

THE HUMANOIDS AT SOUTH RIVER, NEW JERSEY

Friday, October 23, 1963

Report by Ted Bloecher

First-hand Inquiries by Ted Bloecher and
Dr. & Mrs. Roger Wescott

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Note: NOT for Publication Without the
Permission of Ted Bloecher or the Center.

The Witness's Name is CONFIDENTIAL

Completed

June 15, 1975

Copies to MUFON & the Center June 16, 1975

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Friday, October 23, 1963

Introduction

The South River humanoid encounter came to light just over ten years after its occurrence, when it was described by the observer in a letter dated November 2, 1973, to Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University (see copy under Attachments). At that time, the massive UFO wave of October, 1973, had just crested, producing an unprecedented number of UFO reports, and Dr. Hynek was in the process of establishing the Center for UFO Studies ^{1/} in Evanston, Illinois. The letter, outlining the South River experience of ten years earlier, was put aside to be answered at a later date and was overlooked in the organization of the Center.

In April, 1975, I learned of the South River encounter from Miss Margo Metegrano, Secretary for the Center. Because the witness lived in New Jersey, not far from New York City, I asked the Center's permission to follow up the report at first hand. Dr. Hynek wrote to the observer requesting his assistance in an interview, and an affirmative reply was received and forwarded to me early in May.

Arrangements were then made directly with the witness to meet at his home on Saturday afternoon, May 17. Dr. Roger Westcott, Professor of Anthropology and Linguistics at Drew University, in Madison, New Jersey, agreed to participate in the interview, and we had the good fortune to have the company of his wife Hilja. We met with the observer and his wife for nearly two hours; they were hospitable and entirely co-operative in

1. Center for UFO Studies, P.O. Box 11, Northfield, Ill. 60093

helping us gather as much detailed information about the 1963 encounter as could be accurately recalled. Notes were made and taped statements taken. The following report is derived from information obtained during our interview, as well as from subsequent telephone calls and correspondence. In exchange for his co-operation, the observer, who we shall call Mr. Smith, asked only that his identity and address remain confidential.

Mr. Smith received his degree in Forestry from a mid-western university in 1961. In October, 1963, the week of his strange experience, he had attended a business conference in Boston. He was coming back from Boston to go to business meetings in Washington, D.D., the following week, and had planned to stay the weekend at the home of his parents in Matawan, New Jersey.

Driving a company Econovan truck, Mr. Smith missed his exit for Route 9 from the New Jersey Turnpike, and took Route 18 through South River, to pick up a connecting road with Route 9. After crossing the South River onto the Jernee Mill Road, Smith turned eastward at Runyon onto the Old Bridge - South Amboy Road, where his encounter took place -- a site not more than five miles from New York City's southernmost point on Staten Island. The incident was brief but electrifying, he said; when the truck came to a stop, he sat there for several minutes just "getting it back together." The experience had been so disquieting, in fact, that he did not even mention it to his parents that weekend. The first person he told was his wife, upon his return to Wisconsin a week later.

Mrs. Smith's reaction to her husband's story was ambivalent. She had laughed, but was unable to disbelieve what he described, so she rationalized it in terms of the ordinary (high school boys having a prank), even though her husband was emphatic about its strangeness. Mrs. Smith's view of things in familiar terms was evident in another example--her own account of an observation of an "unusual airplane" during the summer of 1966. Under scrutiny, her "explanation" of this object as a plane raises more questions than it answers, but for Mrs. Smith, it provides a comfortable rationale for something not easily explained.

Mr. Smith's account of what happened on that back road is taken from

his statements recorded during our interview on May 17. There has been some editing to remove unessential material, and to maintain a reasonable narrative sequence. of events.

I am grateful to Miss Metegrano, of the Center for UFO Studies, for having brought this intriguing reference to my attention, and to Dr. Hynek, for clearing the way for our interview with the witness. My special thanks go to the observer for his splendid cooperation, and to his wife for her willingness to participate, in spite of her healthy skepticism. And, of course, I deeply appreciate the assistance and practical advice of Hilja and Roger Wescott in this sticky business of investigating the unknown.

Narrative Account by the Witness

This is what I saw on October 23, 1963, about 11 p.m., near South River, New Jersey. At the time--I believe it was a Friday night--I was driving from Boston to Matawan, New Jersey, to spend the weekend with my parents, and the following week I was to be in Washington. I missed my turn on the Jersey Turnpike--Exit 11--so I proceeded down to the next exit, which was New Brunswick. I got off at New Brunswick and picked up Route 18. There was a back road--at least in 1963--which led from Route 18 through South River to Route 9, so I took this road,^{1/} and at one point there is a very sharp turn, almost a 90-degree turn. I slowed down to make that turn, then hit a straightaway, and as I was accelerating to about 50-60 miles an hour, I noticed something shining on the left--something luminous caught my eye on the left side of the road, which seemed dry; all I saw was something shining, like a flashlight, or a point of light. I think I actually turned my head.

Then almost instantaneously--a split second later--three silvery figures started to cross the road in front of me. Zip! zip!

1. The Old Bridge - South Amboy Road.

zip! across the road they came.^{2/} I think the light was associated with the figures--an independent light source they were carrying.^{3/} When these things moved, they moved from left to right, across into an area that was wet, which has bothered me: why would they run into the cattails? You'd think they would go the other way.

Now, there was something very unusual about these figures: it was in the way they moved. These figures--three to four feet tall--did not run like a normal human being would. I would say that their movements were at least twice as fast as the fastest sprinter. And their leg movements, which I seem to remember mostly--the tremendous speed at which their legs moved--this was what disturbed me: the speed, and the actual leg movements. It was almost like they flut-tered across that road; they didn't run.

The body movements did not look human to me. There was something very unusual about the movement of the legs that I just can't describe. I don't remember seeing any feet. The thing that sticks in my mind are those legs, those small legs, and how quickly they (moved)--almost like pistons; sort of spindly, but shaped--there was shape to them. I would say it was almost muscular--I could see a calf and a thigh. I'm not certain about the knee (bending), it's been so long; I'm a little confused about that.

They were sort of luminous. Actually, it was like a silver-grey. They seemed to glow once they hit the headlights--the beams reflected off them. But not before that. They crossed ahead of the car at a distance of perhaps 50 to 75 feet. It was a clear night--I think I had the high beams on--and I got a good look at them. But I could see no features^{4/} except that they were two-legged, and they were faster than any living thing that I have ever seen, including animals. I've seen deer and all kinds of small game and I never saw anything move that fast.

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2. He said that the first figure was about three yards ahead of the last two, which were about a yard apart. This was not taped.
 3. He did not see them carrying a light source but saw it only briefly at the point from which they emerged onto the road.
 4. The head was not overly large, but was round; seeing no features, he could not say definitely whether it was or was not a helmet.

The arms seemed to be almost like a person who is running. I think the movement was probably natural. It seemed more of a human thing than a mechanical thing, but just extraordinarily fast. I didn't get a back view, that's how fast they moved; all I got was the profile, a sort of 45-degree angle view.^{5/}

My immediate reaction was just let the automobile come to a stop, but I didn't put the brakes on. I let it stop a mile, or a half mile, down the road. It sort of frightened me. I was going to go back and take a look at this-- whatever I saw, but after considering the fact that it was ^a sort of desolate, lonely area and I had not even a flashlight, I decided to forget about it and just go on about my business.

I was actually afraid to go back and look. I hate to admit that, but man, I'll tell you, that's the only time in my life that I know I experienced fear. I actually was afraid! That made the hair stand up on my head, of whatever that sensation is. I was afraid because I felt there were three of these things and only one of me. Yeah, I'm bigger, but whatever I saw, I just didn't think they were--normal, and so I didn't want to get involved in anything I didn't know about. I didn't go back, and I didn't report it for the reason that I just didn't want the publicity.

I looked at the speedometer and actually wrote down the reading. I knew the vehicle had stopped a half mile beyond where I saw them; I clocked the distance out to the junction with Route 9 and I had a record of this; but then I changed my mind and decided not to say anything to anybody, and I lost the records. But I'm almost certain it was 2.4 or 2.8 miles from the junction of Route 9.^{6/}

After a while, I began to think that what I had seen was something extraterrestrial, because of all the UFO sightings. That's why I wrote the letter (to Dr. Hynek): I was interested to know if there was a UFO sighting in that area, because then I would feel that maybe there was some relationship. I hadn't read much (about UFO's); I had heard about them, naturally, in the newspapers and all, but since then I've been much more interested.

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5. He saw no buttocks on the figures as they ran into the cattails.
 6. According to his reference points on the geological survey map, the distance from the encounter site to Route 9 is under 2.4 miles.

Statement by Mrs. Smith

Well, it was like a week later, when he came home--I don't really remember how long he was gone at the time, he traveled so much--but he told me about it and I thought it seemed rather stupid. I mean, it sounded rather weird, you know, these strange little guys-- They were small, he said, very small, and dressed in silvery-like (clothes), and zipped across the road real fast. And I laughed! Well, I'm still laughing.

Oh, I believed him, but I thought Ah! I don't know, it probably sounds like children. And yet he kept saying, No, it couldn't've been children because they were too fast and they were silver, and I said, Yeah, but because they were small, probably it was some teenagers involved in some prank or something. He kept saying, No, no, it wasn't anything human. I really don't know. I think he saw something. He just came home so absolutely positive he saw something unusual that. . . I'm convinced he saw something, but what I really don't know.

At the same time I was glad he didn't go back. I thought that was very wise. I'd read a few articles, of course, of people disappearing. I thought he was pretty wise to stop, but I didn't encourage him to report it because I really didn't think anybody'd believe him.

(Mrs. Smith and her two oldest children observed an "unusual airplane" from their back yard in Marinette during the summer of 1966; her statement on that follows, with several responses to questions. The questions are in parentheses.--TB)

It must've been after (Mr. Smith's encounter) because we owned our own home then. It was in the evening--it must have been in the summer. I have no idea what month--I really wasn't paying attention. We had a lot of bats in Wisconsin and the kids, for pleasure after supper, used to go out with brooms and chase bats around (laughter)-- And I would sit out there in the lawn chair and read a book, while they were chasing these bats that they never could catch. . . .

It was really the peaceful part of the evening, and my son mentioned, "Look at that big airplane!" And I said, "Oh, yes--" It was a large airplane and was very fast, and you could just see all the lights (from the windows). It was just a big airplane. My son said, "Well, where

are the tail lights?" And there weren't any red tail lights. That was it, just a big airplane, moving fast. . . .

(In answer to the question of wings, her reply, not on tape, was ambiguous: she was uncertain, but assumed that since it was a plane, there must have been wings. Those red tail lights--or lack of them--bothered her more than the possible absence of wings--TB.)

(Had she heard any noise?)

No, it was high up. It was very high, and it was moving very fast.

(If it was so high, how could she see the windows?)

They were very bright, apparently.

(If it was low enough to see windows, you must have heard a roar; you heard no noise?)

No, it was very high up and it moved very fast. It looked exactly like an airplane except that you couldn't see the red tail lights. . . . I mentioned how fast it was going. . . .

Discussion

In citing the most convincing testimony regarding a reported encounter with strange, unidentified beings, one could scarcely find a more exemplary reporter than Mr. Smith. So far as can be determined from a single face-to-face meeting (and several exchanges of letters and telephone calls), the credibility of this witness seems to be beyond any reasonable question, and his character above reproach. He is obviously an intelligent and hard-working young man who, over a period of a few years, developed his own business, now serving a national clientele in its special field. He is a responsible family man with a wife and three children who live in a modest but comfortable home in the community where his business is located.

It seems entirely unlikely that Mr. Smith would create out of whole cloth a strange story like the South River encounter, and to

deceive his own family with this continued dissimulation. For what purpose? Such behavior would not be consistent with Smith's character or disposition. His credentials are such that our initial skepticism is assuaged. He is certain that he saw what he says he saw, and no more; it is difficult for us to blink it away. In addition, Smith's is by no means a unique experience, being just another piece of a complicated puzzle of growing dimensions and about which he quite clearly has only limited knowledge.

Compared to some other humanoid reports, this experience was brief, relatively straightforward and uncomplicated. It is a fine example of the "detect-and-escape" variety of encounter^{1/} that serves as a prototype for other reports that could have been drawn from the same scenario: A single and unwitting participant is driving a car or truck down a deserted back road. The time (usually) is late at night or very early morning. The scene is usually short but unforgettable for the unsuspecting driver: a flash or a bang, followed by the abrupt appearance and hasty departure, upon exposure, of two or three (usually) smallish figures of unusual appearance and behavior. An unidentified flying object is optional, being present more often than not.

The diligent researcher is aware of the genre: the classic case of this type, of course, is the report by Patrolman Lonnie Zamora at Socorro, N.M., on April 24, 1964,^{2/} although it occurred during daylight and not at night. Another example is Stanley Moxon's encounter with two little figures and a UFO on a back road near Joyceville, Ontario, on August 23, 1967.^{3/} As his car lights lit up the scene, the beings retreated hastily within their vehicle which then rapidly departed. There are numerous examples, some from abroad, but one incident that occurred at Rockville, Virginia, on May 11, 1969, is of such striking similarity to the South River case that a summary is included as part of this report, as it has not^v been published (see next section).
previously

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1. A descriptive term for cases in which the witness's attention is caught by some device--a light, in Smith's case, or perhaps the close flyby of a UFO--followed by the brief but explicit exposure of several beings who then make a seemingly frantic effort to avoid detection by escaping into a nearby woods, or into a UFO that waits conveniently nearby, which then departs at high speed.
 2. See J. Allen Hynek's The UFO Experience (Regnery, 1972), pp. 144-45.
 3. Kingston Whig-Standard, August 24, 1967.

It may be important to pay more attention to the relationship between entities and unidentified flying objects. It is possible that we are dealing with several different phenomena, and by noting these associations, we may be able to discover what these differences are. Reports appear to fall into five (or six) categories, which may be defined as follows:

- A. Explicit Occupancy: entity observed only within an object, through window or "port," or in open "door."
- B. Direct Association: entity observed entering and/or leaving object at some point during encounter.
- C. Implicit Association: entity seen in immediate environs of object, though not seen entering or leaving it.
- D. Circumstantial Association: entity observed during general UFO activity in area by independent witnesses.
- E. No known association between entity and UFOs.
- F. No object or entity seen, but "contact" alleged, or some psychic experience ("messages," automatic writing, etc.).

The South River encounter, of course, belongs to the fifth category (Type E), because the witness observed no UFO, and there was no record of UFO activity in that area found. In the following incident, strikingly similar but for this single feature, a UFO was reported to have been seen approximately two hours prior to the encounter and less than a half a mile away. It is a Type D example.

The Luczkowich Case, Rockville, Virginia, May 11, 1969

This incident occurred while I was a staff member of NICAP (the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, at that time located in Washington, D.C.); it was investigated by John Carlson and Karl Pflock, of the Capitol Area Subcommittee, and myself, two weeks after it occurred. We were assisted by Ray Ricketts, a local UFO buff who had already done considerable checking into this case, as well as others in the area. The following summary is taken from the transcript of our taped interview of May 24 with the witness, Mike Luczkowich, a 20-year-old student living in Manakin, Virginia, about 12 miles northwest of Richmond.

At 1:45 a.m., on Sunday, May 11, 1969, Luczkowich was driving home after visiting his girl friend in Rockville, Va. He had turned south onto Route 622 and was passing the Rockville general store when he saw something standing in the road directly ahead of him at a distance of about 50 yards (as measured at the site). His first thought was that they were a couple of deer, but almost immediately he saw that they were two small humanoid figures, three-and-a-half to four feet tall and wearing large spherical helmets the size of basketballs. Running around the helmets was a vertical circle that reflected the car's headlights with a pale green color. The figures were standing motionless when they were caught in the car's light beams, but almost immediately they scuttled off to the witness's left, scrambling up an embankment overgrown with weeds and vines. They had barely disappeared into a field of barley at the top of the four-foot embankment when a third figure dashed into view from the right side of the road, clearly visible in the headlights, about 25 yards in front of the car; it, too, clambered up the bank and vanished into the field. The third figure moved at very high speed.

Luczkowich said the men were dressed in light brown coverall-type garments that appeared somewhat baggy in the legs but fit snugly at the ankles. He could not recall having seen their arms and was unable to see any features behind the round helmets.

Shaken by the experience, he told no one about it until late on Sunday. Monday afternoon he returned to the site with Ray Ricketts and two others. They found a definite trail in the poison ivy and honeysuckle on the bank off the left side of the road; at the top was a path trodden into the barley field. This ended after a few feet in two flattened areas where someone small had evidently thrown themselves down in the grain: the crushed barley in one of these impressions showed the imprints of two small bodies; the other of only one. The site was visited by another NICAP staff member the next week, but by that time the barley had been mowed, and all traces were gone. Unfortunately, no photographs had been taken before the barley was cut.

Half a mile to the west and two hours earlier, 18-year-old Debbie Payne was being driven back to her home following a date when she noticed something luminous, of oval shape, appear over her home at the end of the lane. Only briefly visible, it brightened and went out,

and reappeared twice before the couple reached Miss Payne's house. The report is not very strong: according to Miss Payne, her escort did not see the object, and he refused to participate in an inquiry or to give out his name. Except for the proximity of time and place, any connection between the UFO sighting and the humanoid encounter is purely speculative.

Conclusion

The Rockville and South River encounters have much in common: the same number of figures of similar size and appearance were seen in each case, and their behavior is of such remarkable uniformity it can hardly be ignored. It seems reasonable to conclude that ~~in each case~~ if these beings had wanted to remain concealed or unobserved, it would have been a simple matter to do so. The noise and lights of the approaching vehicles gave ample warning of the arrival of potential spectators, and yet their actions suggest that concealment was not their intention: they meant to be seen by these two unsuspecting observers, and we can only guess why.

It is my opinion that Mr. Smith observed a group of three small, humanoid figures of unusual appearance and behavior on a back road near South River, New Jersey, in October of 1963, whose origin and purpose remain unknown. There are compelling reasons to believe they bear some relation to a similar group of figures encountered five and a half years later on a back road at Rockville, Virginia. Both of these incidents are unexplained.

Ted Bloecher

June 15, 1975

COPY

Nov. 2, 1973

Dr. J. Allen Hynek
Northwestern University
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Hynek,

I had an experience during October, 1963, which may be of interest to you in solving the UFO mystery. I have never reported this incident and in fact have mentioned it only to my wife and a few close friends.

The incident took place on a narrow country road which was used as a short-cut from Route 18 East to Route 9 from South River, N.J. . . . This area was, and still is, excavated extensively for clay from which nearby brick factories get their raw material. In 1963, there were no homes in the immediate area because of the clay pits.

At about 11 p.m. on a Friday evening I rounded a very sharp curve in the road and began to accelerate. Suddenly, I noticed something shining on the left side of the road. In an instant, 3 small man-like creatures darted across the road. All three wore tight-fitting silver-gray one-piece suits. They were about 3½ feet tall and moved faster than Homo sapiens is capable. Their legs, which were clearly outlined by the tight-fitting suits, appeared to move like pistons as if unaffected by gravity.

My immediate reaction was to let my vehicle come to a halt without applying the breaks, as I did not want to stop too close to where they crossed the road. When my car stopped I looked back, but saw nothing, and after thinking about the situation, I decided not to investigate alone, as I was somewhat frightened. At the time, I was a young executive climbing the corporate ladder. Consequently, I did not want any adverse publicity which might cast doubt on my mental stability, etc. Today, I own and operate my own manufacturing business, so I am not too concerned about what other people think.

My main reason for writing you is to find out whether or not other incidents similar to mine have been reported, and, secondly, to determine whether or not any UFO activity was reported in New Jersey during October, 1963.

Sincerely,

(s) Robert W. Smith

CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES

2623 RIDGE AVE. - EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

J. ALLEN HYNEK, DIRECTOR
PROFESSOR OF ASTRONOMY
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

April 29, 1975

Mr. Robert Smith
Road
NJ 07

Dear Mr. Smith,

You wrote to me, some time ago, about a most interesting experience you had in 1963. I am afraid that your letter went unanswered, particularly because it was received during the "flap" of 1973, at a time we were receiving hundreds of reports, and working very hard to establish the Center for UFO Studies.

The Center is an association of established scientists with a working interest in the UFO problem. We are not a membership group, but a not-for-profit research and educational institution.

In going through my personal files, I came across your letter. I then referred it to Mr. Ted Bloecher, an excellent veteran researcher who has concentrated his study on cases similar to yours. However, as it is our policy to not release personal information, and to use the content of reports for research purposes only, I have not given your name and address to Mr. Bloecher, as he has requested. As he is a serious and reliable investigator, I am now requesting your permission to give him your name and address and allow him to call or write you, and perhaps visit with you. Again, this would be for research purposes, only.

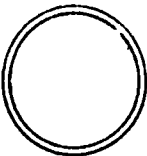
I look forward to hearing from you, and have enclosed a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your convenience. In the event that you wish to contact Mr. Bloecher directly, his address and phone are: 317 E. 83rd St., NYC 10028; 212/879-3099:Home, 212/431-3193:Office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


J. Allen Hynek

JAH/nmm
cc:file
Encls



COMPANY
P.O. BOX
HIGHWAY
NEW JERSEY 07
(201)



May 20, 1975

Mr. Ted Bloecher
317 E. 83rd St.
New York City, N.Y. 10028

Dear Mr. Bloecher:

It was a real pleasure meeting you and the Westcotts last Saturday. I hope that my observations will be of some use to you in your research.

I checked out one road in the South River area and found that many changes have occurred during the past 12 years. Much of the land that was vacant has been developed into industrial and residential sites. I marked 3 spots where the sighting might have occurred on the enclosed map. I did not have time Saturday to really retrack my path. If it is important to you, I am certain that I could find the spot but it might take a few hours to pin it down.

Sincerely,

Bob Smith
Robert W. Smith

RWS/me

JUN 13 1975

COMPANY
P.O. BOX
HIGHWAY
NEW JERSEY 07
(201)



June 12, 1975

Mr. Ted Bloecher
New York State Director
MUFON Mutual UFO Network, Inc.
317 East 83rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10028

Dear Ted:

After studying the geological survey maps of the South River area, I have concluded that I was on South Amboy Road. I remember where I reached Rt. 9 and the housing development between Rt. 9 and Ernston. I do not remember passing any large groups of houses at all which rules out the top two routes. I did not pass any stores or schools either. Although it was not the most direct route, South Amboy Road put me where I wanted to be. I had no N.J. map with me and was just following my general sense of direction knowing that I could reach Routes 9 & 34 by heading east from Rt. 18. Bear in mind that I had not driven in this area since 1953, when I left New Jersey. In addition, I was not very familiar with New Jersey roads because I had lived in the state only 1 year as a licensed teenage driver.

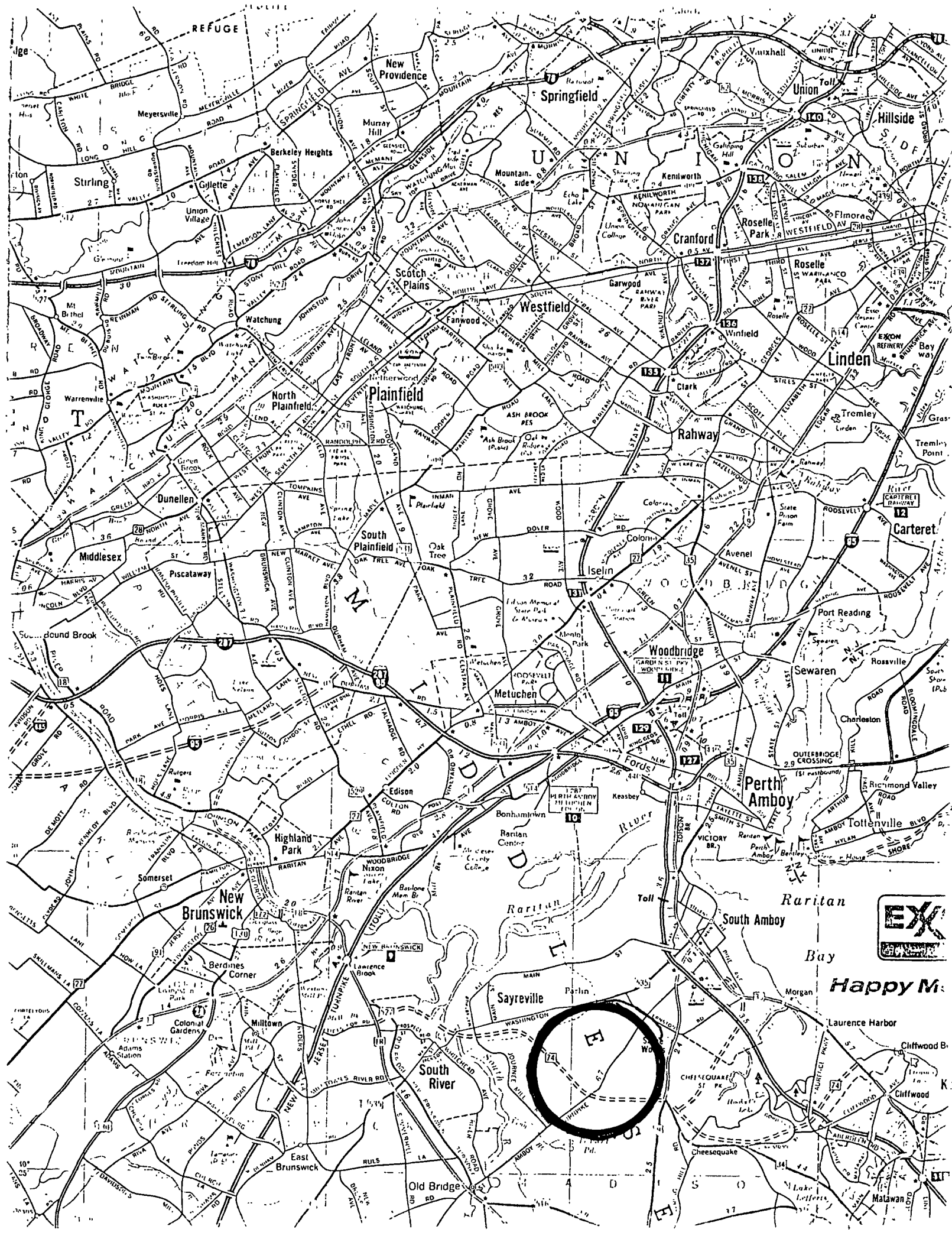
Also enclosed is your completed Form 7 as requested in your June 5th letter.

Sincerely,

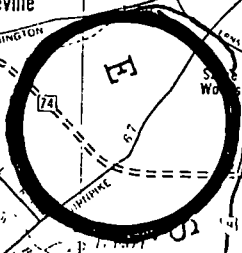
Robert W. Smith

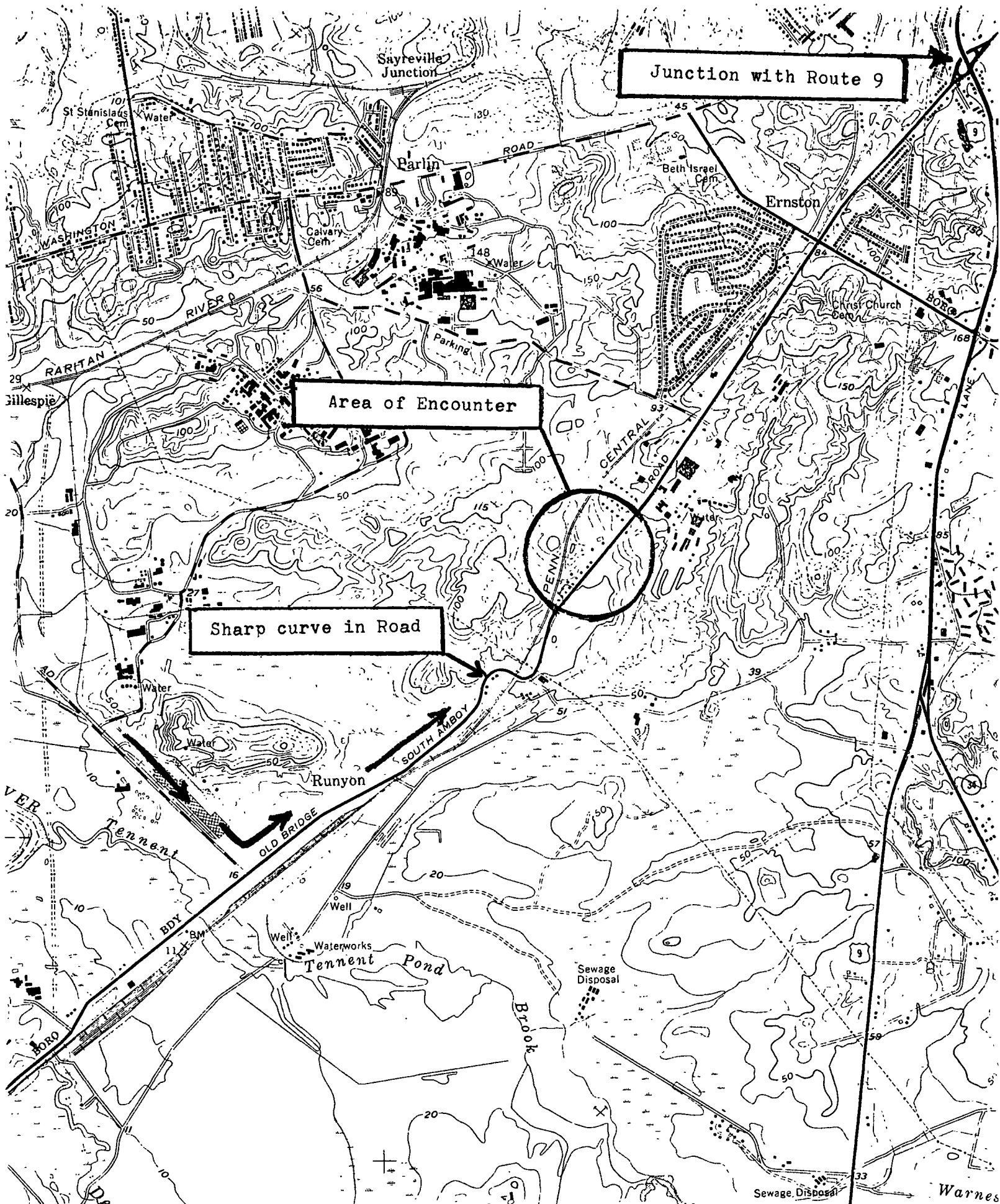
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Happy M



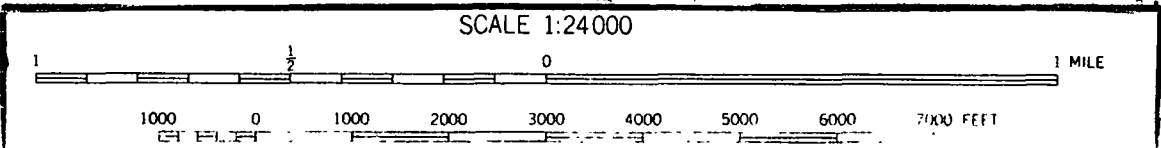


Junction with Route 9

Area of Encounter

Sharp curve in Road

PENN STATE



Sayreville Junction

Parlin

Ernston

Runyon

Tennent Pond

Brook

Warnes

St Stanislaus Cem

Calvary Cem

Beth Israel Cem

Christ Church Cem

WASHINGTON

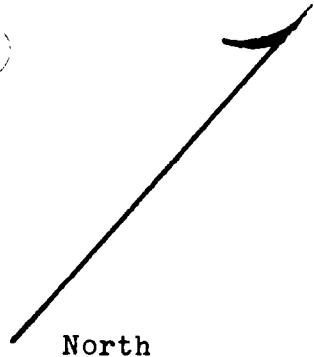
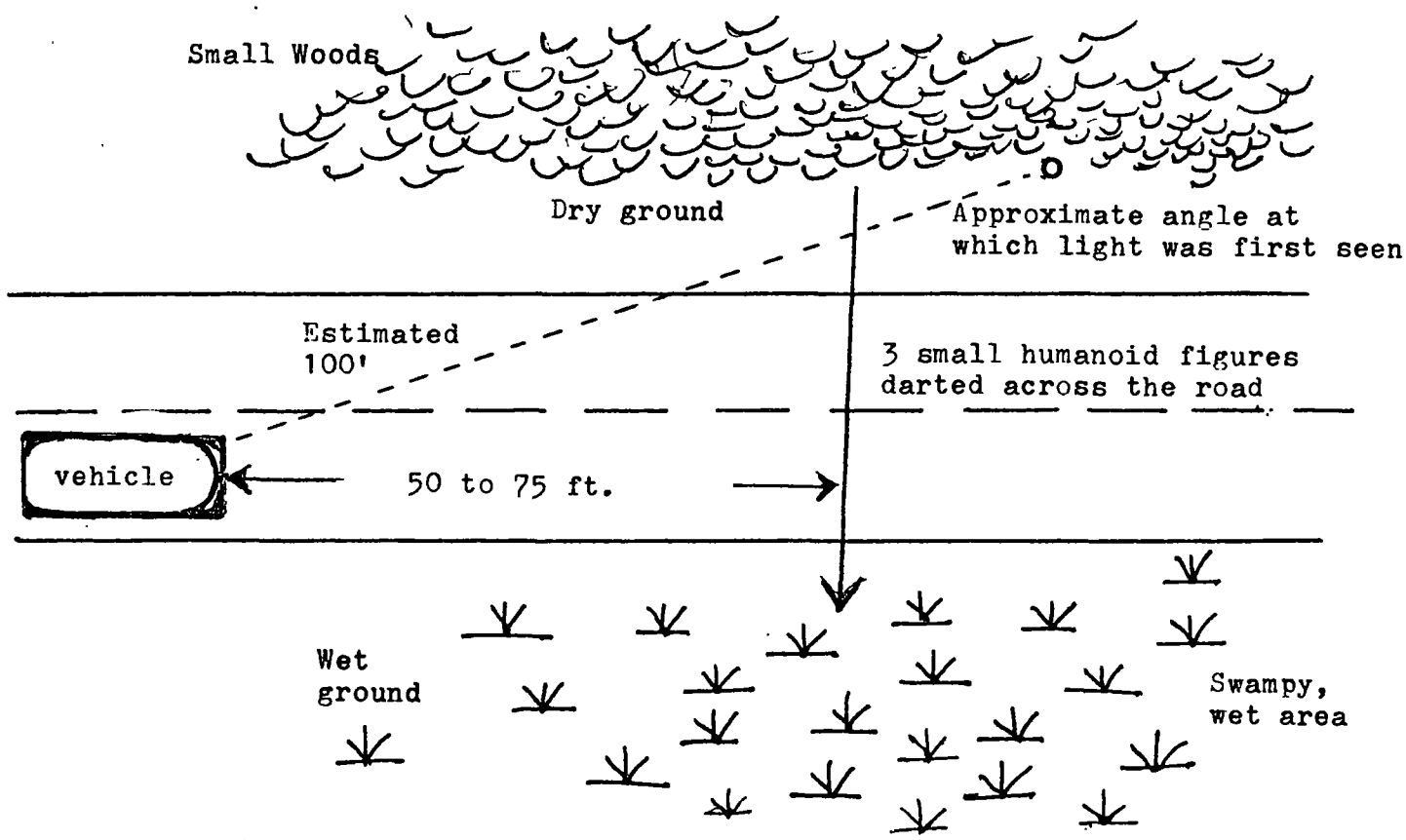
Jillespie

VER

HORO

Deerp

BM



Note: absence of swamp to right of South Amboy Road (on geological survey map) does not preclude cattails because they grow in and along drainage ditches in low areas.

RWS

(Finished copy of rough sketch received from witness 6/13--TB)

DIAGRAM OF LOCALE

MAY 17 1975

5/17/75

SIGHTING OF UNKNOWN PHENOMENON OCT 23RD, 1963
APPROX 11 PM NEAR SOUTH RIVER, N.J.

- (1) GRAY - SILVER COLOR
- (2) NO FEATURES VISIBLE
- (3) TIGHT FITTING 1 PIECE GARMENT
- (4) MOVEMENT AT LEAST TWICE AS FAST AS HUMANS
- (5) DISTANCE APPROX 50-75 FT.



EST. $3\frac{1}{2}$ TO 4 FT.

- (6) MOVED LEFT TO RIGHT INTO CATTAILS

- (7) CLOCKED MILES FROM POINT OF SIGHTING TO RT. 9 BUT LOST RECORDS - WAS LESS THAN 5 MILES - PROBABLY ABOUT 2.4 ~ 2.8 MILES FROM RT. 9 INTERSECTION,

R. W. Smith



UFO SIGHTING QUESTIONNAIRE - ENTITY CASES (FORM 7)

Ted Bloecher
317 East 83rd St.
New York, NY 10028

JUN 13 1975

INTER-FORM CROSS-REFERENCE DATA

SIGHTING DATE: 10/23/63 PLACE: NR SOUTH RIVER, NJ
TIME OBSERVED ENTITIES: FROM CA. 11 PM. TO
WITNESS' NAME: SMITH
INVESTIGATOR'S NAME: BLOECHER + WESCOTT

PERSONAL ACCOUNT (Include on Form 1)

In your own words, describe the Entities and their Behavior/Relationship to the UFO and you.

ASSOCIATION OF ENTITIES WITH UFO

EXPLICIT (Inside UFO only): ENTITY AT WINDOW? () ENTITY AT PORT? () ENTITY AT DOOR? () OTHER _____
DIRECT (Inside/Outside UFO): ENTITY EXITING UFO? () ENTITY ENTERING UFO? () OTHER _____
IMPLIED (Outside UFO only): MIN. DISTANCE/ENTITY TO UFO _____ MAX. DISTANCE/ENTITY TO UFO _____
POSSIBLE (UFO Fly-By only): BEFORE? () DURING? () AFTER? () ENTITY WAS SIGHTED ON THE GROUND.
OTHER: NO UFO SEEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE ENTITY (✓)

DESCRIPTION OF ENTITIES

HEAD AREA (Shape/No. of): HEAD ROUND /# 1 EYES _____ /# _____ NOSE _____ /# _____
MOUTH _____ /# _____ EARS _____ /# _____ NECK _____ /# _____
HEAD COVER (Similar to): HAT? () HOOD? () HELMET? (✓) HAIR? () OTHER _____
BODY AREA (Specify): TORSO? (✓) ARMS? (2) HANDS? () FINGERS? () CLAWS? () LEGS? (2)
FEET? () GLOWED? () NO./FINGERS-CLAWS _____ NO./ARMS _____ NO./LEGS _____
BODY COVER (Similar to): ^{TIGHT} COVERSALL? (✓) WETSUIT? () DIVING SUIT? () SKIN? () HAIR? ()
GLOVES? () SHOES? () BOOTS? () OTHER _____
SKIN COLOR _____ SKIN TEXTURE _____ SEX _____
OTHER (Miscellaneous): HAIR COLOR _____ HAIR LENGTH _____ ODOR _____
SUIT COLOR SILVER-GRAY SUIT TEXTURE SALOOTH EYE COLOR _____
HOW ENTITY FELT TO TOUCH: _____
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____

BEHAVIOR OF ENTITIES

APPARENT ACTIVITY: SAMPLE GATHERING? () REPAIRS? () OTHER Running
APPARENT ATTITUDE: DID THE ENTITIES SEE YOU? (✓) TOUCH YOU? () IF SO, DESCRIBE THEIR ACTIONS:
RAN APPROX. TWICE AS FAST AS HUMANS
UNUSUAL FEATURES: WALKED? () FLOATED? () FLEW? () GAVE OFF VAPOR? () VANISHED? ()
USED TOOLS? () USED WEAPONS? () OTHER _____
COMMUNICATION (Type): BETWEEN ENTITIES? () WITH YOU? () AUDIBLE? () SPOKEN? ()
LIPS MOVED? () MECHANICAL? () GESTURES? () WRITTEN? () VISIONS? ()
DREAMS? () TELEPATHIC? () INCOMPREHENSIBLE? () LANGUAGE _____
COMMUNICATION (Content): RECORD AND/OR DESCRIBE ANY COMMUNICATIONS BY OR WITH THE ENTITIES ON A SEPARATE SIGNED/DATED SHEET OF PAPER. WHAT INFORMATION DID YOU RECEIVE? WHAT INFORMATION DID YOU GIVE THE ENTITIES AND WHY?

SKETCH OF ENTITIES

On the reverse side of this form, draw a picture of the observed entity. Include as much detail as possible. Show relative proportions of Head, Neck, Arms, Body and Legs. Label the drawing clearly.

GENERAL DATA

NO. OF ENTITIES: 3 DISTANCE FROM WITNESS: 50-75 (MIN.) (MAX.) FEET () METERS ()
SIZE: OVERALL BODY HEIGHT 3 1/2 FT. OVERALL ARM LENGTH _____ FEET () METERS ()
TYPE: HUMAN () HUMANOID (✓) APE-LIKE () ROBOT () OTHER _____

COMMENTS:

MAY () MAY NOT (✓) USE MY NAME Ted Smith SIGNATURE OF WITNESS
6 13 75 DAY MONTH YEAR

1767

MAY 10-11
EARLIER

VA.

UFOs Seen Near Rockville

Ashland (Va.) Herald-Progress, Thur., May 22, 1969

The spotting of unusual lights and three humanoid creatures in the Rockville area are being investigated by national UFO experts, according to a report from Ray E. Ricketts of Richmond UFO Research Organization.

According to Ricketts, three "unannounced visitors" were seen in the Rockville area on Saturday, May 10 by Michael Luczkovich, 20-year-old accounting student at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. Luczkovich was returning to his home in Manakin shortly after midnight after visiting Janet Stansbury in Rockville.

Turning off state route 271 at Rockville, Grocery onto state road 622 on the way to Manakin, after traveling about 50 yards on this road, Mike caught a glimpse of two objects standing in the road. At first he thought the objects were two deer but as the car lights struck them, Mike was startled to see two small men, about three and one-half to four feet tall, with what he described as either outlandish heads or large helmets.

According to reports, the two men baled to the left of the road, scrambled up a vine-covered bank and disappeared into a field of barley. Just before the two little men disappeared, a third one, who had apparently been standing along the road on the right side, came running across the road to join his companions. The third man was described as identical to the first two. Mike was able to clearly observe him as the headlights completely illuminated the running figure.

At this time Mike was almost in front of the home of D. R. Waldrop. The little men were at a point just beyond the Waldrop home. Mike said the men were dressed in brown clothing (about the color of a hunting jacket), with baggy pants to the ankle where they either fitted snugly or were tucked inside some kind of boots. He was unable to describe any kind of shoes or boots.

In a written report from Ricketts, the humanoids were described as having either an over-sized helmet or head, which was perfectly round with a band around the edge. The band reflected the car lights, like the eyes of an animal. Mike described the color as pale green.

Mike could see no face or facial features inside the round object and could not determine whether the man was looking directly at him (which would have meant that the hand was on the front) or if he was looking straight ahead toward the barley field. He described the size of the helmet, or head, as about the size of a basketball ball, and said that the baggy pants of the men resembled sweat pants.

On Monday afternoon, after telling Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Stansbury and others in the neighborhood about the incident, Mike led a group of people to the position where the men had crossed the road. The group included D. R. Waldrop Jr., Billy Smith and UFO investigator Ricketts. Ricketts said that they found a path out into the grain field where someone had gone through, and three places just inside the grain field where it appeared three "somethings" had dived headlong into the grain and lay there. Impressions indicated persons of small stature, Ricketts said.

Other phenomena were also reported during this same period. According to Ricketts, Debbie Payne, 18, reported seeing a strange light just above a large oak tree near her home in the immediate neighborhood

where Mike had his encounter. The light glowed brighter and brighter and then flickered out.

On Sunday night, May 4, just after a loud clap of thunder, an unusual sound was heard by people from an area of Richmond's west end to Rockville. At Rockville Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Claytor and their son reportedly watched a glowing object about one-half mile from their home for more than an hour during the storm. The light was described as about the size of an automobile and glowing with a yellow tinge, growing brighter and diminishing in intensity.

On Friday, May 9 two Rockville men reported seeing a shooting star in the area.

According to Ricketts, all these incidents may be interrelated. "It is possible that some kind of craft was observing the thunderstorm, or entered the atmosphere at a point where the thunderstorm was in progress. A bolt of lightning could have possibly damaged the craft knocking some part from it. This could have been the source of the explosions and could account for the light that was seen by the Claytors.

"The little men seen in the road by Mike were heading in the direction of the Claytor sighting. They were certainly looking for something. They could have been from the disabled craft or from a sister ship. At

any rate, they did not seem to possess an abundant supply of 'smarts' as they ran in the 'wrong' direction. Therefore, we could assume that they were not 'pilots' but 'search teams' or a 'clean-up' detail. It is very obvious that they did not want to be seen.

"The sighting of men, fitting Mike's general description, is not unusual as similar sightings have been made in the past few years all over the world. However, it is a first for the Richmond area," Ricketts added.

Asked why Rockville might be an area for UFO sightings (Unidentified Flying Objects) Ricketts said that the high mineral content of the area, buried telephone cable, micro-waves, pipe line and I-64 all contribute, since all "visitors" seem to use underground cables for navigational purposes.

The Rockville area will be investigated on Saturday by two representatives from the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena" of Washington, D.C. Stuart Nixon, a field man from the committee, visited the site of the Luczkovich incident on Tuesday of this week and took pictures of the area.

ROCKVILLE, VA.
ENCOUNTER ON
MAY 11, 1969

ROUTE
672

ROUTE 671

ROCK.
GEN.
STORE

PARKING
LOT

FIRST
TWO
SEEN
FROM
HERE

FIRE
HOUSE

HOUSE

TREES

DISTANCES
NOT TO
SCALE

THIRD
SEEN
FROM
HERE

DRIVEWAY

WALDROP
HOME

NORTH

SLIGHT
RISE
IN
ROAD

OPEN
FIELDS

50 YDS

25 YDS

FIRST TWO
BEINGS

SLOWED
CAR
HERE

#3

IMPRESSIONS
LEFT IN
UNCUT
BARLEY

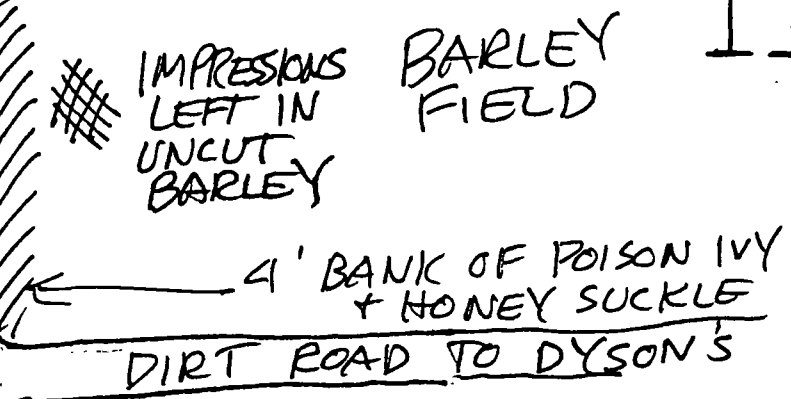
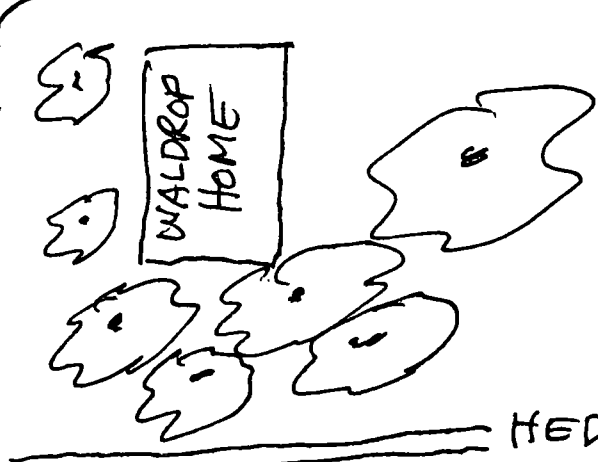
BARLEY
FIELD

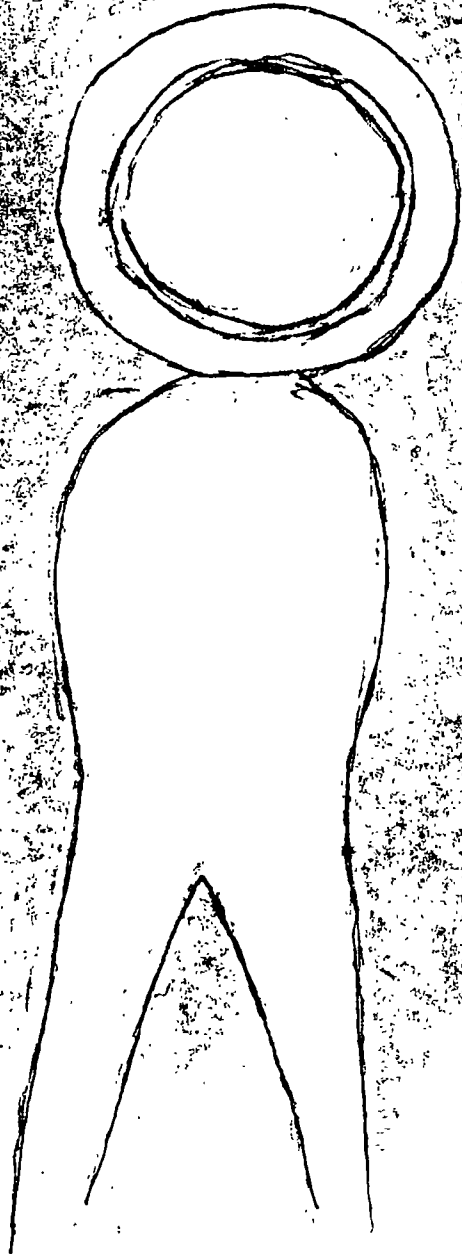
EMPTY
BARN

4' BANK OF POISON IVY
& HONEY SUCKLE

DIRT ROAD TO PAYNE'S

DIRT ROAD TO DYSON'S





Michael J. Logkovich
5-24-69

OCTOBER 23, 1963
SOUTH RIVER, N.J.
SMITH

CE III
NW 1

FROM
TED BLOECHER

MAY 16 1975

3520 Crystal Court
Miami, Florida 33133
May 14, 1975

Mr. T. Bloecher
317 East 83rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10028

Dear Mr. Bloecher,

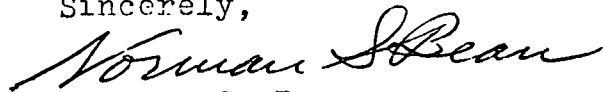
Since my interest in UFO's has been almost equally divided between "how" and "who" I welcome any chance to investigate an eye witness or two.

While I have had a dozen personal sightings in the past 25 years, none of them have been worth reporting because of the distance involved. However, as a result of my broadcast activities I have talked to a few people who have seen them at close range. I am not inclined toward record keeping and some of these people would not reveal their names over the phone so no followup took place.

I do hope that you can find an excuse to come to Miami and visit with us. I look forward to talks with Ralph and Judy on their yearly vacations here.

If you have a specific set of questions you use in interviews please send them along. I will use a tape recorder if I find that they do not object to it. Please inform Dr. Hynek that I enjoyed his book and will probably use it in my lecture series at the University of Miami next fall.

Sincerely,



Norman S. Bean
Consulting Electronics
and Television Engineer

Notes from telephone call to Robert Smith, Wed. May 14, 1975

Subject: Humanoid encounter Oct. 1963, South River, N.J.

Smith was en route to Washington, D.C., from Boston, following a forestry convention held that week. It was a Friday night and he will check his records to pinpoint the date.

He had taken the back road in the area because he was familiar with the territory, having been born in Matawan, N.J., not far from the scene of the encounter. At this time, however, he was living in Marinette, Wisc. (He resettled in Flanders, N.J., in 1969.)

He had taken a sharp right curve in the road when he saw lights to the left. Three glowing, small things suddenly dashed rapidly across the road ahead of him, and disappeared from sight as he went past. "Damndest thing I ever saw. . ." Said he would never forget it. Wished many times afterwards that he had gone back to check it out.

I did not press him for further details on the encounter over the phone; we made arrangements to meet this coming Saturday, May 17, at his home in Flanders between 2:30 and 3 p.m.

His company, BSI Forestry Equipment (PSI? Not sure), handles contracts from all over the country. We talked a bit about the changes in the area since I left Succasunna, and he said that I should prepare myself for a shock: what had once been beautiful rural country farmland is now built up into a typical suburban neighborhood. (I think I better refill my Valium perscription before I go out!)

Had to make the interview this Saturday because beginning Memorial Day weekend he goes away weekends and wouldn't be available for the rest of the summer. Don't know if Roger will be able to get out this Saturday, as it's exams time at Drew.

Ted Bloecher

May 15, 1975

10-23-63

317 East 83rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10028
May 20, 1975

Dr. J. Allen Hynek
Center for UFO Studies
2623 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, Ill. 60201

Dear Allen,

Enclosed please find the transcript of our interview with Robert Smith regarding his South River, N.J., encounter of October 23, 1963. He is a most credible witness, although there was not a great deal more we were able to extract from his experience. I want to get a more formal report up, coupling it with another very similar case I investigated several years back, but it will be a few weeks before I can get a complete report together. Meantime, the transcript provides about as much detail as we've been able to extract.

I have heard from Norman Bean, in Miami (xerox enclosed), and he is willing to check further into the Sohn and Palmes incidents. I will keep you posted as things develop in these two cases.

I was really glad to see you looking so fit at our breakfast last week. For some reason, I had the idea that the Center's responsibilities might be exerting a lot of pressure on you, for I know that besides the responsibility in Evanston, you are constantly on the move. I know how taxing constant travel can be, having done so much myself. At any rate, I am glad to know that you are not being run ragged; looks to me like you are thriving on it!

If you think there is a possibility of including Isabel's and my report on the 1955 humanoid encounters in the U.S. as a special Center Report, I can bring a copy to Des Moines in July to give to Mrs. Hynek, who I understand will attend the MUFON Symposium. It's a very long report, which may present some problems, but we can certainly discuss it in more detail when you have had a chance to look it over.

Very best regards.

Sincerely,



Ted Bloecher

Encl.

Transcription of Taped Interview with R. Smith, Sat. May 17, 1975

Subject: Humanoid encounter, South River, New Jersey, on Friday, October 23, 1963, at approx. 11:00 p.m.

Interviewed by Ted Bloecher, and Dr. and Mrs. Roger Westcott, of Madison, N.J.

RS: My name is Robert W. Smith, of Flanders, N.J., and this is the story of what I saw on October 23 (1963), about 11 p.m., near South River, New Jersey.

At the time I was driving from Boston to Matawan, New Jersey, I believe it was a Friday night, to spend the weekend with my parents. And then the following week I was to be in Washington, D.C. . . . I missed my turn on the Jersey Turnpike, Exit 11, so proceeded down to the next exit, which was New Brunswick. So, I got off at the New Brunswick exit and picked up Route 18, and there--at least in 1963--there was a road, a back road which led from Route 18 through South River to Route 9. So I took this road and at one point in that road there is a very sharp turn, almost a ninety-degree turn. . . I slowed down to make that turn, then hit a straightaway, and as I was accelerating to about 50 - 60 miles per hour, I noticed something shining on the left side of the road.

Almost instantaneously, three silverish figures started across the road in front of me, and my immediate reaction to that was, uh-- it sort of frightened me, and I just let the automobile come to a stop--but I didn't put the brakes on, I let it stop about a mile down the road, or half a mile down the road. And I was going to go back and take a look at this-- at whatever it was I saw, but after considering the fact that it was a sort of desolate, lonely area, and I was alone and had not even a flashlight, I decided to forget it and just go on about my business.

Now, there was something very unusual about these figures. It was in the way that they moved. These figures did not move like a normal human being would-- would run. I would say that their movements were at least twice as fast as even the fastest sprinter. And their legs movements, which I seem to remember mostly-- the tremendous speed at which their legs moved, and I could clearly see the outline of their legs, because whatever they had on--I assume they had some kind of, uh, garment on--it was tight-fitting; in other words, it was, uh--
at

Yes, as they crossed ahead of the car, it was/a distance of perhaps 50 to 75 feet. Now bear in mind. . .it was a dark, fairly dark night--it was clear that night--but I think I had the high beams on that road, and I got a pretty good look at them. But I could see no features except that they were two-legged, and they were fast--faster than any living thing that I have ever seen, including animals. I've seen deer and all kinds of small game and I never saw anything move that fast.

going back to the initial-- what caught my eye: something luminous caught my eye, on the left side of the road, which seemed to be dry. But yet when these things moved, they moved from left to right, across into an area that was wet, which has bothered me. Why would they run into the cat-tails? You would think they would go the other way. Do you know what I mean?

RW: Sort of like they would be afraid of sinking--

RS: That's right--

RW: --in soft, wet ground.

RS: Yes, but apparently they went right in there.

TB: Now, which way were you going on that-- Can you identify the road, first of all, from this rather detailed map?

RS: Well, I'd have to backtrack from Route 9--

TB: Might as well turn this off while we--

RS: Yeah--

(Recorder turned off briefly here as RS checked position on map. He was driving eastbound toward Route 9, and the map shows two possible roads he could have taken. He was not certain about which was the correct one; on this day, however--May 17, 1975--he planned to drive to Matawan to see his mother, and he said he'd go over the same road he took at the time of the encounter, if he could still locate it--TB.)

RS: I was thinking of when I-- I was a little shaken by this thing so I looked at the Speed-O-dometer (SS&I) and I wrote down, actually wrote down, the reading on that o-dometer, and I knew the vehicle stopped at least a half a mile beyond where I saw them, and I clocked the distance out to the junction with Route 9, and I had a record of this, but then I changed my mind and decided not to say anything to anybody, and I lost the records. But I do know, I'm almost certain, that it was like 2-point-eight miles, or two-point-four miles, something like that, from the junction of Route 9. I'm quite sure it was under five miles. But I just--

TB: From the point where you stopped?

RS: From the ^{point} ~~junction~~-- yes, from where I stopped--

TB: --to Route 9, was from 2.4 to 2.8 miles--

RS: Yeah. I think it was two-point something, I don't really remember. But that would put it not very far (from Rte 9)--

RS: I saw first a luminous-- something shining, and it caught my eye. And almost a split second later, zip! zip! zip!, across the road they came.

RW: Yeah. Now, they went from right to left, is that right?

RS: They went from left to right.

RW: Okay, now I understand. So the light presumably was (unclear).

HW: How big was the light? Tall as they were?

RS: No, it was smaller. This is what's confusing. All I saw was something shining--like a flashlight, like a point of light.

TB: Did you see it peripherally, or did you look at it? I mean, did it catch your eye from the side and when you looked, it was gone, or did you turn and actually see it?

RS: No, I think I actually turned my head.

TB: You did actually turn toward it. And you saw no figures ~~at~~ at that time, just the light source.

RS: The light source caught my eye and then, like, a second later, I saw the three figures go. It was almost instantaneous.

TB: Would it be your impression, perhaps, that the light source was one of the three figures?

RS: Could've been--

TB: And upon your perceiving them they immediately began moving?

RS: Could've been.

TB: Could've been, but it also could've been another source for the light, as well as the creatures--

RS: I think the light was associated with the creatures.

TB: With the creatures. . . Do you think it was the creatures, or do you think it was an independent light source they may have been carrying? I don't want to give you leading questions. . .

RS: Well, I would say that it was an independent light source that they were carrying.

TB: It's possible.

RS: I'd say.

HW: They didn't seem to be carrying one?

RS: No, they didn't.

RW: But they seemed to glow themselves-- as they crossed the road.

RS: Once they hit the headlights, yeah.

RW: Oh, I see, but not before that.

RS: Not before that.

TB: Then they-- it's possible they weren't really glowing, but reflecting.

RS: They reflected the headlights. (TB: Reflected--) The headlight beams reflected off them.

- than,
RW: Do you feel they reflected more/let's say, these children would if they ran across in front of the headlight beams?
- RS: Ahh, they were-- ahh, sort of luminous.
- TB: Was there a color, or a tint, to this-- this-- this, uh, luminosity?
- RS: It was sort of a-- actually, it was a, like a silver grey.
- HW: But, ah, children would not run that fast.
- RS: This was what disturbed me, the speed, and the actual leg movements. It was almost like (makes piston movements with fingers). In other words, it's almost like they-- they fluttered across that road. They didn't "run."
- HW: Do you think they could have been controlled by somebody else? Some thing that could have controlled them--
- RS: Oh, I don't know-- that's possible, I guess, but-- the body movements did not look human, to me. (He laughs.)
- TB: Well, this is what I want to find out: did the movement of the legs, or was the movement of the legs distinctive insofar as it didn't look like they bent at the knee, back-- uh, forward, like there was ~~something~~ something ~~unusual~~ really unusual the motion, other than their speed?
- RS: Yeah, there was, there was something very unusual about the movement of the legs that I just can't describe.
- TB: Did you see feet?
- RS: I don't remember seeing feet. The thing that sticks in my mind is those legs--those small legs, and how quickly they--
- HW: When you say small, do you mean spindly?
- RS: Sort of spindly, yeh, but-- but shaped, there was shape to them.
- TB: Did they bend at the knee, do you recall?
- RS: (Pause) I think they had an up-and-down, uh--
- HW: Like this? (She pokes two stiff fingers up and down)
- RS: Yeah, more like that, only faster.
- TB: Almost as if they were on ball joints that--
- RS: Almost like pistons. (HW: Like this.) Yeah.
- HW: So then there would be something that--would, uh-- or they would go internally. In other words, the leg would move into something-- a socket, or whatever--
- RS: No, I don't think I saw it moving into a socket.
- HW: Well, the shape, the body-- I'm thinking of a, um, robot, or a machine, now: they have a spindley leg, and it would have ~~in~~ ~~was~~ a larger washer, or a-- something, to move into, you know, this way, and that would give a shape--
- RS: I would say-- I would say it was more-- no, I would say it was more--almost muscular.

TB: Could you see a thigh formation?

RS: Yes, I could see a thigh--this is what I mean: I could see a calf and a thigh--

TB: But you could not really see a knee bending-action-- (pause) Don't-- don't let me say what you saw--

RS: I'm not quite-- I'm a little confused about that.

TB: You're not certain about the knee?

RS: I'm not certain about the knee. It's been so long-- Uh--

TB: It's hard to understand what the mobility would be--

HW: Well, a horse trots in this way, it has those little motions--you know, you think of a trotting horse-- they go this way, their knee bends up somehow.

TB: Did you see buttocks, as they moved away from you? I mean, as the distance grew-- (RS: Ahhh--) Well, let's say you're moving past them as they go into the reeds, right? So you'd get a back view, right? Did you get a back view?

RS: Well, I didn't get a back view, that's how fast they moved.

TB: That's how fast they moved.

HW: Just sideways--

RS: All I got was the profile. I got sort of a 45-degree angle view.

TB: Well, were you aware of buttocks in the back as you--

RS: Not pronounced.

TB: What were their arms doing during this fast motion?

RS: They seemed to be more, uh-- toward the-- like this (holds arms up, doubled at sides), almost like a person who is running. The arms, I think, were probably--

TB: More like that (swinging bent arms, as tho running)?

RS: Yes.

TB: Or were they rigid? (Pause) This is a natural movement (swinging arms); this is unnatural (holding them rigid).

RS: I would say, probably natural. I think the movement was, instead of a rob-- It seemed more of a human thing than a mechanical thing, is what I'm trying to say, but just extraordinarily fast, like a-- a-- I don't know, it's-- they might have fluttered some, too-- I don't know. It's too bad I didn't talk to somebody about this shortly after I saw them. At least then I probably could've filled these details in.

TB: But you did talk to somebody shortly afterwards. Didn't you talk to Mrs. Smith?

RS: Oh, no, she wasn't there. (TB: Well, it was a--) It was a long time--

MS: Well, ~~it wasn't right away~~ but it was like a week--
no, I wasn't there

(Everybody at once)

TB: Well, the way you saw--

RS: Did I tell you later--

MS: Well, it was like a week later, when you came home--

RS: Did I tell you ~~that~~^{after} I came home, or later?

MS: Yeah, and I laughed-- (she laughs)

(Unclear, but everyone laughs)

RW: (Over the laughter) Just serve the coffee-- (more laughter)

TB: When did you stop laughing?

MS: Well, I'm still laughing. . . (and she does)

RS: Of course, she doesn't believe it-- (laughs)

TB: We may all be figures of ridicule, for all we know--

RW: Well, that's good-- it's better to be more skeptical.

MS: Well, no, I did believe him. I really don't know. I think he saw something-- he just came home so absolutely positive he saw something unusual, that--

TB: This was in Marinette, back home in Marinette--

MS: Yes, we were in Wisconsin-- And, ah, I'm convinced he saw something, but what, I really don't know.

TB: Well, that's what we're all trying to find out: nobody knows--

RS: I don't know myself what I saw--

MS: I mean, it sounded rather weird, you know, these strange little guys, you know, like, what? Four feet eleven, almost five feet--

RS: No, I'd say about four feet-- three, four feet--

MS: Smaller than that, they were small, he said, very small, and dressed in silvery-like-- and zipped across the road real fast, you know--

RW: (Question not on tape, but Roger asked about specific psychological reactions.)

RS: Yes I did. I'll tell you, that's the only time in my life that I know I experienced fear. I actually was afraid. I hate to admit that, but-- man, I'll tell you, that made the hair stand up on my head, or whatever that sensation is. That's the only time in my life I ever had that, and I was actually afraid to go back and look (he laughs).

(Everybody at once here)

TB: Were you afraid-- let's let's identify this fear. Were you afraid to take the car back, or were you afraid to get out of the car to go back?

RS: I was afraid, both, because I felt that there were three of these things and only one of me.

TB: But you were bigger.

RS: Yeah, I'm bigger, but, ah-- what I saw, I just-- I didn't think they were--

TB: Normal?

RS: Normal. And so I didn't want to get involved in something I didn't know about. I didn't go back, and I didn't report it for the reason that I just didn't want the publicity.

RW: Did you consider alternative interpretations for explanations?

RS: Well, after awhile, I began to think that what I had seen was something extraterrestrial, because of all the UFO sightings. That's why when I wrote the letter, I was interested to know if there was a UFO in that area, or sighted in that area, because then I would feel that maybe there was some relationship.

RW: Right. Had you heard much, or read much about UFOs before?

RS: I hadn't read much. I had heard about them, naturally, in the newspapers and all, but since then I've been much more interested.

RW: Have you read anything subsequently that seemed to relate to your experience?

RS: Well, there have been other accounts. What was it-- somewhere, I had read a book where someone else had seen something similar to this. . .

(Mr. and Mrs. Smith try to recall several books she had taken from the library on the subject--they couldn't identify them, but did recognize the title of Frank Edwards' "Flying Saucers-- Serious Business." That may have been one--TB)

The following is Mrs. Smith's statement about how she learned of and reacted to her husband's encounter.

MS: I don't know actually how long it was after Bob came home, but it was probably that same night when he returned home and we usually would sit down and have a drink or a cup of coffee--

RS: It ~~might have been~~ had to be at least a week later.

MS: Yeah. I don't really remember how long you were gone at that time, you traveled so much. But he told me about it, and I thought it seemed rather stupid, but at the same time I was glad he didn't stop to go back. Well, I thought that was very wise. I'd read a few articles, of course, of people disappearing. I thought he was pretty wise not to stop, but I didn't encourage him to report it because I really didn't think anybody'd believe him. I-- well, I believed him, but I thought, ah! I don't know, it probably sounds like children, and yet he kept saying, no, it couldn't be children, because they were too fast and they were silver, and I said, yeah, but because they were small, probably it was some teenagers involved in some prank or something. He kept saying, no, no-- it wasn't anything human.

TB: Okay, thank you.

It appears that Mrs. Smith had a sighting of what she terms "an unusual airplane" with no taillights, no wings and no noise--just the fuselage, lined with "windows." This was in the summer of 1966 at Marinette, Wis.--TB.

TB: Let's record this for posterity. When was this, Mrs. Smith?

MS: Oh, dear, I don't even know.

TB: Was this after, or before, your husband's encounter?

MS: Oh, it must have been after, because, yeah, we owned our own home then, and it was in the evening--it must have been in the summer. I have no idea what month--I really wasn't paying attention--and we had a lot of bats in Wisconsin, and the kids, for pleasure after supper, used to go out with brooms and chase bats around (laughter)--

And I would sit out there, usually in the lawn chair and read a book, while they were chasing these bats that they could never catch. . . . It was really the peaceful part of the evening, and my son mentioned, "Look at that big airplane," and I said, "Oh yes."

It was a large airplane and was very fast, and you could just see all the lights. It was just an airplane. My son said, "Well, where are the tail lights?" And there wasn't any red tail lights. That was it, just a big airplane, moving fast. . . .

You couldn't see any lights, just the big portholes, ~~xxxxxxx~~ windows--you know.

RW: You didn't see any wings? (Negative reply is not audible on tape, but in discussing this, she said she had not seen wings--TB.)

MS: I didn't see any red lights. All I could see was a big airplane that was--

TB: Did you hear noise?

MS: No, it was high up. It was very high, and it was moving very fast.

TB: How could you see windows so high up?

MS: (Laughs) I don't know.

RW: They were very bright, apparently.

MS: You could see-- it was just like an airplane with all the windows.

RS: Well, the reason I brought it up was because of the same question: if ~~xxxxxxx~~ the thing was high you shouldn't've been able to see windows.

RS: That's why I do argue, but I think probably the sun was reflecting on the windows.

RS: You can't see the windows of a commercial airliner even with the lights on.

TB: If it's so close, you hear a roar. You heard no ~~xxxx~~ noise.

MS: No, it was very high up and it moved very fast.

RS: And yet she saw windows, which is a very interesting point. . . .

MS: It looked exactly like an airplane except that you couldn't see the red tail lights.

TB: Where were you at the time?

MS: He was on another trip (laughs).

RS: Those days I was on the road like (unclear)

MS: See, he used to xtravel, usually, two weeks at a time, then he'd be home a week.

TB: Was this two years after the incident, or five years? How old was your son at the time, we could probably date it by something like that.

MS: ~~HEXY~~ Oh, let's see, Randy is a sophomore in g high school, he must have been in first grade-- yes, you'd be in first grade, about six years old.

TB: What year was that?

MS: Six years old, well, let's see: he's sixteen, that's ten years ago.

TB: Sixty-six, sixty-five?

RS: (Unclear) That's about right.

MS: In was in between probably first and second grade. . .When were we in that house, Bob? When did we move to New Jersey?

RS: In sixty seven.

MS: Well, wait-- then it was sixty six, cause we were only in that house that summer. Yeah, ~~we~~ we were in-- the summer of sixty six.

TB: Good. See, you can usually piece it together by--

HW: You don't recall seeing any blinking lights?anywhere? You know, things that we would put in the air always have these blinkers--

MS: Noo-- to me it looked like an airplane, ~~xxx~~ that you could see the windows--
except

HW: It must have been huge--

MS: We watched it, and it-- it was just an airplane, and I said-- I mentioned how fast it was going. . .

End of taped portions

Transcribed by

Ted Blocher

May 18-20, 1975

Notes from telephone call to Robert Smith, Wed, May 21, 1975

Re Humancid Encounter, S. River, N.J., 10/23/63

Regarding the map, and his route the night of the incident, he wasn't able to say definitely which of the three possible choices was the correct one. On driving to his mother's home in Matawan, last Saturday (after our interview), he took the southern-most route, and has fairly certainly ruled that one out as one of the possibilities. (See copy attached).

He believes it was either one of the two northerly roads, and opts for the road through Parlin (Route 535), as it would be the most direct route from Route 13 to Route 9, which he was headed towards. However, he does not rule out the northern alternative (Main Street through Sayreville), since the map indicates the sharp left-hand turn just after the bridge, which he recalled making just prior to the sighting.

He has offered to take the time to explore the area in an effort to definitely identify the locale, if we thought that it was worth while. I'm not certain that it is, although it would be useful to have the precise locale for the records. I will suggest that on subsequent trips to Matawan he take alternate routes to see if he can identify the site without making any special side trips.

I offered to send him a copy of the tape transcription, but he declined. I told him I would subsequently prepare a report on the incident and he said he would like to have a copy of that.

Ted Blocher

May 21, 1975

317 East 83rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10028
May 22, 1975

Mr. Robert W. Smith
TSI Company
P.O. Box 151
Flanders, N.J. 07836

Dear Bob,

Thanks for the return of the map, and the notations as to the possible sites. I agree with you, the one to the south just isn't the most practical route from 18 to 9, and can probably be ruled out. The road through Parlin is the most direct route to 9, but on further consideration, I think your original reference to the road through Sayreville is the more likely choice if only because of the sharp turn you would make after crossing the South River bridge.

At any rate, a special examination of the proposed sites would be asking too much. On the other hand, perhaps it would not be too much of an inconvenience on the next several drives you make to Matawan to go over the several alternative roads on the chance you may still recognize the site. If you can pinpoint it, it would be useful to add to the record.

I'd like to thank you and Mrs. Smith for your kind hospitality and assistance in getting the facts of your 1963 encounter. I just wish we were able to let you know what the things you saw were.

Sincerely,

Ted Elcecher

P.S. I have enclosed some of the MUFOW information, as you requested.

Encl.

317 East 83rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10028
June 4, 1975

Mr. Robert W. Smith
TSI Company
P. O. Box 151, Hgwy 206
Flanders, N. J. 07836

Dear Bob,

Enclosed are copies of the geological survey map for the South River-South Amboy area, showing the routes in question that you may have taken in '63. It would be helpful to have maps from the 1963 maps, as these reflect the many changes in the area since then. However, they may help you to pinpoint the area of the encounter. You mentioned clay quarries, which I see indicated at various spots.

Also enclosed is a rough sketch which will help establish the position of you and the truck relative to the light you saw, and the position the figures were seen crossing the road. I have indicated rough distances, based on a 15-foot truck; I don't know, Econovans may have been somewhat longer, but I guess it's close enough to give an approximation.

These points will help me in getting up my report on the incident. Thanks again for all your help.

Sincerely,

Ted Bloecher

FILE:

SO. RIVER, N.J.

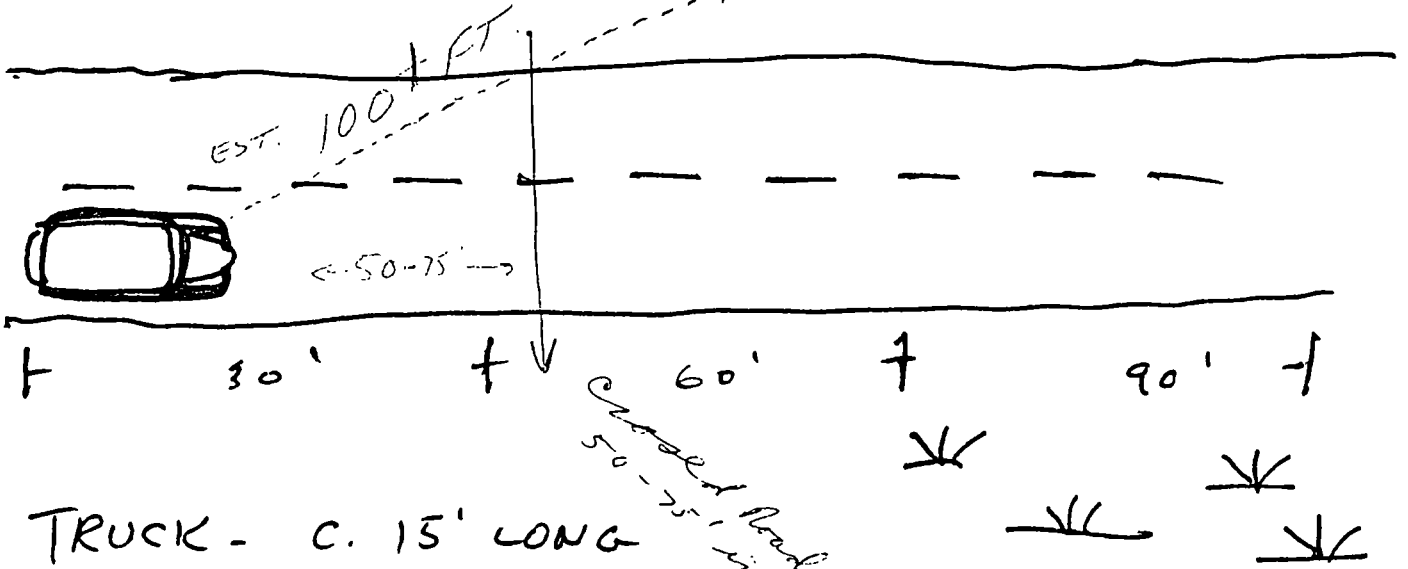
OCT. 23, 1963

SMITH

JUN 13 1975

approx angle at which light was first seen

WOODS



Bob - please indicate on this rough sketch the angle of vision at which you saw the light, and the approx spot then X'd the road.

Note absence of a swamp to right of So. Embury Rd does not preclude cattails because they grow in any way drainage ditches in low areas.

Ted

Aug

1963

June 19, 1975

Mr. Robert W. Smith
TGI Company
PO Box 151
Flanders, NJ 07836

Dear Mr. Smith,

I would like to thank you for your fine cooperation and assistance in our research. Your willingness to take the time to re-examine your experience with Ted Eloecher is most appreciated. I am enclosing the Center's current News Bulletin, which I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely,

J. Allen Hynek

JAH/rm
cc:file
Encl

CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES

LIBRARY SERVICES, P.O. Box 11, Northfield, IL 60093

J. ALLEN HYNEK, DIRECTOR

Mr. Smith
Blecher

Dear Inquirer,

Thank you for your interest in the Center for UFO Studies. We hope that you will pardon this form letter and understand that due to the great demands for information, an answer by individual letter would delay our reply for several weeks.

One or more of the items below has been sent to you, and we hope that the enclosed material will answer your questions. If not, please feel free to write again.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM THE CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES:

✓ -- Literature detailing the activities of the Center, and information on how to obtain the Center's News Bulletin and summaries of reports.

--A suggested reading list, including recent books.

✓ --A list of selected documents available from the Center (reprints of documents from the scientific community, governments, and industry as well as publications from the Center.)

--A list of reprints from periodicals

--A list of additional sources for information.

If you write again, please send a self-addressed, long envelope.

Sincerely,
Library Services
Center for UFO Studies