



Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 142

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Edited by Gene Baade



I think one has to read this excerpt from Napier's *Bigfoot* (pages 68 and 69) a couple of times to fully appreciate what he has said. Dr. Marie-Jeanne Koffmann, a noted field researcher, said essentially the same thing. I need to remind readers that the hominoid being discussed is more likely the almasty rather than the alma, but they could be one in the same.

Furthermore, Dmitri Bayanov and Igor Burtsev have provided many accounts of what we believe are almasty. A rather sad detail in the account of the Karapetian story is that the hominoid was carrying a large melon when he was captured, and probably shot later. People in the region left out food of that nature for the almasty. I am reminded of this when I see all the melons at my local food store.

I have provided information over the last 25 years that indicates almasty-like hominoids have been seen in Canada, in particular British Columbia. I have drawn a parallel between them and the “woodsmen” of Alaska. I recall discussing this subject at length with Michael Dennett (died 2009) of the *Skeptical Inquirer*. At one point he exclaimed, “But they are not sasquatch!,” and I agreed they are not; they appear to be much more intelligent.

Napier's comment, “... the Kirgiz, Kazakh, and Mongol herdsmen regard wild men as familiar and harmless eccentrics in need of a certain amount of care and protection.” I can just imagine politicians in the US, Canada, and Russia reading this and saying, “That's all we need, some other people to look after!” The same likely goes for the sasquatch.

Napier did his hominology research in the 1960s and early 1970s. He published his book in 1972. It would be another 19 years (1991) before most of the USSR became what we now call Russia. I doubt much approval would have been given to research in hominology while the USSR was in control. That applies to both domestic researchers and those from other

... Almas stories noticeably lack the mythical overtones of the Yeti tales. It is clear that whereas the Tibetans and the Nepalese regard the Yeti of the high snows as a beast, and look upon it with a measure of superstitious awe, the Kirgiz, Kazakh and Mongol herdsmen regard wild men as familiar and harmless eccentrics in need of a certain amount of care and protection. It is true that in some areas to meet an Almas is to court bad luck, and to shoot one is liable to have unpleasant repercussions in the form of bad weather or drought. But this superstition is not inconsistent with the human status of Almas, for human beings with physical peculiarities such as albinism, a cast in the eye or even left-handedness are credited with similar evil powers by unenlightened races. The overall impression is that the inhabitants of Central Asia regard Almas as human beings—if somewhat degraded ones—and not as monsters in any sense of the word. It is tempting (and at the present time there is no evidence to justify taking a harder line) to believe that Almas are human beings, perhaps the remnants of a primitive, culturally archaic population that has survived in the empty mountain regions of Central Asia for many thousands of years. Whether their history extends back to Palaeolithic times, and whether they could conceivably be descendants of Neanderthal populations of the Würm (or Wisconsin) glaciation is even more speculative.

countries. I discussed current Russian general opinion with Dmitri Bayanov (died in June this year) and he told me that professional Russian involvement in hominology was essentially hopeless. That's why he concentrated on the USA and Canada.

For certain, at one time Russia and North America were totally physically connected and had massive migration (both ways) of animals of all kinds, including humans. On the adjacent map, what is termed “Beringia” was at one time an enormous land formation, which was slowly claimed by the oceans, north and south. The land that formed the Bering Strait (red circle) was likely the last to disappear, so for thousands of years it formed what we have called a land bridge.



When the relentless oceans finally claimed the bridge, there was no more land migration.

I think we can logically conclude that almasty and even sasquatch came to North America via Beringia proper, or finally over the land bridge. But I don't think many professionals have chosen to care either in Russia or North America.



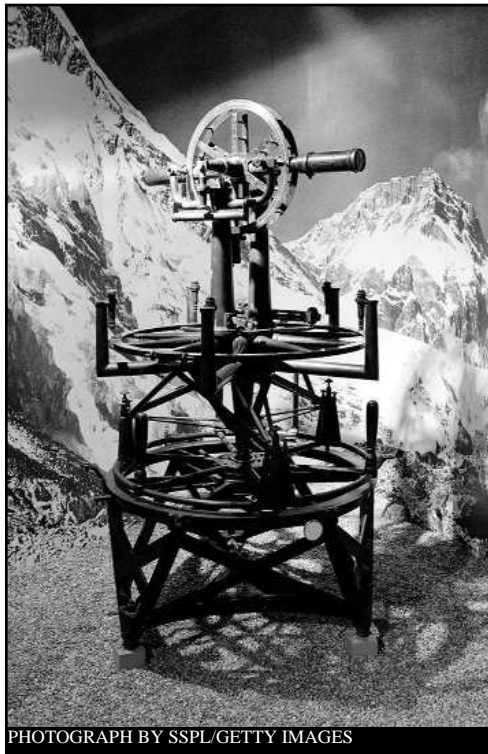
This article from National Geographic is not specifically hominology related. It is simply interesting to those who might remember a time when precision had nothing to do with electronics.

DISCOVERING THE TOP OF THE WORLD IS EVEN HIGHER

By Victoria Jaggard, SCIENCE executive editor

Measuring Everest: There's something endlessly alluring about antique instruments of science. Maybe it's my inner steampunk fan coming through, but I can't get enough of the gleam of brass and the delicate flourishes found on old sextants, orreries, and chronometers. Heck, I even have a tattoo of a 17th-century brass astrolabe. Many of these sumptuous tools have fallen out of fashion as humans have invented ever more precise ways of navigating the world around us, trading brass for lightweight plastic or even swapping analog devices for more advanced digital methods.

That's why I was delighted to find out that at least one recent expedition went a little old-school: To make a comprehensive measurement of the height of Mount Everest (above), scientists combined cutting-edge GPS and satellite data with more traditional survey data from instruments called theodolites.



PHOTOGRAPH BY SSPL/GETTY IMAGES

Variations on this instrument (above) have been around since the mid-1500s, according to the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. It's basically a rotating telescope mounted on a tripod that allows a user to measure the angles between two points. Early attempts to measure Everest in the 1800s used theodolites such as the half-ton instrument pictured above, requiring surveyors to lug heavy gear as they zig-zagged their way north from the Bay of Bengal, Freddie Wilkinson reports for Nat. Geo. Until this week, the official height recognized by the government of Nepal was 29,028

feet above sea level—a number calculated in 1954 using a similar method.

To get the new height of 29,031.69 feet above sea level, teams from Nepal and China used GPS and ground-penetrating radar. But they also “waited at eight sites with views of Everest’s summit to fix its elevation at sunrise, when the atmosphere is most clear, with modern laser theodolites,” Wilkinson reports. To my eye, these instruments are not as aesthetically pleasing as a 19th-century device. But even if we’ve sacrificed form over function, it’s a testament to the theodolite that it still has a place in 21st-century science.

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...therefore I have condensed the principal sightings of the North American Bigfoot over the past fifty years into a compact table which summarizes the basic facts (table 2, p. 212-4).

Assume it is 1972, and in reading the above statement in Dr. John Napier’s book, you go to the table referenced:

TABLE 2.
Sightings of footprints of the Sasquatch of north-west America since 1920

Locality	Observer	Year	Month	Time	Sex	Stature	Footprint dimensions	Category
BRITISH COLUMBIA AND ALBERTA								
Toba Inlet	Ostman	1924	Summer	N	M & F	7-8 ft.	—	S
Ruby Creek, Fraser river	Clapperton	1940	Oct.	D	M	7-8 ft.	—	S
New Hazelton	Luxton	1949	?	N	—	8 ft.	—	S
Nr Chilliwack	Gregg	1952	Nov.	N	M	7 ft.	—	S
Mica Mt., Tero Juneau	Roe	1955	Oct.	D	F	6 ft.	—	S
Yale, Fraser river	Hunt	1956	May	N	—	—	—	S
Nr Enderby	Bellvue	1959	Sept.	D	—	7-9 ft.	—	S
Nr Nelson	Deingali	1960	Oct.	D	—	7-9 ft.	16-17 in.	S & F
Pitt Lake	—	1961	?	N	—	9 ft.	—	S
Pitt Meadows	Welch	1965	June	D	—	10-12 ft.	24 X 12 in.	S & F
Richmond	—	1966	July	N	—	7-8 ft.	—	S
Nr Thompson Valley	—	1966	Oct-Nov.	—	—	—	24-26 in.	F
S.W. of Norddegg (Alberta)	Ross	1968	Summer	—	—	—	15 X 6-7 in.	F
Windy Point, Alberta	Harris	1968	Fall	—	—	—	17 X 12 in.	F
Squamish	—	1969	Mar.	D	—	—	—	S & F
Powder Mt.	Osborne	1969	Apr.	—	—	—	12-14 in. (snow)	F
Merrit, Nicola Valley	Group	1969	May	N	—	7-10 ft.	—	S
Lytton, E. of Squamish-Fernberton road	Wally	1969	Nov.	N	—	7 ft.	—	S
Q. Charlotte Islands	Anon.	1970	Jan.	D	—	9 ft.	—	S
—	—	1970	June	N	—	7 ft.	—	S

NOTE. This table lists the sightings of Sasquatch and discoveries of footprints since 1920 on my files. There are hundreds more, although those given here are probably among the best documented. The surname of the observer is given where known. The designation "Anon." respects privacy where requested. "Group" indicates sightings by a number of people together. Indication of "day" or "night" is relevant only in the case of sightings. Sex is listed only where positive evidence is available. Stature is based on the observer's estimate. S = sighting, F = footprint.

You then discover that the real list for BC only is as I have shown on the following page from *Sasquatch in British Columbia* (red indicates matches I could find). I appreciate that Napier says, “There are hundreds more [incidents], although those given here are probably among the best documented.” However, I am not sure that’s fair because it short-changes or minimizes the extent or magnitude of this phenomenon. *Continued on next page.*

SASQUATCH-RELATED INCIDENTS FROM 1920 TO 1970

1922/05/00 – Prince George. Primitive Cave or Tree-top Dweller (64)

1924/SU/00 – Toba Inlet. The Ostman Abduction (65)

1927/09/00 – Agassiz. It was “Covered with Hair Like an Animal” (71)

1928/YR/00 – Lavington. An Odd Visitor (74)

1928/YR/00 – Bella Coola. Ape Seen and Shot (74)

1930/YR/00 – Swindle Island. Wading Sasquatch (75)

1934/03/23 – Harrison Mills (Chehalis Reservation). Rocks From Above (75)

1934/03/00 – Harrison Mills (Chehalis Reservation). Rock Bombardment (75)

1934/03/00 – Harrison Mills (Chehalis Reservation). Night Encounter (76)

11934/05/00 – Harrison Mills. A “Buzzing Sound” (77)

1934/08/00 – Haney. “Human Face on a Fur Clad Body” (87)

1934/YR/00 – One Hundred Mile House. Quarter Mile of Tracks (89)

1935/10/00 – Harrison Hot Springs. Straddled a Log and Paddled with Hands and Feet (89)

1937/YR/00 – Osoyos. Looked Just Like a Monkey (90)

1938/YR/00 – Harrison Mills (Chehalis Reservation). Bear and Sasquatch Fight (91)

1939/YR/00 – North Bend. Playful Sasquatch (91)

1939/DE/00 – Klemtu. Playing Around as They Walked (92)

1939/DE/00 – Alert Bay. “D’sonoqua” Seen (93)

1941/10/00 – Agassiz. Something Coming out of the Woods (93)

1941/11/00 – Harrison Hot Springs. At Least 14 Feet Tall (94)

1943/CI/00 – Hope. Man Attacked by a Sasquatch (95)

1944/08/00 – Bella Coola. Bending Down in the Water (95)

1945/04/00 – Swindle Island. “Where the Apes Stay” (96)

1945/CI/00 – Bella Coola. “As Big as a Moose” (96)

1945/CI/00 – Coombs (VI). Hair Streamed Out (97)

1945/CI/00 – Osoyos. Faster Than a Man Could Run (97)

1947/YR/00 – Bella Coola. Not Bounding Like a Bear (98)

1947/YR/00 – Vancouver. Skin Clad Sasquatch? (98)

1948/YR/00 – Harrison Mills (Chehalis Reservation). Bicycle Chase (99)

1949/07/00 – Harrison Hot Springs. Horse Balked at Going Farther (99)

1949/10/00 – New Hazelton. Like a Bear (99)

1949/DE/00 – Agassiz. Huge Barefoot Tracks (100)

1949/CI/00 – Vanderhoof. Thought it was a Gorilla (100)

1950/12/00 – Roderick Island. Tracks in Frost (101)

1950/CI/00 – Smithers. Trees Stripped (101)

1951/11/00 – McBride. Lean-to Slept in by Something (101)

1951/YR/00 – Swindle Island. Tracks Entered Lake Kitasoo (102)

1952/YR/00 – Terrace. Watched the Man for a While (102)

1953/09/00 – Courtenay. “Thought it was a Friend” (102)

1955/10/00 – Tete Jaune Cache. “Definitely Not a Bear” (104)

1956/03/30 – Flood (or Floods). Sasquatch Couple (107)

1956/08/00 – Sechelt. Creature Standing in a Doorway (108)

1956/08/00 – Sechelt. Rocks Thrown at U.S. Visitor (108)

1956/CI/00 – Bella Coola. Eating Blueberries (109)

1957/CI/00 – East Sooke. (VI). “Tore Trees Out by their Roots” (116)

1958/SU/00 – Harrison Hot Springs. A “Hairy Monster” (116)

1958/08/00 – New Hazelton. Ladies Report Sighting (118)

1958/08/00 – New Hazelton. Crossed the Road (119)

1958/12/08 – Bella Coola. Gaze Returned and Creature Runs Away (119)

1959/03/00 – Aristazabal Island. Strong Odor Sensed (120)

1959/09/00 – Enderby. Nose Just a Flat Area with Two Holes (121)

1959/AU/00 – Clinton. Massive Legs (123)

1959/DE/00 – Rocky Mountains. Moved Like a Monkey (123)

1959/DE/00 – Mainland Bay. Sasquatch Scares off Fisherman (125)

1959/DE/00 – Gilford Island. Digging for Clams (125)

1959/DE/00 – Peachland. Cook Sees Sasquatch (125)

1960/02/00 – Price Island. Size of a Small Man (125)

1960/02/00 – Roderick Island. Blood Found in Snow (126)

1960/02/00 – Langley. Four and a Half Feet Tall (126)

1960/08/00 – Nelson. A “Great Beast” (126)

1960/08/00 – Chilliwack. Stones Rain For About Two Hours (128)

1961/04/19 – Harrison Hot Springs. Puzzling Print (129)

1961/09/00 – Cumberland. Seemed to be Checking Where They Had Camped (129)

1961/10/00 – Nelson. Silhouetted in the Moonlight (130)

1961/10/00 – Swindle Island. Long String of Large Footprints (130)

1961/YR/00 – Moricetown. Prints were “Awe Inspiring” (131)

1962/04/00 – Bella Coola. Four Sasquatch Seen Together (131)

1962/04/00 – Bella Coola. Mother and Child (132)

1962/06/08 – Kitimat. About Ten “Apes” (133)

1962/07/23 – Wells. Light Gray Animal (133)

1962/SU/00 – Aristazabal Island. Many Tracks Found (133)

11962/08/00 – Devastation Channel. Pace of 42 Inches (133)

1962/08/00 – Hixon. Hair Covered Man (134)

1962/08/00 – Quesnel. Small, Black Eyes (134)

1962/AU/00 – Swindle Island. Three Sets of Tracks (134)

1962/11/00 – Chilliwack. Eyes Glared (135)

1962/12/00 – Bella Coola. Four Sets of Footprints (137)

1963/07/00 – Kemano. Titmus Sees Unusual Figures (138)

11963/YR/00 – Bella Bella. Seen on the Shore (139)

1963/YR/00 – Minstrel Island. Monstrous Thing (139)

1964/WI/00 – Squamish. Very Large Tracks (140)

1964/04/00 – Turnour Island. House Moved (139)

1964/07/00 – Chilliwack. Four White Dots (140)

1964/CI/00 – Agassiz. Tracks With Short Toes (140)

1965/05/31 – Mission. Cows Stared at It (140)

1965/06/28 – Squamish. Something Dragged to an Ice Hole (141)

1965/07/00 – Butedale. Three Creatures Seen (143)

1965/07/00 – Hope. Lumbered Across the Road (144)

1965/08/00 – Kitimat. Creature on the Shore (144)

1965/10/00 – Fort St. John. “Weetago” Seen (144)

1965/AU/00 – Harrison Mills. Wearing Fur Around its Waist (145)

1965/11/00 – Bella Coola. White Streak Below Its Head (145)

11965/CI/00 – North Vancouver. “White as a Sheet” (145)

1965/CI/00 – Gold Bridge. Seen Through Rifle Scope (146)

1966/05/00 – Spillimacheen. Strange Behavior (147)

1966/07/09 – Richmond. Fence Post Torn Out (147)

1966/07/14 – Richmond. “Big Wooly Animal” (148)

1966/07/21 & 22 – Richmond. Three Sightings in 24 Hours (148)

1966/07/00 – White Rock. It “Fooled Around” (149)

1966/08/00 – Penticton. Strange Shadow (150)

1966/CI/00 – Boston Bar. Beautiful Tawny Brown Coat (150)

1967/WI/00 – Bella Coola. Footprints and Yelling (150)

1967/02/00 – Hartley Bay. Screamed Like a Woman (151)

1967/02/00 – Quatna River. Ape Tracks (151)

1967/07/00 – Prince George. Legs Obscured by Long Hair (152)

11967/09/00 – Comox (VI). Teenage Girls Encounter a Sasquatch (156)

1967/10/31 – Vancouver. A Crippled Giant (164)

1967/CI/00 – Swindle Island. Typical Ape Tracks (165)

1968/WI/00 – Gosnell. Loggers Find Tracks (166)

1968/02/22 – Alert Bay. “Ran as Fast as We Could” (166)

1968/03/00 – Golden. Snow Survey – Tracks Found (167)

1968/05/17 – Sechelt. Ran Away Pretty Fast (167)

1968/08/00 – Stewart. Ran Up a Steep Hill on its “Hind Legs” (172)

1968/09/14 – Chetwynd. Game Guides Sighting (172)

1968/09/00 – Courtenay. Silent Watcher (172)

1968/11/16 – Lillooet. In and Out the Bush (173)

1968/11/20 – Prince George. Absolutely Speechless (173)

1968/YR/00 – Kelowna. Walked Upright All the Time (174)

1969/01/10 – Hope. Turned the Upper Body as Well (174)

1969/02/00 – Alert Bay. Seen Looking at Them (176)

1969/02/00 – Butedale. Ran off Screaming (176)

1969/03/00 – Powell River. Cabin Owner Shaken Up (177)

1969/06/01 – Merritt. Army Cadet Sighting (179)

1969/06/18 – Klemtu. Fifteen-inch Prints (181)

1969/06/00 – Squamish. Three-toed Tracks (181)

1969/09/20 – Rossland. Observed Movement for 200 Yards (182)

1969/10/25 – Bella Coola. Sitting by Two Holes (183)

1969/11/20 – Lytton. “Wizened Old Man” (184)

1969/DE/00 – Turnour Island. Striking on House Posts (185)

1969/DE/00 – Whistler. Followed Her Husband (186)

1969/DE/00 – Harrison Mills (Chehalis Reservation). Unusual Prints in Snow (186)

1969/DE/00 – Invermere. White and Grey Creature (187)

1969/DE/00 – Nazko. Along the River (187)

1969/DE/00 – Remote Island. Heard Chest-beating (187)

1969/DE/00 – Nelson. Sasquatch Dumps Logs off Truck (187)

1969/CI/00 – Vancouver Island. Caver Sees Strange Creature (187)

1969/CI/00 – Gordon River (VI). Deer Heads Appeared Twisted Off (188)

1969/CI/00 – Keremeos. Green-Blue Eyes Reflecting (188)

1970/01/07 – Squamish. “It was Carrying a Fish” (189)

1970/02/00 – Klemtu. “Parted the Salal with its Hands” (190)

1970/02/00 – Skidgate (QCI). “Small Beady Eyes” (200)

1970/03/00 – Juskatla. Lifted Up Its Arms (190)

1970/04/02 – Harrison Hot Springs. “Man or Gorilla”(191)

1970/04/23 – Klemtu. “Ape-like Face” (191)

1970/05/00 – Nazko. Watched it Go By (191)

1970/06/00 – Trail. Track in Dry Mud (192)

1970/AU/00 – Clearwater. Tracks in Remote Area (193)

1970/11/00 – Princeton. Small Round Head (193)

Frank L. Beebe of the British Columbia Provincial Museum in a report in 1967 to Mr W. K. Kiernan, the Minister for Recreation and Conservation of British Columbia, emphasizes the density of the forest growth, and that the quantity of food (fruits and berries) produced by the deciduous understorey is sadly impoverished. As for the general food supply in coniferous forest, Beebe states: ‘. . . this type of vegetation produces the very poorest quality of low-energy food and the least quantity of high-energy food of any forest type on the planet.’

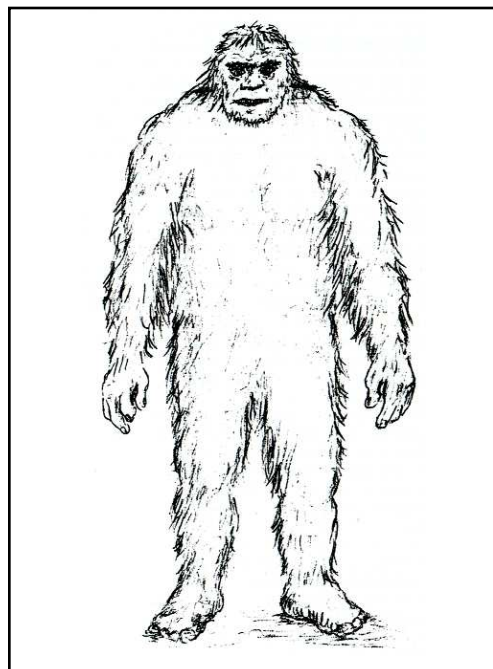
Dr. John Napier made this statement in his book *Bigfoot* (page 77) in connection with sasquatch nutrition, given the hominoid is a vegetarian. He came to this possible conclusion upon reading the Albert Ostman story. Ostman does not provide any indication that the hominoids who captured him hunted or ate meat of any sort; only vegetables. The bottom line is, that given this is the case, the sasquatch could not exist in British Columbia’s forests; it would not have enough nutrition.

Napier definitely makes a good point, providing yet another flaw in the Ostman story. Nevertheless, note that Beebe specifies just “fruits and berries.” There is a lot of other vegetation that we know sasquatch collect. I determined just what that vegetation and other food was from sightings, although berry types are not often specified, but I know what’s available. Many sightings involving food were in Dr. John Bindernagel’s books. Originally, I showed a mixture of meats, vegetables and fruits in a poster. Then I concentrated on just wild vegetation. The museum posters I created are shown on the far right. All of that food shown is definitely in British Columbia and is in huge quantities. I can personally attest to that.

There are definitely large forest areas that do not have a lot of undergrowth. What happens here is that fir trees drop needles, purposely making the soil very acidic, so little will grow. This protects the trees’ water supply.

Really, the jury is still out on the Ostman story. I gave it a red flag in 2010, based on a number of things. One of which still amuses me—Ostman categorically stated that the hominoids in his experience did not look like the

Patterson and Gimlin film subject. Ostman stated the Ken Pettijohn description (drawn by Patterson, as shown below), was much closer. This image reminds me of the Russian alomasty examined by Dr. Karapetian.



Description provided by Ken Pettijohn.

In the course of time (around 2000) sasquatch sustenance became somewhat topical or questionable. In short, could the hominoid fully support itself in the Pacific Coast wilderness? I posed the question to David Hancock, a naturalist scientist, and he said it definitely did not have a problem. He then picked up the telephone and called Frank Beebe, who was a close friend. After a few words, he handed the telephone to me. Beebe went on at length as to logical food sources in British Columbia that would more than adequately support a large animal like the sasquatch. There was absolutely no question in this regard. I believe, the same would apply to most of the United



States regions, especially those in the Pacific Northwest.

I really don’t know if Ostman just fantasized his experience (made it real, but just in his mind) or encountered a wild hominoid and his family of some sort, who were vegetarians, and Ostman exaggerated a lot about their physical size. I would say that most (95%?) of sasquatch sightings involve something very close to the P/G film subject.

I am lost for words as to Napier and his knowledge of the West. —00—