



**Chupacabras Rising:
The Paranormal Predator
Returns**

**By Scott Corrales
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"A psychical investigator can establish the reality of the paranormal beyond all doubt--in private. But as soon as he tries to drag his evidence into the light of public scrutiny, it melts away like ice in the sun. And if in despair he shouts, "Please stop playing games and give me some public evidence!" the practical joker replies blandly, "But of course, my dear fellow--how about this? and presents a proof so preposterous that no one will take it seriously..."

-- Colin Wilson, *The Occult*, 1988

I.Back in The Saddle Again

Only a few days ago, I heard a vulcanologist on National Public Radio discussing the possible eruption of Mammoth Lake in eastern California--a cataclysmic event that would surely be remembered for generations to come. During the course of his interview, the vulcanologist calmly explained the hostility demonstrated toward him by the people whose livelihoods depended on Mammoth Lake's brisk tourist trade. This hostility, said the researcher, reached the extent of having been told at a local restaurant to "stop talking nonsense" about possible volcanic activity at the site, or face the likelihood of having "a bomb" placed in his car.

This impressed me greatly, for you see, I had received, around the same time as the broadcast, what I construed to be a warning regarding my reports on the Chilean Chupacabras. After the initial--and unnecessary--bout of paranoia that ensued, I realized that there are individuals out there whose hostility in fact masks a deep-seated fear of things occurring beyond the control of their laboratory protocols, or perhaps even beyond the scope of their religious beliefs.

The phenomenon known as "Chupacabras" has endured efforts at discrediting it and even well-meaning efforts to clean up its unwholesome image by renaming it the SAI (Sporadic Agressive Intruder) and other science-friendly monikers. Its bloodsucking activity has been occurring since 1995 in the most disparate locations--Puerto Rico, Mexico, the U.S., Spain, Portugal, Brazil and now Chile and Argentina--and the physical manifestations of the creature/entity/whatever have been wildly different from one nation to another, according to eyewitness reports. In certain locations it appears to be a phenomenon which repeats periodically: the Puerto Rican outbreak of 1995 mirrors the Moca Vampire outbreak of 1975, and there are indications of similar animal mutilations occurring in the mid-1950s. Walter Cardona, a researcher on that Caribbean location, has uncovered evidence pointing to mutilations as far back as 1819.

The easy solution--drawn along ethnic lines--has been to dismiss the matter as a phantasm of the Iberoamerican and peninsular Spanish peoples, yet a similar solution is never posited for the Loch Ness monster as a similar phantasm of the Anglo/Celtic mindset. Any such suggestion would be met with hostility, and well it should.

What you are about to read has been drawn from journalistic sources available both in print and on the World Wide Web. I have refrained from including anything that smacks of FOAFtales or other secondhand data (which invariably includes some of the most fascinating and controversial information). The exception to this case are the transcripts from certain Chilean radio programs, since I found such sources to be highly compelling and useful back in 1995, when I began working on *The Chupacabras Diaries* (Samizdat Communications, 1996).

None of the following would have been possible without the assistance of the friends and members of the Institute of Hispanic Ufology: Gloria R. Coluchi, Patricio Borlone, Ricardo Concha, Liliana Núñez Orellana, Lucy Guzmán de Plá and others who made sure that I received text copies and links to the information. I cannot thank them enough!

Background Information

The Republic of Chile is one of the narrowest countries in the world--caught between the towering Andes and the Pacific Ocean. Along its length we find a variety of climates which have made it one of the planet's most significant producers of fruit and vegetables, as well as one of the finest wine-growing regions of the Americas.

Northern Chile is dry and barren, and has enormous salt deserts such as the Desierto de Atacama--one of the driest locations on earth--which has proven a boon to archaeologists bent on finding mummified human remains from many thousands of years ago. Southern Chile presents us with a radically different picture--fertile cropland and woods which give way to dense boreal rainforests covering archipelagoes of thousands of islands all the way down to Tierra del Fuego.

Chile stood alone among Latin American countries for being the only one to have successfully evaded military coups and the ensuing army-led governments...until 1973, when Gen. Augusto Pinochet overthrew the left-leaning government of Salvador Allende and embarked upon a series of atrocities which are discussed to this very day. Pivotal in this coup d'etat were the *Carabineros* or national police, who were sworn to defend the elected president but sided with the revisionists instead. Unlike state troopers in the U.S., these are true national police forces with broad discretionary powers.

Ufologically speaking, the clear nights of its vast northern salt deserts have provided an array of memorable sightings, causing some Latin American investigators to vote it "the country most visited by UFOs" during the 1970's.

The all-time Chilean classic case is the hair-raising (and beard growing) experience suffered by army corporal Armando Valdés Garrido: in the bitterly cold early morning hours of April 25, 1977, a military patrol of the Rancagua regiment led by Corporal Valdés and composed of soldiers Julio Rosas, Ivan Rojas, Pedro Rosales, Humberto Rojas, Germán Valle and Raúl Salinas, had decided to camp in a rocky, desolate area in the Andean foothills, a few miles east of the city of Putre.

One of the soldiers, who had been assigned sentry duty, rushed back to the corporal to inform him that a red light was hovering above a nearby peak. Suspecting that contrabandists may be at work, Valdés ordered his platoon to ready weapons and extinguish the campfire--their only source of warmth in the near-zero weather. The soldiers moved out toward the source of the purplish-red light, realizing in a matter of seconds that they weren't dealing with illegal activity or lost mountaineers. The light was moving down the hillside, but not on its surface.

Having complained earlier about the frigid temperature, the soldiers were stunned to discover that it was actually getting warmer as the light grew closer, turning into giant oval-shaped object which bathing them in its purplish-red glow.

The object landed some fifty feet away, swathed in a violet fog that stood out in stark contrast to the surrounding darkness. This was enough to cause panic among the young conscripts, but they found themselves unable to move. Weapon in hand, the corporal ventured forward alone into

the unearthly fog, adding later that he felt attracted by something within the luminosity, and was standing no farther than nine feet away from his men when the purplish light engulfed him. The corporal stated for the record that his only recollection of the event was a dreamlike vision of falling down a deep well or chasm. He was also left with a feeling that he would meet again with the strange presence.

The truly amazing part of the story follows: the leaderless platoon witnessed the corporal's unexplained reappearance some fifteen minutes later, when they heard him calling for help. Valdés gave the appearance of having been drugged; his normally clean-shaven face showed dense beard, and his calendar wristwatch indicated that the time was 6:30 a.m. on the 30th of April, when it was still in fact 4:25 a.m. on the 25th. By all indications, the hapless military man had undergone a five day sojourn at an unguessable region of time and space. Hypnotic regression, which would ordinarily have been the procedure of choice in unlocking the "missing time", was expressly forbidden by the Chilean military. Medical specialists agreed that Valdés's panic at the ordeal, as well as the unknown radiation he had been subjected to, could have accelerated the growth of his facial hair, but no explanation was forthcoming about what had happened to his wristwatch.

After criss-crossing Chilean skies for decades, UFO activity dwindled in later decades down to a few unimportant sightings. According to an article from the EFE news agency, more than 400 confirmed sightings took place in the years before 1990. However, the period running from 1990 through 1994 has remained quiet. Not even the truck drivers who cross the Atacama Desert have witnessed any sightings worthy of public attention.

In November 1990, a woman from a small community some 450 kilometers to the north of Santiago was violently awakened by a loud noise while an intense light, as bright as the Sun's, poured into her bedroom. The woman stated that she was filled with dread when she noticed a figure no more than 115 cm. tall standing at the door. It had very large eyes and ears and its skin was illuminated by a strong violet light.

On October 8, 1994 a forest ranger in the Torres del Paine National Park, located in the subpolar Magallanes region, was allegedly chased by a gigantic UFO that hovered in the sky. The forest ranger, who has spent eighteen years in this particular park, was conducting a routine inspection when he was surprised by an enigmatic, spherical artifact that gave off a powerful beam of light.

Visibly upset, the ranger began a frantic race back to the Paso de la Muerte Shelter, some 17 kilometers away. He was pursued the entire distance by the object, which emitted "flashes of light". After gaining the shelter's safety, he was able to alert some comrades, who observed the UFO moving away at a high rate of speed. A driver identified as Arturo Cofre corroborated the forest ranger's testimony, stating that he had also witnessed the giant sphere over the so-called Cuernos del Paine. Carmen Salvat, an employee of the Hotel Explora, claimed to have seen a large luminous sphere moving in a northerly direction as it gave out potent red and violet flashes.

II. Chupacabras Rising

The Activity Begins

Although the year 2000 had started with considerable UFO activity in Mexico (Acapulco and Mexico City), Colombia (an object videotaped over Bogotá), and Argentina (objects reported over the military harbor of Puerto Belgrano and unexplained objects crashing at Santiago del Estero), very little of this activity was occurring over Chile, which had enjoyed a very comfortable southern hemisphere summer in the wake of "El Niño" related problems the previous winter. It wasn't until April 2000 that the first intimations that something strange was happening in the country's northern reaches...

*"El Mercurio de Chile" (newspaper)
April 20, 2000*

CALAMA (Otilia Huerta).- The bizarre deaths of sheep and goats in the rural region of Labanda, El Loa province, led to the summoning of a multiagency meeting to discuss the subject and agree on measures aimed at putting an end to the problem and above all, determining who or what has caused the death of 135 animals--goats, sheep, chickens and rabbits.

These events have become the single greatest topic of conversation in the local communities, where the legend of the existence of the Chupacabras is growing apace--a mythological monster of possible Mexican origin.

Among the measures agreed by the provincial, agricultural, sanitary and police agencies are the elimination of stray dogs, particularly those living in a semi-wild state and occupy the properties adjacent to the municipal dump. Lucas Burchard, chief of Environmental Hygiene and Food Control in Calama, explained that these animals tend to bite each other during fights, inflicting deep bloody wounds, thus developing a taste for the substance. This gives rise to the hypothesis that acting in packs, they now slay animals, and given the difficulty of consuming their flesh, are content to drink their blood. Information obtained from farmers by the Agricultural and Cattle Farming Service (SAG) place the blame on packs of wild dogs. SAG also announced the installation of traps to capture wild animals in a location to be used as a bait area and in which cameras will be placed to record what is going on. Likewise, the *Carabineros* (state police) will engage in nocturnal vigilance of the area by means of infrared equipment. A forensic specialist shall be in charge of analyzing the most recent kills, in order to determine the type of wounds and the action to which they could be attributed.

*Diario "La Tercera" (newspaper)
April 21, 2000
CARABINEROS, FIREMEN AND RESEARCHERS
CONDUCT OPERATIONS IN CALAMA
by Alejandro Ahumada/Calama*

- * Possible Human Intervention in Animal Deaths*
- * Combing Operation took Place Wednesday Night*

to Find the Parties Responsible for the Cattle Slayings
Attacks Also Occured in San Fernando

In the community of Talcahue, near San Fernando in the 6th Region, strange animal deaths have also been reported over the past days. Locals speak of the strange deaths of a hog, a dog, six chickens and some ducks under circumstances which remain unexplained, as well as the presence of footprints for which no explanation could be found.

Unofficial versions spoke at first of only a few animals, but the number grew to around thirty yesterday, spreading fear and uncertainty in the vicinity. *Carabineros* (state police) from the Aguas Buenas barracks made a formal request to the Agricultural and Cattle Farming Service (SAG) at San Fernando for the presence of a expert at the scene in order to establish the possible causes of death. As of the closing of this edition, the agency's experts at Talcahue were still conducting initial investigation to establish who or what caused the animal deaths.

Results of the "Combing Operation"

The "combing operation" effected jointly by the *Carabineros*, Firemen and Researchers of Calama was the culmination of a process which served to gradually awaken the consciousness of a skeptical community. More than 60 agents participated in the operation, which took more than three hours and covered four kilometers on the northern bank of the Loa River in search of the culprit of the deaths of nearly 200 animals, with the possibility of human involvement not being discarded.

Shots Fired

On Wednesday night, the fast, sudden movement of "something" amid the bushes, accompanied by strange howls, alerted police officers who fired a volley of shots into the air in the vicinity of the local cemetery. Nothing was found afterward except for a pair of strange footprints which were taken and sent for expert analysis in Santiago. "The prints were sent to the investigations lab. We cannot say what they are at this time, but at first sight, they are nothing more than dog prints, which tend to expand and acquire strange shapes," stated provincial governor Francisco Segovia.

The public state of alarm unleashed by the circumstances forced the magistrates of the Second Criminal Court to open an investigation of the matter.

"An operation has been conducted, and we want to point out that no evidence of the presence of a strange animal was found, nor of any strange phenomenon which could be the cause of your animals [deaths]. As the SAG indicated, they [the deaths] are attributable to wild dogs searching for food. " The deaths of the last few pigs, however, brought about new background information. According to our pathologist, there was no human participation in this event. It could have been an auger-type weapon, or a small-caliber pistol." stated the governor.

Hypotheses

Faced with this new prospect, the Research Commissioner, German Oyanedel, indicated that "it is not possible to discard any hypothesis--they could indeed be dogs or other animals, but they could just as easily be humans taking advantage of the situation. I say this based on the last event, in particular, where the behavior patterns do not match those of the previous attacks."

This morning's inspection helped restore some of the tranquility lost by the affected farmers. But the majority of these find the "wild dog pack" explanation unconvincing. For this reason, they agreed to install a sort of "bait pen" this weekend not far from the last attack site to capture the creature whose name they whisper: Chupacabras.

"CRONICA" newspaper (Concepcion, Chile) May 2, 2000

The Federal Police of the United States decided in 1975, much in the same way SAG has done recently, that the Chupacabras phenomenon has its source in the predatory action of canids. According to the U.S. police agencies, foxes are to blame.

Many are refusing to believe the report issued by the Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG--Agricultural and Livestock Service) of the Second Region in regard to the phenomenon known as "El Chupacabras" , which places the blame for the deaths of thousands of animals squarely on packs of wild dogs surviving near the municipal dump of Calama, and which "descended" upon the city when their habitat was jeopardized, as well as the actions of "idle humans". What is more, searches for the mythical animal are still underway in Calama and it is logical that this should be the case, since the feeling of fear permeates throughout the entire city given the possibility that a human might fall prey to the alleged entity. However, the SAG report coincides with others presented by Puerto Rican (where the phenomenon first appeared) and U.S. authorities, as well as those of other countries. The foregoing indicates three possibilities: either scientists in all countries are wrong; their respective governments are engaging in a coverup of what is really going on, or that they are in fact, correct.

In any event, it is worth recalling that the phenomenon of dead animals with punctured necks, rendered bloodless and having lost their soft parts, began precisely in Puerto Rico toward 1970---adding up to about 2000 deaths since that time. The strange event moved on to the U.S. (where it is known as "Cattle Mutilation"), then to Mexico and on to the rest of Latin America. In 1975, at the request of several Nebraskan and Californian congressmen the Federal Police of the United States (FBI) undertook an investigation into the subject, analyzing several dozen samples of dead animals, setting up monitoring spots, etc. After this, the FBI issued an official letter (based on veterinarian reports) to the director of said agency , stating that "[the animals] were attacked by other predators, whom we believe to be foxes given the shape of their teeth, which are scissor-like." Another report stated that the absence of soft parts (lips, rectum, genitals, udders, etc.) is

an acknowledged thanatological phenomenon, since these are the first parts of a corpse to be subjected to insect attacks.

The foregoing agrees with the SAG report, in the sense that a canid animal is to blame. According to a special report published in "El Mercurio", the lack of blood in the animals found in Calama is due to the tearing of the flesh and not to suction. Furthermore, adds the report, at least three feral dogs were captured while engaging in such activities. The public refuses to acknowledge this fact and insists that "El Chupacabras" is to blame.

In spite of the aforementioned and the calming answers provided by the FBI, a question remains to be answered: Why did said agency classify its report as Top Secret for more than 20 years, and declassified it only a few months ago?

Interestingly, the authorities did not hesitate to trot out that old warhorse: the roving packs of wild dogs engaged in vampiric activity, whose prowess was invoked in Puerto Rico and Mexico (where a drought situation was supposed to have turned the dogs into bloodsuckers). Also of interest was the authorities shielding themselves behind the FBI's Rommel Report, which dismissed suggestions that anything unusual was occurring in the American West during the mid-'70s. CRONICA's story would be followed up by a more direct one:

CHUPACABRAS CAUSES MASS HYSTERIA IN TUCAPEL

** Worker claims having seen the "Chupacabras"**

Strange rumors are making the rounds of Tucapel and Huepil about the alleged presence of the "Chupacabras". The authorities have denied the attacks, but an atmosphere of mass hysteria now prevails in the rural areas.

"Are you here about the bird?" is the first question asked by Jose Ismael Pino, 58, when he see strangers approaching the Esperanza Ranch, located 2 kilometers east of Huepil, Bio Bio province, where he works as a farm laborer. He isn't the only one on the lookout for "the bird", as he calls the alleged beast which he claims to have seen last Saturday in the same sector and which many believe to be none other than the mythical "Chupacabras". Pino's boss, Jorge Venegas, owner of the 75 acre farm, carries a loaded shotgun on his shoulder. In recent days, after the strange events which took place in Tucapel two weeks earlier --when a large segment of dried brambles were crushed in the wake of a strange luminous phenomenon, many in said community walk around in fear, as well as in Huepil, some 5 kilometers distant. Many stories are told, but almost all of them coincide in that the region's farms were affected by the alleged predator, which has apparently slain four sheep on one farm and a cow on the other. However, both places denied the latter death, although the manager of the Raúl Pérez farm specified that : "years ago we had dog problems. They managed to kill 70 sheep in a single night, but we gave it no further importance at the time."

This resembles statements made on Tuesday by the Santa Fe *Carabineros* (also in Chile's

Bio Bio province) which, as "Cronica" reported, eight sheep, all of them pregnant, were attacked by an unknown animal which left them half dead, making it necessary to put them down. The local police blamed it all on packs of wild dogs specializing in mischief.

Subofficer Aliro Valdebenito, in charge of the Santa Fe barracks, further added that a characteristic of said canids is that they are barkless.

Gossip, however, states that the landowners are refusing to say what is really happening, although the chief of the Huelpil *Carabineros* (state police), Lt. Walter Koch, pays no mind to it at all. "No, there are no reports about it whatsoever. We don't even have pumas in this sector, and only in the pre-Cordilleran region will you find foxes. The only problems of this type we've had are caused by some Siberian dogs (sic) which have feasted on some chickens," he explains, on the verge of laughter.

However, individuals like professor Carlos Villalobos, planter Jorge Venegas and Jose Pino believe in something else. According to Pino, on Saturday (April 29) at around 20:00 hours and under very bright moonlight, his employer sent him to the nearby stream, some 200 meters from the house, to fetch water in a bucket. "There as a lost bull roaming around. I was walking along when I saw something, and I thought that was it. "Hey, damn bull!" I shouted, and that's when I saw it [the creature]. It hardly moved. It just stood there, looking at me. It stood about 1.50 meters, like a big monkey, with long, clawed arms and enormous fangs protruding from its mouth, as well as a pair of wings. I was so scared that I turned around and ran back for the hounds. I sent them off toward where the Bird was and they chased it. *Cachorro* (one of the dogs) returned with a bloodstained neck."

He claims not having heard any noise whatsoever and to not have slept a wink that night.

It should be noted that this description coincides with almost all those known at the time, which gives rise to the belief that it is a massive case of collective hallucination, worthy of any school of sociology, or of an all-too-real phenomenon. Venegas, on his own part, insists that all of his employees now leave early, since they are fearful of walking around at night, and he himself stated that since the luminous phenomenon at Tucapel, he sleeps with his shotgun beside him.

"We don't know what we're dealing with here. I'm not so concerned about its attacks on the animals, but I have two children, 12 and 15 years old, and I'm not going to let anything happen to them. In fact, right now I'm out to get a floodlight to see at night, in case something weird shows up." explained the planter, shifting the shotgun's weight on his shoulder.

To Carlos Villalobos, a schoolteacher in Huelpil, the phenomenon which has befallen his region is related to a series of anomalous situations which are largely isolated, such as the sheep attack in Santa Fe and the luminous phenomenon in Tucapel. "I think its linked in some fashion to an unknown life form, probably alien in origin, but the problem is that the authorities do not wish to acknowledge it, and this course of action may probably be justified, since a collective panic situation could be unleashed."

Regarding the means by which the riddle could be solved, he added that "the existing human resources will never allow us to know what is going on, since the creature has been pursued for years and all we have to show for it are denials. Moreover, if it is really alien, it's unlikely that we'll be the ones to catch it."

Barkless, vampiric dogs...what greater irony could there be? The early manifestations of the creature were quite similar to the events in Puerto Rico in 1995, but the single most outstanding feature is the fact that the creature descriptions would change from one report to the next, suggesting three possible things: a. that the witnesses were lying; b. that more than one creature or creature-type was involved; or c., that the Chupacabras is a truly protean creature, able to assume shapes that jibe with images drawn from the percipient's brain (a most outlandish notion, but...). For this reason, all eyewitness descriptions will appear underlined in this report.

Meanwhile, the body count continued to rise...

*"La Tercera" (newspaper) 35 FARM ANIMALS FOUND DEAD IN PUCON
May 4, 2000*

PUCON, Chile (Agencias).- 35 farm birds were found dead today in a ranch 12 kilometers away from Pucon, on the route leading to the town of Caburgua, Ninth Region. This new animal attack, attributed to the mythical Chupacabras, presents the same characteristics as earlier ones, since the dead chickens presented bites and scratches on different parts of their bodies. In this regard, the assistant sheriff of the Pucon *Carabineros* (state police), Captain Roberto Saldivia, confirmed that the animals were found dead within a pen, without a single drop of blood in their bodies.

*Orbe (magazine) FURTHER CHUPACABRAS ATTACKS PUZZLE CHILEAN
AUTHORITIES
May 5, 2000*

The Ninth Region's Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG) embarked upon an investigation of the strange conditions in which 35 chickens were slain yesterday morning in the locale of Caburuga, Pucon Commune.

Cesar Hidalgo, the Service's Regional Director, explained that SAG functionaries were on site verifying the claims presented by local farmers and analyzing the dead birds, whose carcasses betrayed the signs of having been attacked by an unknown predator.

"In any case," added Hidalgo, "I personally believe we are faced by a natural activity unrelated to the exploits of the so-called "Chupacabras" seen in other parts of the country."

Over the past two weeks, similar claims have been brought forth concerning situations similar to those of Pucon. In Angol, capital of the Malleco Province, a former Carabinero (state trooper) claimed having seen a giant bat causing depredations in the vicinity of the correctional facility being built in said Commune.

Officialdom's concern over the situation reflected the grim reality that the unknown entity's attacks were now taking place on two fronts--the attacks in Calama and Maria Elena, on the foothills of the pre-Andean cordillera, and another much closer to Santiago de Chile, the nation's capital, taking place in some of the choicest farmland that South America has to offer. While this remark may be disparaging of the authorities, it is a pattern that has emerged again and again--as long as the mutilations are taking place in what we would term "the boonies", officials are quite content to dismiss them as the harmless prattle of rustics. The minute major urban centers are in jeopardy (to wit, the shift of location in mutilations from landlocked Orocovis to coastal Canovanas in Puerto Rico), the "attitude adjustment" becomes manifest. This was certainly case when the mutilations were reported later at the seaport of Coronel...

From "El Sur" (newspaper), Friday, May 5, 2000

MYSTERIOUS NOCTURNAL APPARITION IN BUILDING COURTYARD

*****Dead dog found later*****

*****Contradictory accounts from witness,
Carabineros and health services*****

*****Authorities dismiss claims in effort
to lower profile of possible mass hysteria case***
by Carlos Baso Prieto (El Sur Newspaper)**

Laguna Redonda, Concepción 01.30 hrs, 03 May 2000

Around 1:30 am on May 3rd, professor Liliana Romero Castillo slept soundly in her apartment located at Laguna Redonda, Concepción, when she was awakened by the howling of the 5 stray puppies she had picked up some time earlier and live in the building's courtyard along with "Black", her large, fierce mastiff. "I crouched and looked through the window. The puppies were whining and Black had huddled against the wall and was motionless. I could see the back of what appeared to be an immense man, standing some 2 meters tall. Its shoulderblades were split, as if it had wings. Its attitude resembled that of a person choking another...that was my impression." says the instructor.

Convinced that a crime was taking place in her garden, she woke her husband, who paid the matter little attention. "I'm not getting up." he said, half asleep.

"In a matter of seconds, I went back to the living room to look at it, but it was gone. It had vanished, " she adds.

20:00 hours, May 4th 2000

The following day, Liliana gave the matter little importance until her children went to buy groceries at a nearby shop, using a shortcut located behind their building. Upon returning, they told their mother that there was "a dead dog in the place where the gentleman was being attacked."

Liliana asked her husband to check, and he returned saying that a woolly beige-colored dog was lying on the floor with two puncture marks on its throat. "I don't know if I might be in a suggestive state, but it had two deep holes in its jugular, about as wide as a BIC pen, separated by 5 centimeters between them. What impressed me the most was that it was completely bloodless and was as light as a feather. The dog was incredibly woolly and in fact, I had to move its fur to see the wounds."

22:00 hrs, May 4th, 2000

A truck of the Concepcion *Carabineros*, with two subofficers and a lieutenant in charge, reached the site, notified by Liliana. The trio were rather impressed, since the dog had been assaulted in the same manner that the sheep had been at other locations. They called their unit to request the SAG (Agriculture and Livestock Service) to report, but it did not appear. Their headquarters advised them that the carcass would be removed later. The troopers asked for black garbage bags and ordered the family to remain quiet, so as not to spread panic among local residents, "But I'm scared, since I have young children, and I'm afraid that whatever was there will come back," states Liliana. The dog was later transferred to the First Commissariat of the *Carabineros* and placed in an office near the Prefecture's yard, where many bureaucrats were able to get a good look at it, although they were asked not to create a commotion about the matter. One of the policemen who managed to see the carcass commented that in fact, it had two puncture marks and was "as light as a feather", which left him shaken. "I have considerable experience and have seen many things, but I'd never seen anything like it. Had I not seen it, I wouldn't believe it." he added.

The dead animal remained all of yesterday morning in the same location, where it was filmed and photographed by *Carabineros* officials, after which it was transferred to the offices of the Concepcion Health Service by a functionary of the Civil Commission and two veterinarians.

The foregoing case remains, in my mind, as one of the most compelling of all the Chupacabras events reported since 1995. The creature reported, again, is not the boilerplate kangaroo-cum-Grey that haunted millions of t-shirts from Miami to Managua, but a towering, possibly winged entity closer more closely reminiscent to West Virginia's "Mothman" (1967) than any other...short of a medieval gargoyle. Skeptics should take note of the painstaking approach of the authorities in this episode: officials visited the site, collected the evidence and transferred it to a suitable facility for analysis. The suggestion that Chupacabras research is conducted by "mystery buffs" or "cranks" simply does not apply here.

Crónica (newspaper), Concepción, Chile
CHUPACABRAS STRIKES IN CORONEL
Monday, May 8, 2000

Four hens died a strange death in a section of Huertos Familiares. In spite of the fact that the henhouse was closed, they turned up dead in the backyard with mysterious incisions on their bodies. The *Carabineros* have declared dogs to be the culprits in this case.

The discovery of four dead hens yesterday morning alarmed Emilia Parra Campos. It was hardly the first time that animals had died on the premises of Huertos Familiares in the locale of Coronel, where she has lived for 32 years, but the strange manner in which they were found by householder Pedro Contreras--outside the locked henhouse, scattered all over the backyard and with deep incisions on their bodies--led them to believe that something beyond the known was responsible.

"Dogs rip their prey apart and pull the feathers off chickens," says Emilia, still fearful and trying to explain that canids were not involved. It is worth noting that the henhouse door was locked and the predator only attacked the "mottled" variety of hen, leaving the other six white hens alone. The dead birds had a number of wounds on their bodies.

The penetration marks resembled those made by an ice pick (one per lesion) with slight tearing of the capillaries. Whatever caused the wounds must have been long, since some of the attack victims betrayed the effects of the injury on both sides of the body. None of them was attacked in the throat, although there were wounds on the wings, back and breast.

Nevertheless, Pedro Contreras is not afraid to utter the name of the possible culprit: the "Chupacabras". As he explained, around 9 a.m. yesterday he went to the henhouse to feed his chickens, stumbling upon the nightmarish scene. "It must be [the Chupacabras] or another strange creature, because we have never had anything similar around here." he points out.

He even added that "a neighbor who engages in raising chickens was concerned because we're not dealing with something normal. Animals usually devour their victims."

According to *Carabineros* (state troopers) in the town of Coronel, who visited the site to inspect the claims, the culprits are dogs which prowl the areas adjacent to urban areas, stating that no one should feel concern in this regard. To insure their safety, the police took the hens to the nearby Lagunillas headquarters, where they remain until the courts wish to see the evidence.

The police report--which is the same one issued for all the animal deaths occurred over the past week in the area--was reinforced by a neighbor, Salome Salgado, who claimed having seen a black dog at 7 a.m. on top of the henhouse. However, Emilia Parra, expressed her misgivings about a dog being able to climb onto [such as structure], given the height involved and the absence of any means of reaching said heights.

While no images of this carnage were made available on the website they would be redundant for those who have seen similar images from Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Miami, Florida. But the proximity to heavily populated districts would finally prompt an official inquest into the matter--something which did not happen in the Caribbean countries despite entreaties from local legislative bodies.

Diario "El Sur" (newspaper) Concepción, Chile
CHILEAN JUDGE LOOKS INTO ANIMAL DEATHS
Wednesday, May 10, 2000

A claim received at the Third Criminal Court of Concepcion as a result of the strange deaths of seven animals in the Quilacoya sector of the Hualqui Commune forced the courts to open what will be the first inquest into the controversy unleashed by the so-called "Chupacabras". The investigation was initiated by magistrate Flora Sepulveda, who immediately summoned the owner of the animals and ordered the Department of Pathology of the University of Concepcion in Chillan to determine the cause of the massive deaths.

According to a report issued by the *Carabineros* (state troopers) Headquarters in Quilacoya to the criminal courts, Paula Rodriguez Toledo reported last Thursday that six sheep and a goat on her property were found exsanguinated after having been apparently bit by another animal. Rodriguez's personal opinion is that the sheep and goat were attacked by wild dogs. The animals' owners, however, are not so sure, since the strange event took place during the early morning hours of May 4th, when all members of the family were asleep. "No one seems to have heard or seen anything," indicate sources at the Quilacoya *Carabineros* headquarters, whose personnel note that it was not possible to see the animals before the claim for damages was brought forward--the Rodriguezes had buried the sheep and the goat on their property.

Police authorities note that in the light of the court-ordered investigation, it is likely that the court will order the remains to be exhumed.

Judge Sepúlveda is perhaps worthy of being remembered as the first member of the judicial branch to order an investigation into Chupacabras activity, at least in the Americas. During Spain's experience with an unusual bloodsucking predator (1996), the courts ordered all information sealed, although the disappearance of 200 sheep from an enclosed location prompted a court officer to note, in docket 531/96, that the hapless creatures "appeared to have been sucked upward". Even that country's national police, the Guardia Civil, remarked that the vanishing sheep represented "one of the strangest thefts ever investigated."

But Chile's enigmatic visitor wasn't quite done with the country's placid southern regions. It headed south from Coronel to the coastal town of Lebu...

DIARIO EL SUR (Newspaper) Concepcion, Chile

May 14, 2000

Residents of Lebu alarmed

Mysterious animal caused massive poultry deaths

The attacks occurred in two different locations, and in both, witnesses claim having seen a beast with similar characteristics. The attack on two henhouses in the Lebu Commune by an unknown being bolsters the existence of the mythic "Chupacabras" in the area, now specifically in the province of Arauco. In the early morning hours yesterday, in the Lebu Alto sector, two families claimed having been victims of a strange event which caused the deaths of 24 hens. The events, confirmed by the Lebu *Carabineros* (state troopers), took place at 04:00 hrs on Saturday morning when an unidentified resident (this is due to the fact that background information has not yet been given to the courts) heard a noise in her henhouse. Getting out of bed and going outside, she found her dogs were calm--even fearful--despite the fact that something was going on in the henhouse. As she approached the site, she told the police, she managed to see a rounded figure which leaped away from the chicken coop and went around the back of a nearby hill. Upon entering, the anonymous witness confirmed that 17 of her 19 hens were dead with visible signs of tearing.

Shortly afterward, the chicken coop at a neighbor's house was also attacked, and another resident (also anonymous) retold a similar account. At 08:00 hrs (approx.) the *Carabineros* were notified of the events. Police elements reported to the scene and verified the animal deaths. Their carcasses were collected and sent to Concepcion for further analysis.

The authorities indicated that the affected families refrained from presenting a claim for the event. However, given the public alarm that has been raised by these situations, the events shall be notified to the courts. It is worth recalling that the Third Criminal Court of Concepcion is investigating the strange deaths of seven sheep in Hualqui's Quilacoya Sector.

Untitled article from Crónica (newspaper), May 15, 2000

Carabineros is currently in possession of 30 lifeless birds with strange puncture marks in their bodies, found in the early hours of Saturday morning in two dwellings in the urban sector of the commune. This morning, veterinarians from Concepcion, of a state agency not included in the police report---shall perform autopsies on the carcasses of 30 chickens which died under strange circumstances early Saturday morning at Lebu.

The incidents according to *Carabineros* spokesmen, occurred in two dwellings of the urban sector of the commune near Cerro La Cruz. The birds, which in both cases were in locked henhouses, were attacked by an unknown entity which left puncture marks in its throats aside from causing tears in their skin and having rendered them bloodless. This is reminiscent of a case reported by "Cronica" last Saturday in Coronel, where four hens suffered a similar fate.

In this case, police officials point out that the event is under investigation and a report is being rendered to the court having jurisdiction, aside from the first measures having been taken.

It is worth noting that last Friday, Radio Pudahuel and Channel 13 transmitted news reports indicating that a family of strange animals--possible "Chupacabras" -- had been found by Military personnel in the vicinity of the Radomiro Tomic Mine within the Second Region .

According to information provided by Radio Pudahuel, it was a female, a male and a cub--a story which had a harsh ring of "The X-Files" about it-- and which were delivered to agents of the U.S. FBI agency which arrived at Calama from Santiago (where the U.S. federal police has an office in its embassy). The creatures in question would have been taken to the U.S.

No further mention of this event was made, but police sources told "Cronica" that the capture of the specimens was real and that everything had transpired as originally told. Pure paranoia?

This episode on May 15, 2000 marks the turning point in the Chupacabras wave in Chile-- the moment at which readers following the story from a distance with polite interest developed one of two attitudes: either this was going to be one of the most fascinating and mind-bending cases on record, or the whole story was a fabrication.

To be sure, any involvement of a U.S. agency (whether the real NASA or an intelligence agency adopting its identity to benefit from the generally positive opinion Latin Americans have about the space program) would increase interest in the Chilean situation by a level or two--no longer would we be talking about high strangeness playing itself out in the Chilean outback, but an operation worthy of interest by the world's last remaining superpower.

I can no longer refrain from editorializing, so here it goes: the entire creatures-hunted-by-the-military has a decidedly science fictionish air to it and--God forgive me if its true--could have been deliberately planted to tarnish any credibility that the events may have gathered from the outset.

"NASA personnel" -- and I don't use the quotation marks lightly, in this case -- have been seen and reported in many Latin American scenarios, more noticeably in Mexico (Ciudad Valleys, 1991) and Argentina (Metán, 1995) either during UFO sightings or in the wake of putative saucer crashes. During the alleged crash at Metán, the local authorities were advised to step aside and allow the "NASA men" to pursue their activities unmolested: on August 18, 1995, villagers and townspeople reported seeing four wheel drive vehicles manned by English-speaking personnel speeding toward the crash site. According to an anonymous technician at the National University at Salta, the foreign personnel was accompanied by university staffers and technicians from the local nuclear power plant. The foreigners, according to this account, took with them chunks of a thin, metallic material resembling aluminum. The fragments allegedly "assumed a concave shape when joined" and had an unusual consistency. The anonymous university informer claims that all present were instructed to say that fragments of a meteorite had been found, and that pieces of rock should be shown to the press.

Raúl Córdoba, a Salta journalist interviewed by Buenos Aires' *Crónica* newspaper on September 1, 1995 stated that "there is no doubt that we have NASA personnel here trying to conceal the truth, assisted by members of the National University at Salta, since it is already involved in the matter but refuses to publicize its involvement."

Another parallel can be found for the Mexican situation: In July 1977 there were rumors that a UFO had crashed near the town of Jopala, to the east of Puebla (due east of Mexico City). Townspeople claimed to have seen a solid craft explode into thousands of sparks, and the witnesses to the event included the local mayor and several schoolteachers who hand managed to recover pieces of what was described as "a rough metal."

But there was a curious aside to the alleged crash. The locals argued that they had only managed to collect a handful of alleged "saucer chassis" pieces because others had beaten them to the punch: a group of persons who arrived by helicopter and were obviously Americans. The news media would later report, as it often does, that "NASA scientists" had visited the area.

In the meantime, things were heating up in the south, for sure, but the mutilations had not ceased in the northern reaches for a single moment...

*"El Miami Herald" (newspaper) Miami, Florida
May 20, 2000*

CALAMA, Chile 20, --(AP)-- Police officers unsuccessfully combed farms on the suburbs of this town in search of an alleged Chupacabras which has already slain some 200 sheep and which has also attacked pigs in recent days.

Alarmed by recent attacks, the regional government ordered patrols of the outskirts of this desert mining region some 1600 kilometers to the north of Santiago de Chile. Policemen, accompanied by tracking dogs, and under orders to open fire if attacked, combed the farms where the locals maintain small cultivation operations and pens for animal husbandry.

The search, however, has been unsuccessful and no traces of the putative animal were found, although some locals claim having seen it and have described it as having a human/animal shape. The slaughter of sheep and pigs has been attributed not only to the Chupacabras--attorney and ufologist Boris Campos maintains that aliens from space are to blame for the carnage. Meanwhile, reports were received this morning from the southern city of San Fernando about the strange death of some thirty hens, ducks, pigs and dogs in rural areas. Said killings have also been ascribed to the Chupacabras.

The Spanish-language version of the prestigious Miami newspaper was responsible for making this news wire widely known. It is important to recall that Miami, Florida was the Chupacabras' first port-of-call outside Puerto Rico in 1996, and memories of its exploits are still the subject of conversation there.

El Sur (newspaper), June 8, 2000

FOUR CHICKENS EXSANGUINATED AND DISMEMBERED IN VILLA NONGUEN

by Carlos Basso Prieto

A new case which involved the death of chickens took place in the area, affecting a humble couple in the city of Concepcion's Villa Nonguen sector. As reported in "Cronica" last Monday, when 14 hens perished under strange circumstances at Villa Cruz del Sur, at Talcahuano, the number of affected chickens in this case is four, and they were torn to shreds.

The strange event took place yesterday morning around 4 a.m. while Julio Reyes and his wife Carmen Andrade were still asleep. They suddenly heard a loud noise coming from their home's back yard, a sort of small farm in which they have a henhouse and tomato, potato, "choclo" and pepper cultivations.

"The light outside the henhouse was on. I saw the rooster flapping his wings fiercely while the hens were crowing--something they never do at that time. That's when I saw the white one (sic) running toward the back. At that time, "Bobby" (the family dog, who slept beside the chicken coop) came out to take a look, but when he reached the back gate, through which the hens had fled, he refused to follow and remained standing still. He then ran toward the street gate and started barking," explains Carmen, who did not witness the events herself out of fear that a burglar might be involved.

" Bobby" became sort of dopey and turned back.. He didn't dare go forward." added the man of the house.

Exsanguinated

Around 7:00 a.m, the couple discovered what had transpired. In the very rear of the back yard--which can be reached by crossing two gates-- their three hens and one rooster were found dead, completely torn to shreds as if they had been ripped open by the chest cavity and scattered in a 10 meter radius. It is worth noting that the house's entrance is a gate covered in chicken wire. With the exception of "Bobby", who never attacked a hen in his life, none of the neighboring homes has a dog.

Once more, elements of the *Carabineros* reporting to the location told the householders that dogs had perpetrated the attack. However, based on several paw prints found on the site (twice the size of "Bobby"'s , a half dwarf terrier), the owners were not satisfied by the explanation given the difficulty that a dog would have in getting into the area and second, because the explanation did not consider the total absence of blood in the vicinity. In spite of the fact that the chickens were completely open, there was no blood in evidence anywhere. Not a splash, not a drop, not a clot. Nothing at all.

"Noooo, this is completely abnormal. You see, last year there was a dog who'd appear during the day and steal chickens that would stray onto the street, but that's what he did: he stole them and ate them, one by one. The very same thing happened in the fields: every time a dog made off with a chicken, it would take them one by one," stated Julio

Reyes, who added that nothing similar had ever occurred in his house, where he has raised poultry for over 25 years. "Besides, if a dog steals an animal, it'll eat it. It won't kill it for the hell of it. Had it been a thief, it would have taken them. In this case, the chicken's racket lasted no more than four minutes. It was all very quick." reasoned the hens' owner.

The other strange thing that occurred yesterday is that "Bobby", going against all of his canine instincts, wasn't even approaching the carcasses. There were also deep prints in the surroundings--the soil is soft and moist-- which appeared to be those of a dog, with the difference that they were isolated from each other and did not follow the typical sequence of footprints.

Unlike the deaths of the samples at the harbor, where strands of blond hair were left on the fencing that protected the victims, there were no further traces left by the unknown assailant. The householders have no closure in the matter and have stated that they are unsure if the mythical "Chupacabras" could be the culprit.

The Pablo Aguilera Show (Radio Pudahuel), June 9, 2000

NEW VEHICLE EXCHANGED FOR SILENCE IN ANTOFAGASTA

Transcript by Patricio Borlone Rojas

On the June 9, 2000 broadcast of the Pablo Aguilera Show, 11:45 a.m. on Radio Pudahuel, 90.5 FM, a call came in from somewhere in Antofagasta, northern Chile, pointing to a new Chupacabras attack. (H) represents the show's host (C) stands for the caller

Host: I haven't the least bit of doubt, and I state this as a declaration of principles, that there is something fishy about all of this. In other words, this [creature] isn't any known animal, nor a species identified by human beings. Of this I have no doubt at all. In other words, it's something weird...IT IS! Well...it turns out that in a city of northern Chile, and I won't tell you where, a co-worker of the person whose on the line...uhh...let's see here...why don't you tell us?

Caller: Look, Pablito, what happened that night [date not specified] is that he says he was asleep in his bedroom and their cat started making noises, waking them up. That's when they saw the alleged Chupacabras. He says that when it saw them, the creature took off at high speed.

H: And what was it like?

C: He says it destroyed their car.

H: What was it they saw, more or less?

C: He says it was about one meter fifty tall and that its upper body was hairy. He says it was like a bat...having the same type of upper body. And it destroyed his car...

H: Excuse me...what did it use to destroy their car?

C: It used some sort of claws to scratch their vehicle.

H: And were any prints left?

C: Of course, and he says they went to--

H: Okay, but what happened to the cat? What became of the cat in all of this?

C: It killed it. It killed the cat. He says they got up and went to notify the authorities [the authorities are not specified]

H: I see...

C: That's where they were told that they must remain quiet about the situation, if they wanted to get a new car in exchange for the damaged one.

H: In other words...

C: If they spoke to the press, they wouldn't be given a new car. They'd be stuck with the one they had.

H: In other words, they were asked to trade their silence for a car...

A: Exactly.

H: The hell!

C: So that's how many similar cases have transpired here...near where I live, my sister in law's father is with the authorities, and he's told her that several cases have occurred, and they have nothing to say about what's going on...

H: You mean, not to disclose what they know...nor any larger rumors.. and in the light of all this, didn't the gentleman wind up keeping the shattered car?

C: Exactly...he still doesn't know when the change will be made...

H: They won't be changing any cars now! Ha,ha! We're spreading the news on the air.

C: Of course...but he doesn't know who's calling.

H: Well, very good, my friend.

C: So that's what's going on here...they had told him it was a dog...they had found in a cave...and was supposedly the Chupacabras.

H: Ah...was that the explanation they gave the gentleman, too?

C: Yes...that it was a dog, a Siberian Husky type with a deformed muzzle who was killing the animals.

H: Ah...I see..

C: It came out in the papers.

H: In the local papers?

C: Of course.

H: Well, that's great...Thanks, eh?

C: Sure, Pablito...thanks and so long.

(11:57 A: M:--subsequent comment by Pablo Aguilera):

"well, that was a side note I had as part of the daily follow up we're conducting...this happened in Antofagasta...perhaps people living there might have other details to share with us...please call me and we'll compile them. We'll continue on our own with the Court Cases. Background music, please..."

"Diario El Sur" (newspaper) Concepcion, Sunday June 11,2000

SANTIAGO (EFE)- Chilean space researchers announced yesterday that they will ask their government, through the Ministry of Defense, to investigate the alleged responsibility of NASA, the United States space agency, in the manifestations of the so-called

"Chupacabras" which has caused the deaths of hundreds of domestic animals in this country.

The "ufologists" pointed out in their press conference that accounts indicating NASA scientists lost control of at least three "genetic experiments" in Chile are growing. Said specimens would be the ones that massacred a variety of animal species in several regions.

A number of animal turned up dead for the first time in Calama and its environs last April, rendered completely bloodless and without having been devoured by the enigmatic predator. Similar killings later took place throughout other southern locations in the country.

"Many persons agree that they have seen a kind of ape or mandrill with human features but with very large eyes, who moves very quickly and in a zigzagging manner," stated Cristian Riffo, director of the "Ovnisvision" group. According to this researcher, an animal of these characteristics was hunted by the Chilean military in the vicinity of the Radomiro Tomic mine near Calama, an operation in which one soldier allegedly died.

For this reason, Riffo stated that they would visit the Ministry of Defense tomorrow to demand a clarification of these accounts. They will also ask the Army to explain if accounts of the death of a soldier during the capture of one of these genetic monsters is indeed true.

Although no further information was forthcoming about Cristian Riffo's efforts at meeting with the Ministry of Defense, the description of the creature in this instance as an apelike entity with large eyes points to one of the very first descriptions ever offered about the creature: on November 9, 1995, Ada Arroyo, the assistant director of a nursing home on the outskirts of Caguas, Puerto Rico, saw a creature which resembled the Chilean entities

"I heard screams similar to those made by a lamb being slaughtered," said Mrs. Arroyo "I went out to the patio and managed to see a strange hairy figure, grayish in color, covering its body with a pair of wings. It had a flattened, vulpine face, with enormous red eyes." Mrs. Arroyo added that the creature held her gaze with its mesmerizing eyes before taking off into the air, vanishing from sight immediately.

The simian aspect is also reminiscent of the descriptions collected by Bruno Cardeñosa and Miguel Aracil during the "Spanish leg" of the Chupacabras's 1996 tour. Aracil goes as far as suggesting that the Catalan word "simiots", referring to nocturnal, supernatural predators going back to medieval times, may be linked in an unsuspected way. This strongly suggests the possibility that the Chupacabras is really a number of entities having different physical characteristics but having the same basic *modus operandi* -- bleed them dry; repeat as needed.

The Pablo Aguilera Show, Radio Pudahuel, June 14, 2000
CHUPACABRAS EGGS DISCOVERED
Transcript by Patricio Borlone Rojas

I reported from Santiago de Chile last night on the story that was conveyed to me by phone regarding the discovery of "Chupacabras eggs" found between the 12th and the 14th of May. Today (Wednesday) Antofagasta's "Diario La Estrella" was discussed on Radio Pudahuel's morning show:

Announcer: "Presence of a strange creature is confirmed. Guards of a security company near the sector claim to have witnessed a strange entity on the prowl, and while they were unable to see it entirely, stated that it moved at considerable speed. According to the descriptions found in the area, which are related to questions made by NASA experts to a guard who was a victim of an attack [by the unknown entity], the theory being circulated is that the creature may be female and in search of a place to give birth."

Comment by broadcaster Pablo Aguilera: "More properly stated, it would be [looking for a place] to lay eggs, because as far as we know, these strange creatures reproduce by means of eggs..."El Gallinero (the Henhouse), that's what the area is called, thus becomes an area meeting all the characteristics for the beast to settle in. You can still find the sediments of the birds that once inhabited this location [Translator's note: in the late 19th century, northern Chile and southern Peru exported copra--bird droppings--as part of their economy]. That's why it's known as El Gallinero, because it was something of a hatchery and kept the name long thereafter...

Comment: "The hole discovered in the area could be a nest that the creature was making to deposit its young, a hypothesis proven by the version given by NASA experts, says the newspaper."

Announcer's comment: "Bear in mind that we have already indicated that these creatures--to call them such--would reproduce by means of eggs..let's see, what else does it [the newspaper] say?"

Announcer: "The scratches found are only samples of the beast's hasty escape when it was illuminated by the floodlights of the security guards--it can be seen in the photo, there--and the footprints found in the sector are the very same which were found in the commune of Maria Elena last week, highlighting the large size and sharpness of the claws. Let's not forget that a listener told us that it might be a hybrid between a nandu [S.Am ostrich] and ape (?)....so that's what it would be all about. Well...unfortunately, I wasn't able to get in touch with my friend from Antofagasta, but I'll keep phoning her , perhaps tomorrow...to get some more details...with all the information she sent me, the rest came out rather blurry. Unfortunately it can't be read all that well. Ah, we'll try to decipher it later..."

Tonite, at around 22:30 hours Chilean time, I spoke with my friend Miguel O. by phone from his location in a northern city (I've kept his surname secret at his own request). He told me the following anecdote, which was experienced by a nephew of his who is currently engaged in military service at Calama, precisely in the location where the Chupacabras' activity is taking place.

"A few nights ago (reference is made to a night between May 9th and 11th) while standing guard with his regiment, he had the chance to see a specimen of the so-called Chupacabras and immediately advised his superior. The strange creature took prodigious leaps and bounds and at one point gave the impression of floating in the air (might it have something similar to wings?). He describes it as standing some 1.20 meters tall, half-hairy and somewhat hunched over, but no further details were made out due to the darkness of the night. A patrol was subsequently sent out to capture it and nothing further was heard until a few days later.

Surprisingly enough, the patrol returned with several "eggs" found at the location where the creatures were taken by surprise. He further adds that the patrol managed to kill two and capture one, and that the carcasses were subsequently removed by NASA personnel from the area.

The most extraordinary point of this tale is the emergence of a new player, the "eggs" -- do we now change our manner of thinking about how these evil entities or creatures go about reproduction? The true answer is in the hands of those who handle the information on the subject. Why can't the truth be told once and for all?

*EFE newswire, Monday, June 29, 2000
Chileans Believe Chupacabras to be a NASA Creation
by Marcial Campos Maza (EFE)*

"The gringos had at least three genetic experiments run away from them and they've only been able to capture two of them," states Dagoberto Corante, a Chilean architect.

Residents of the city of Calama and nearby communities are blaming NASA, the U.S. space agency for the apparitions and attacks of the mysterious Chupacabras, which has caused ruin among farm animals in the region and in other parts of Chile. Several dozen goats, pigs, chickens, rabbits and other animals turned up dead in northern Calama and its environs last April--their bodies completely exsanguinated and undevoured by the mysterious predator.

Among the Chupacabras' alleged characteristics are the ability of leaping over three meter tall walls and walking unmolested among dogs, while police and volunteer patrols who have set out after it only find some scattered footprints which are nearly impossible to identify in the areas desert terrain, some 1500 km from Santiago.

An investigation ordered by the authorities concluded that the slayings were the product of attacks by packs of wild dogs, but no one believed this version while claims of new

Chupacabras attacks developed in different parts of central and southern Chile.

According to Dagoberto Corante, one such creature was captured by elements of a local regiment in an operation that resulted in the death of a soldier, but the military have allegedly refused to discuss the matter. "It is said that the captured animal was kept all day at the regiment's [barracks] until NASA experts arrived to take it away." observed Corante, who is well known and respected in the area in which the Chupacabras has feasted on blood and spread fear among the population. "The day that the events transpired, the military even closed the airport for several hours to enable the landing of a helicopter conveying American scientists." he added, "although no one is quite sure why they had to close an airport in order for a helicopter to function--these are devices able to land anywhere, and the fact has given rise to much speculation and rumor."

Mario Ramos, a respected resident of San Pedro de Atacama, where he owns a butcher shop, largely agrees with the Corante's story and concerns, and while he doesn't care to discuss the subject, agreed that a soldier had indeed perished during the Chupacabras' capture.

The Chupacabras has continued to appear in Chile in spite of the completely unnatural and snowy winter that has affected the southern hemisphere--antarctic winds and heavy snow have blanketed Buenos Aires and Santiago, reaching as far north as the Atacama Desert, where it hadn't snowed in human memory. Far from being deterred by the onset of cold weather (as it did in Puerto Rico during one of the island's famous cold snaps (60 degrees) in January 1996, the paranormal predator continues to spread panic throughout the countryside.

The Chilean events have proven to be more divisive than expected: skeptics are responding more fiercely than ever, believers in a UFO-related origin to the events are willing to do battle with-- sword or pistol, on horse or on foot-- to champion their beliefs, and exponents of the paranormal/interdimensional origin are still holding their own. There is no doubt that something is happening in Chile, but true to the Chupacabras's protean qualities, the entity being reported doesn't resemble the ones seen earlier during the Chilean wave, or much less the ones reported in Puerto Rico or in Mexico five years ago.

La Estrella del Loa (newspaper), July 14, 2000
CREATURE STARTLES MOTORISTS

As announced yesterday, this newspaper obtained as an exclusive the intriguing experience of both local residents, who requested anonymity to avoid unpleasanties.

Although they originally planned not to remain beyond midnight at the organization's transfer of power ceremony, they headed home at 1:30 a.m. "Upon reaching the Chuqui checkpoint, a Carabinero (state trooper) was inspecting a vehicle and we drove right past him."

More or less in the vicinity of Puerta Cuatro, the driver flashed her high beams at two

intensely yellow "lights" a short distance away. "The other car was about half a block from our own. We were discussing God in a Christian framework when I began to slow down, because the lights remained static. I thought it could be a stranded automobile or a bicycle."

Nerves got the better of the Ford "K"'s owner, who then sustained a hesitant dialogue with her companion in an effort to explain the figure that stood some two or three feet away from the forward bumper. "Is it the devil?" asked one. "Yes, it would seem so," replied the other, while they observed something resembling a dog, but much larger, lacking ears and covered in extremely long grey hair --particularly around its neck--and having two immense slanted, yellow eyes.

The women and the "thing" exchanged looks for some five to ten seconds, after which the car drove off along the left lane. The "animal" followed their departure with its head--an extremity capable of 180 degree turns.

"I felt a terrible panic. I wanted to get out of the car but she [the companion] calmed me down. We saw the two yellow lights again, but this time they lit up the entire road before disappearing. I hit the accelerator and kept up speed until we reached Calama."

Now feeling more calm, both women have tried to rationalize their encounter. "It's from somewhere else," states the driver. Her companion, the professor, still thinks it's "the devil", on the other hand.

Prior to being made known to this publication, the case was only known by friends and relatives, since no records were left with neither the *Carabineros* nor the Police, in spite of the interest shown by the latter organization."

La Estrella del Loa (newspaper) Monday, July 31, 2000
BOMBARDMENT TAKES PLACE IN CHILE'S 2ND REGION

Last week, two students faced the creature on Galvarino Street. The animal observed them and levitated, but refrained from attacking them. The sightings are increasing as the authorities maintain their silence.

A "nest" where these entities would have reproduced was discovered in an area located to the northeast of the road which joins the Maria Elena Salt Mines office (a town having a population of 8,000) and Pedro de Valdivia (which was abandoned in 1996). According to residents of Maria Elena, who claimed having witnessed the event, a large detonation accompanied by a tremor shook the houses of the commune on July 20, 2000.

All area residents are accustomed to the sounds produced by the explosives operated in the Pampa, and this made them realize that something strange was afoot.

This coincided with the fly-over of a military aircraft over the area since early hours of the morning--an event corroborated by several inhabitants. The witnesses are employees of a

contractor firm which was engaged in work at a location not far from where the events took place.

According to their testimony, the jet flew past and bombarded an area which had been characterized as a "Chupacabras nest" by men working nearby. [The area] was filled with small hills and mounds which have eroded into caves suitable for use as a shelter by the animal.

A Birthing Location

Researchers of the subject reported a few days ago that the absence of sightings in recent weeks were the result of a period in which the animal was in a reproductive phase, which would require a dark location not far from population centers, since it is indispensable that their source of nourishment be nearby.

The explosion--which was heard at a distance of several kilometers--took place between 08:30 and 09:45 hours without anyone having produced an explanation for the event.

The Chupacabras staged a reappearance after these events elapsed--not only once, but several times and in different parts of the commune. The latest case, and one of the ones which achieved greatest prominence, involved three students from the "Arturo Perez Canto" school who were returning to their homes in the early evening (1900 hours) along Galvarino Street. At that moment, they encountered one of the creatures (which had already been seen simultaneously in different locations). They explained that one of them realized there was a animal on the rooftops, which then jumped off and landed in front of the startled youngsters.

According to their story, the animal did not attack, but they found it impossible to move, largely out of the fear that this event had caused in them. When they tried to react by huddling protectively against each other, the creature levitated some 30 centimeters off the ground, continuing to observe them. Only after less than ten seconds had elapsed were the children able to escape toward their homes, each of them telling their parents about the experience. The elders were unable to calm the terrified students down.

Upon discussing the animal's characteristics they all agreed in that it had large yellow eyes, dense black-and-grey hair [...] of a dense texture and standing approximately 1.50 meters tall. They also recognized a penetrating odor similar to that of ammonia which the animal might employ to paralyze his prey and humans who stumble upon it. In any event, no direct attacks have been recorded on people, giving rise to the belief by researchers of the subject that it was "a genetic manipulation effected by humans and made aware that it should not harm [its creators]."

More Dead Animals

Residents of Maria Elena continue finding dead cats and dogs with perforations similar to those of the first felines appearing in different areas of the commune. Yet they claim

having received "third-party" warnings urging them to conceal the information. This has caused many to have chosen to take the [dead] animals and deposit them in dump located behind the Las Piscinas sector, where there exist a number of places used as refuse pits. It is worth noting that the creature was seen here a little more than a month ago by a worker from a contractor firm, who also claims having heard the creature scream, a detail reported by this newspaper at the time.

The importance of the events taking place in the Chilean Pampa are evinced by the arrival of Miami-based ufologist Dr. Virgilio Sanchez Ocejo, who is investigating the incidents transpired in Calama and Maria Elena. He indicated that the cases reported in numerous areas, as well as those reported by the residents of other sectors and mining deposits are identical to the cases known in Puerto Rico and in Central America, leading him to presume that it is the same creature or at least one having similar characteristics.

Given that it has increased in strength over time, the notion that the animal reproduces over a brief period of time would explain the increase of sightings in the area, since it would no longer be a matter of one but several "critters" being seen in the area.

In any event, apparitions of the Chupacabras--or whatever the creature might be--have grown apace in recent days, thus making necessary an official declaration, or at least an explanation, of what is happening in the area.

III. Remarks

The preceding have only been "highlights" of the torrent of information on the Chilean Chupacabras that have sailed across the Internet since April. While anecdotal, it nonetheless gives us an understanding of the events that are transpiring in Chile even as this is being written.

a. The Creature's Description

An amalgam of the following descriptions appearing herein gives us enough material to build our own identikit image of the creature:

--It stood about 1.50 meters, like a big monkey, with long, clawed arms and enormous fangs protruding from its mouth, as well as a pair of wings...

--[...] a giant bat causing depredations...

--[...] described [...] as having a human/animal shape...

--an immense man, standing some 2 meters tall. Its shoulderblades were split, as if it had wings...

--a kind of ape or mandrill with human features but with very large eyes...

--as standing some 1.20 meters tall, half-hairy and somewhat hunched over..

--it had large yellow eyes, dense black-and-grey hair [...] of a dense texture and standing approximately 1.50 meters tall...

Missing from these descriptions are the quills or spines running from the top of its head down its

back, the spindly, almost useless forearms, the thin membranes beneath the arms that would create the illusion of flight (a creature that size would be unable to fly) and most importantly, the proboscis or "sucking apparatus" deployed to conduct the exsanguination -- all of these are the trademarks of the initial Chupacabras as described by Puerto Rican witnesses in 1995.

The new entity(ies) described, while fully deserving of the name Chupacabras for the similarity of its slaying technique and blood thirst, more closely match other entities seen during the early part of the Puerto Rican wave, as indicated earlier in this monograph, and the ape-creature apparitions of northeastern Spain.

In his study on the Iberian mutilations phenomenon, Chupacabras: Un Verdadero Expediente X, Miguel Aracil explores the strange *simiots*, which have been a constant feature of Catalan legend since Medieval times. The *simiots* are described as "strange, hairy creatures having semihuman features" (Aracil, p.87) and a group of woodsmen were attacked by one such entity a few decades ago: the hairy monster engaged in an orgy of destruction, smashing vehicles and forestry equipment, even hurling logs at the terrified tree-cutters (similar behavior has been reported in cases occurring in suburban Maryland during the 1970's). Although Spain's *Guardia Civil* looked into the matter, they conveniently "cannot remember", as Aracil notes rather dryly in his treatise. A number of armed posses were formed to explore the environs of Peña Montañesa (Huesca) where the events occurred, but "nothing was ever found, perhaps due to the large number of immense caves in the area, and the rough terrain." (Aracil, p.88). Medieval statues of the *simiots* depict them as devouring children or being trodden down by the Holy Mother: while he does not offer specifics, the author mentions that these supernatural entities were allegedly responsible for slaying entire herds of animals and on certain occasions were even responsible for some attacks on humans. Could the *simiots* have cousins across the ocean?

Reporter Jorge Torrejón, writing in the May 8, 2000 *Estrella del Loa*, noted that three young men travelling aboard a refrigerator van transporting 20 tons of fish from Lebu to Arica had a close encounter with the creature. Their description is also helpful. Mauricio Correa, an experienced articulated trailer driver, was trying to park his rig not far from the María Elena salt mines assisted by Oscar Robles and Ricardo, an anonymous hitchhiker he'd picked up along the route. After parking the truck at 5:00 am, he turned off the engine and the lights and became aware that the vehicle's cab was tilting toward the right, where Oscar was sitting. The vehicle's lights inexplicably began turning on and off. To their horror they noticed that a "very ugly animal, very hairy and black, having a long oval head, fangs and slanted, goggling yellow eyes" was staring at them through the side window. The apparition had pointed ears and "whiskers similar to those of a boar. It was something awful that was stuck to the glass for several seconds."

Recovering from the shock, the driver managed to get the truck going to make a report to the authorities. Oscar, his co-pilot, checked his wristwatch to ascertain the time for the report, but discovered that the digital timepiece had stopped, and later resumed functioning in a haphazard manner.

The drivers did not stop until they reached the vicinity of Victoria, where the frightened men waited for daybreak before getting out of their vehicle at a truck stop, where they had coffee and resumed their journey to the town of Pozo Almonte, presenting their report at the local

Carabineros headquarters at 7:00 a.m. The only evidence of their experience were the prints apparently left by the creature on the back and side of the trailer cab.

Now, contrast that description to the one given to the *Carabineros* on May 30, 2000 by Cristián Muñoz, who got a closer view of the Chupacabras than he might have bargained for.

The 36 year old man was at home with his family when sounds were suddenly heard. Upon going out to check, he found himself facing a strange, grunting being emanating a nauseating odor. Fortunately Muñoz, there would be a witness to this extraordinary event: Alvaro Terrazas, 14, stood outside his own home at that late hour waiting for a friend, and saw "a black hairy thing" jump off Muñoz's roof and land in front of the startled homeowner--an amazing 30 meter leap.

Young Alvaro told journalists that Cristián Muñoz "appeared to go crazy and was trying to fall to the ground". The youngster added that Muñoz's sudden insanity in the light of what he had just seen persisted well into the arrival of the authorities. "The gentleman was on his knees, asking them, "please believe me, I swear by the Virgin."

The impression of the creature given by Muñoz to the *Carabineros* differed radically from any other entity reported thus far: ninety centimeters tall, a body similar to that of a horse, a large head, floppy ears, a trunk-shaped muzzle, round eyes, and walking in a semi-erect position.

In short, either all of the Chilean eyewitnesses need new glasses, or a true paranormal free-for-all is taking place in that country.

b. The Creature's Origins

The following have been suggested as the phenomenon's probable origins:

- an induced genetic mutation (i.e., through highly sophisticated genetic engineering)
- an interplanetary visitor (an alien pet, or even an alien crewman)
- an interdimensional entity
- a denizen of the "inner earth"
- a hoax, illusion, etc.

The "genetic mutation" seems to be the one being favored in Chile at the moment, from what we can glean from the journalistic sources. Certainly people trying to maintain a certain degree of "respectability" (whatever that is) are partial to an explanation that can invoke terms like "recombinant DNA" and carelessly throw them around. I expanded on this angle in my book *Chupacabras and Other Mysteries* (Greenleaf, 1997).

The interplanetary visitor/alien pet is everyone's "pet" theory. The UFO phenomenon's high visibility and ubiquity makes it a perfect companion to the predator's exploits, but even a casual reading of most of the material presented here or available elsewhere on the Internet will go to show that there have been no reports of UFOs in relation to the Chilean Chupacabras, so to

invoke the phenomenon as the creature's mode of transportation from one crime scene to the next is unreasonable, at best. The late D. Scott Rogo, co-author with Jerome Clark of Earth's Secret Inhabitants (Berkeley, 1979), also noted that most "manimal" flaps occur when little or no UFO activity is taking place, and even when there is UFO activity present, it is usually not strong enough to tie both sets of paranormal activity (p.162).

The interdimensional entity option may be the only one that seems tailor-made for the Chupacabras and its kin, even though such a concept as higher dimensions or parallel universes is truly the domain of mathematicians, who would probably run the other way from any involvement with such a scabrous subject. There is a common factor in all the cases--from 1995 to the present--aside from the creature's predilection for blood: the glowing eyes. In this matter I take the great liberty of quoting John A. Keel's The Eighth Tower, which should be considered textbook reading for these matters:

Some of our sea serpents, hairy humanoids, and silver-suited spacemen have huge self-luminous eyes. It may be that these "eyes" are the only real things about these entities. The bodies to which they are seemingly attached are often shadowy and indistinct.

(The Eighth Tower, p.124)

And Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz, whose UFO Dynamics is another of the field's heavyweight volumes, also spoke in this regard:

The creature's eye colors seem to be a distinctive feature of many reports [...]. Whatever the origin of the creatures: e.g., if they are materialized, or have existed in dark caves completely undetected, etc., it is amazing that witness accounts seem to be consistent on these points, which conform to an anatomical reality that most witnesses would not ordinarily know about.

(UFO Dynamics, p. 212)

In any event, the world or reality from which these entities would come from, according to this set of suppositions, would hardly be suitable for humans--much like anglerfish at the bottom of Earth's oceans, the Chupacabras and its fellow entities must supply their own light to move about in a world of absolute darkness (very seriously evoking images of Hell) as they go about their unimaginable business. Before we slip off the deep end here, it is perhaps worth asking if such a dark place could exist? Researcher Raymond A. Robinson's The Alien Intent: A Dire Warning (Blandford,1995) offers the scientific concept of several universes having been created by what we term the "Big Bang". Some of these quantum strands which become other universes are too weak to form viable ones, overlapping in bizarre fashion.

Perhaps these Universes exist as a complete opposite of our own, with anti-positrons and anti-neutrons as particles exchanges constantly take place in a struggle to exist. Such a Universe would be a suffocating, hot and irradiated place where total darkness replaces light and nothing we know of in our Universe could survive.

(The Alien Intent: A Dire Warning, p.95)

If the Chupacabras and its other relatives, like the gargoyles periodically reported around the world (Madrid, 1995 and rural Argentina, 1997), the Mothman and other entities, hailed from such a "hot, suffocating and irradiated place" as Robinson conjures up, could this perhaps explain the radiation signatures left by the Chupacabras in Puerto Rico and in Guatemala during its initial forays in the mid-Nineties?

During the initial Chupacabras outbreaks in Puerto Rico's Barrio Saltos Cabra, researcher Federico Alvarez and his group took Geiger counter readings of some of the mutilated sheep found in the area. Alvarez noted that the carcasses gave off readings of .011 on a scale of 1000--110 rads--which was considerably higher than background radiation. In Guatemala, Dr. Oscar Rafael Padilla and his assistant were made physically ill after inspecting dead animals in Estanzuela, leading the physician to voice his concern that the radiation found at the sites may have been to blame.

Radioactive, interdimensional creatures? Before you throw down this monograph in disgust, at least read what John Keel has to say on the possible "transmogrification" of entities coming into our own reality from another:

In the early stages of creation the transmogrified entities are relatively harmless to us, but when the deterioration begins to occur, they throw off electrons and radiation that can harm humans and animals in the same way that flying saucers can harm us.

(The Eighth Tower, p.101)

In this knowledge, would it be safe to assume that the Chupacabras and other parapsychicals leave radiation traces as their "physical bodies" in our reality begin to deteriorate? That is what Keel suggests in the preceding paragraph.

Chupacabras as a "denizen of the inner earth" is a concept that while laughable at first, and smacking of the 1940's "Shaver Mystery", has been considered by South American paranormalists who openly believe in subterranean communities beneath the Andes, Brazil and the Argentinean plains. Even in Puerto Rico, early descriptions of the creature's furry exterior having a "burned" appearance gave rise to suggestions of the Chupacabras possibly being a subterranean entity damaged by illicit chemical dumping. While this concept is admittedly fascinating, not enough is known about what lies under Chile (except for some oil and gas reserves) to abound on this possibility.

Chupacabras as a hoax, illusion or "phantasm of the Hispanic mindset" is the explanation wielded by two groups of people: the men and women of the scientific community who flatly refuse to have anything to do with the subject, and ordinary citizens who were exposed to the media barrage which followed the entity's original appearance in 1995. Anyone exposed to the t-shirts, inane pop songs and generally silly behavior of people trying to capitalize on the events would be excused for believing it was all a world-class put-on.

But to please our skeptical friends, let us assume that there is nothing more to the Chupacabras

phenomenon than human ignorance, and the explanations put forth by the authorities are in fact correct. How come, we may well ask, there hasn't been another outbreak of "one-fanged dog" activity since the Chupacabras phenomenon ended? Or when explanations involving itinerant troupes of monkeys were in vogue, how come these have never been seen again? The experts told us that these "solutions" represented, in fact, a permanent condition in the countryside--only farmers didn't pay attention to them until their own livestock was affected. When Mexico's state-employed experts poured cold water over the Chupacabras phenomenon by saying that the mutilations were caused by dogs and other predators drinking blood during the '96 drought, how come similar conditions weren't observed during the U.S. drought in '99? Could it be that third-world canids are less sophisticated than their first-world counterparts and therefore likelier to drink blood? Inquiring minds want to know...

Dr. Eugenio González, a Chilean veterinarian, has been moved to remark: "*Dogs aren't bloodsuckers: they are essentially blood lickers. Dogs tear at their prey rather than make surgical incisions, and never kill large numbers of animals. A dog bent on sating its appetite will slay one, eat part of it, and bury the remainder in a very disorderly manner, leaving prints everywhere. Dogs prefer meat to blood and never consume more than their own body weight. Our continent does not have packs of dogs like the Australian Dingoes, which have other ways of feeding themselves. The deaths in Calama have nothing to do with dogs...*"

c. The Body Count

The following body count of the Chilean Chupacabras' victims has been gleaned from information provided by the country's main and local newspapers: Prensa Austral (Porvenir); Ultimas Noticias (Santiago de Chile); La Tercera (Santiago de Chile); El Día (La Serena); Crónica (Concepción); El Mercurio (Calama); La Estrella del Loa (Calama). Special thanks to Liliana Núñez:

04.01.00Labanda54 sheep, 25 lambs
04.07.00Calama30 sheep, 40 dogs (killed by authorities)
04.08.00Calama25 sheep, 5 goats
04.16.00Calama12 sheep, 12 goats, 45 rabbits
04.18.00Labanda3 pigs, 200 sheep, 135 goats
04.18.00San Fernando40 chickens, 4 pigs, 8 ducks, 1 dog
04.18.00Calama200 head of cattle (incl. 70 pigs)
04.20.00Labanda90 goats, 20 pigs
04.21.00La Chimba26 chickens, 1 dog
04.25.00El Peral16 lambs
04.27.00Alto Jahuel10 chickens
04.28.00Toconao1 human attacked, no casualties
05.01.00Noviciado120 ducks, 17 chickens, 48 ducks
05.01.00Providencia4 chickens, 1 rooster
05.01.00La Montaña8 sheep
05.04.00Angol12 chickens
05.04.00Caburgua35 chickens
05.04.00Los Muermos7 pigs
05.04.00Quilacoya7 sheep, 1 goat

05.04.00Cobija40 ducks and chickens
 05.05.00La Serena35 chickens
 05.06.00Tocopilla2 rabbits, 4 cats
 05.06.00Un.Campesina1 dog, 15 sheep
 05.06.00Fundo Esperanza4 sheep, 1 cow
 05.07.00Huertos Familiares4 chickens
 05.13.00Lebu Alto24 chickens
 05.14.00Coronel4 chickens
 05.18.00Baquedanounspecified number of rabbits
 05.30.00Quilota1 dog
 06.08.00Concepción14 chickens
 06.09.00Punta Arenas60 dead heifers (+ 40 wounded)
 06.09.00Porvenir100 sheep
 06.13.00Calama1 cat
 06.19.00Calama2 horses, 1 dog
 06.29.00Antofagasta1 cat
 07.02.00Vista Hermosa1 rabbit
 07.05.00Baquedano3 rabbits

As of early July 2000, a total of 1580 animals (including the 40 "stray" dogs destroyed by the SAG as culprits, even though many of them had owners) had been lost to the Chupacabras' depredations. The death toll continues to rise with no end in sight.

A full accounting of the animal deaths in Chile will, of course, be impossible in the light of the private burial of animals by individuals advised to "avoid making a fuss" by the authorities. This doesn't mean that the figures available for other Chupacabras-related massacres are complete, either. For the Spanish wave of slayings, running from 1996 to 1999, guesstimates range between 163 and 700 (including the 200 sheep which simply vanished into thin air). Bruno Cardeñosa cites "2000 animal deaths" in Puerto Rico between 1995 and 1997, whereas a careful tally of the amounts provided journalistically reveals yields 557 -- a considerable amount when we take the island's small size into consideration. This figure covers all of the animals slain from March 1995 to the spring of 1996.

Playing the numbers game becomes even harder when dealing with a country the size of Mexico:

Year 1993State of Guerrero30 horses
 Year 1994State of Hidalgo30 sheep
 Year 1994Iztlalmanalcounspecified chickens, cows, sheep
 03.06.9625 de Abril, Nayarit25 sheep
 03.14.96Altamira, Ver.43 goats, sheep, chickens
 04.01.96San Antonio, Chia.20 sheep
 04.06.96Tlalixcoyan, Ver.3 sheep
 04.18.96Cd.Guzmán, Jal.20 sheep
 05.02.96Amacueca, Jal.20 sheep
 05.03.95Tlalixcoyan, Ver.6 sheep
 05.04.96Los Mochis, Sin.40 sheep

05.06.96San Miguel, Coah.4 sheep
05.06.96Lagunillas, Quer.12 goats
05.08.96Tlalixcoyan, Ver.8 turkeys and sheep
05.08.96San Miguel, Mex.18 "birds"
no dateCuatichan, Mex.21 chickens and pigs
no dateLos Mochis, Sin.3 goats and a duck

The above is, at best, only a partial tally of the total losses experienced in that country.