I can tell you I know that it happens once a year and it's closely associated on or about the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, which is closely associated on or about an incident that occurred in 1976 or '77. The case file's been lost. I was a sheriff's deputy for Cache County, Utah when I ran 3 black helicopters down at the Logan airport as they transferred a silver suitcase to a fixed-wing aircraft.

**NIDS:** Okay, well let's just at the moment...let's just stick with the incidents that have happened...

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah, well that's fine. I just wanted to give you the November tie.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** I don't know what it means.

**NIDS:** Okay so, November 2000, '99 and '98...?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah.

**NIDS:** How many are involved?

**WITNESS 1:** Uh...November 2000—November '98 I only saw one and did not associate it with...with what the hell was going on.

**NIDS:** And so this was something you noticed around the jugular vein?

**WITNESS 1:** Uh-huh. Yeah, they tap 'em right on the neck and it doesn't seal up. It...it seeps blood.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** Uh...

**NIDS:** So it seeps blood? Okay. And so November—what about '99?

**WITNESS 1:** '99 they got two—in '99.

**NIDS:** Two animals?

**WITNESS 1:** Uh a cow—and...and the udder is—if you can visualize a little kid with a BB gun, they you know, shooting a cow in the udder—that's what they did to those two cows.

**NIDS:** They shot them in the udder?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah. There was a...it looked...a brown burn scab—sort of a burn scab on one side of the udder, and then a straight line directly through the udder, there was a brown burn scab on the other side. And...you could pull the scab off, and there was a little tiny hole in the tissue that went in, about the size of a...oh, maybe a number 20 hypo needle?

**NIDS:** 20 hypo needle?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah.

**NIDS:** Okay, so this was in both of the animals in '99 and in the one animal in '98?

**WITNESS 1:** Yes sir.

**NIDS:** Okay, now what about the year 2000?

**WITNESS 1:** The year 2000 they...they wreaked—the one animal that got...that was tapped in '98—all these animals were in my dry herd corral, pregnant...

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** ...in the last trimester of the their counting cycle, within 60 days or less of calving. Well one animal that they tapped that this happened to in...in 2000, uh, I had checked her and confirmed pregnancy before I put her in the dry corral. So within that 60-day time period she was tapped, and on her calving date I went in her again, and she had aborted—now this would be about...this would be about a 45-pound abortion, you know? I'd see it. But she had...she had aborted, I hadn't found the calf, and she was scarred up inside. I could never read—I could...I could never get her with calf, I had to sell her. I had to beef her.

**NIDS:** So she was scarred up inside?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah.

**NIDS:** And who...who was able to do that, a veterinarian?

**WITNESS 1:** No, I did that.

**NIDS:** You did that? Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** I did that. Now I'll tell you how she scarred up inside—uh...beyond the cervix where the uterus is, it begins. There are two...there are two uterine horns, you know?

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS 1:** The uterine horns were...were just...you know, all that was there was scar tissue—just gone.

**NIDS:** Okay. They were gone? So in the year 2000, was this just one animal, or was it more?

**WITNESS 1:** The year 2000—it was the...the remaining animal that had calved normally that had been tapped in 1999.

**NIDS:** Okay. Do you have any idea...is it always left jugular or right jugular, by the way?

**WITNESS 1:** Well now, I've got pictures here (*see photos 1-3*) I'll send you, and...I'm trying to think...

**NIDS:** Now when are the pictures from?

**WITNESS 1:** 2000. No, no—1999.

**NIDS:** 1999? Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** '99. I'll have to pull 'em out of my file. You'll be able to see which side it is when you get 'em.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** Uh...this last one in 2000—they straight-lined her from her withers—you know, on her back, down through the body cavity and...and out through her...through her front leg pit, or, you know, like an armpit on a human. And uh...uh...she was seeping blood from under her arm. Uh...and there's a lot of...there's a lot of...of heavy calloused tissue on...on top of her...the base of her neck there by her withers where they rub on the manger when they're feeding. And I think it...the vet...the veterinarian came and got the cow, and he said, 'Well, it's another tap, but it looks like they've tried to camouflage it this time.' If I hadn't seen the blood dripping down her leg, I wouldn't have known, and in most herds, all of these incidents that I described to you would probably go...if...if not unnoticed, they just wouldn't pay any attention to it.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** Oh, we've got a lab report on the tissue around the hole that...the vet's got it. I was on my way over to pick it up. You know, and the reason I haven't taken any action before now, you know, is because, you know, I had finally found a telephone number that I might be able to talk to a person. Other than that, you know, 'most all the internet sites that I looked at wanted me to buy a hat or beanie and an alien mug and join the club.

**NIDS:** Okay...well, let me just give you the picture, we keep all of our investigations confidential, okay? Also, I wanted to get more information about what's happening. Now are you aware of any flying objects that are associated with this activity?

**WITNESS 1:** Just the helicopters.

**NIDS:** Have you seen the helicopters?

**WITNESS 1:** Yes.

**NIDS:** How close?

**WITNESS 1:** What period of time are you talking about?

**NIDS:** You know—'98, '99, 2000?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah, and prior to the incident in '98, I was out at 2:30–3:00 in the morning helping a...assisting a cow calve in my calving corral...

**NIDS:** Okay...

**WITNESS 1:** ...and my son was with me, and...I got—oh wow, I got this, you know, hair stood up on the back of my neck, and I turned around and there was a...'cause that seemed to...it looked like it...a...a picture of an Apache, you know, or a helicopter like that, coming in from the west, and it had the same dull, red, unpulsating light on it that the helicopters in the past that I have seen associated with mutilations were packing.

**NIDS:** Dull red, unpulsating light?

**WITNESS 1:** That's right. It's a dull red, unpulsating light. I don't...let me...let me qualify a little bit—I pulled a tour of duty in Germany in...in the late...late...late '60's, early '70's on the M-60 A1 main battle tank. Some of them were equipped with infrared. And of course you had to have special night optics to see it, but they have the same power and hue of a dull red unpulsating light, so I figure it was—hey, let me tell you, it...on that...on that infrared into the spectrum, that little...little light that we think is just a dull red one, that lights up the whole country. You can see for a mile. But that's what it looked like to me.

**NIDS:** Okay. And so you're pretty sure it was an Apache, or...or...

**WITNESS 1:** It was one of those type. I don't...I'm not familiar with the modern helicopters. I know this one was quiet, and it was flying in a slow, lazy...lazy pattern...

**NIDS:** How quiet was it?

**WITNESS 1:** Well...

**NIDS:** Could you hear anything?

**WITNESS 1:** Just the air going past it. Just... just the air going past it. It's...I think if this thing had been, oh...definitely, if it had been a quarter a mile away—you'd a never heard it. If it'd been...if it'd been 400 hundred yards up in the air, you'd a never heard it.

**NIDS:** How high was it?

**WITNESS 1:** Well I would guess the thing maybe at 200 feet.

**NIDS:** 200 feet? Okay, it was coming from the west...

**WITNESS 1:** It came in from the west...

- NIDS:** Now where are you located?
- WITNESS 1:** I am 22 miles north of Logan, by in the center of the valley, and I am 3 miles from the Idaho state line.
- NIDS:** 3 miles from Idaho? Okay. Good. I want to know if this helicopter was coming in 200 feet towards you, you said it was traveling slowly?
- WITNESS 1:** Yeah. Yeah, he wasn't hot at all. He was just...he was just kind of boogying around seeing the sights. I told my son at the time, I said, 'See that light?', I said, 'Well that's the same light that was on the 3 helicopters we had the problems with back in...back in '76-'77.' I said, 'Don't be surprised if it doesn't start again.'
- NIDS:** Okay, in these cases, none of your animals died, except you lost the 45 pound aborted fetus?
- WITNESS 1:** Well, yeah, and...and then the...the initial case that I didn't pay any attention to in '98, that I just kinda wrote off because it was, you know...and I just didn't put it together—that animal died of a massive infection I couldn't handle with antibiotics. So now when I have one tapped, the first thing we do, if we catch...if we're lucky enough to catch it, the first thing we do is start...is start a broad spectrum massive antibiotic treatment.
- NIDS:** Okay, so a 1998 animal died of massive infection?
- WITNESS 1:** Yeah.
- NIDS:** Was a necropsy done?
- WITNESS 1:** No.
- NIDS:** Animal died of massive infection. Have you seen an infection like that before?
- WITNESS 1:** Well, yeah. Cows are real susceptible to liver abscess and lung abscesses and of course if an abscess bursts internally, it's...it produces an affect very similar to...to peritonitis.
- NIDS:** Yeah.
- WITNESS 1:** And...and that's what...that's, you know, that just is a massive, massive infection with a high, distended abdomen and raging fever. You just can't handle it.
- NIDS:** Okay, now...so you usually give them broad-spectrum antibiotics. Now we're talking, to my knowledge, about one animal in...in '98, two in '99 and one in 2000.

**WITNESS 1:** That's right.

**NIDS:** Okay. And in each case you've seen this black helicopter?

**WITNESS 1:** No.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** Only saw the helicopter in '98. Only saw it by chance 'cause I was out working there. A couple of months...let's see...let's see....when does school start? March, April, May, June, July, August—so it'll be around September.

**NIDS:** You saw the helicopter in September?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah, of '98. And then the first one occurred on or about the 4<sup>th</sup> of November.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** And the reason I stick on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November is it seems to have some significance here. I haven't got a clue what it is.

**NIDS:** Okay. Now, let me ask you about the ultrasound. What, can you describe what you're...what you're talking about there when you talk about ultrasound?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah, uh...I got a fairly good-sized place here and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to the west of me, I gave my son a piece of ground and he built a house in it.

**NIDS:** Yeah?

**WITNESS 1:** Uh, on it. And this last one in November 2000—at 2:30 in the morning, I got the same...I tried to...I'll just call it the same old feeling, and I woke up, and I was groggy. Now...now I heard something, but I didn't hear something. The cows weren't making any noise, everything was calm, everything was fine, but something woke me up, but I was really groggy, but I knew I had to get out to that corral. And I picked my rifle up, and as I...and I was staggering as I went out the door. I just...you know, I just couldn't get my feet under me. And now I'm gonna tell you something and try not to laugh on this, 'cause I'm not real proud of it—but as I went out the door trying to get my feet under me, I was so groggy I couldn't jack the shell in the rifle and I was urinating uncontrollably, and I looked over to the corral and I thought what my...I saw what I thought to be the top part of a helicopter as it just dipped down below the trees. Uh...as it...you know, on the other side of my corral down into the river [?].

- NIDS:** And how far would that be from where you were standing?
- WITNESS 1:** That would be...let's see...200 yards.
- NIDS:** Okay. So you saw the top of a helicopter after you...
- WITNESS 1:** I saw...yeah, I saw...I saw what I thought to be a top of a helicopter just dipping down...
- NIDS:** Did you hear anything?
- WITNESS 1:** Nope. Not a damn thing.
- NIDS:** So this was in November of 2000?
- WITNESS 1:** Yeah, this was the last one that was calved. Now, my son came over the next morning, and of course we got a tapped cow. Uh...and I was talking to him about what happened, he said, you know dad, this thing happened, I got up so fast and I was staggering around, and I said, my God, I actually urinated trying to get my feet under me. He said, 'What time was that?' and I said, 'Oh, about 2:30.', you know, and he said, 'Well Jesus, dad, I wet the bed last night. Woke up about 3:00 and had to...had to change all the beddings. I've never done that before in my life!' So then I start thinking—coming in from the west, okay? Just like the Apache did with the light off. All right. If they're gonna tap a cow, they've got to immobilize some way, so I...you know, the only thing I've had in my experience that could possibly have immobilized would be ultrasound, and I might be a hundred miles off. The one thing ultrasound doesn't add up with is the burns around the cows necks. Uh...I had the...I had several cows burned. I have a steel neck chains that holds their computer feeder transponder and identification number around their necks, and after the...after the incident in 1999, I had several cows that...these steel neck chains had actually burned in...into the top of their neck and...and now that would...that would...that would mean some type of electrical field, a possible...possible radio wave type of electrical field...
- NIDS:** Microwaves could maybe heat metal.
- WITNESS 1:** Yeah, okay. Well maybe it's microwave, I don't know. But that...now see that'd tie...that'd tie in with the neck chain burns.
- NIDS:** Yeah. Okay. Did you take photographs of those neck burns?
- WITNESS 1:** Nope.
- NIDS:** Okay. So the photographs that you've got are...are what now?

- WITNESS 1:** The photographs I've got are the two cows in 1999—the...the tap on the side of the neck for the jugular and the...the...I'll call them shots on the udders.
- NIDS:** Okay. Okay, good. And...I think what we'd like to do, if you can possibly do that, is...is send us the...the photographs and the...can we contact the veterinarian after we get the report?
- WITNESS 1:** Yeah, you sure can. I don't know what he'll say...
- NIDS:** Okay, now you said in your fax that you had investigated mutilations in the Cache Valley in the '70's?
- WITNESS 1:** Yeah.
- NIDS:** Can you describe that?
- WITNESS 1:** Oh, yeah. We...
- NIDS:** As deputy sheriff you investigated?
- WITNESS 1:** Yeah, I was deputy sheriff for Cache County, Utah.
- NIDS:** Okay.
- WITNESS 1:** Uh, Bear Lake and Rich County had been having some problems with mutilations, and they...they had the...they had the sheriff's posse out, I mean those ol'...and the ranchers out riding...riding, you know the range at night with rifles...
- NIDS:** So how many animals are you talking about when you said 'problem'?
- WITNESS 1:** You know, I don't know. I know there was more than three in...in Bear Lake County, and I seem to remember—it was a long time ago. I seem to remember...I know damn well there were two, at least two in Rich County, but there may have been many more. I don't know.
- NIDS:** Okay. Two in Rich County and...so, approximately what year was this?
- WITNESS 1:** That would've been...I believe it would've been 1996. Somewhere, you know...
- NIDS:** '96 or '76?
- WITNESS 1:** Oh sorry, '76.
- NIDS:** Okay.
- WITNESS 1:** I'm sorry.
- NIDS:** Okay. That's fine. So '76, okay. So you guys were investigating these animals?

**WITNESS 1:** Uh, well no. I were...we weren't investigating the animals. The sheriff of Rich County had...had put together the information from the riders that he had out, and they began...the sheriff began to associate mutilations with the appearance of a low flying, slow moving helicopter with this dull red, unpulsating light. Sometimes it was three days before, but definitely the day before the mutilation was discovered—at night.

**NIDS:** Okay. So that's...that's reasonable. So you were part of that department who was...who was out there?

**WITNESS 1:** No. I was over in Cache County.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** The sheriff of Rich County came to us and said, 'Hey, I've got a problem and I need man power. What's going on in your county?' Then that night—that...that next day we had a...had a mutilation called in, so then we put people out and we're watching for these helicopters and we spotted 'em, and...

**NIDS:** Did you spot more than one, or...

**WITNESS 1:** There were three.

**NIDS:** There were three? Okay. So this was also in 1976?

**WITNESS 1:** Yes sir.

**NIDS:** Okay. Go on.

**WITNESS 1:** Um...trying to start here and save you a lot of time. Um...my boss, who was the sheriff in Cache County at the time that these helicopters...we discovered a mutilation, and the night before the helicopters would be seen landing at the Logan-Cache Airport. So I was on detail to stake out the Logan-Cache Airport with several other cars. Uh...one night we had 'em come in—the three helicopters were—the Huey was tight, you know, kind of a teardrop shape. Very quiet. They came in and landed at the north end of the runway. Now traffic on the runway lands and takes off from south to north. A fixed wing two-motored aircraft—it sounded like a Turbo-prop, came in and landed from south to north. I started...I put a...I started the cars in motion. On the pre-arranged plan we ran—'cause there's only one runway, I ran a marked patrol car from the south with these over heads on—from the south to the north to prevent the fixed wing aircraft from taking off. I then took another patrol car with me—two patrol cars, and we ran to the helicopters. Before I could get to the helicopters, the fixed wing aircraft had gotten to the north end of the

runway, locked the wheel and spun around facing back south in the direction that I had the patrol car coming, right down the center of the runway. A man got out of one of the helicopters and he was in a pair of coveralls that were...coverall type, you know, garment—shiny, like tin foil. Had a shiny suitcase in his hand. Ran to the fixed wing aircraft. They sid the door open. He boosted the suitcase through the door of the fixed wing aircraft. Door slams...and then, you know, and I don't know what happened to him, because I was looking at the fixed wing aircraft. The door slammed shut, and this pilot went to full-powered taking off the wrong way toward my patrol car that I've got heading down the middle of the runway. My patrol car eventually had to take evasive action, and he put it off in the swamp. It took two wreckers to get it out, but, the point I'm trying to make is this pilot, the pilot of this aircraft had made a decision, and that the decision to stay there was not an option. He was going to die, or he was gonna take the airplane up, one of the two.

**NIDS:** Hmm.

**WITNESS 1:** Uh, then I turned back to the helicopters that...and I was nosed up on one, the lead one, with my patrol car, and a guy got out of what I thought, you know, was the pilot side on a Huey, and he was wearing green military fatigues, about 6'2", remarkably good looking fellow, you know? Light hair, blue eyes and I asked to see some identification. He said, 'I have none.', and I thought, 'What?', you know? I looked at the helicopters and they were dark, either dark, dark green or black. No identifying markings at all. This man had no...was in military fatigues with no...no...no identification, no insignia of rank or unit. He didn't even have a helmet. So I reached out and touched him on...you know, just below, on the chest and ran my fingers down the button line to feel for dog tags. There weren't any dog tags. He was, you know, he was clean. The moment I touched that man, the two other helicopters—the two that was...that I wasn't nosed up on, lifted off the ground and one spread left, one spread right and hovered, and I'm a veteran of the Viet Nam era, and I interpret that as a beginning gun pass, and I don't know how I can tell you this, you know, I can't prove this, but I had a...I knew that if I attempted to physically arrest that man, I think they'd a killed us both right there, right on the spot, with the same mental attitude that the pilot had that ran into the...that ran my patrol car off a runway. I did some fast thinking there 'cause, you know, that's a tight on. I didn't have any evidence. I figured what evidence I had that

would've given me enough probable cause to make a civil arrest was in the fixed wing aircraft in the suitcase and gone, and I was in a bit of a spot, so to speak. So I told the man that I was talking to exactly what had happened. I told him about the mutilations in Rich County, told him he'd been spotted there, told him about the mutilations here, told him he'd been spotted here, told him we had riders out and in all three county's with high-powered rifles and that sooner or later we would get a shot at his helicopter and we intend to bring you down, sir, if this mutilation...if this...type of mutilation action does not stop. And he looked at me and smiled a little bit. And then he said, 'May I go?' And I had nothing to hold him on and like I say, you know, I wasn't holding the high card in that deal. So I said, 'Yeah.' He go up back to the...to the helicopter and they took off and flew off to the west.

**NIDS:** Hmm. And is that all the guy said? He just said he had no idea and then he said, 'Can I go now?'

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah.

**NIDS:** And did you notice, did he have any accent? Did he have a southern accent or did he have any unusual accent?

**WITNESS 1:** He sure didn't. This fellow was just...I mean he...he was a remarkably good looking fellow, handsome man and he was...he was like somebody that you'd meet in your home town, you know?

**NIDS:** Was he old or young or...?

**WITNESS 1:** No. I...I would...I would have guessed him at about 35.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** You know, fully mature.

**NIDS:** Okay. So then the three helicopters took off and...and left? Did Logan—is this airport, does it have an air traffic control?

**WITNESS 1:** No. No, this is...you know, this is just...just a little...it started out as just a little dirt patch. A Hicksville country airport, then World War II put in the one main...several main runways. They're all in disrepair now but the one main one.

**NIDS:** Okay. Now was this...this was on the main runway?

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah.

**NIDS:** Okay. The fixed wing aircraft—do you have any idea what type of aircraft that was?

**WITNESS 1:** I sure don't, and that's unusual, because I was trained at one time to notice those things and I didn't...I'll tell you what. I didn't notice what it was, and I should've, but at the time I thought I had an officer in a patrol car that was gonna end up a crispy critter. I didn't know who was gonna go chicken first. I'm surprised this officer did, I...because I know him. I know him well. I don't know why he did. I thought he was gonna kill himself right out there in the middle of the runway.

**NIDS:** Hmm. Okay. So after that, this was in 1976—did you see any more evidence of helicopters?

**WITNESS 1:** No.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** In fact, it ended the mutilations in the north end of the state of Utah. The only thing that happened after that—an old sheriff in Texas met...called my...belonged to the National Sheriff's Association, called my boss. He was having a similar problem, and my sheriff sent a copy of a file down to him on everything we did. I was in the office when he called back a couple of weeks later and said, 'Well, it worked.' 'Well', he said, 'we didn't close as you did, we got close enough. We haven't seen anymore helicopters.'

**NIDS:** Okay. So...you said that you generated a case file on this whole thing?

**WITNESS 1:** Oh yeah, there's a giant case file.

**NIDS:** Is there any way we could have access to that?

**WITNESS 1:** I wish there was, but there was a man named ----- who became the sheriff of Cache County and took possession of that case file.

**WITNESS 1:** Yeah. He then became the director of public safety for the state of Utah. Had an office in the capitol, and nobody's seen the file since.

**WITNESS 1:** But you can talk to the sheriff. He still lives in Logan, the old sheriff. And he knows a helluva lot more about this than I do because he...he was directing the entire operation. We had never even gotten close, wouldn't have had a clue of...of how to get close to those people without him.

**NIDS:** Okay, so he...he found out about the fact that they were landing at Logan Airport.

**WITNESS 1:** Oh yeah, yeah, he put it all together, you know? All...all I was, was a soldier, you know. He was the General.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** I used to work for him.

**NIDS:** Okay. We would like to...obviously we'd like to talk to him too, 'cause...

**WITNESS 1:** Maybe he can point you to some other names, you know, for...

**NIDS:** Yeah, well, in the short term, what I would like to do is to introduce you to our Utah person. He does a lot of the investigations in Utah, and he, by coincidence is ex-deputy sheriff in the Uintah Basin.

**WITNESS 1:** Do you want me to give the... the lab report and the pictures to him?

**NIDS:** Well, if you could possibly mail them to me, I think that would be better.

**WITNESS 1:** Okay, sure.

**NIDS:** 'Cause I'd like to get on this as quickly as possible

**WITNESS 1:** That's, you know...a war is a great big thing, and that's what we're in, but every individual man ends up with a tiny miniscule piece that doesn't mean beans to the big picture, but it means a lot to him.

**NIDS:** Right.

**WITNESS 1:** And that's where I'm at.

**NIDS:** Okay. Well, I appreciate that and I think what we would like to do is...is get...in the first...in the near term, get our Utah investigator, maybe to talk to you—arrange an appointment to talk to you, and in the meantime, if you could send us the photographs, and send us the...the lab report, and we could talk to the sheriff.

**WITNESS 1:** I...I handled the incident on the runway, but as I said, the way I handled it was detailed out to me by the sheriff. You *will* place a car at the south...north, or the south end of the runway, you *will* take this action if this happens, right down to 1, 2, 3, 4.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** He called all the shots right to a 'T'. We were ready for 'em at every turn.

**NIDS:** Okay, good.

**WITNESS 1:** That's how we got that close.

**NIDS:** Okay. Good. Well, I think...I can tell you very honestly right now, we don't have the answers of who's doing this, but we would like to get closer, and we'd like to follow this one up.

**WITNESS 1:** Go ahead, pard. I'm not gonna talk to anybody from now on but you, 'cause like I told you, my part on the program is just to stop my monetary loss.

**NIDS:** Yeah, okay. Well I...I appreciate that and I think, you know, if we can work together and maybe—no promises, but maybe we...we could get somewhere.

**WITNESS 1:** Sure hope so. Anything you need, let me know.

**NIDS:** Okay. Well, in the meantime, my telephone number is—if you ever want to ask me any questions, my telephone number is: 702...

**WITNESS 1:** Okay.

**NIDS:** ...798-1700.

**WITNESS 1:** Okay, let me read it back: 702-798-1700?

**NIDS:** Yes.

**WITNESS 1:** Thanks, partner.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** Been a pleasure talking to you, I appreciate it.

**NIDS:** Okay. Thank you.

**WITNESS 1:** Good luck.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS 1:** Bye.

#### **End of Interview**

#### **Interview Witness #2**

NIDS then located and interviewed the retired sheriff of Cache County in order to corroborate the testimony of Witness 1. The following is the recorded interview.

**NIDS:** Hi, could I speak with sheriff .....please? This is NIDS.

**WIFE:** Hold on. I think I can get—he just went outside to feed the horses. Just one minute.

**NIDS:** Okay. Thank you.

**WIFE:** It'll take him just a minute, okay?

**NIDS:** Sure, thank you. Hi, sheriff?

**WITNESS #2:** Yes?

**NIDS:** Yeah, this is the National Institute for Discovery Science...

**WITNESS #2:** Uh-huh?

**NIDS:** ...I was talking to a guy called ...yesterday who was a deputy sheriff, I believe, with you?

**WITNESS #2:** Right.

**NIDS:** Now he mentioned that your department was involved in some of the investigations into animal mutilations in the 1970's in northern Utah?

**WITNESS #2:** Uh-huh.

**NIDS:** Now the reason we're calling is that we are an investigative organization with a scientific focus in investigating animal mutilations and investigating these kinds of phenomena. We're not part of the government, we're not funded by anybody except a financier in Las Vegas called Robert Bigelow, and one of the reasons that I'm calling you is to see if we can get any information whatsoever regarding the mutilation phenomenon that you guys investigated in Bear Lake County and Rich County in the 1970's.

**WITNESS #2:** Uh-huh. Excuse me just a second [coughs].

**NIDS:** Sure.

**WITNESS #2:** Well I was a sheriff of Cache County, and Cache County borders Rich County and Bear Lake County. Rich County, Utah and Bear Lake County, Idaho, and Cache County is the county just west of those two counties in Utah.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** And I was the county sheriff here from 1970 'til 1980—a deputy before that and I can't remember. It's been so long ago I can't remember when it was. What...when...when in the '70's it was. '74 or '75—somewhere.

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS #2:** ...was working for me as a deputy and I had several other deputies and we started to get these cattle mutilations where their sex organs were cut out, and their eyes were cut out and...well, we investigated them and of

course we had a few veterinarians say that it was predators. But then there was five or six veterinary's [sic]—a federal vet and four or five more that said, 'No, they were cut.', and so I got the county attorney involved and we plo—The Sheriff's Association—and we plotted the mutilations through this area. And they all happened from the downwind of the nuclear tests there north of Las Vegas, and all these mutilations was in...was in the downwind area of that...of those particular atomic tests.

**NIDS:** Oh, I see.

**WITNESS #2:** So we were...we kinda come to a conclusion that...that it was the government checking the sex organs of animals and their eyes because radiation is accumulative in sex organs of people, or eyes—in people or animals. But anyway, you could tell...we went to several mutilations and there was a lot of black helicopters around and we was watching them, and every time we'd see those black helicopters, a day or so later we'd have a farmer or rancher call in with two or three dead cows, and we'd go to the scene and their sex organs were cut out, and their eyes were cut out. Sometimes if there was a female, her udders were cut off. And of course we had some vets that say that...that instead it was predators, but you could tell...I mean, you could tell a cut from a tear and, you know, you could see when they cut out the uterus of a...of a Hereford cow—you could see they were cut. I mean...so I made a...a statement. Me and the county attorney had a press conference and we said they were cut and a veterinary said something about there being predators and I made the statement that I...that's the first time I knew that magpies and coyotes carried razor blades, and that made Paul Harvey news. But anyway, to kind of climax it here, why there was two helicopters running around and they was using a...an airport here that's kinda out a way from town. In the evening there's very few people out there.

**NIDS:** Where was that airport?

**WITNESS #2:** In Cache. Cache-Logan Airport. It's about five miles north of Logan.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** Anyway, there was a black, fixed wing airplane came in and ripped, and we had the airport staked out, and my deputy was one of the guys there, and...but the helicopters lit and they took a stainless steel-looking suitcase, and they run it over and gave it to the guy in the fixed wing—probably a Cessna. And...so my deputy stopped the guy at the

helicopter and the guy wouldn't give him anything. He wouldn't give him anything he'd just state his name and give a serial number. He never had anything that identified the fact that he was in the Army or in the Air Force or what. He just had a pair of coveralls on. He never had no dog tag. But right on the bottom of the door in the helicopter there was a...you could see 'The Property of U.S. Army'—that little insignia that they have on all their equipment. You could see that.

**NIDS:** Were you at the airport at the time?

**WITNESS #2:** I was...I got there just as it...just as it was happening. And another officer—he went down the runway and tried to block off the fixed wing plane that had taken the...that had taken the stainless steel suitcase and parked in front of him, but the airplane took off anyway, went just barely went above the patrol car, and never...and didn't stop, and my deputy—he didn't have any reason, any probable cause to stop the guy in the helicopter. And all the guy in the helicopter is say...I can't remember. He give a name and a number, and so my deputy didn't any reason to...couldn't detain him—didn't have any evidence to contain him, so he let him go. But after that happened, we never had any...any cattle mutilations in the northern part of Utah, or the southern part of Idaho for several years. I mean, it was a long time. Now they've started to happen again over the last four or five years.

**NIDS:** Oh, you've heard about that?

**WITNESS #2:** Yeah. But...but we haven't...I've heard about a lot of 'em in the last few years, but after that incident, we musta got too close to 'em out here at the airport that they...they didn't...they never...they quit. We didn't have another mutilation around here 'til after I left the sheriff's job, and that was probably five or six years. And then, of course I don't have any...don't have any knowledge of what happened then 'cause I weren't the sheriff, but then I've heard from some associate that I have in law enforcement around that they've had some out around Elko and Wells, northern Nevada, and some up in central Utah, but I don't know anything about 'em, I've just heard.

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS #2:** I've just heard some stories that they're having 'em again and somewhere [inaudible] few here in Cache Valley that happened and...

**NIDS:** Recently?

**WITNESS #2:** Not...I don't know how recent. I know that ....—he was my deputy and his dad had a real nice [inaudible] dairy farm and he quit me and...he quit and went and took his dad's dairy farm over, and I know he's had some trouble in the last two or three years. I can't tell you exactly when, 'cause I don't see him that much any more.

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS #2:** But I know he's had a couple of problems and he's probably more familiar with what's happened around the valley than I am, and of course I don't have any contact with the sheriff's office any more because all the deputies that I had are gone or retired like I am, and it's a whole new bunch up there, so I don't know if...if they're running onto anything in the valley like that or not. But I know after we made that close encounter with 'em, we never had another cattle mutilation around here for a long—and we was having a lot of 'em.

**NIDS:** And like how many do you think?

**WITNESS #2:** Oh, we had 15 or 20.

**NIDS:** 15 to 20?

**WITNESS #2:** Yeah.

**NIDS:** And that was over what? A couple of years?

**WITNESS #2:** Oh yeah, a couple of years. There was one just north of the airport and there were several out in Lewiston and out in the northern rural part of the valley, and there was some in the southern...not too much in the federal part of the valley, but where Logan is and where it's supposed to be populated. But out in the farm areas and the ranch areas of Cache and Box Elder County, which is another big county to the west, there was a lot of 'em.

**NIDS:** Did you ever get a close look at these helicopters? I mean, could you identify what kind of helicopters?

**WITNESS #2:** Well, I don't know helicopters that much, but I see 'em a lot on TV. They're black and kinda boxy. They're not the...they're not the...I imagine they was the ol' Bell helicopter, I don't know. They're not these new assault Apache helicopters or anything like that. They're...they're black and they have one...one rotor on the top and a little one on the tail, and they're just a kind of an old boxy, black military helicopter that you used to see a lot of, and you still see 'em on TV quite a bit. I don't know if they use them any more or not. I expect

they do, but they're not the fancy Apache assault helicopters, they're just the old standard black helicopter.

**NIDS:** Did you notice any markings on them at all, or...?

**WITNESS #2:** They was all black. The whole...the whole helicopter was black, and right under the door there was a little white sign, it wasn't more than inch high and maybe a foot long, that said 'Property U.S. Army'. That was the only thing and that...the fixed wing airplane was...looked like probably a Cessna 180 and...

**NIDS:** Did you...did you see the Cessna 180?

**WITNESS #2:** Yeah, it was just...I saw it...I saw it take off and it was just about north, but it was just solid black. It was not...it was...full black. The whole...the whole plane.

**NIDS:** And there was no markings on the Cessna?

**WITNESS #2:** I wasn't that close enough to it.

**NIDS:** Yeah, okay.

**WITNESS #2:** But according to ....and the other deputy, there was no markings on it.

**NIDS:** Okay. Do you think it would be possible for our organization at some stage to have a look at some of these files, or do you know if they even still exist?

**WITNESS #2:** Well that...that's...that is the 64 dollar question because the sheriff that took over after me—he was gonna modernize everything, and he took a lot of those files and he tried to put 'em on the computer, and I don't ...I don't know what happened to the files and what photographs we had. I would...I would rather think they're probably gone in the ditch, because I know they put a lot of the information on the...on the computer, and then one night they lost their power and they lost their hard drive and they lost all their records and all their arrest records and everything. And that was about 1995-1996 there. So everything before that was lost. And...the sheriff that I...that took over for me, he took a lot of those files and...[coughs] excuse me, I got a bug in my throat. Anyway, he took a lot of those files and just took 'em dump and burned 'em.

**NIDS:** Oh did he?

**WITNESS #2:** Yep. And there was a lot of files in there—in fact, there was a lot of ol' books that had arrest records in 'em that were actually antiques. They was probably worth a lot of money 'cause they was antiques, and he took them down and burned them to hell. They had plenty of storage

room in the basement of the jail, but they could've...they could've stored all that stuff. And I had several files on those cattle mutilations and a lot of pictures of the...of the...where they cut. We had close-up pictures of where they cut. We had pictures of the animal and...and everything. And I...I'm just...I'm certain that they're all destroyed. I'll bet you they're gone. You could call the Cache County sheriff's office and talk to 'em up there and see if they had any files on the old cattle mutilations, but...

**NIDS:** Is there anybody who I could talk to that you...you could recommend?

**WITNESS #2:** Well, you could talk to...the chief deputy now is .....

**NIDS:** .....?

**WITNESS #2:** Mm-hmm. And the captain is...is ... is the captain and .....is the chief deputy. They're the only two officers that was there when I was there. All the rest of 'em are gone, but they were just rookies. And I don't know if they even remember when this happened or if they were even hired by then, but I hired those two guys, but...but they may...it may have been after these mutilations. Like I say, when these mutilations stopped...after that confrontation out at the airport, they just stopped. There was not one anywhere, and in this Utah Sheriff's Association, we talked about it a lot and had some files on it and there wasn't any in Box Elder County, or Davis County or Tooele County, or any of the counties that surround Cache County 'til I went out of office. Then I don't know what happened after that. I know there has been some...some muti—suspected mutilations like I say, in...yeah...out in Elko County and out in eastern Nevada which borders Box Elder County. As I keep saying, I don't know much about 'em. I've just heard a little bit about 'em, you know?

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS #2:** On the news or...or from...from my sources that I still got, but nothing. Just the fact that there've been some mutilations out around Elko.

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS #2:** And then there's been some up here in the north end of Cache Valley, I don't know how long ago, but I know was some a couple years ago.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** He said that he had some...had some more of those mutilations and they...they...a vet had determined that a couple the animals still lived

and they had stuck some kind of a foreign rod in 'em or something to take samples or something. One of 'em died and a couple of 'em lived, but one of 'em had had her sex organs cut out on the inside, so he had to sell that one, and he says then another one he was able to save. He didn't really talk to me really a lot about it, he just mentioned that the mutilations were back again and he had some trouble with it a year or so ago, or two years. I can't remember.

**NIDS:** Yeah. Interesting. Is there any veterinarian in the area that's still operating that might have some idea of...of these animal mutilations, that we could talk to that you know of?

**WITNESS #2:** Well, I don't know. Now my deputy is a lot more close to the vet...veterinary's [sic] in this valley than I am, 'cause he used 'em on a daily basis or a weekly basis and he...he has a good...he would...the doctor that...that came out with me was Dr. Gibson, and he died.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** So he's no longer around. His son knew a lot—a little bit about it. He was going to veterinary school at the time and he died a year ago right of a fall up by Sun Valley. So both of the Dr. Gibson's that would've known anything about it at all are dead.

**NIDS:** Mm. Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** So I really can't tell you—like I say, my deputy could tell you more about...he could tell you more about any vets that might know anything, but the one that went with me all the time was kind of the county vet or he...he did things when the county needed him to, and his name was Gibson, and he died several years ago.

**NIDS:** Okay. Well I will...I'll try and get back with the deputy then and see if he can get some veterinarian that...

**WITNESS #2:** He might have an idea of somebody. I don't have anybody...there isn't any old vets around anymore. They're mostly all new ones that [inaudible] just pre-'70's, you know, there...there might be some with 20 years experience, but that's...that only takes you back to 1980 and this all happened in '74-'75 and some of 'em might know a little bit 'cause they've taken over from their father, and they would...might've...they might know some stuff that their dad told 'em, but most of the vets that are around here...the old ones aren't around anymore.

**NIDS:** Yeah, okay.

**WITNESS #2:** But anyway, he might know somebody.

**NIDS:** Okay, well I'll...I'll try with him and I really appreciate you taking the time and...

**WITNESS #2:** Well sure. I wished I could help you more.

**NIDS:** Would you mind, if we have any more questions, if we wanted to check something, if we could call you?

**WITNESS #2:** Sure. Call me anytime you want to. I just wished I could open those...the files I had—I just wish that I could...still at the sheriff's office, or go up there and get 'em and make them available to you, but I was very...why I rather doubt that there's anything even left...

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS #2:** ...of those files.

**NIDS:** We're just trying to get an idea of...you know, how much is going on and what's causing it—all that kind of thing and it seems like you have just offered an interesting lead.

**WITNESS #2:** Yeah, well we come to the conclusion—The Sheriff's Association and several county attorneys that it was all the radiation fallout from the...from the Nevada test site. See, it was interesting because it was not too long after that that the government gave each on of the [inaudible] the people in St. George and Mesquite, Nevada and Kanab and those countries that was pretty...those cities that were pretty close to that atomic testing plant, or atomic testing area—they gave all their descendants, or their widow or their...or their widower a hundred thousand dollars because they died of cancer. I've...I've got a cousin...cousin-in-law that died and his mother-in-law got a hundred thousand dollars. Now they're doing it again right now. Orrin Hatch, the senator from Utah, and they're getting...there's a whole bunch more people getting a hundred thousand dollars because somebody in the family died of radiation through cancer or something. And so it was interesting because it was during this time...right after this time that they started to give those hundred thousand dollars, and it was pretty well consent that the county attorneys and the sheriff's in the area—that they were testing for radiation accumulation in the sex organs and in the eyes of animals and it...I...I got a pretty good background in radiation. Before I was a sheriff I was an x-ray technician.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** And if you are exposed to radiation—if those roentgens are accumulative in your sex organ, they never go away. So if you're exposed to radiation, you will have so many roentgens in your sex organs, and you're allowed about 600 of 'em. Once you accumulate 600 of 'em, you're gonna die from radiation exposure. Well, the people in Japan that was in them atomic bombs, they got thousands of roentgens in a second, so they instantly died.

**NIDS:** OK.

**WITNESS #2:** But...what we come to a conclusion was that they was taking these sex organs in these animals and checking 'em to see how much accumulative radiation they had. I think that's what they...what the mutilations were all about.

**NIDS:** So they...they never informed the ranchers who owned the animals?

**WITNESS #2:** Oh no. Oh no. See, they would be...they would be letting the cat out of the bag if they did that.

**NIDS:** OK.

**WITNESS #2:** They just went out on the open ranges and in the open...big open pastures and went down on an animal and evidently darted it, put it out that way. Sometimes they killed 'em, sometimes they didn't, but usually they killed 'em.

**NIDS:** Interesting.

**WITNESS #2:** Yeah, it was...[coughs] excuse me again. It was really interesting while it was going on, but after that night out at the airport, and I can't give you a day or time, it just quit. That was the end of it. There wasn't another sighting or a report of a cattle mutilation for years after that.

**NIDS:** Yeah, that's...that is definitely pretty interesting because we...if we can track any files down at the sheriffs office now...

**WITNESS #2:** Just ask 'em if they still got any files on those cattle mutilations, and they might not even know what you was talking about because they might've hired after that happened, and after that situation out at the airport, everything went quiet.

**NIDS:** Yeah.

**WITNESS #2:** So if they were hired after that, they wouldn't even know. And I can't tell you when they were hired, but I would say they were hired right around that time.

**NIDS:** Yeah, okay. Well I will...I will certainly check with them and I'll get back with your deputy.

**WITNESS #2:** Okay.

**NIDS:** Thank you very much.

**WITNESS #2:** If I can help you, give me a call. I just wish I had more records. I wish I had those records available that I could go and get it out for your observation, but I don't have 'em, and I don't think they exist anymore.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** Okay?

**NIDS:** Well, thank you very much.

**WITNESS #2:** You betcha.

**NIDS:** Okay.

**WITNESS #2:** Bye.

**NIDS:** Bye.

**End of Interview**

## **Discussion**

There are two main issues dealt with in this report. Firstly, some unusual injuries involving apparent sampling of blood from jugular vein and burns or other trauma on the animal's back are reported. The purpose of this report is to document these occurrences and to invite interested parties to report any similar cases to NIDS. There are no precedents in NIDS database for these types of injuries. However, NIDS investigated a case in Northern New Mexico in which there was severe lacerations to the upper lips of a 2 year old Charolais cow and both ears were cut off with a sharp instrument, see: <http://198.63.56.18/pdf/newmexico.pdf>. This case remains one of the few cases on record in which an animal appeared to survive a mutilation. In addition, NIDS has received several uncorroborated reports of "acid-like" burns on dozens of animals in Eastern Canada, spanning several years.

The second part of this report comprises parts of the interviews of a retired deputy sheriff and a retired sheriff from Cache County Utah. Both interviews contain historical details and describe the complete cessation of animal mutilation activity in Northern Utah and in Southern Idaho, following a warning that helicopters would be shot down. As both interviews describe, a standoff occurred at a remote Cache-Logan airstrip in the mid-nineteen seventies and at a time when animal mutilations had caused enough concern in the

local community to trigger patrols of armed ranchers. An occupant of an unmarked helicopter who was dressed in military coveralls, was warned by the deputy sheriff that local ranchers would begin to shoot at the helicopters if the mutilations did not cease. This warning appeared to be a turning point in the local history of the mutilation phenomenon. From that day onward, according to both the sheriff and his deputy, no mutilations were reported in Northern Utah or in Idaho for at least five or six years.

Whether the sudden cessation of animal mutilations following the warning was a coincidence or was directly related to the admonition is not known. It should be emphasized that NIDS does not endorse any of the theories or speculation put forward to explain animal mutilations in either interview. NIDS does not have a position on the identity of the perpetrators of animal mutilations, because, according to NIDS's research, there is insufficient evidence to support any conclusions. Again, the present report is being published for the purpose of bringing forward any additional witnesses of similar occurrences.

NIDS has conducted formal and informal interviews with many retired law enforcement officers who were involved in animal mutilation investigations in their local communities in the 1970s, 1980s and the 1990's. Many of these officers appeared to correlate helicopter activity with animal mutilations. Indeed, as previously described, NIDS was the first to describe a statistical correlation between nearly 200 sightings of unidentified flying objects, including unidentified helicopters and nearly 70 contemporaneous cattle mutilations in a 40 mile radius of Great Falls Montana from 1974–1976 (see: [http://198.63.56.18/pdf/wolverton\\_report.pdf](http://198.63.56.18/pdf/wolverton_report.pdf) ). It is of course difficult to draw any conclusions from this statistical correlation. In other words, correlation does not necessarily imply causation.