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FILE NOTE

REPORTED THYLACINE SIGHTING

Mr Mike Tancock came to see me on 7 July 1993 and delived the attached report on his sighting of an animal, which he belives was a thylacine, on 2 July. I have attachd a map showing the location to be in State Forest

Mr Tancock impressed me as a genuine person with no axes to grind. He clearly believes that what he saw was a thylacine. Since writing the report he has read Guyler's book on the thylacine in Tasmania and has visted the WA Museum, where he spoke to Darrell Kitchener and viewed the mounted specimen of a thylacine in the old mammal gallery.



ANDREW A BURBIDGE

9 July 1993

019523F3801

FILE NOTE

REPORTED THYLACINE SIGHTING

John Blyth received a phone call from a Mike Tancock (307 6574) on Friday 2 July. He said he had seen an animal he identified as a Thylacine on the Lakes - York Road at Wundabenering (?) that morning about 10 am. It was also seen by Holly Krokosz, who was in another car near his. He drives the road between Perth and Bruce Rock frequently and has never seen anything like it before. He is country born and bred and is familiar with dogs, foxes, cats, wallabies, roos, etc.

The report was on Channel 7 news on Saturday and on Channel 9 on Sunday. Channel 7 took Athol Douglas out to the place and he is reported to have identified tracks there as definitely Thylacine. Channel 7 have film of the tracks.

I telephoned Mr Tancock today and discussed the sighting with him for some time. He said he would write down his recollections of the sighting and send them to me. I asked that he do this before referring to books or seeing the specimen on display at the Museum.

In discussion he provided the following details:

- the animal was brown in colour and had paler stripes - there were about four stripes, which were limited to the rib cage part of the body - there were no (or perhaps very pale) stripes on the rump or hindquarters.
- the animal was large and had a very large head.
- it had a thin tail, no tail tip tuft of hair was seen.
- it had a very stiff, bouncing gait, somewhat reminiscent of a calf or hyena.
- the tracks were bigger than his hand (he is over six feet tall) and the two middle toes were well forward of the outer two.

The striping and tracks are not consistent with a Thylacine. The gait accords with descriptions from Tasmania (eg, a "shambling canter"). His description of the animal's size suggests an animal larger than a Thylacine to me.

I spoke to Dr Darell Kitchener of the Museum. He told me that Holly Krokosz had been in there today and that he had asked her to write down her recollections. He will provide CALM with a copy of anything he receives.

Andrew A. Berridge

5 July 1993

REPORT OF THYLACINE SIGHTING

BY MIKE TANCOCK
AND HOLLY KROKOSZ

2ND JULY 1993

On the morning of Friday July 2nd, 1993 at 9.39am I was driving on the Lakes-York Road.

At the area known as Wundabiniring I caught up with another vehicle and was contemplating passing it when suddenly the vehicle braked to avoid hitting a very strange looking large dog like animal.

I braked very quickly and on decelerating I passed the animal as it cleared the road surface 8 feet from the driver's door of my car.

Coming to a halt I reversed to where it crossed the road, it was then standing 30 feet from me on Wundabiniring Road, its body parallel to the road alignment with its head facing me. It looked at me for some time, approximately 40 seconds, until I opened the door whereupon it bounded into the scrub and out of sight.

My first thought was to catch up with the other vehicle which I did some miles towards York. However, rather than frighten the driver on the side of the road I passed the car and flagged it down in the York townsite.

The driver, Miss Holly Krokosz was of the same opinion as me in that what we encountered was a Thylacine. Her thoughts were who would take us seriously. I said I would report our sighting to C.A.L.M. in Perth.

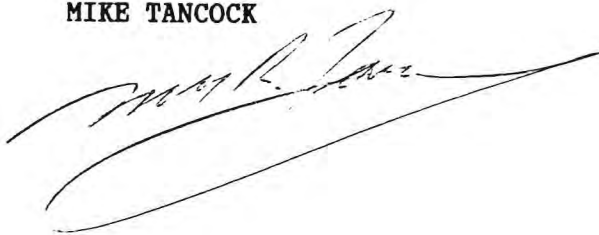
This animal's height is about 900mm. It is deep chested and proportionate size hindquarters. The base of the tail is thick like a calf's but tapers thinly to the extremity approximately 600mm. The head is gruesome, very wide jaw with rather small ears. Body length rump to nose was approximately 1200mm.

The animal's colour is dark brown (ie. mission brown) with beige to brindle bands on its rib cage and much less distinct bands of brindle on its hindquarters.

Its gait is more like a calf bounding out of a pen than a dog running across a road.

Being a bright, fine morning I am absolutely sure of the above description.

MIKE TANCOCK

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Tancock', written over a large, sweeping horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.

