

Caddo Residents Take Up Arms, Watch for 'Critter'

BRECKENRIDGE (RNS) — Caddo was ablaze with light Monday night and several residents of this former boom town sat on their door steps with guns, awaiting the appearance of the "critter."

The "critter," described by several as seven feet tall and ape-like, failed to show up this time.

Among those who sat up were Charlie Gantt, who saw the monstrosity both Saturday and Sunday night and fired 10 shots at it.

Two new points became evident Tuesday as Caddo citizens congregated at the general store and filling station to talk about the "critter" or ape:

—The people in east Stephens County are genuinely concerned, if not scared.

—Area residents began seeing the critter approximately two weeks before they became worried enough to report the mysterious marauder.

Jo Roberts, Reporter - News correspondent who visited Caddo Monday night, said that every

yard was lit up by outside lights and that the populace is armed.

"They were sitting up last night to shoot whatever it was," Mrs. Roberts said.

No one was roaming about at night, though. It's somewhat dangerous, she said. People stay on their own property.

"If it's a prank, it's a highly dangerous one—someone could get killed," Mrs. Roberts said.

Deputy Sheriff Edgar Martin, who patrolled the area Monday night with a game warden, said, "No doubt they've seen something—but we don't know what it is."

The theory that the critter is an ape escaped from a Possum Kingdom Lake game preserve has been discounted by the game caretaker there. He said he had no recollection of such an animal ever being there.

A few people also have voiced the thought that it might be a bear—but no one seems to know.

One factor has been noted about the critter's wanderings: It has been sighted as early in the day as 2:30 p.m. and in the hours of darkness at 2 a.m.

Raul Says Cuba Ready for Talks

SANTIAGO, Cuba (AP)—Cuba is ready to meet the United States at the bargaining table "anywhere, anytime and discuss whatever would be necessary" to iron out problems between the two nations, Armed

forces demanded by both countries.

Castro was asked in a news conference with foreign newsmen if this meant Cuba would abandon the five points set forth by his brother, Prime Minister

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