

# “SPACE ALIENS PINCHED MY PINEAPPLES!”

By Gordon Creighton

OVER the years we have seen quite a number of “UFO stories” that sounded so utterly ridiculous that it is not surprising if we find that not a soul anywhere seems prepared to believe them. I do not share that view, for the entire business with which we are concerned is such a farrago of nonsense, such a “festival of absurdity”, as Aimé Michel was wont to say, that it seems to my mind somewhat unreasonable to segregate just one part of it as being more unacceptable than the rest. A year or so ago, for example, there was a report that a *circus elephant* (or possibly two) had been hoisted aboard a UFO and kidnapped. I think it was near Málaga, in Spain, and when I manage to turn the story up next time among the mountain of paper which once used to be my “in-tray” I will publish it.

The present tale concerns pineapples in Queensland, Australia. I know that Paul Norman has said that he doesn't believe a word of it. However, I recall, from the early days of FSR, quite a number of reports — particularly from Brazil — about alien critters who were seen purloining plants and fruits from the farmers' fields,<sup>(1)</sup> and a greedy liking for pineapples does not strike me as all that improbable.

The story was published in the Melbourne magazine *Picture Post* of June 8, 1991, and we thank FSR reader John Bainbridge of Leeton, Western Australia, for having sent it on to us.

As the *Picture Post* staff writer John Pinkney relates it, the story ran as follows.

A fuming Queensland farmer says UFO aliens stole 15,000 pineapple tops from his Sunshine Coast property.

Harry Roy, 73, of Calounra (Q), claims the snatch from Space ruined a season's planting — and cost thousands of dollars in lost profits.

The scene of the flying fruit raid was the sprawling Roy farm, which overlooks Bribie Passage. (Just N. of Brisbane, 27°00S.Lat., 152°.59E.Long. Editor, FSR).

“I was working near the homestead one afternoon, some years back, when the earth was shaken by a series of huge thumps”, Harry told me.

“Thinking there must have been an earthquake, I hurried over to my brother Gordon's house to ensure he was O.K.

“He'd heard the noises too and said he was sure they'd come from the back of the farm.

“We went down there with a local teacher, and discovered that 15,000 pineapple tops we'd readied for planting had vanished.

“There was no road into that part of the property

— and not even a helicopter could have entered undetected.

“I'm in no doubt that a UFO pinched those pineapples. For years they've been taking whatever they like from the farms around here. On several occasions they've even drained water from dams.<sup>(2)</sup>”

“Locals believe the UFOs have a base inside the Glasshouse Mountains. They've been seen entering the Range — and the mountains often hum at night.

“I don't mind betting that my pineapple tops were planted somewhere in that base — far underground.”

Harry Roy saw his first flying saucer in 1920, when he was six years old.

“It was a huge silver oval, wingless and silent”, he recalled.

“I watched it hovering very low over our old top orchard — then it took off towards Nambour (26°38S.Lat., 153°00 E.Long. Ed.). Of course in those days I had no idea what a UFO was, but from that time on I kept seeing them — and finding their landing sites.

“In the 1930s, when I was moving cattle around the Bribie Passage saltmarsh country, I'd often find scorched circles up to 36 feet wide.

“They were a mystery to me until the 1950s, when all the flying saucer stories began to appear in the papers.”

Harry's UFO encounters haven't just been long-distance sightings. He remembers a frightening brush with a seemingly alien entity.

“I awoke to find a man wearing a silver suit standing beside the bed”, he recalled.

“I just lay there staring, unable to move or to call out to my wife, Irene. The man ran his hand through my hair, then went into the children's room. I was powerless to stop him. I'm pretty sure I've had other contacts that I can't remember.

“Several years ago, while riding a horse from Mill Ridge to Campbell's Mill, I lost three hours of time.

“I should have arrived at six, after a 20-minute journey, but I didn't get there till nine.

“My mate, who'd been waiting for me in his Vanguard ute, was in a deep sleep when I finally turned up.

“Neither of us could account for the missing time — but I'm sure we'd been taken somewhere”.

Harry says he can “sense” the presence of UFOs.

“One day I was driving to Mooloolaba with my wife when I suddenly got the feeling I should stop the car”, he said.

“I told her, ‘The boys are up there somewhere — they'll appear any minute’. Then Irene replied, ‘My God-you're right’.

“Three oval craft, pulsing from deep red to blue, were hovering above the road.

“UFOs are particularly attracted to the Sunshine Coast (Australian East Coast).

“And they seem to have made mental contact with quite a lot of us up here”.

#### NOTES BY EDITOR,FSR

(1)As examples of plant-purloining, see Nos. 10, 13 and 59 of the close encounters with alien entities (65 in all) listed by me for South America, up to 1965, in my article *The Humanoids In Latin America*, in THE HUMANOIDS, edited by Charles Bowen (1969, with reprints in 1974 and 1977 by Futura Books, London — paperback edition). (A few copies of this classic, now long out of print, are still available from High Wycombe.)

See also the famous French case of the lavender-grower Monsieur Maurice Masse, large numbers of whose lavender plants were lifted by small alien critters from his farm at Valensole in June of 1965. (See *A Significant Report From France*, by Charles Bowen, in FSR 11/5 (Sept./Oct. 1965); *The Significant Report From France* (G.E.P.A. Report) and *The Valensole Affair*, by Aimé Michel (these last two items both in FSR 11/6 (Nov./Dec. 1965); *Comment on The Valensole Affair*, by Dr. Bernard Finch, in FSR 12/1 (Jan./Feb. 1966); *The Valensole Questionnaire*, by Luis Schönherr in FSR 12/2 (March/April

1966); *Replies To Questionnaire*, by Luis Schönherr, *Valensole-Further Details*, by Aimé Michel, and a French Magistrate's *Tentative Reply To Luis Schönherr's Questionnaire* — these last three items all in FSR 12/3 (May/June 1966); *A Visit To Valensole Two Years Later*, by Aimé Michel and Charles Bowen, in FSR 14/1 (Jan./Feb. 1968).

(2) On water-stealing from dams and tanks etc., see *Australia: On The UFO Trail, IV*, by Paul Norman, in FSR 35//1 (March 1990); *Australia: On The UFO Trail, V*, by Paul Norman in FSR 36/3 (Autumn 1991).

There were also, in earlier years (1960s or thereabouts), several spectacular reports of totally incomprehensible and sudden losses of vast quantities of water (overnight) from various lakes and reservoirs in the N.E. part of the U.S.A. In Argentina, Dionisio Llanca claimed that when tall aliens kidnapped him one night in 1973 on a lonely road, he saw a great pipe leading from their craft into a nearby lake (See my *Dionisio Llanca's Very Close Encounter*, in FSR 26/4 (Nov. 1980).

Finally, on the general question of water and water-stealing, the books of M.K. Jessup should be consulted, for he thought a lot about this, and had the theory that some of their huge craft that never land here are vast water-tankers into which our stolen water is ferried up, to be carried off to some other place where there is a great need for it, such as the Moon, or Mars. ■

## BOOK REVIEW. LOST WAS THE KEY.

AUTHOR — LEAH A. HALEY

REVIEW BY: KATHARINA WILSON

**LOST WAS THE KEY:** by “Leah A. Haley”. 160 pages. Hard-back, published 1993 by Greenleaf Publications, P.O. Box 70563, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35407-0563, U.S.A. ISBN: 1-883729-00-9. U.S. Price \$22.50 p. and p. included, direct from Publishers. Foreword is written by John S. Carpenter (MSW/LCSW); jacket reviews by Debbie Jordan (alias “Kathie Davis”); Donald M. Ware (former Regional Director, MUFON); Lt.Col. Wendelle C. Stevens, USAF Ret’d.; and Dr. Richard F. Haines, PhD., Research Scientist, Ret’d.

**L**OST WAS THE KEY is the true story encompassing 18 months in the life of a middle-class woman from the American Deep South, a university graduate, whose reality, like that of other abductees, was shattered abruptly and frighteningly, and describes her struggle to cope with her encounters.

I heard about “Leah Haley” several years ago while at a sky-watch in Gulf Breeze, Florida. Because of her fears she didn’t seek out many people to talk to about her experiences. After finally getting to read her complete story, I have to ask, who among us would trust anyone

after going through what she has endured?

*I was one of several people in “the group” in Gulf Breeze who initially thought, “Well, maybe this poor woman is worrying too much. Certainly the military isn’t going around abducting people, right?” Well, because of my own experiences since that time, and hearing about these types of experiences relayed by others, I can only say how wrong we all were.*

**A very unwanted and unusual twist to the abduction phenomenon is being reported by abductees. Some of us have recently become brave enough, (or stupid enough) to report what is happening to us: that the military and other government “personnel” are involved in our “alien” abduction experiences. We do not apologize for what we are remembering. We are simply reporting it, along with all the information about the Greys, the Blondes, the Reptilians, the Praying Mantis types, and an array of other types of beings who are apparently here, whether we like it or not.**

*Lost Was The Key* captivated me so much, that I read it in a day. It is a very “readable” book, written by a well educated, and lucid woman. I can certainly relate to Leah’s feelings that she felt she had to get her story out