from all over the country. There are even examples of *deaf people* who 'hear' the vibrations. Sometimes a man is worried by the noise, while his wife cannot hear it.

One by one, possible sources have been checked. Theories of distant jet engine tests or a 'radar hum' have all been disproved. One man turned up at Broadcasting House declaring that the noise was slowly killing him. Post Office and electrical engineers have been called out to people who assert that the continuous throbbing keeps them awake.

Most hearers agree that the noise is loudest at night and in the early morning. Some have kept log-books to show that the sound was intermittent until 1945, and has since been continuous. Doctors have even attached a name to the sound and call it 'radiophobia'. It is used to describe the eccentrics who appear in the courts to claim injunctions against the Minister of Supply or the Postmaster-General that the noise shall cease.

Yet a parallel mystery recently cropped up in Australia,

where newspapers and radio authorities were bombarded with letters demanding that the "radio irritation" should cease. Sufferers were advised to switch off. Back came replies that they *had* - and could still hear it.

Are flying saucers sending these signals? Are they travelling on a humming, throbbing, sound-beam? Is it all imagination? People who hear the sound claim that those who cannot hear it simply cannot be listening!

NOTE BY EDITOR, FSR.

Very interesting. I will look out our own reports from early issues of FSR. And will our readers please be so kind as to send in to me any such reports and stories that they may find in their own scrapbooks?

* (Note, incidentally, that whereas in the case recently published by us in FSR 45/2 it was said that 'only women tended to hear the whine', this early report mentioned that, whereas a man was frequently worried by the sound, it was his 'wife' who could not hear it!) -G.C.

II. MORE THROBBINGS, HUMS AND "GROINKLES".

In a letter dated August 24th, 2000 from long-term FSR reader D.J. Strudwick of Meopham, Kent, we learn that he and his wife Lesley have been similarly troubled for years past by what they term "a groinkle"! They live on the North Downs Ridge, four or five miles from the nearest motorway.

Late at night, on August 23, Dave Strudwick was working in his study on an electronic project, when he became aware once more of this "groinkle", which "sounds like a dishwasher running".

He checked everything, but everything, dish-washer, washing machine, heater, air filter fan, etc. was switched off. Going up to bed, where Lesley was already asleep, he could still hear it in the bathroom, and then, horror of horrors, it was even at its loudest in the bedroom!

When he awoke at 6.00 a.m. next day, it had stopped. But when his wife woke up shortly afterwards her first words were: "I heard that noise again last night."

Mr. Strudwick says no underground caves are known to exist beneath the area where he lives, but about ten miles away, further up on the North Downs Chalk Ridge, there are the famous chalk caves at Chislehurst. He says UFO sightings have always been very frequent in that area. But his wife "wonders whether the noise may not be due to the 'Little Greys' doing their weekly wash in their caves on night-rate electicity?"

[If so, what a pity that, while they are on the job, the "Little Greys" apparently can't make themselves a little "whiter than white". G.C.]

LATEST REPORTS FROM SPANISH AMERICA. BY GORDON CREIGHTON.

I. MORE "CHUPACABRAS".

In the last few years these creatures have been reported not only from Puerto Rico, but also from Mexico, Panama Republic and Panama Canal Zone, Nicaragua, and even from some of the southern states of the U.S.A!

The principal latest reports, gathered by Scott Corrales of the Hispanic UFO Research Centre, California, come from Chile.

Early on Sept. 13, 2000, 3 geese and 5 ducks were found dead in the usual condition in the La Flora district of Chile. This followed a whole series of similar reports from six or seven other localities of Chile, where the populace have spoken of a "strange being that leaves no traces of any footprints, and is more like a ghost or a creature of the Devil himself".

Geese are historically famous for their usefulness in sounding an alarm, but these geese gave none! And all were found dead, bloodless, feet upwards, none of them showing any signs of violence except for the curious small punctures -all on the necks and throats.

The fowl house had also contained chickens and a dog. the dog was found alive, huddled in a corner, and the chickens had escaped by taking refuge up among the rafters. The owner said the killings "appeared to be the work of a creature that passed through the wire without leaving a crack". (Source: Newspaper *La Cuarta*, Sept. 14, 2000.)

Next, another local newspaper, *La Estrella del Loa*, (no date given), reported that, on or about Feb. 6, 2001, two chupacabras had been seen in the villages of La Banda and Independencia Norte, on the outskirts of Calama, in Chile.

A woman named Patricia Valdivia, of La Banda de Calama, had opened her front door and found a chupacabra

on the step!

She told the newspaper (La Estrella del Loa) that she had heard some strange noises at one o'clock in the morning. It is the hot season there now in the Atacama Desert. Going to the door, she saw "three cats, more paralysed than a photograph, spaced at about a metre apart, and beside them, sitting right in front of the door, the chupacabra. When it saw me it immediately jumped over the outside wall and was gone in the darkeness".

She had noted that the strange creature measured about 60 - 70 cms and was in a seated position, with long legs hanging down from its body which was covered in leaden-coloured (i.e. grey) hair. She said it uttered "a strange growl that made the windowpanes rattle"! And this was repeated when it leapt over the garden wall.

The ufologist Jaime Ferrer, who has been investigating the chupacabras for some months, took plaster casts of its footprints. [This is strangely at variance with the reports that it "leaves no traces of footprints". -G.C.]

In another case, at Independencia Norte, in the Calama district, three boys had an astonishing experience, being paralysed with fright on coming face-to-face with one of the critters.

The boys, Gabriel Herrera, Miguel Salvo, and Jorge Salvo, have told their stories separately, and with remarkable similarity. Their story is as follows:

"It was about 1 metre tall (3 ft 4 inches) and it was sitting there in the inner courtyard, but jumped effortlessly when Jorge opened the door. It scared us.

"It had spines running down its back. It was hairy and grey. We thought it was a rabbit, and went to tell Momma. That's when it vanished. We all searched for it, but it was gone."

Miguel Salvo specifically mentioned that "it didn't have a nose, or elbows, but it had shining eyes, and legs that were thick at the top and skinny at the bottom. It jumped away and hid under a pick-up truck." (Newspaper *La Estrella del Loa*, Jan. 30 and Feb 1, 2001; reports via Scott Corrales.)

[In a note issued through Rense.com, Scott Corrales mentions that the three boys may have made an important new discovery about the creature, and that a UFO researcher is investigating this, and for the time being all details are being kept under wraps.]

II. THE NICARAGUA CASE.

Report from Scott Corrales, President of the Hispanic UFO Research Centre, and FSR Consultant.

Chupacabras have struck again in Nicaragua, killing seven goats on a farm in Limón.

On Monday, Sept. 11, 2000, Channel 7 TV in Managua aired video footage of the seven dead goats, which local residents said had been killed by "a strange animal which many consider to be the **chupacabra**."

The goats presented cuts measuring 2 cms on different parts of the body, through which the blood had been extracted. The attack took place on a farm approximately 164 kms from the Nicaraguan capital, Managua. (See *Radioprogramas del Peru* for Sept. 1, 2000.)

III. ABDUCTION REPORT FROM CHILE.

Joseph Trainor, *UFO Roundup*, Vol. 5, No. 44, carries a report that a UFO had allegedly abducted two people in Chile, and set them down again a short distance away.

The events appear to have started on Oct. 19, 2000, at 7.00 p.m. A teacher, Juan Rojas Moffett, and some colleagues, in a classroom on the second floor of the Escuela San Francisco at Chiu-Chiu, some 40 kms from Calama in the north of Chile, saw a "bright light in the sky".

Three hours later (10 p.m.) 35 adults, all members of the school's PTA (parent-teacher association) were having a meeting in the school, and some 20 children were playing outside. A weird sound was heard, and a UFO appeared.

Two eyewitnesses, René Calpa Carranza and Walter Anza Vilca said the UFO, mainly white in colour, with blue, red, and yellow flashing lights, hovered above the school playground. And a number of children recalled having smelt "a burning odour".

Then a panel on the underside of the UFO opened, and a dazzling beam of light "stabbed downwards", bathing two people in its glow.

These were Sra. Fresia Vega, the school janitor, and a student, Valentina Rojas Espinoza, aged 8, and both of them instantly vanished.

According to Sra. Monica Espinoza Fernández, mother of the girl, "The children were outside, and they were witnesses, and they called to the parents at the meeting to come out and see it. And we heard a tremendous blast, and everyone ran out to look".

They said the UFO was hovering above the playground at a height of no more than a four-storey building. They saw the dazzling beam switch off, and then the UFO sped away towards the south. Fresia Vega and the child Valentina, were found, dazed and shivering, not far away.

Interviewed by the newspaper *El Mercurio*, Srs Fresia Vega said: "The thing was a very large ship, about the size of a soccer field, surrounded by lights of every imaginable colour. In the middle of it there was a door from which came a light that blinded me and left me paralysed. I felt myself being sucked through the door, and I felt a tingling sensation all over my body.

"Voices became far, far away, and I froze. That's when I realised I must have passed out, because I remember nothing at all. I then felt the door was being shut with a sound like that of iron, and the ship looked as though it was surrounded by light."

The child Valentina gave a similar account, and said: "I felt cold, and my blood froze. I was very scared, and hid behind Fresia."

IV. THE ANIMAL MUTILATIONS IN CHILE -"A TRULY FRIGHTENING SITUATION".

FSR's Vancouver Consultant/Correspondent Dr Max Edwards tells me that he has just received, on March 6th, the following report in a letter from Scott Corrales, who of course is so well known to us as another FSR Consultant/ Correspondent. (To my surprise -for I had not heard this before- Scott Corrales is himself from Puerto Rico, and so he is a compatriot of our Jorge Martín! -G.C.)

REPORT FROM SCOTT CORRALES.

"The situation in Chile regarding the animal

mutilations is truly frightening and ought to be taken seriously by anyone with half a mind. Although the mutilations have toned down somewhat at the moment, sightings of the creatures causing them have increased ten-fold.

"There was a case last week of a man who had one such entity jump onto the hood of his car and stare him down, issuing the telepathic command: 'DON'T SCREAM -I DON'T WANT YOU TO SCREAM'. "Needless to say the man choked on his own utterance.

"Residents of some of the desert towns of Northern Chile where all this is taking place are hearing the sounds of creatures running across their rooftops at night as they leap from one house to another.

"Rationalists are hoping that the creatures -if ever captured- will be some kind of baboon entity set wild in the desert by some unknown agency for its own purposes, but the chances that we are dealing with something completely unknown are very high. I wish you could see the messages that I am getting. People are truly scared, and there is evidence that the Government feels a certain amount of concern."

Dr Max Edwards himself has first-hand knowledge of all these areas in the North Chilean Desert, and therefore his own comments are equally valuable. He writes:-

"It's about time Governments did 'feel a certain

amount of concern'. The towns in the Desert are few and far between, except for Arica, Iquique, and Antofagasta. The waterless desert ends just north of La Serena -I've been to all these places- and if creatures can survive in that desert -without water-* THEY MUST TRULY BE DEMONIC! Fancy thinking it is a baboon!

"By this time one would think that people everywhere, after hearing all the chupacabras stories from Puerto Rico, would put two and two together, and realise the **sameness** between events in Puerto Rico and events in Chile! I believe too that, some time ago, Spain also had some 'chupacabra events'."

[Yes! See Magdalena del Amo-Freixedo's Chupacabras Galore! in FSR 42/2 (Summer 1997), and More Animal Mutilations in Spain, by Raquel Andión and Enrique Tomás, in FSR 44/2 (Summer 1999) -G.C.]

And Max Edwards concludes his comments:-

"To my mind this is all like the 'Jersey Devil', in New Jersey, USA, in the early years of the 19th century. Drawings of the 'Jersey Devil' and of the 'chupacabras' are strangely similar. I've seen the sketches of both."

NOTE BY EDITOR OF FSR.

* But -dear Max- OF COURSE the chupacabras can get on all right in the waterless desert! THEIR BEVERAGE ISN'T WATER! IT IS BLOOD!■

READERS' LETTERS.

Dear Gordon Creighton,

January 29, 2001

Many thanks for your letter and copy of FSR which I am enjoying. It would be an honour to come on board as a Consultant particularly as my fields include cryptozoology, folklore and legend. I visited all the Merlin and Arthurian sites over the years, for example, and also study British standing stone sites and leys, often dowsing on site re-ageing the area etc.

It may also be of interest to you that since 1968 I have taken in over 4000 sick and injured wild creatures and healed them using old herbal remedies and ley energy,never veterinary drugs, and released almost all of them fine and well afterwards.

I mention this as it gives you some idea of my interests, and I enclose the latest bit of news from the WMN for which I write daily and weekly columns. The paper is a six days per week regional so I can refer to FSR at some stage if you wish. I have done a few big-cat pieces in it as you may know.

I visit and dowse at crop circle sites locally, and have had a personal experience or two with UFO sightings. Endymion (27) and I used to run the *Athene 'mag'* which we published here and sent to many interested people in UK and abroad, but it is now out of print. Tom Perrott of the Ghost Club was a subscriber. Again, haunted sites are another of our interests, and Endymion is following my 'old' work and writes *Folklore in Devon Today* magazine each month.

Am delighted you got in touch, With renewed thanks, sincerely,

Trevor Beer.

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*** NOTICE: EUROCHEQUES ***

Our bank advises us that eurocheques are soon to be discontinued. Meanwhile, a new 30% "handling charge" has been imposed for these items!

Readers who have been sending eurocheques are hereby advised that we can no longer accept this costly arrangement, and we request that you seek an alternative method of payment

Please see information on FSR subscriptions as given on page 1 -EDITOR.