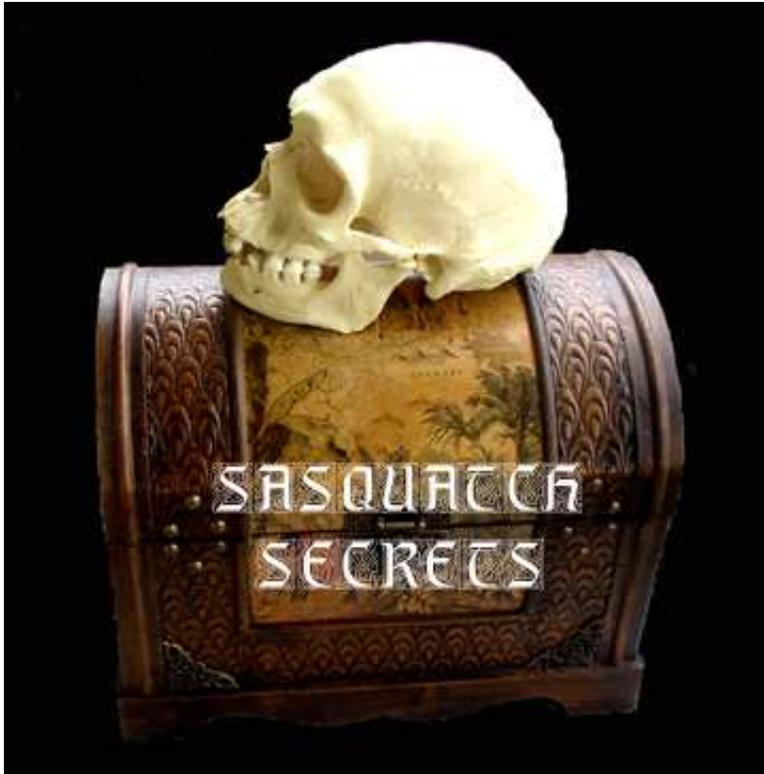


SASQUATCH SECRETS



The following are “unusual” notes and short stories I have run across in the Fuhrmann files and other references. Some are shown verbatim, others I have edited or rewritten. I believe some are “food for thought,” so have provided my comments. CLM

SASQUATCH SECRETS

(01) Vancouver Sun, April 5, 1957. Near Lillooet. Floyd Dillon claims he dug up nearly 8-foot tall skeleton with 8-inch tail, 20 years ago (1937) while digging a trench behind home. His wife, Francis, said the skull was 2 times the size of a man’s. Youngsters and perhaps a hungry dog stole many of bones. Only the damaged skull and a few bones were sent to Royal Museum in Victoria, BC, which claims they never arrived.

COMMENT: This is the first I have heard of the beings having a tail. Nevertheless, there are other anomalies such as indications of three and four-toed species. There could be a connection here.

(02) Daily Colonist, Victoria, B.C. May 5, 1957. Coroner Arthur Phair of Lillooet reported to the

government at Victoria a few years ago of a skeleton discovered by a road gang working near Armstrong, BC; it was nearly 7 feet tall. It might be noted that in the 1920s at Windermere, BC (350 miles from Armstrong), 4 skeletons were discovered while crews cutting a trail to Lake Windermere. The skeletons were 6 feet, 9 inches to 9 feet tall.

COMMENT: I am sure the coroner would have done something with the skeleton rather than just reburying it. As to the other skeletons, I would think they would have been immediately sent to the Royal Museum in Victoria. If not, then I suspect they are still sitting in a box somewhere in Windermere; however, in recent years First Nations people insist that such skeletons be returned to them for burial.

(03) Vancouver Sun, May 25, 1957. Mr. Burns [John, I believe] reported getting a letter from S.A. Wallace, an Ontario lawyer in Windsor, Ontario, stating that 10 years ago a cave in Ontario was discovered with 40 skeletons of sasquatch in a good state of preservation. Geologist who examined them said they must be thousands of years old.

COMMENT: Ontario is a massive province, and like most of Canada, explorations into remote areas have probably been very limited. Given the skeletons were found there, such a find is well within reason. Now, if the story is true, it indicates that sasquatch might go to caves to die if they can. It would certainly be very hard to loose 40 skeletons, so if they were collected (should be no question here) and sent to a Windsor museum, I would guess they are still around somewhere.

(04) General File, August 3, 1969. Emily Moltzner of the Oregon Geological Society let it be known in private conversation that her brother had seen a, “humanoid looking being, which appeared to be stripping either leaves or berries from a bush at the edge of a clearing.”

COMMENT: It appeared Moltzner believed her brother’s story, or she would not have repeated it. Anyway, that particular sasquatch activity has been observed before and the type of bush, if it were known, might be an indication of preferred sasquatch habitat (i.e., where there is an abundance of this type of bush). My guess is huckleberry bushes.

COMMENT: Concerning as they may be, there are many sasquatch shootings with very few cases where the subject was brought down. Those that did result death did not result in a body or bones being made available for examination.

(12) Oregon Journal. Conzor Lake, Oregon, August 17, 1963. A sasquatch-related incident in this area resulted in somewhat unusual comments by the reporter. I will quote what he said:

Farmers began to report the disappearance of sheep and poultry, but there was a peculiar pattern that suggested an intelligent being in hiding. It had no desire to create alarm or draw attention to itself. A sheep here, a chicken there, where it wouldn't be readily missed. Sheep and other animals grazing singly were left alone. It's apparent that whatever had concealed itself in the swamp had intelligence and some sort of moral values. A few bones and feathers were found in the swamp. The bones had been cracked and the nutritious marrow retracted. The creature did not slaughter wantonly; it killed only in self defense [reference to the killing of a dog] or for food. Clearly, it displayed intelligence far above the animal.

COMMENT: This account brings to mind the wisdom of Father Anthony Terhaar, a Catholic missionary, who stated in 1957 (Vancouver Province, April 10) “ The Sasquatch, like the Ahootzoos or ‘wild men’ of Vancouver Island, are peaceful and intelligent Indians who have been forced to live apart from their war-like neighbors.” Father Anthony admitted that he had never seen a sasquatch and was forming his opinion only of what he had read.

(13) General File, 1964. Betty Allen informed John Fuhrmann that road and timber crews in the Bluff Creek, California area were getting used to finding sasquatch tracks and having their equipment manhandled. One even tore open a box of dynamite caps and scattered the contents around.

COMMENT: It is hard to imagine that someone playing a prank would go that far.

(14) General File. Sasquatch running at very high speeds have been reported; apparently having no problem keeping up with moving vehicles. A lady called me some years ago

and said that two sasquatch were playing “car-tag” on a road near White Rock, BC. They would run out as a car went by and bang it with their hand.

Sasquatch can apparently jump exceedingly high also. There is a report (no details) in which two teen-age girls say a sasquatch emerged from the woods and leaped over their heads and the road in a single bound. It is difficult to come to grips with material like this, and even mentioning it plays into the hands of those who embrace paranormal theories; however, if one chooses to ignore such information because it does not appear to be logical, he or she is being just as “restrictive” (for lack of a better word) as the scientists who refuse to look at sasquatch-related evidence.

(15) August 1955 Hair Analysis. If this is not the earliest hair analysis, it is certainly one of the earliest. A farmer in Edison, Georgia, said he was chased by a shaggy white sasquatch. A local teacher went to the scene and found footprints plus a wisp of silky, curly, white hair on a barb-wire fence. The hair was sent to the state crime lab which reported that it was human hair.

COMMENT: It is conceivable that animals with lots of fur/hair can and do leave hair when they come in contact with a barb-wire fence. Humans, however, would only leave a hair sample if their head/face (i.e., beard) came in contact with a barb—which is highly unlikely. Humans usually leave clothing threads (believe me, I've been there). Curiously, the only hair that I arranged to have examined using DNA (from a sighting - fairly long strands) also came out as “human.”

(16) General File: How Strong Might a Sasquatch be?: In March 1965 John Fuhrmann wrote about a recent visit with Betty Allen and an excursion into the Bluff Creek, California area. This is what he said:

During our visit she [Betty Allen] told us that just two weeks before we arrived, she had received a report from a logging crew working up Bluff Creek that Bigfoot tracks had been showing up around their equipment in the morning when they started work. One morning they found where he had tipped over a flat trailer loaded with 18-inch culverts and tossed them all about. We drove all the way to the end of the Bluff Creek road which has now reached all the way up to Lonesome

Ridge. We then backtracked to Notice Creek and drove up the logging road to Laird Meadow. There was a crew loading logs onto a truck and one of them guessed what we were looking for, and as we talked to him it turned out that he was the owner of the upset trailer (they call it a cart, similar to the type of trailer used to haul boats). He told us that the tracks were very large and that new ones showed up every morning for about a week. He was most impressed with the strength required to throw those culverts around. It's all 4 men can do to lift one!

COMMENT: The first thing people ask when you provide material such as this is whether you believe it. I certainly believe Fuhrmann provided the story exactly the way it was given to him. I then draw upon knowledge whereby other very heavy objects have been moved in conjunction with sightings and/or telltale footprints. I then consider the alternatives—pranksters or fabrication, both of which don't appear likely.

(17) General File: Speed and agility are certainly unusual aspects of the sasquatch; however, there is yet another that combines both of these in an unusual way. In the late 1960s, a Native at Bella Coola, BC, stated that he saw a big hairy man cross an old logging slash in 10 minutes where he himself had just taken 2 hours to cross. The being went over all of the stuff he had to climb or crawl under without any difficulty. Given what the native said, we can understand how the being always manages to escape or disappear when it is pursued by search parties. Just how it manages to do what it does can only be answered by stating that it appears to have some abilities that we do not understand.

(18) General File: Two descriptions of a possible sasquatch vocalization from different areas are so similar as to be uncanny. In 1955 William Roe (Tete Jaune Cache B.C. sighting) said, "Just as it [sasquatch] came to the other patch of brush it threw its head back and made a peculiar noise that seemed to be half laugh and half language, and which I can only describe as a kind of whinny." Then in 1961, a hunter described an unusual possible sasquatch sound he heard in Alder Creek, Oregon, "Well, it was like the whinny of a horse and then ended in sort of a laugh." In early 1969 a fellow in Oregon followed large tracks in snow. During this time he says he heard

them [sasquatch] in the distance "whinny like a horse, call like a coyote." See No. 26.

(19) General File: In 1968 an Oregon man claimed that he was chased by a bear that ran on its hind legs the whole time. It came out of the woods waving its "arms" and making a funny sound. The man's pick-up truck was about one-quarter mile away so he sprinted towards it with the animal in pursuit. On his way, he tripped going up a hill, whereupon the animal stopped and resumed the chase after he got up. When the man reached his truck, the animal ran off. He stated that it was very big and "smelled to high heaven."

COMMENT: The man refused to consider that he had been chased by a sasquatch, although a bear that runs on two legs and allows its "prey" to recover from a fall is probably less believable. Incidents like this appear to indicate that sasquatch are simply protecting some territory.

(20) General File: In April 1969, a small scrap of hide (allegedly sasquatch) was sent to Dr. Osman Hill, Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center at Emory University, New York, who said it appeared to be that of some higher primate and was not *Ceropitaeus* or its allies, and not *Cebus albifrons*. About a year and a half earlier (November 1967) after reviewing the Patterson/Gimlin film, Dr. Hill stated that the evidence for the sasquatch was strong enough to mount an expedition to search for further evidence. One would have thought this additional hard evidence would have sparked some action, but such was not the case. Back in those days, of course, we did not have DNA testing so the scrap was probably filed away, secreted away, or (with our luck) thrown away.

(21) General File: After a 1969 sighting of two sasquatch walking together in Oregon, the footprints were followed. Both sasquatch walked side-by-side and when they came to a fence, on two occasions, they angled to a section where the fence was down and then went single file through the opening. Two years prior to this incident, a single set of footprints found about two miles away did the same thing. When the sasquatch came to a fence, it went around rather than over. In other cases when the sasquatch came to a fence, it went over it. In one case, when it came to a large log sort of forming a bridge, it scrambled under it rather

than going a short distance around it. The Patterson/Gimlin film was criticized by one professional because the sasquatch went around obstructions, whereas animals in the wild usually go over things. The point here is that this tended to indicate the sasquatch was human—man in a costume. It appears, however, that sasquatch do both; probably just a matter of difficulty and time.

(22) General File: While sasquatch often demonstrate considerable intelligence, sometimes quite the opposite is implied. In August 1968 two men went hunting in an area south of Burns, Oregon. They put their tent by a huge log, 20 feet long and 34 feet in diameter, and then hung their pack of supplies from a tree limb so that it was about 18 feet high. They went out hunting and when they returned that night, they found that something had rolled the log 6 feet so that it was directly under their pack. The rope over the limb had worn the bark away indicating that something had just managed to touch the tip of the pack and move it slightly. A bear couldn't have reached the pack even if it were smart enough to move the log, and a man would simply have untied the rope at the base of the tree. The ground was covered in pine needle so there were not tracks.

(23) General File: In 1968, a man went target shooting to a location north of Eureka, California. He saw a gray colored sasquatch, which he said looked 10 feet tall, walking towards his parked car. He says he “emptied his 30/30 rifle into it”—about 10 cartridges. It kept coming so he got in his car and drove off. He came back the next day with other people and they found blood, but no body.

(24) General File: In 1967/68 two men out looking for bigfoot west of the Dalles, Oregon, state they came down a hillside, looked in some bushes as saw one of the homins about ten feet away. One of the men shot it in the chest with a 12-gage shotgun. It fell backwards screaming and then, ran down the hill and burst through a barbwire fence—breaking the fence posts off at the ground.

COMMENT: I am certainly not pleased with reports of this nature, and would expect that if they are true, they are many others that we don't hear about.

(25) General File: Most sasquatch researchers have a tendency to “filter out” sighting reports that stray too far from the norm. I am no exception here, but must admit that

this is like what the general scientific community does. In other words, if something does not fit in with preconceived ideas of what “should be” they discount it (the sasquatch itself is in this category). Anyway, here's one that definitely does not fit. In 1961 three men who were cutting wood near Cass, West Virginia, reported that they saw a bigfoot with very long black hair, a face that looked like a monkey and two horns on its head.

COMMENT: The reference to horns, of course, take us to a whole new “dimension,” and here we have some unusual theories/superstitions. One is that the sasquatch is the Biblical Cain, doomed to wander the earth. Another—in the Muslim belief, the sasquatch is evil, and if one is sighted this is very bad omen and the witness never tells of his experience. We also have the contention that sasquatch are Edomites. Whatever the case, the report cited is the only one I have seen that involves horns, so I would have to say that what the woodcutters took to be horns was probably something else. What could this have been? Very simply something in the background (tree branches, whatever) that just blended in with the being's head.

(26) General File: In early 1969 a fellow in Oregon followed large tracks in snow. During this time he says he heard them [sasquatch] in the distance “whinny like a horse, call like a coyote.” This statement takes us back to a previous reference on the “whinny” sound and takes us forward to a recent case wherein alleged sasquatch sounds were determined to be those of coyotes. And now I will throw in Ron Morehead's contention that sasquatch can mimic the sounds of many forest animals. I even recall reading that in one case, “dog tracks” were found in association with sasquatch tracks (i.e., it appears the two—sasquatch and dog—were traveling together). Sasquatch, of course, generally don't like dogs (and vice versa), but coyotes are a different kind of dog. Legend and myth are certainly another matter, but in Native lore, the sasquatch and coyote are closely connected, it being said that the former can turn himself into the latter. All “food for the marvelous” (as one early writer put things), I agree, but it is amazing how all this stuff sort of clicks together.