

**THE HOPKINSVILLE
EXTRATERRESTRIAL
(GOBLINS)
INCIDENT**

**Edited from
various sources**

by:

Campbell M Gold

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For the:

CMG Archives

<http://www.campbellmgold.com>

(2013)

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Introduction

The 21st of August 2013 marks the 58th anniversary of the Kelly-Hopkinsville extraterrestrial encounter, which occurred in 1955.

The Kelly-Hopkinsville extraterrestrial encounter, also known as the "Hopkinsville Goblins Case" (also the "Kelly Green Men Case"), is the name given to an incident of close encounter with extraterrestrial beings. The incident, which was reported in the *Kentucky New Era* - Monday, August 22, 1955, took place at a rural farmhouse, belonging to the Sutton family, which was located between the hamlet of Kelly and the small city of Hopkinsville, Christian County, Kentucky, United States. Members of two families, at the farmhouse, reported encountering unidentifiable creatures, and other witnesses reported seeing meteors and lights in the sky, and hearing strange sounds.

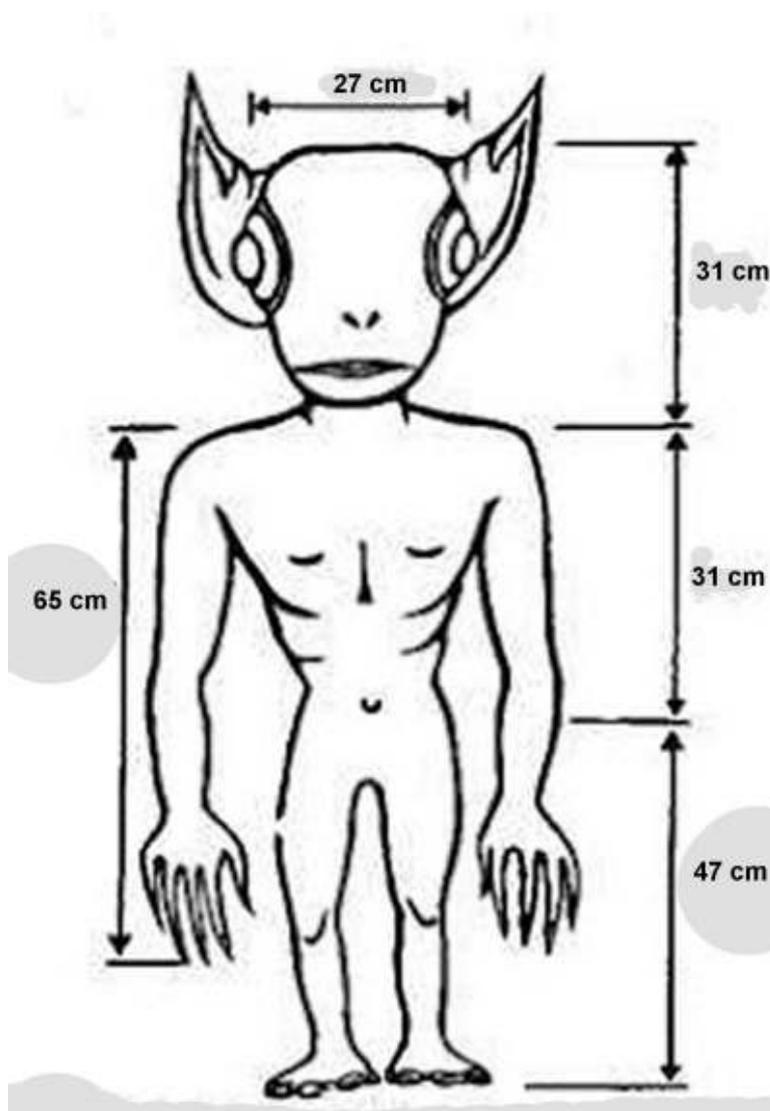


UFO researchers regard this incident as one of the most significant and well-documented cases in UFO history. Additionally, researchers have claimed that the case was investigated by the United States Air Force; however, no evidence of such an investigation has ever been found.

Overview

It has been claimed that there were "dozens" of eyewitnesses to the incidents, which included the two families present at the farmhouse, others in the area, other "civilians", some of whom had no connection to the families at the farmhouse, and even one witness in another state. The witnesses also included several local policemen and a state trooper who all saw and heard strange phenomena such as meteors, unexplained lights in the night sky, and strange noises.

The people present in the farmhouse claimed that they were attacked and terrorized by an unknown number of creatures similar to "gremlins", which have since been referred to as the "Hopkinsville Goblins". They described the creatures as approximately three feet tall, with upright pointed ears, thin limbs (the legs were noted to be somewhat atrophied), and the arms were long and had claw-like hands or talons. The creatures were either silvery in colour, or were wearing flexible, tight fitting, metallic-like clothing. At times, the creatures' movements seemed to defy gravity with them floating above the ground and appearing in elevated locations (trees, roof, etc). Additionally, the creatures walked with a swaying motion as though "wading through water".



Hopkinsville Goblin
(See Appendix One and Two)

Although the creatures never entered the house, they would "pop up" at the windows and the doorway.

After engaging the creatures with firearms to no avail, the families left the farmhouse (approx. midnight) and went to the local police station. There, Sheriff Russell Greenwell noted that the families were much shaken. Sheriff Greenwell

and twenty officers returned with the families to the farmhouse. There, the police saw evidence of the struggle and the damage to the house, as well as seeing strange lights in the sky and hearing noises. Additionally, the witnesses confirmed, to the police, that they had used firearms to shoot at the creatures, but with little or no effect.

The Police left at about 2:15 a.m., and not long afterward, the witnesses claimed that the creatures returned. Billy Ray fired at them once more damaging another window. The last of the creatures was allegedly seen just before dawn, at about 4:45 a.m. on August 22, never to be seen again.

The house and surrounding grounds were extensively damaged during the incident.

At about 11 p.m., a state highway trooper near Kelly independently reported some unusual "meteor-like objects" flying overhead, "with a sound like artillery fire coming directly from them."

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More Details

On the evening of Sunday, 21 August 1955, Billy Ray Taylor of Pennsylvania was visiting the Sutton family of Kentucky. The Sutton family home was a rural farmhouse located between the towns of Kelly and Hopkinsville, in Christian County, Kentucky. There were a total of eleven people in the house that night, including the two families' children.

The Sutton farmhouse had no running water which necessitated Taylor to go outside, about 7:00 p.m., to the water pump for a drink. Taylor said that he saw strange lights in the sky to the west, which he believed to be an unusual flying craft. He described it as disc-shaped in appearance, and had lights on its side that were "all of the colours of the rainbow". He ran back into the house and told the others about his "flying saucer" sighting; however, no one believed him and suggested that he may have seen a "shooting star".

At about 8.00 p.m., the families began hearing strange and unexplained noises outside. The Sutton family dog, which was in the yard outside, began barking loudly and then hid under the house, where it remained until the next day. Going outside with their guns, Taylor and Sutton claimed that they saw a strange creature come out from the nearby trees.

When the creature approached to within about 20 feet, the two men began shooting at it, one using a shotgun, and the other using a .22 rifle. The men reported that there was a noise "sounding like bullets being rattled about in a metal drum", and the creature just flipped over and ran off into the darkness. Believing that that the creature had been hit, Taylor and Sutton went to look for it.

Hendry writes that as the men were stepping from the porch, they saw one of the creatures perched on an awning. They again shot at the creature, and it was knocked from the roof. Again they heard the rattling noise, although the creature was apparently unharmed.

Taylor and Sutton returned to the house in a disturbed state. Within minutes, one of the creatures was seen peering in through one of the windows, and Taylor and Sutton shot at it, breaking the glass, whereupon the creature flipped over and ran away.

The creatures could be heard scurrying about on the roof, and scratching as though they were trying to get in.

For the following few hours, the witnesses testified that the creatures repeatedly approached the house, either popping up at the doorway or at windows in an almost playful manner, only to be shot at each time they did. The witnesses were unsure as to how many of the creatures there were. Except for one sighting of two at the same time, all other sightings were of only single creatures - although the first story claimed that there were twelve to fifteen creatures.

At one point during the incident the witnesses shot one of the creatures at a nearly point blank range, and again they reported that the sound resembled bullets striking a metal bucket. The floating creatures' legs seemed to be atrophied and nearly useless, and they appeared to propel themselves with a curious hip-swaying motion, steering with their arms. Clark writes that "*if the creatures were in a tree or on the roof when hit by gunfire, they would float, not fall, to the ground.*"

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Comment

In 1966, eleven years later, the witness testimonies still corroborated under individual questioning. However, speculation amongst the eyewitnesses and subsequent researchers, regarding the purpose of the creatures, has ranged from curiosity and field study, to the creatures just being outright malevolent. Further, the two families involved were noted locally to not be the types to make up hoaxes - the families did not get any financial gain or significant recognition from the incident, and they finally moved away from the area when they were inundated by a constant stream of people coming to see the site.

In 1998, researcher, Karal Ayn Barnett wrote: "*By all accounts, the witnesses were deemed sane, not under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and in such a state of terror, no one involved doubted that they had seen something far beyond their ken.*"

UFO researcher, Allan Hendry wrote: "*this case is distinguished by its duration and also by the number of witnesses involved.*"

Jerome Clark wrote that: "*investigations by police, Air Force officers from nearby Fort Campbell, and civilian ufologists found no evidence of a hoax*".

Author, Brian Dunning contends that: "*The claim that Air Force investigators showed up the next day at Mrs. Lankford's house has been published a number of times by later authors, but I could find no corroborating evidence of this.*" Dunning also observes that: "*the four military police who accompanied the police officers on the night of the event were from an Army base, not an Air Force base.*"

It is interesting that "Project Blue Book" listed the case as a "hoax" with no additional comment.

Monkeys, Owls, or a Drunken Fantasy?

Some debunkers attribute Hopkinsville Goblins Case to consumption of an alcoholic concoction that the locals call "panther juice" or some other type of liquor. Others insist that the "aliens" were just monkeys escaped from a carnival, or horned owls, or even some angry feral cats.

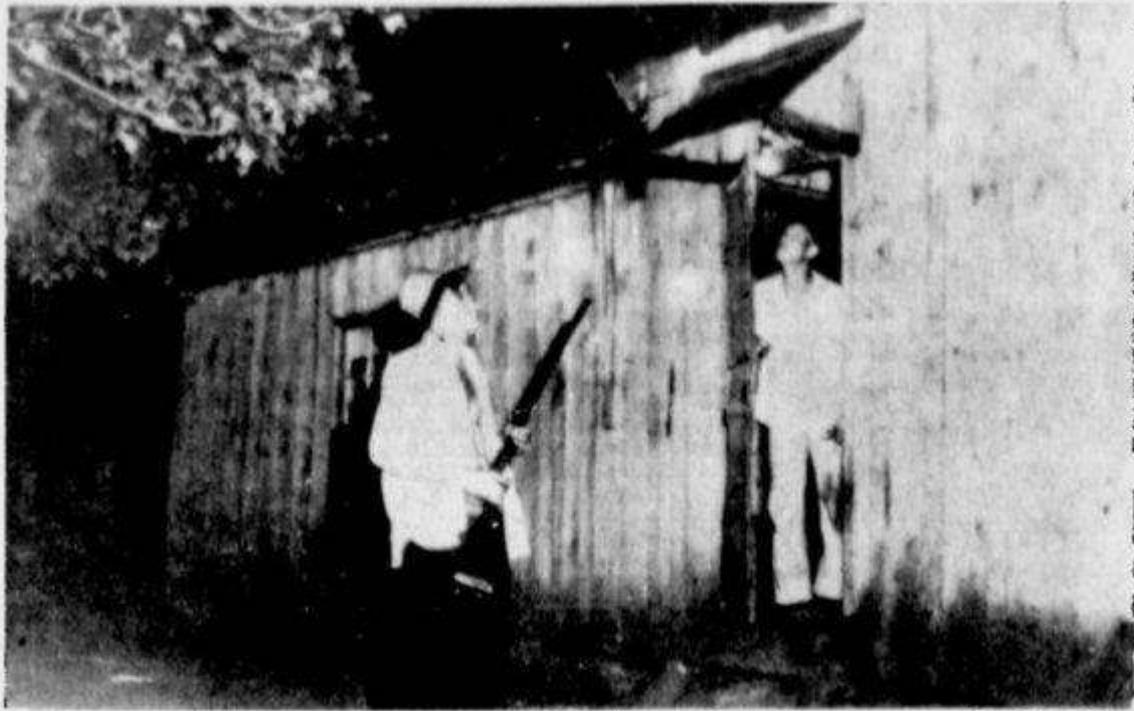
In 1957, U.S. Air Force Major John E. Albert concluded that the Kelly-Hopkinsville case was the result of the witnesses seeing a "monkey painted with silver that had escaped from a circus." However the researcher, Isabel Davis, for one, rejected this explanation as not only entirely speculative, but absurd: "monkeys are hairy creatures, monkeys have long tails, monkeys are notorious chatterboxes, and monkeys struck by bullets bleed and die ... no amount of 'optical illusion' can explain a mistake of this magnitude."

Many debunkers suggest that the creatures could have been misidentified Great Horned Owls, which are nocturnal, fly silently, have yellow eyes, and aggressively defend their nests and territory. There were also meteor sightings at the time which could explain the UFO claims.

However, to date, the Hopkinsville Goblins Case has never been satisfactorily debunked.

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THIS IS THE HOUSE near Kelly where little men from out in space were supposed to have been seen last night. With the gun is Lucky Sutton looking up at the porch roof where one of the invaders supposedly sat. In the doorway is Billy Ray Taylor, who says his hair was pulled by the man on the roof.

Story Of Space-Ship, 12 Little Men Probed Today

**Kelly Farmhouse Scene Of Alleged Raid
By Strange Crew Last Night; Reports Say
Bullets Failed To Affect Visitors**

All kinds of investigations were going on today in connection with the bizarre story of how a space-ship carrying 12 to 15 little men landed in the Kelly community early last night and battled occupants of a farmhouse.

Most official of the probes was reportedly being staged by the air force.

More than a dozen state, county, and city officers from Christian and Hopkins counties went to the scene between 11 p.m. and midnight and remained until after 2 a.m. without seeing anything either to prove or disprove the story about the ship and its occupants.

went out of the house to get a bucket of water. He saw what looked like a flying saucer come over the trees and land in a field at a point about a city block behind the house. There was no explosion, only a semi-hissing sound, and the watcher returned to the house with the bucket of water.

A short time later somebody reported some little men with big heads and long arms were approaching the house. The men were described as having huge eyes and hands out of proportion to their small bodies. The visitors were wearing what looked to be metal plate.

The farmhouse is located on the Old Madisonville Road about eight miles north of Hopkinsville. The property is occupied by Cecil (Lucky) Sutton, one of those who reported experiencing last night's phenomena.

There were some 10 or 12 persons at the house, including several children, but investigating officers were not able to determine exactly how many of those present actually claimed to have seen any of the little men from the space ship.

Only other person whom officers quoted directly was identified as Billy Ray Taylor. One account said Taylor is a visitor from Pennsylvania, which recently had a similar report of a space ship. Neither Sutton nor Taylor was at home when officers returned to the scene this morning.

The story broke around 11 o'clock last night when two cars, one bearing a Pennsylvania license drove up to Hopkinsville's police headquarters. Officers then at the station said the two autos contained at least five adults and several children. All appeared highly excited.

Spokesmen for the crowd told of how something resembling a space ship or flying saucer had landed at the back of their house near Kelly and 12 or 15 men, who appeared to be about 4 feet tall, had got out of ship and come up to the house and done battle with the occupants.

"We need help," one of the men said, "we've been fighting them for nearly four hours."

Four city police, Chief Russell Greenwell, T. C. Gross, Dorris Francis, and Gray Salter, drove to the scene to see about the "little men". By radio, contact was made with State Troopers R. N. Ferguson Jr. and G. W. Riley and Deputy Sheriff George Batts, all of whom joined the motorcade to Kelly in their own vehicles. Four MP's also went.

The radio discussions also brought two Hopkins County deputy sheriffs and at least three state troopers from the station

The men got their guns, a shotgun for Sutton and a .22 caliber target pistol for Taylor. By and by one of the little men pressed his face against the window and the shotgun was fired through the window. The face disappeared.

The men decided to go outside and see if the visitor had been hit. Taylor was in front and when he emerged from the front door, a huge hand reached down from the low roof above the door and grabbed him by the hair. He pulled away, and the two men went on out of the house.

One of the strange little men was in a nearby tree, another on top of the house. A blast from Sutton's shotgun knocked another one of the men down but he did not appear hurt. He disappeared in the darkness.

Taylor reportedly opened fire on other members of the invading party, also with little effect. The battle went on for some time. When the occupants of the house saw their chance, they jumped into their cars and drove to Hopkinsville for help.

Deputy Sheriff Batts said the men told him that in all they fired up about four boxes of .22 pistol shells. The officer quoted a neighbor saying he heard shooting over at the Suttons but distinguished only about four shots and mistook them for fire-crackers.

Most of the officers remained at the site for more than two hours. During that period there were approximately 25 persons at the scene.

Only excitement during the period the officers were there came when an MP happened to step on a cat's tail while walking in the darkness near the house. The cat let out a squawl and for a few seconds there was much activity and scurrying around on the part of those present.

Two officers who returned to the Kelly area early this morning reported hearing that the "little men" had reappeared around the Sutton home about 3:30 a.m.

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First arrivers found the scene deserted. The two cars which had brought the report to Hopkinsville did not return to the Kelly farm until after officers had arrived and looked the situation over.

Officers reported they found no tracks of "little men," nor was there any mark indicating anything had landed at the described spot behind the house. There was a hole in the screen at the window through which occupants said a shot had been fired at one of the strange little men.

Both Chief Greenwell and Deputy Sheriff Batts said they got approximately this story from the still terrified and excited Sutton and Taylor families:

About 7 p.m. one of the men

Other investigators who went to Kelly later during the morning said they were told Sutton and Taylor had gone to Evansville today.

Officers who visited the scene during last night's excitement were reluctant to express any opinion today in regard to the reported invasion of Kelly. All officials appeared to agree that there was no drinking involved.

Only outspoken comment came from Frank Dudas, city police desk sergeant, who was not on duty last night and has not visited the scene so far. He said, "I think the whole story is entirely possible."

Sergeant Dudas was one of two city policemen who reported seeing three flying saucers early one morning last summer. He said, "I know I saw them. If I saw them, the Kelly story certainly could be true."

Kentucky New Era - Monday, August 22, 1955

<http://www.kellyky.com/kellyincident.html>

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End of Transcript

Kentucky New Era - Monday, August 22, 1955

<http://www.kellyky.com/kellyincident.html>

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THE HOPKINSVILLE CASE

<http://uto.sigsno.org/ufologie.net/htm/kelly55.htm>

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"The first is a very strange thing that happened on August 21st, last year, near Hopkinsville, Kentucky. It made headlines in the newspapers out there, and for once it was carried by the press wires - I suppose just because they thought it was ridiculous. You may remember reading the wire story about "little green men" - actually they weren't green, some rewrite man put that in because he thought they ought to be green."

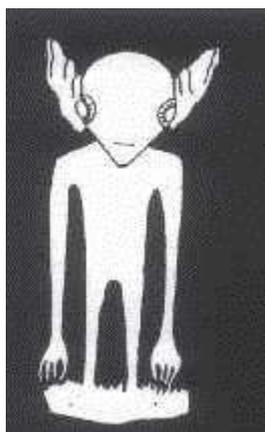
Frank Edwards, in a lecture organized on April 28, 1956, by the Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York, at the Pythian Temple, 135 West 70th St, New York City.

These events occurred on the night of August 21 to 22, 1955, near the little town of Kelly, located near the small city of Hopkinsville, in the rural area of Christian County, in south-western Kentucky, USA.

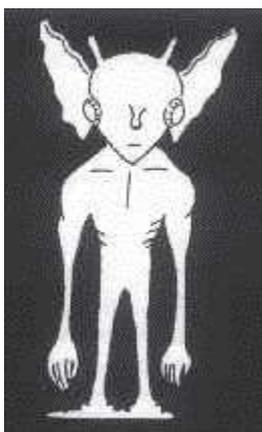
"Lucky" Sutton, as he was known to friends and neighbours, was the "patriarch" of this bluegrass clan. Visiting Lucky and his family, was a man from Pennsylvania named Billy Ray Taylor. Billy left the Sutton house to go for some water from the family well, there was no inside plumbing at the Sutton farm house. At the well, he saw an shining object land in a small gully about a quarter of a mile away. Running back to the house, he excitedly reported his sighting to the eleven people in the house. Billy was laughed at, as no one believed his tale and no one left the house to check.

After a short period of time, the family dog began to bark loudly outside. As customary in this rural area, Lucky and Billy quickly went outside to find the reason of the dog's concern. The dog actually hid under the house and was not seen any more that evening. At a short distance from the front door, both men were stopped dead in their tracks by the sight of a glowing hovering light, which came towards them and allowed them to see that it was in fact a 3 and a half feet tall creature, advancing towards them with hands up, as if to surrender. The bizarre creature would be described as having "two large eyes with a yellow glow, more on the sides than in the human face, a long thin mouth, large bat-like ears, thin short legs, and unusually long arms with large hands ending in claws."

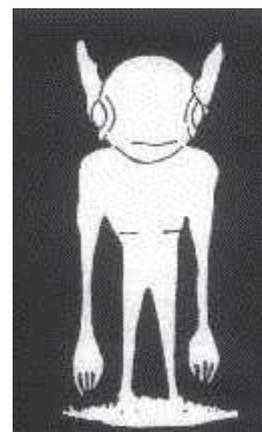
Bud Ledwith of Radio WHOP has the artistic capabilities to execute these drawings according to witness investigation the next day after the event's night:



Description by a woman.



Description by Billy Ray Taylor.



Description by another of the men.

As tradition imposes, they grabbed their guns and shot first, all questions postponed, at the moment that the creature was no farther than 20 feet to them. Billy Ray fired a shot with his .22, and Lucky unloaded with his shotgun. Both men later admitted that there was no way they missed the creature at close range, but the little being just did a back flip, stood up again, and fled into the woods.

No sooner had the two men re-entered the house before the creature, or another like it, appeared at a window. They took a shot at him, leaving a blast hole through the screen. They ran back outside to see if the creature was dead, but found no trace of it. Standing at the front of the house, the men were terrified by a clawed hand reaching down from the roof in an attempt to touch them. Again, they shot, but the being simply floated to the ground, and scurried into the cover of the woods. The two men sought the protection of the house again, only to find themselves under siege from these little men. For a time, the entities seemed to tease the family, appearing from one window to another. Taking pot shots through the windows and walls, their weapons seemed totally ineffective against the creatures.

Many times, the creatures would again approach the house, their hands raised above their head as in some kind of friendly gesture. The two men would fire at them, the bullet did metallic clanging noise when it hit the creature, which would flip over, or float in the air, or escape on all fours towards the weeds, only to come back again minutes later. The Suttons estimated that they might have been as many as 10 to 15 such creatures harassing them, although they never attempted to penetrate the house.

After three hours of fear turning into sheer panic, with three children crying or shrieking, the Sutton family decided to make a break from the house, and get help at the Police station at Hopkinsville. The farm was located nearer to Kelly, but the nearest police were in Hopkinsville. Family members took two vehicles to the Police Station in Hopkinsville, and reported their strange tale to Sheriff Russell Greenwell. Finally persuading the policemen that they were not joking, the policemen agreed to visit the Sutton house. Arriving at the farm, police found no trace of the creatures, but did find numerous bullet and rifle holes in the windows and walls. Greenwell was in charge of the twenty plus officers at the scene, and reported that the Suttons seemed sober, and were genuinely frightened by something. After a canvas of the neighbourhood, reports were entered of the "hearing of shots being fired," and the observation of "lights in the sky."

Exhausting all efforts to find a rational explanation to the strange story, and finding no clear evidence of any alien visitors, the police left the Suttons farm at about 2:15 am. 90 minutes later, the creatures made their return. They began again peeking in the windows, seemingly out of curiosity. More gunfire took place, but again without effect. Several more hours of antics followed, finally stopping some 90 minutes before daybreak.

<http://uto.sigsgno.org/ufologie.net/htm/kelly55.htm>

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THE HOPKINSVILLE ALIEN ENCOUNTER

HAS NEVER BEEN PROVED

TO BE A HOAX

<https://ufophenomenon.wordpress.com/>

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In 1955, perhaps one of the most bizarre UFO cases took place near Hopkinsville, Kentucky. This famous incident, which is now known as the Kelly-Hopkinsville alien invasion, has never been debunked and remains a mystery to this day. On August 21, 1955, two families, the Taylors and the Suttons, had gotten together at the Sutton's family farm to visit. Billy Ray Taylor had gone outside to get water from a well when he suddenly spotted a very unusual object in the sky. As he watched, the extremely bright object landed in the woods about a quarter mile from the Sutton's farm.

Billy Ray Taylor ran back to the house and told everyone what he had seen but they did not think that he was being serious. Shortly afterward the Sutton's dogs began to bark wildly, as if they were fearful of something in the woods. The Sutton family patriarch, nicknamed "Lucky", and Billy Ray Taylor decided to go outside to see what the dogs were acting so erratic. What happened next was so bizarre that many people find it to be unbelievable.

Suddenly a strange 3-4 foot creature emerged from the woods and began walking toward them. The two men described the creature as having enormous eyes, sharp claws, and long pointed ears. Frightened the two men opened fire on the creature at close range with a shotgun and a .22 calibre rifle. Despite their close proximity to the creature, their bullets seemed to have no effect and so they ran inside afraid for their lives.

Once they were inside, the creature appeared in the window and was seen by all seven people sitting in the living room. Lucky and Billy Ray fired through the window and the creature and thought they had finally killed it. However, when they went outside to look for the body, the creature was not there. Shortly afterwards, multiple creatures appeared at the windows and the two families finally decided it was time to run from the house.

The two families made it to the police station but when they told Sheriff Russell Greenwell what they had seen, he thought that they were trying to play a joke on him. However, after seeing how truly frightened both families were, Greenfield decided to return to the house to investigate. The police found no evidence of the bizarre creature that had plagued the Sutton household that night, but they did find multiple bullet holes in the windows and wall of the Sutton's home. Greenfield reported that neither the Suttons nor Taylors had been drinking that night and that he believed they were genuinely afraid of what they had seen.

The police eventually contacted the Air Force to see if they would be interested in investigating the incident. They conducted a search of the house and the surrounding area but never went public with their findings. Several government officials accused the two families of committing a hoax. However, if the entire story had just been a hoax what could have been the motive? Neither family ever made any money off of the story; in fact they lost money because of the extensive damage that was done to the house while they were trying to shoot the creature. All seven witnesses to the incident all drew pictures of the creatures that were strikingly similar. To this day, no one has ever proved that the story was a hoax, which is why it remains such a bizarre and controversial mystery today.

<https://ufophenomenon.wordpress.com/>

End

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APPENDIX ONE

Height - 2½ to 3½ ft.

Sex - No indication.

Ears swept back; extended quite a bit above crown of head.

Eyes yellow center, white rim; about 6" apart; glowing.

Mouth a thin line; but not sure that there was a mouth.

Body powerful above waist, muscles clearly seen. Below waist thin and spindly, almost no shape to legs - sticklike.

Hands over-size, talons 2" or 3" long; webbing between fingers, starting about a knuckle above talons.

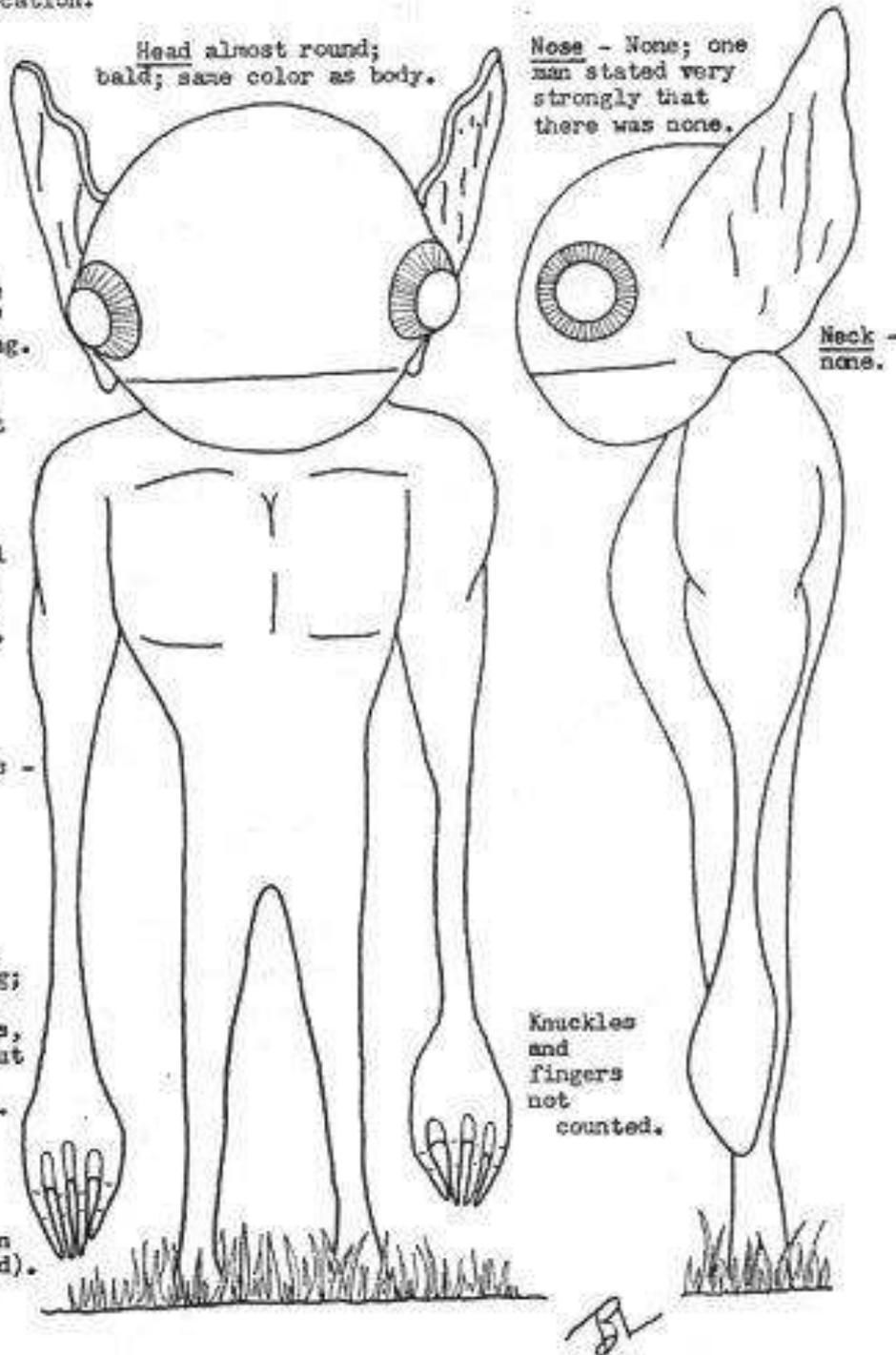
Feet not seen (or not noted).

Head almost round; bald; same color as body.

Nose - None; one man stated very strongly that there was none.

Neck - none.

Knuckles and fingers not counted.



Hopkinsville Goblin
(Unverified source)

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APPENDIX TWO

Height: 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 feet

Sex: No indication

Miniature feelers or antennae on each side of top of head.

Dark depressions in each ear.

Nose - saw a cone-like nose, tapering to a point, with a ball on the end of it.

Body powerfully built to waist.

Legs slim and sticklike.

Head bald, same color as body, chin almost a point.

Ears floppy, large, extended considerably above crown of head. Pointed at top. Like wrinkled leather. Extended out from side of head somewhat.

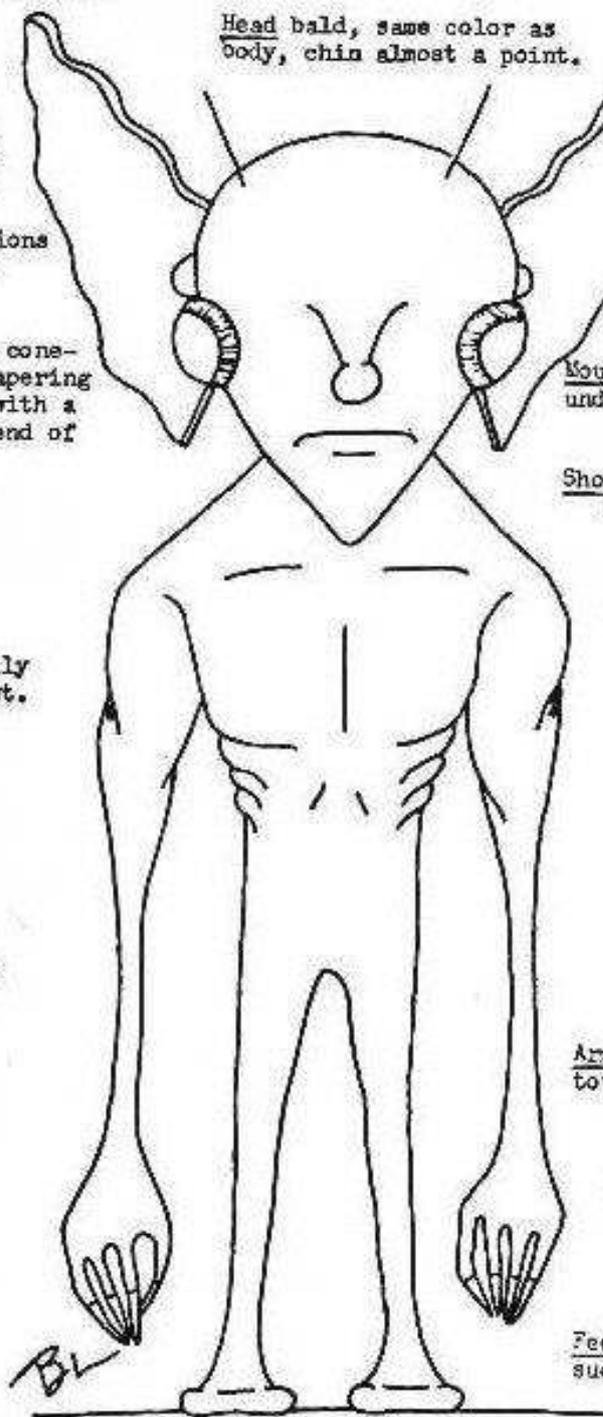
Mouth - upper lip tucked under lower lip.

Shoulders sloped sharply. No neck.

Arms long, almost touched the ground.

Hands wide; talons.

Feet circular, like suction cups.



Hopkinsville Goblin
(Unverified source)

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<http://www.campbellgold.com>

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