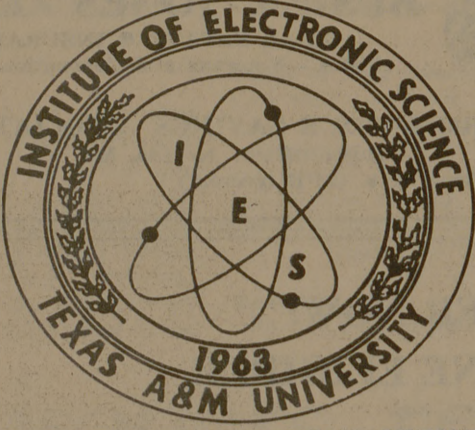


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Explorer finds evidence that Amazons existed

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Tales of a tribe of tall, blonde women warriors in the Amazon jungle are more than just a legend, according to explorer Gene Savoy.

Savoy recently returned from a reconnaissance expedition into the jungle to find out if the tribe described by the Spaniards in the 1500's and reported as recently as last year really existed.

"We found real evidence of the Amazons," the 44-year-old seasoned explorer, a native of Bellingham, Wash., stated. "It's turning legend into fact."

The Spanish explorers, whose accounts led Savoy to Vilcabamba, the lost city of the Incas, to the discovery of an indigenous white race and to the ruins of 40 ancient cities, all in the South American

jungle, said the women ranged in height from five feet, six inches, to five feet, ten inches.

According to the Spanish, they lived near a high, windswept mountain, barren at its summit, and had access to the Amazon River. Their treasures, the Spanish chronicles read, "would enrich the world."

Savoy said he found the mountain on the 50-day expedition which took him down the Amazon, named after the tribe of women, from Manaus to Santarem in Brazil.

"There can be no other mountain that matches that description," Savoy explained. It would have provided building materials for stone roads in the area, also mentioned by the Spaniards and

sighted during his expedition, he added.

Savoy found a tableland of forests with high mountain peaks, inexplicably barren, at its northern end. Two tributaries of the Amazon, interrupted by 72 waterfalls, ran along while an alligator-filled swamp behind it added to its inaccessibility. Hostile tribes ringed the region, considered "taboo" locally.

Natives in the area produced specimens of what may have constituted the "treasures" in the form of amethysts, one weighing 5,000 karats, and emeralds, Savoy said.

From one of two small airplanes used on the expeditions Savoy said he sighted evidence of contour farming, while land explorations yielded large ceramic pieces, both indications of human habitation.

Savoy and his brother, Bill K.

Dailey of Portland, Oregon, who served as cartographer for the trek, confirmed that the hostile tribes, also mentioned by the Spanish, still exist. An arrow held next to his scalp was enough to make Dailey, on his first expedition in the area, keep his distance from the natives. Savoy, in his years of experience with South American Indians, has learned how to command their respect and usually has less trouble with them.

The hostile women were believed to command armies of men, but killed all male infants or put them in canoes to float away.

Evidence of their existence Savoy called "the greatest discovery of my whole career."

He declined to say exactly where he found the mountain.

In the past when he has revealed the locations of ruins, he explained, they were plundered and destroyed.

His expedition, sponsored by the Andean Explorers Club in Lima, used a 72-foot river boat with a 12-man crew as a base of operations and travelled up many tributaries in motor-driven dugout canoes, covering about 1,000 miles. Savoy estimated the cost at \$15,000.

The team also included Joaquim Beserra de Araujo, a Brazilian who served as translator, and Irene Kavula of Walcott, Conn., secretary of the Andean Explorers Club.

Savoy says he believes the descendants of the Amazons may still exist in the area in a primitive state and he plans to go back next year with a larger group of anthropologists and archaeologists to confirm it.

But, he added, the question is how to enter the area—by canoe, helicopter, land, or by quietly descending in a dirigible.

Freedoms on collision course, Horsfall says

Two big freedoms—the right to a clean environment and the privilege of pollution—are on a collision course.

Dr. J. G. Horsfall, director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, said Tuesday the time is coming when these freedoms can no longer exist side by side.

The director was the lead-off speaker for the fourth annual Texas Conference on Insect, Plant Disease, Weed and Brush Control Dec. 14-15 at A&M.

Horsfall told about 125 persons attending the session that the main conflict now is between an ever-growing population and a finite or limited environment.

"Everybody has a right to clean air, but too many people think they also have the right to pol-

lute. In some cities, there may not be enough air to go around," the speaker said.

He likened the situation to the commons of colonial times, a pasture area in the center of town used to graze livestock. But as the towns grew, the commons were pressured out.

Similar conflicts are found today, both in cities and on farms, Horsfall pointed out.

He said the farmer has long held the right to build any size feedlot, for example, and let the waste flow into a nearby stream. The stream is the "commons." But people downstream have the right to clean water. The result is conflict and a "tragedy of the commons."

Horsfall emphasized that the conflict is a major problem in agriculture, where fertilizers and other chemicals have received considerable public blame for pollution. Yet the industry has been obliged to use these materials to boost production and keep

pace with increasing population demands.

Agriculture has become a dirty word to many people, he said. Several agricultural schools, sensitive to public image, have even changed their names to schools of "natural resources."

"I'm glad to hear that Texas A&M still has a College of Agriculture," the speaker added.

Horsfall urged agronomists to find ways to get polluting fertilizer nitrates back into the air and out of ground water, and he asked the plant pathologists to find livestock manure processing systems through enzyme action.

"We in agriculture have the responsibility to produce plenty of food, but we also must use our knowledge to prevent pollution and more tragedy of the commons," he said.

The conference was sponsored by A&M University, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

C of C donates \$1,000 to TAMU

The Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce Tuesday presented A&M a \$1,000 check for unrestricted use by the institution.

Chamber President Joe Sawyer formally presented the funds to A&M President Jack K. Williams in brief campus ceremonies.

Sawyer was accompanied by Ronnie Hale, the chamber's president-elect, and Pat Mann, executive vice president.

The local organization of merchants, business and professional men and women has made similar cash awards to the university for several years.

Dr. Williams emphasized the value of such unrestricted funds in meeting needs for which state money is not available.

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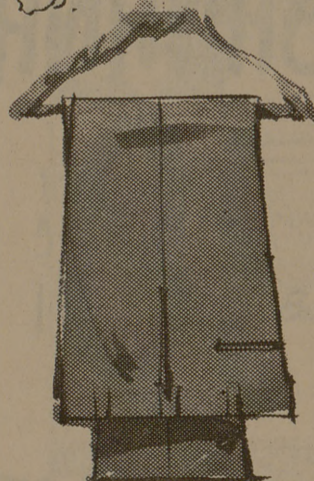
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