

St. Andrew's Church, HORNCHURCH, England

(Note the Bull's Head, Which is on the East Side of the Church)

FOREWORD

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Addie Leah and Bob Brownlee,
and
J. Paul Mutschlecner

Herein is Bob's account of the events as they unfolded, recorded
because of the improbability of their occurrence at any time, coupled
with the opportunities for laughter on a scale that is difficult to
comprehend, or even to imagine.

These events culminated in Hornchurch, England, on August 9, 1964.

We remember that day with continued admiration and appreciation to
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Innocent Preliminaries

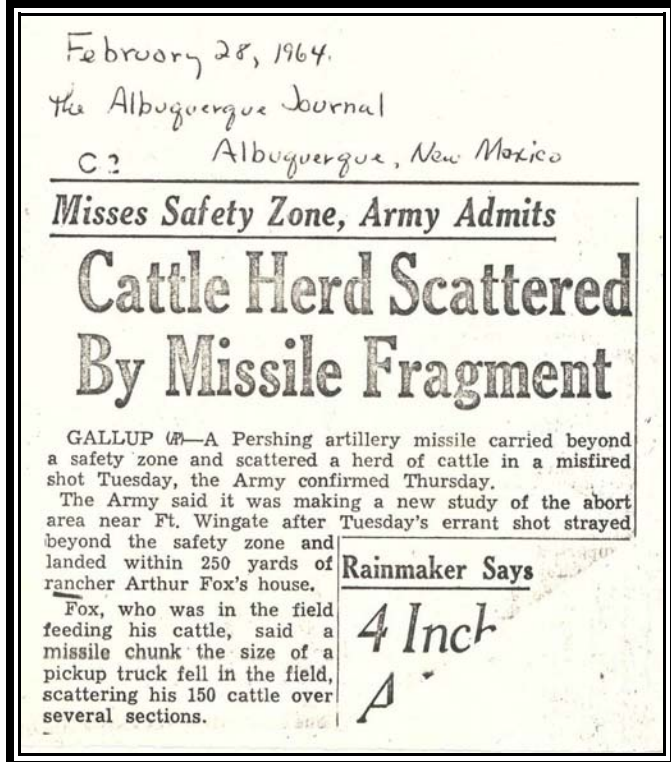
It all started quite easily, in May of 1963, when one day there was a brief item in the Albuquerque Journal. An Associated Press item, it told the story of the consequences of the practice of the Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps, of Hornchurch, England. They had started to play “Semper Fidelis”, and when the drums crashed, and the trumpets blared, six cows belonging to a Mr. Reed dropped dead. The article gave the name of the director of the Hornchurch Drum & Trumpet Corps as Mr. Keeler.

As frequently happened, this item went up on the bulletin board, and triggered numbers of comments.

Bob claimed that the article was patently false, as it was not possible to scare cows to death with noise. He cited as evidence the experience of his Uncle Mason, who had a Greyhound Bus horn on his Model A Ford. This horn was impressive in the extreme, as it could intimidate at great distances any Model A driver and surrounding spectators. Bob’s family had an old milk cow who managed to get out of the corral at most any time, and loved to roam the farm in a maddeningly unrestricted way. One day she was standing in the middle of the road, looking into the wind, when Uncle Mason drove up behind her, came to a stop, then leaned on the horn. The old cow instantly kicked out his headlight, then continued to stand, apparently undisturbed. (Accounts of stimuli passing directly from a sensor to muscles without having any effect on an intervening brain are not unknown, even among laboratory personnel!)

Paul was totally unimpressed with this argument, saying that the cows just died of cornaries, and that the band’s role was relatively minor. Imagine the scorn for such arguments, especially as they were being applied to such serious matters!

Time passed--in fact a lot of time passed. Then, another item appeared in the Albuquerque Journal, recounting an experience of the United States Army. They were having troubles with their Pershing missiles from time to time, so a report of a wayward one was not news of astounding proportions. That clipping has survived, and is shown following.



So, here it is! Several parts are worth noting. First the Pershing missile has a safety zone. Since the launch was from Utah to White Sands, it is of interest to wonder just how far outside the safety zone Gallup, New Mexico, might be. Secondly, there was an abort area near Ft. Wingate, that too raises interesting questions. Thirdly, the fact that there is a rancher in the Gallup area named "Fox" is a bit odd for NM. A principal point, of course, is that there were no casualties of any kind. The cattle were at most startled, at best entertained.

So now, the argument, having waned, waxed. Paul's contention was that this event only demonstrated that a Pershing missile was not as deadly as the Drum and Trumpet Corps. To this, Bob said "Pooh!"

After considerable discussion, it was determined that the problem should not just be allowed to blow over, but that some action was needed. From the original news item of the international Associated Press we knew that a Mr. Keeler was the director of the Band, and his location was in Hornchurch, England. Mr. Reed, the owner of the cows, was also mentioned. We decided to write two letters--one to the "head" of the Band, and one to Mr. Reed. It seemed to us that the British Postal system could certainly find either if it desired to do so, for Hornchurch was clearly a village if the Band was practicing in a pasture, and its director would be easy to find. The Band itself, having made the international press, would also be well known.

So we addressed two letters. They follow.

Not-So Innocent Letters

3150A Villa
Los Alamos
New Mexico
USA
March 6, 1964

Conductor and/or President
Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps
Hornchurch
England

Sir:

Some months back the bewildering news reached us of the mortal events which occurred in the pastures of Bryan Reed there in Hornchurch. The story as we got it was that the, we are sure, stirring music of your Corps sent several of Bryan's cows to their everlasting reward. Since then we have meditated upon this news, uncertain in our minds as to its import for us, let alone its authenticity.

Now recent events in our own neighborhood have brought to mind again those dread events in Reed's field. The enclosed copy of a newspaper item will explain itself. The questions which plague us are (1) can it be the American cattle are made of sterner stuff than their British cousins? Surely not! (2) Can the country aires of your Corps have more death-dealing effects, bovinely speaking, than one of our Pershing missiles? We realize that these questions may be beyond your ken as they are beyond ours. Be that as it may, we feel that we should share this news with you and we hope it may have salutary effects on your unit!

Finally, let us assure you that, being unassociated with Army here, we are not proposing any sort of contest between the Hornchurch D. and T. Corps and one of our Pershing missiles, although the idea fascinates us.

Internationally yours in the
interest of better cattle-Corps
relations,

J. Paul Mitschlecner

Robert R. Brownlee

P.S. Are any record albums available of the music of your Corps? Please advise.

3007 Villa
Los Alamos
New Mexico
USA

March 6, 1964

Mr. Bryan Reed
Hornchurch
England

Dear Mr. Reed,

Some months ago we read in a local newspaper that the Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps had inadvertently frightened to death some of your cattle with "Semper Fidelis" or some such march music. We were shocked by the story, since our faith in the stoic nature of a British bovine is such that we believe a coronary or other sound-produced fatal malady to be highly improbable.

In view of the news contained in the enclosed clipping, we feel our beliefs to be well substantiated. Not a single cow involved in the reported incident suffered a disabling shock. On the contrary, they were inspired to feats of intense physical activity, setting a number of new speed records, and seemed to find the experience altogether exhilarating.

We are baffled by these conflicting reports. Surely, Sir, English cattle are not so much more susceptible to fright than American cattle! Could it be that the fault lies strictly with our whistling Pershing missile, as compared with the Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps? We certainly do hesitate to make such an odious comparison, but find alternate solutions to the dilemma equally unsatisfactory.

If you could enlighten us with your opinions in this matter, we would be delighted and most appreciative.

Sincerely,

R. R. B.

Robert R. Brownlee
Robert R. Brownlee

copy to Hornchurch D.T. Corps

J. Paul Mutschlecner

J. Paul Mutschlecner

Mrs. Keeler gave us a prompt reply!



Hornchurch Drum & Trumpet Corps

Founded June 1959

PRESIDENT:

CHAIRMAN OF HORNCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Dear Sirs,

Please reply to:
14 Simpson Road,
Rainham, Essex, England.
22nd April 1964

I am replying on behalf of our Committee to your letter addressed to my husband. It was rather a strange coincidence that your letter arrived about a week after we ourselves had had this matter brought back to mind., when the boys had occasion to re-visit the Boys Camp adjacent to Mr. Read's farm. My husband was told by the Warden of the camp that the farmer had concocted the story in order to stop the boys practising. Its amazing to what lengths some people will go to get their own way the only discerning factor is that this was reported throughout the Americas and Canada and it occurs to me that this may well harm the trust which people have in our newspaper reports. Although all the publicity did us no harm we do feel rather annoyed that we were allowed to be blamed for something which we never did and that is why we attempted by way of our local paper 'The Hornchurch Recorder' to get the matter straightened out, you can see that you are quoted! Fame... However we have heard no more and so like the cows we will just have to let the story die a 'Natural' death. Unfortunately we are always referred to now as the 'Cow-Killers' and even if people do forget we unintentionally remind them of our bovine connection as we wear a bull's head on the sleeve of the uniforms! I am enclosing a couple as souvenirs of the band. We have worn these since the formation of the band as a bull's head is part of the Hornchurch coat of arms. The band is for boys between the ages of 12 and 18 years and they are taught music and deportment. The uniform is a maroon jacket with black and gold trimmings and black trousers with a wide gold stripe. Both the uniform and instrument are supplied free on loan and they have a choice of instrument from trumpet, cymbal, base, tenor or side drum. Just recently we have bought two guitars in order to encourage the boys to take an interest in other types of music, not that they need much encouragement groups like The Beatles do that! Being a purely voluntary organisation we have to raise all funds in order to keep the band going, so far we have approximately £2,500. of equipment. During the summer we attend carnivals, fetes, sports days in order to raise some of the cash and during the winter we organise raffles, draws and various other ways of making money. The most stimulating experience though is to attend a band contest where they are judged by professional music and deportment men. The prizes vary but for most of them you win a silver cup which you hold until the next year when you compete again for the honour. We are also members of the National Association of Boys Clubs (of which the Duke of Edinburgh is Patron) which enables the boys to compete in numerous sporting events, just recently they were the Essex representatives in the cross country semi-finals, and they are also to represent Essex in basket-ball not forgetting the more intellectual contest for Chess Champion where we will also be represented. The N.A.B.C also organises a music and drama competition which took place only a fortnight ago and we were awarded the highest award a 'Gold Star' The judge was most impressed by their performance when they played their version of 'Let There Be drums' (2 guitars and 6 side drums), part of the 'Grand March of Iada', and a couple of ordinary trumpet marching tunes, so you can see that they are able to play music to appeal to any taste. Well that is just a little about our band I hope that you will find it of interest who knows perhaps one day you may even be able to see them. With regard to the record because of finance we have never really thought about it but we are going to make enquiries and see if we can get a tape-recording made, if we can perhaps we will be able to send you a copy. Many thanks for your interest shown, hoping to hear from you again.

Yours sincerely Mrs Keeler.

COW KILLING TALE MAY HAVE BEEN A LOT OF BULL

—says bandmaster

MUD sticks. And for nearly a year Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps have smarted under the tag: "The boys who killed the cows!"

Their confidence was shaken, their pride hurt and their playing, maintained bandmaster Brian Keeler, suffered as a result.

Until this week none of the band had the slightest doubt that their rendering of Semper Fideles last May caused the death of six cows in calf.

Practical joke

Events, however, took a new turn this week with the shock disclosure by 29-year-old City bank clerk Mr. Keeler that the "cow-killing" incident on Farmer Read's land may well have been a hoax!

Brian's father, Mr. Cecil Keeler—he is public relations officer for the band—explained: "If our information is correct, we have been the victims of a really vicious practical joke.

"My son has it from an extremely reliable source that no cows died on Farmer Read's land and that the story was simply a means of stopping our boys playing."

No carcasses were ever seen

after the incident, pointed out Mr. Keeler, and the band was not sued for damages.

He continued: "By a coincidence, I received a letter from a farmer in Mexico this week who had read the extraordinary tale about Farmer Read's cows.

"He said quite frankly that he didn't believe the story and sent as his reason a cutting from a Mexican newspaper.

"It told how an artillery missile the size of a lorry dropped into a field among 150 cows," he said. "Not one animal suffered even the slightest shock."

No comment

Nobody at Grange Farm Youth Camping Centre—where the band played Semper Fideles—would comment on the incident this week.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture told our reporter: "If the cows were in a rather weak state it might be possible to frighten them to death. But I've never heard of a similar case."

Hornchurch Recorder

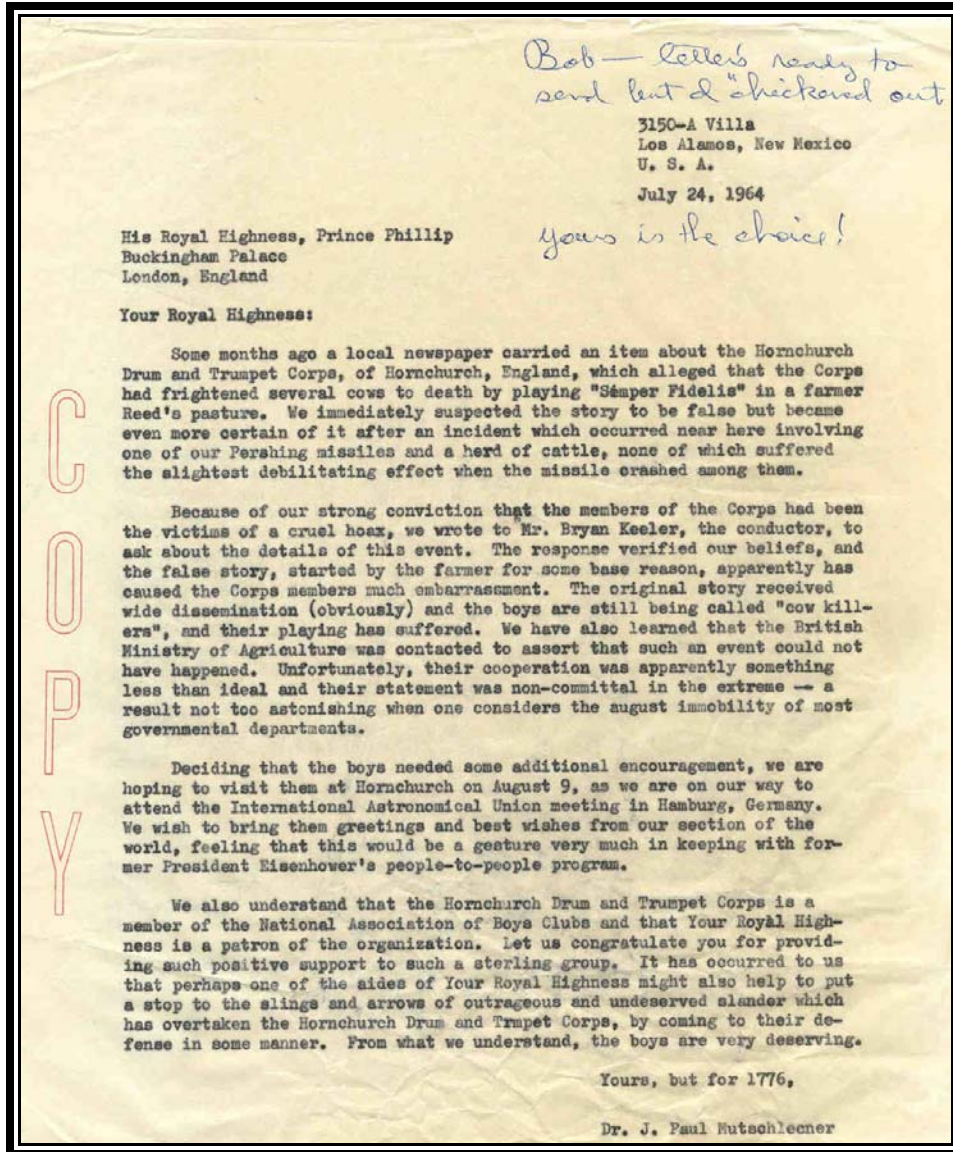
We never received any reply from Mr. Reed! (Who we now learn is Mr. Read)

But what a lot of information from Mrs. Keeler! The boys have been maligned! Injustice reigns! (Yet Mrs. Keeler suggests that the story should be allowed to die "a natural death".) The clipping enclosed from the Hornchurch Reporter contained several provocative sentences! It is a great clipping! And note the delights within it. It was necessary to translate a pickup truck to a lorry, and we are identified as "a farmer in Mexico" and our Albuquerque Journal note is from a "Mexican" newspaper. The comments of the Ministry of Agriculture, suggesting that if the cows were "in a rather weak state it might be possible to frighten them to death", is so beautifully, bureaucratically ambiguous that it can only be savored.

The possibility of putting an end to this whole thing is quite real, but there are other interesting aspects to the situation. It happens that we have at the lab colleagues from Great Britain who are preparing for a British nuclear test to be conducted in Nevada. So we naturally consult them about this situation. They are quite intrigued, are returning to England in a couple of days, and decide

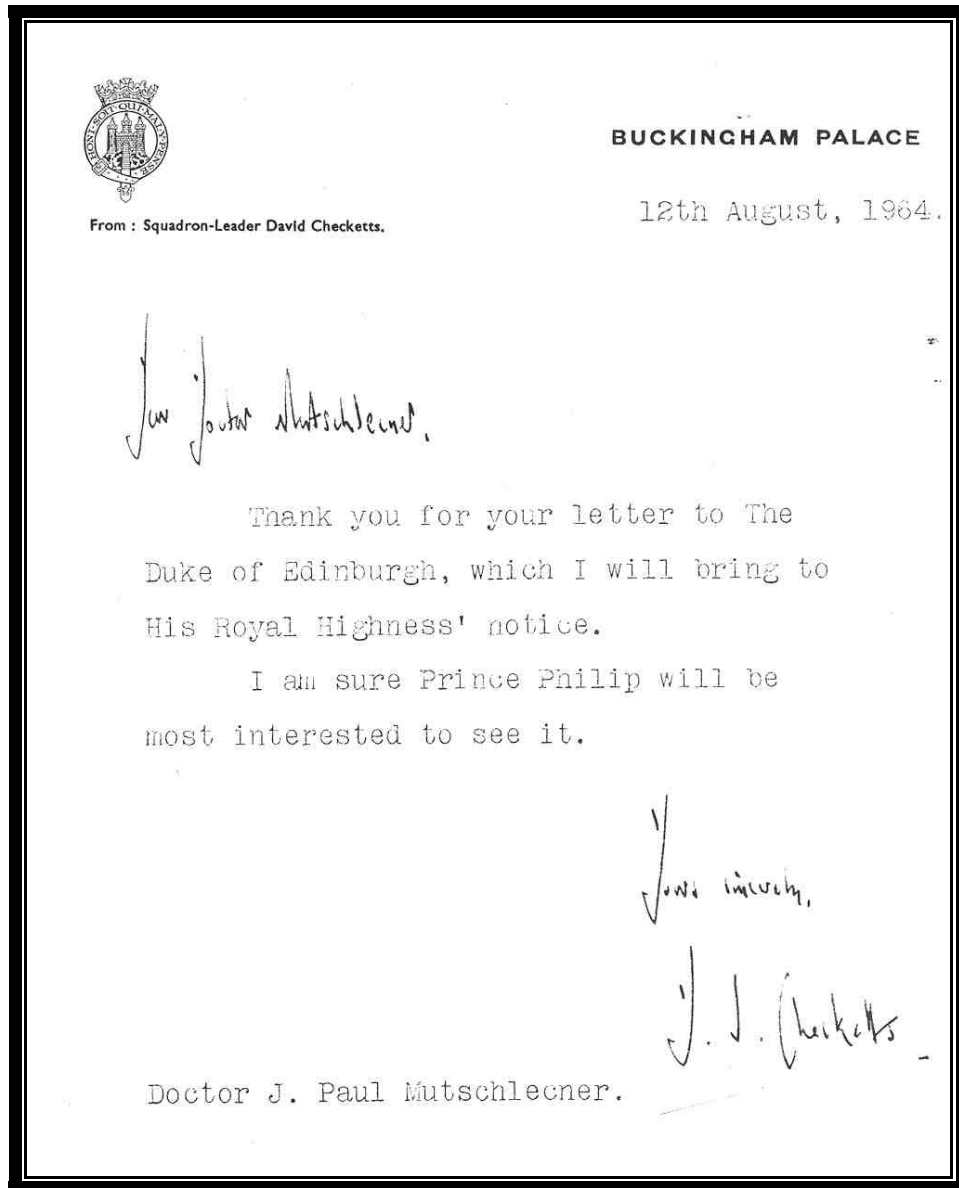
that they will contact officials at Hornchurch to obtain more information. Within a very short time they return to Los Alamos, provide us with a booklet published by the Urban District of Hornchurch—the Official Guide. Well, we learn that while the place used to be a village, it is now a "bedroom" community for London, is the last stop on the subway to the northeast, and is a huge, and booming community with population of about 150,000, and growing. Furthermore the officials are quite surprised to learn that the Drum and Trumpet Corps are famous, and, indeed, one official denied that was so, finding it quite incredible.

On the same day we responded with the letter saying we were going to be visiting England, and would like to go to Hornchurch, we conjured up a mental picture of benefits that might accrue if a person of powerful charisma, etc, could find a way to support the boys in their moments of embarrassment and chagrin. So J. Paul drafted a letter to His Royal Highness, Prince Phillip. His draft, with his written comment, follows.



We decided to send off the letter, and did so, and Bob was particularly taken by Paul's closing words. Clearly, we were in the mode of trouble makers here, and enjoying every minute!

On August 12, Buckingham Palace responded, possibly having seen the press items about events on August 9. We liked the response! Isn't this class, or what??



Paul and I contacted each other after we had arrived in London, and I learned that we were to meet Mr. Keeler on the steps of Westminster Abbey, and would then go with him to his home, where we were to be served a classic English meal with roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, etc. Mr. Keeler was going to wear the HD&TC uniform so that we could recognize him easily.

The Big Day

When we arrived, there was Mr. Keeler, surrounded by tourists, for they believed him to be an Abbey guide, though the bull patch on his uniform identified him absolutely as “our man”! (More laughter here.) We were then taken to the Keelers’ in a car Mr. Keeler borrowed for us, and treated to a wonderful meal, indeed. Our shock came toward the end of the meal, when Mr. Keeler said “We’ll have to be moving along, for the BBC will be here to interview you at two, and then there is the parade at three.”

To our amazement the BBC guy arrived and explained that he did the morning show on BBC that was the same as our “good morning America” radio show. He set up his recording gear, and interviewed each of us. We told the story, leaving out the part about Prince Phillip, and Bob did pretty well until suddenly, out of the blue, came the question “Now why don’t we just be honest here, and you admit that you are really Pershing missile experts, here to learn whatever you can about the dangers of the Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps?” Bob almost fainted away, because in fact he was on a committee that was evaluating the Pershing missiles from the point of view of safety, and on the way from Los Alamos to London he had stopped in Washington to attend a classified meeting about the Pershings and their troubles. His response was a classic fumble, bumble kind of mindless “harumping”, no doubt demonstrating that not all shots in the dark are worth making. (Or, maybe they are!)

Shortly afterward it was off to the parade. We rode with the Mayor and his wife, in their official car that greatly resembled cars used by the Royals! On the ride around the track in front of the stadium Paul kept holding his hand up with the classic V signal of Winston Churchill (who was still alive on this occasion!) and Addie Leah and Bob tried to match those peculiar hand waves of members of the royal family. The families of the band members were in the stands, and in front of us all the Band played, opened ranks, invited us into the group to inspect, and we were each given instruments with which we could play along.

During the ceremony, it became clear that each of us were going to have to make a short speech.

A very important movie came to Los Alamos one time, and the first night the theater had its usual number of half a dozen customers. The second night the theater was about half full, and the remaining two nights was a sell-out affair. The movie was “The Mouse That Roared” starring Peter Sellers. In it the Duchess and the prime minister, both played by Mr. Sellers had a scene what was truly great. When it came time for the Duchess to make the speech launching a missile, she had lost it somewhere in her bosom, was told to ad lib it, and she looked out upon the crowd, and said, in the most elegant manner “I declare this bridge open”. Now the bridge at the Firth of Forth just outside of Edinburgh had been opened by the Queen, and she had of course used these exact words.

When Addie Leah realized that she was going to have to say something, she asked Bob what she should do. His reply “Why don’t you declare a bridge open?” he thought hilariously funny, given the circumstances, in fact so funny that his suggestion should be seriously considered, but it did not go over at all well with Addie Leah. Part of the problem was that representatives from 8 London Newspapers (all but the London Times) were all present, taking pictures, etc. This could have been just a bit intimidating for Mexican farmers. It was certainly so for us.



In the reviewing stand, J. Paul in lower left, then Bob and Addie Leah. Unknown person upper left, then the Mayor’s wife, and the Mayor, or the Lord Mayor as we choose to refer to him. (We note with some considerable amazement now, in the year 2000, that the Lord Mayor’s wife is apparently the spitting image of Mrs Bucket, from the British comedy program “Keeping Up appearances”.)



THE HORNCURCH DRUM & TRUMPET CORPS AUGUST 9, 1964

Here we document the honors that the three of us had in the course of the open-ranks inspection. Addie Leah was great on the cymbals.



We wore yellow ribbons, no doubt befitting our rank. The badges of office worn by the Mayor and his Lady were extremely beautiful.



The drummers in the band wore leopard skins, and when we asked the Lord Mayor the reason for their doing so, he replied “It is very traditional”. We were embarrassed not to have thought of that!

Here is a wonderful example of “spieling” as explained to assembled troops by J. Paul. Oh, the ability to rise to any occasion!!



Here are the official dignitaries, and for the life of us, we can find no name or title for “Mr. Official”.



With our arrival immanent, the decision was made to present us with a doll, dressed in the band uniform. Some of the mothers of the band members spent most of the night sewing the uniform, and the picture above shows the presentation. We still have this doll, and still admire the handiwork.



Another view of St. Andrew's Church

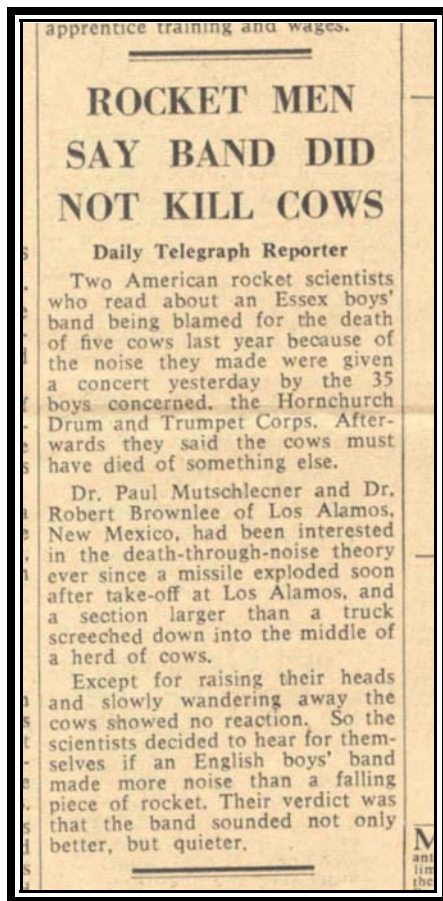


Their Most Gracious Hosts!

Was that the end of it all? Well, Hardly. The morning of August 10th, Addie Leah and Bob were lying in bed, listening to BBC's morning show. Sure enough, The HD&TC was given a substantial amount of time, and it all went well until the very end. Then the MC said "Well, what do you think about the band killing the cows. Let's hear them play, and you can decide for yourself." Shocking sounds emerged from the radio! They had distorted the music something awful, and so the entire effort of ours was placed back in limbo. Maybe the band was responsible for the unthinkable, after all!

That day the newspapers ran short stories about the whole affair, and mercifully there were no pictures. Each account was fun to read.

From the Daily Telegraph and Morning Mail (below)



Shown right, is the report in the Daily Mail. Below, that in the London Guardian.



This account in the London Herald builds on information in a quite remarkable way. We are convinced that no one ever interviewed the cows owner, yet here the owner is quoted as saying that the band's music was the only possible explanation. The description of the event in Gallup departs totally from the truth, as the cows are said to have "merely raised their heads and wandered slowly away". In fact, it was clear to us amidst the variety of ways in which this whole episode was handled by the press that newsmen around the world have more in common with each other than they do with their own countrymen.

But far be it from us to declare that newsmen are beyond being used for entertainment, and other purposes!

The news account shown on page 13 from the Daily Mail is repeated on the page 15, but only to show its juxtaposition with a news item about Princess Anne and her father. As this was published two days before the Palace responded to our letter to Prince Phillip, we feel that it is possible that this news article might be responsible for the response, as perhaps the photo helped to bring to the Palace's attention the Hornchurch story.

D Monday August 10 1964 5

Boys' band cleared of killing cows with music

TWO top American scientists have cleared a boys' band of killing five cows with their music. The cows, which were in calf, died in a field while the 35 members of the Hornchurch, Essex, Drum and Trumpet Corps were practising nearby.

Their owner said the band's music was the only possible explanation for the cows' deaths. But the incident, which happened last year, was followed by an accident in New Mexico, U.S.A., in which a missile exploded soon after take-off from the Los Alamos firing range and a section bigger than a truck crashed in the middle of a herd of cows. The cows merely raised their heads and wandered slowly away.

DISPLAY

American scientists decided to see for themselves if the hearing of English cows was more acute. Two American experts visiting this country, Dr. Paul Mutschlecner and Dr. Robert Brownlee, made a special trip to Hornchurch stadium yesterday where the band put on a display for their benefit.

The scientists' verdict: The band was innocent.

Said Dr. Brownlee: "When that lump of missile failed to scare our cows, let alone kill them, we seriously wondered what makes English cows tick.

"We found the band very entertaining, and were pleased to reassure the boys their music had no harmful effects on animals, human or otherwise."

SCIENTISTS
CLEAR
THE
BOY
BANDSMEN

By Daily Mail Reporter

TWO American scientists have cleared a boys' band of killing five cows. The cows, who were in calf, died in a field at Chigwell, Essex, near where the Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps were practising in May last year.

The cows' owner, Mr. Peter Read, of Home Farm, said that the music stampeded them and they collapsed and died of fright.

It was when parts of a missile fired from Los Alamos testing ground, New Mexico, crashed near a herd of cows a few miles away they showed no signs of alarm.

Acute

American scientists wondered whether English cows had more acute hearing.

Yesterday two of the scientists who are visiting this country, Dr. Paul Mutschlechner and Dr. Robert Brownlee, made a special trip to Hornchurch stadium to hear the band. Their verdict after an hour-long display of marching and counter-marching? The band was innocent.

"The deaths of the cows must have some other explanation, because we certainly don't think they could have been caused by the band's music," said Dr. Brownlee.

Sixpence to the rescue

Major Ramage, 23, of Dagwood, Wilkesden, N.W., was caught in a lift between the second and third floors of a deserted building in New Burlington yesterday.

He was rescued by a ballpoint pen into the inner door until the lift stopped. He used a sixpence to keep the lift from retaining its position. Mr. Ramage then jumped out of the lift.

Soaked THEN PRINCESS ANNE AND FATHER GO FOR COVER



PRINCESS ANNE and her father had a soaking during Prince Philip's last polo game of the season at Windsor yesterday.

The Prince was captain of a team called the Pilots against the Pedestrians. In the final chukker came torrential rain.

Princess Anne sheltered under a groom's mac in the horse lines until the final whistle. She helped Prince Philip to collect his gear. Then they hurried to their car—and home to Windsor Castle.

So now, maybe with all the press and radio coverage, surely we have cause to let all of the activity decay away, and to be content with our memories. Well, perhaps, except that there was the Associated Press summary, shown next.

Herd Heard Music; Band Exonerated

By EDDY GILMORE
Associated Press Writer

LONDON, Aug. 10—Two American rocket scientists Monday cleared a British drum and bugle corps of killing cows with their martial music.

"The deaths of the cows must have some other explanation," said one of the scientists, Dr. Robert Brownlee, "because we certainly don't think they could have been caused by the band's music."

With Dr. Paul Mutschleener, Dr. Brownlee made a special trip from London to suburban Hornchurch to listen to the Hornchurch drum and trumpet corps. After listening, the scientists gave this verdict: The band is innocent.

The background was this:

In May last year the 35 youthful members of the drum and bugle corps were practicing

near an open field. In the field were a number of cows, some in calf.

The cows' owner, farmer Peter Read, said the cows were frightened by the music. They stampeded and five of the cows in calf collapsed in the field and died. The farmer said the only possible explanation was the Hornchurch musicians and their music.

Around the same time, at the Los Alamos firing range in New Mexico, an American missile exploded. A section of the missile, said to be as large as a truck, crashed with a big bang amid a herd of cows.

According to the scientists, there was little effect on the American cows. They said the cows lifted their heads and slowly walked away. There was no stampede.

This report, like the original story about Mr. Read's cows was put out on the international circuit, and was printed in English-language newspapers all around the world. So we began getting mail from friends scattered here and there, as our names were accurately reported, and although reference was made to "the Los Alamos firing range in New Mexico" most everybody knew how to ignore that bit of non-intelligence.

One of the situations that delighted us most happened to Bob's sister, Donice Buller, who lives in Colorado Springs. She was up early in the morning, preparing breakfast, and as always she had her radio tuned in to the Denver radio Station, KOA, for the usual farm and home hour. The radio host, Pete Smythe, occasionally read items from the morning paper that could be of interest to farmers and ranchers, so he read this article. When Donice heard Bob's name, she came awake. She was aware that Addie Leah and he were in Europe, but other than that, certainly expected to hear about it only after they returned. We would have loved to have seen her astonishment upon hearing us as "American rocket scientists".

We were so impressed by the hospitality shown to us by everyone, and so astonished at the efforts made to get publicity for the Band, that we felt we should make some effort to repay our hosts in some appropriate fashion. The Boys had been tremendously curious about New Mexico, and had asked any number of questions about Indians. We of course reported that we worked with Indians at the Lab, had many Pueblos of Indians living very near to Los Alamos. So we decided to send them an Indian artifact for their home base, as well as medals for each of the band members. These took a little time to procure, and then we shipped them off, but not before writing another letter. This one was to the American Embassy in London, asking if there was a way the Embassy could help in making the presentation to the Band. A gracious reply was received, begging off. But we have no apologies for trying to make such an arrangement.

Since these days, we have been in regular communication with the Keelers', principally at Christmas time. It may be of interest to show one more letter, written in January 1965, for it records something of considerable historical interest--the death of Winston Churchill.

3007 Villa
Los Alamos
New Mexico
January 24, 1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Keeler,

After many annoying and altogether unwarranted delays, Dr. Mutschlecner and my wife and I have managed to collect together a few things which we wish to send to you and to those boys who were so hospitable to us last summer. However, we are concerned lest you be forced to pay duty on the gifts upon their arrival. It appears to be possible to send them in several small packages. Should we mail all of these packages to you, or would it be better to send but one to a person? Perhaps there is yet another way in which it could be done. We would like to have your advice, for we certainly do not wish to cause you unnecessary expense.

How many times have we remembered with delight and gratitude the few hours spent at Hornchurch! Of course we have the hope that we can meet again at some future time!

I must not close this letter without expressing to you my sorrow in the loss which the British people--and we--have sustained today in the death of Sir Winston Churchill. My family and I deem it a privilege to have lived during a part of his remarkable life. We all owe much to him.

We look forward to hearing from you again. Please give to all of our Hornchurch friends our kindest regards.

Sincerely

Just our luck, the news about the Drum and Trumpet Corps was also published in the newspaper in Las Vegas, Nevada. And, as can be seen, our names were accurately reported, so now we had many explanations to make to our friends and colleagues at the Nevada Test Site. Our reputations were not done much good by all this, but the joys of remembering all of this have been worth whatever!

COULDN'T CURDLE MILK

Band Cleared of Bovine Death Blast

LONDON (AP) — Two American rocket scientists Monday cleared a British drum and bugle corps of killing cows with their martial music.

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Dr. Brownlee made a special trip from London to suburban Hornchurch to listen to the Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps. After listening, the scientists gave this verdict: The band is innocent.

In May last year, the 35 youthful members of the drum and bugle corps were practicing near an open field. In the field were a number of cows, some in calf.

The cow's owner, farmer Peter Read, said the cows were frightened by the music. They stampeded and five of the cows in calf collapsed in the field and died. The farmer said the only possible explanation was the Hornchurch musicians and their music.

Around the same time, at the Los Alamos firing range in New Mexico, an American missile ex- (See U.S. SCIENTISTS, Pg. 2)

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U.S. Scientists Clear Band

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ploded. A section of the missile, said to be as large as a truck, crashed with a big bang amid a herd of cows.

According to the scientists, there was little effect on the American cows. They said the cows lifted their heads and slowly walked away. There was no stampede.

So, the American scientists wondered if British cows had more acute hearing. While visiting this country, Dr. Brownlee and Dr. Mutschlechner remembered the Hornchurch incident and showed interest in hearing the drum and bugle corps. The Hornchurch youths were delighted to play hosts.

"We found the corps very entertaining," said Dr. Brownlee, "and were pleased to reassure the boys that their music didn't seem likely to have harmful effects on animals, human or otherwise."

Two additional Bulletin items that were published after we returned home are worth remembering.

Hornchurch! On Guard!

First Pershing Battalion Due in Europe Next Month

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Defense Dept. announced Thursday that the first battalion of 400-mile-range Pershing bombardment missiles will be sent to U. S. forces in Europe next month.

The Pershing, which can be fired rapidly, will replace the Army's Redstone missile.

The Redstone, which has been in Europe since 1958, is one of the earliest-model bat-

tlefield missiles capable of carrying a nuclear warhead. Liquid-fueled, it takes much longer to prepare for firing than the Pershing.

The Pentagon said the 4th Battalion, 41st Artillery, will go to West Germany from Ft. Sill, Okla., and "will provide heavy artillery support for the U. S. 7th Army."

The battalion, totaling 635 men, is composed of four bat-

RURAL AREA BLITZED BY MODEL AIRPLANE

LONDON (AP) — A model airplane got out of control recently and nosedived into William Watt's cow pasture. On its way it brought down an 11,000-volt cable that ran across the farm.

The live cable dropped on four pedigreed cows feeding in a marshy pasture, electrocuting them. The broken cable blacked out Rainham Village, and Mr. Watt's Berwick Pond Farm.

In the London suburb of Hornchurch, Andrew Burton, 14 years old, had been playing with his model plane, equipped with a tiny gasoline motor. It climbed to 500 feet. Andrew controlled it by radio—or so he thought.

The plane, which had a four-foot wingspread, failed to respond to Andrew's signals and disappeared. Five miles away it ran out of gas and made its dive.

On the plane were Andrew's name and address. Two hours later a pair of police cars drove up to the house.

"When they told me what had happened I was amazed," Andrew, said. "I think the plane got out of control because the actuator that controlled the rudder was faulty. I'm changing the mechanism."

Andrew's mother, Mrs. Sylvia Burton, had this to say: "Andrew and my husband went to see the farmer. He took it very well—considering."

But the farmer said Andrew and his father might not have heard the last of the freakish accident.

Hungary Expels a Briton



The Bull's head at St. Andrews

Does anybody know why we decided to let this one about the model airplane go?

Hornchurch lives on as a very special place for cows, rocket scientists drums and trumpets, and surely continues to have a huge population of people with very warm hearts!