

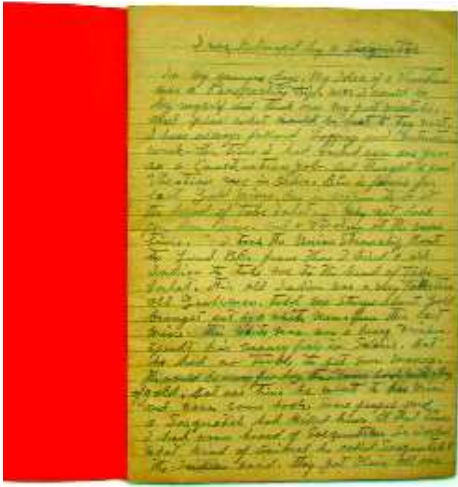
Albert Ostman's Incredible Journey

NOTE: This "classic" is so bizarre it staggers the imagination. Nevertheless, it has been tightly woven into sasquatch lore so it needs to be presented.

During the summer of 1924, Albert Ostman, a construction worker, went to look for gold at the head of Toba Inlet, British Columbia. After a two-day trek, he set up his permanent campsite. When he awoke the next morning, he found that his things had been disturbed, although nothing was missing. He was a heavy sleeper, so he was not surprised that he slept through the intrusion. The next morning he awoke to the same thing, but this time his packsack had been emptied out and some food was missing.

After a third "visit," Ostman determined to stay awake all night to catch the intruder. He climbed into his sleeping bag fully clothed, save his boots, with his rifle by his side in the bag. He placed his boots at the bottom of the bag. He fell asleep, but was then awakened by something picking him up and carrying him, sleeping bag and all. He was bundled up in such a way that he could not move. Whatever was carrying him also had his packsack, as Ostman could feel food cans touching his back. Having heard of "mountain giants," Ostman reasoned that it was one of these creatures carrying him. After a journey of some three hours, the creature unloaded his cargo onto the ground. Upon climbing out of the bag and getting himself together, Ostman discovered he was in the company of four sasquatch: two adults (male and female), and two children (girl and a boy). Ostman spent six days with his captors and was able to observe firsthand (and later recount in considerable detail) how the creatures looked and lived. He then made his escape by tricking the adult male into eating a box of snuff (tobacco).

Although Ostman's story is amusing and interesting, there are obvious details that detract from the story's credibility. For that reason, I prefer to refrain from providing a full account of his observations. Certainly the story is possible. We have one of those situations where the information appears to be too good to have been fabricated, but such does not eliminate this possibility. However, Ostman did sign a solemn declaration (as shown above right—arranged by John Green) that the account he provided, as related above, was true.



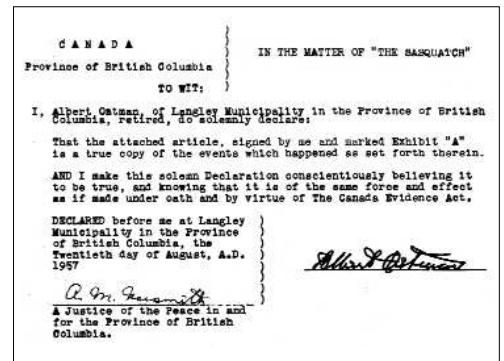
The first page of Albert Ostman's scribbler in which he wrote his unusual story.



*Drawing of the adult male sasquatch that captured Ostman. The drawing was made by Ivan Sanderson under Ostman's direction.**



Albert Ostman, right, is seen here being interviewed by René Dahinden. Ostman is holding his scribbler.



*According to Ostman, the upswept bang shown was only on the females. There appears to be some miscommunication here.