

Opinion Divided in Caddo On Existence of Critter

CADDO, Tex. (AP) — Some folks in this tiny West Texas town say the critter is seven feet tall, four feet across and growls. They claim it shuffles along in the night, or rattles in the brush, or keeps out of sight just over the rise.

It looks, they say, like a hulking gorilla.

Stephens County sheriff Chase Booth says it doesn't exist.

"We've been getting phone calls from excited people the last few days," Booth says. "But you pin them down and find out they didn't exactly see this thing. I'm convinced it doesn't exist, and never has."

Nevertheless, the sheriff said, a few folks have taken rifles in hand and driven through brush country around Caddo looking for the critter.

The latest flurry of supposed sightings of the whats-it began last weekend.

Charley Gant, a rancher in the area, said he saw it Saturday and Sunday night, and unloaded a pistol at it without luck.

"If Charlie Gant says he saw it, you can count on it," a neighbor declared.

Another supposed incident with the critter involved a woman and her young son walking near a pond. The boy, and then the mother, saw the critter. It turned around, growled and be-

gan throwing rocks before fleeing.

"My boy turned white as a sheet," the mother said.

The president of the Abilene

Ex-Ambassador Goes to Prison For Heroin Deal

NEW YORK (AP)—Salvador Pardo-Bolland, 61-year-old former ambassador from Bolivia, was sentenced to 18 years in prison today for conspiracy to smuggle \$13.5 million worth of pure heroin into this country.

During his federal court trial the government had termed him "completely amoral . . . an arch-criminal."

Pardo-Bolland also was fined \$40,000 on the charge.

Two others also were given stiff sentences by Judge John M. Cannella.

Reed Bruchon, 48-year-old Frenchman who is in this country illegally, received a 15-year prison term and a \$40,000 fine. He had been deported from the United States in 1949.

Juan Carlo Arizli, 61, formerly of the Uruguayan State Department, was given a 10-year sentence and a \$40,000 fine.

Zoological Society volunteered Tuesday to send an expedition into the area, but nothing has been firmed up.

The tale, true or not, gives folks something to talk about these long hot summer days. Like the Democrats and Republicans, you find two camps of thought, one observer said: "Them that believe and them that don't."

You can get arguments from either side on the critter's existence.

The story brings to mind another tale which draw comments from folks at Haskell, some 70 miles distant. They've got their own varmint—the Haskell rascal.

According to some believers at Haskell, the rascal is known to make 60 mile cycles in its meanderings.

Haskell folks say that puts it within the territory of the Caddo critter.

How do the two apparitions, animals or whatever compare?

"If the critter was an even four foot taller," says Haskell County Sheriff Garrett, "it just could be our varmint walking on his hind legs."

MADE IN GERMANY

BERLIN — Truck trailers of a German make will soon be sold in the United States.