



OFFICE OF CONSENSUS MAINTENANCE

*Ecological Consistency Dept.*

ABBREVIATED FIELD REPORT

INITIAL INVESTIGATION

**IR-KNE-2218-LNX**

supervised and prepared by  
Dr. Helvetica SCENARIO

**PROTCON**

**NOT FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

December 11, 2019

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## Background

On the morning of October █, 20█, a carpool containing three individuals- two clerks and a city engineer- arrived at City Hall in Kearney, NE to begin the day's work. They were the first to notice that the foliage out in front of the building had changed color overnight. Green leaves were now an unnatural violet and blue. Brown bark became nearly bright white. No trace of paint or other dyes were found on or around the plants. All security camera footage that could have captured the event is in black and white. The recordings offer no explanation for the event and show no evidence of being altered. Under the assumption it was a prank or art project, the city secured tarps over the affected foliage and scheduled it to be composted the following week. The Anthropomorph, Multimorph, and █ Sapient's Desk was alerted to the incident by one of their job placements in the █ office, and the Ecological Consistency Department was assigned to investigate.

## Investigation

A team of three was dispatched from the █, █ office. Presenting credentials from the "Nebraska Botanical Survey", they were allowed to inspect the property and conduct informal interviews\*. The plants exhibited no other anomalous properties. One affected shrub was secured and shipped to the █ Greenhouse for further study as Specimen KNES-█. The others were destroyed. The only unusual substance detected in the smoke and ashes was trace amounts of what we now understand as LNX-3.

Around this time, a few "sharpies"<sup>†</sup> from another agency, the █ arrived unannounced, presented badges, and began asking questions. Worried that their blunt interrogation techniques would attract unwanted attention, Dr. █ and Ms. █ used the techniques described in Interagency Relations Handbook █-03 to present the situation as a routine cleanup of an unremarkable extraterrestrial encounter<sup>‡</sup>.

Further investigation revealed that grass near the affected plants also had its color inverted. An excavation of the root system by OCM staff revealed LNX-1: a color photographic negative buried about a foot below the surface. The negative is about a quarter blank white and the rest is a mess of mixed colors that behaves more like a high surface tension liquid than photographic film. Digital image reconstruction suggests it was once a young woman's vacation photo. When held perpendicular to the ground, a thick, black, effervescent substance, dubbed "LNX-3", drips out. Mx. █ described it as "leaking negativeness" after a preliminary battery of tests<sup>§</sup> showed that the color-inverting effects were consistent across:

- White 8.5"x11" printer paper.
- Non-anomalous photo negatives, creating slide<sup>¶</sup>-like "positives".

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\*See Appendix A: Transcripts and Incidental Observations.

<sup>†</sup>"Men in Black" types- so named for their large, black, chisel-tipped appearance, heavy-handed methods, and ineffective analog redaction practices.

<sup>‡</sup>See Interface Report ST-3898.

<sup>§</sup>See Appendix B: Index of Laboratory Results.

<sup>¶</sup>The younger folks in the office had to be reminded that a slide show used to involve shining a light through transparent film.

- Samples of JAI-22 and IQP-9, but none of the class  $\Sigma$  [REDACTED] antigens.
- Human skin and hair<sup>¶</sup> and animal (but not [REDACTED]\*\*) fur.

Investigation is ongoing, both in the [REDACTED] lab and at the Kearney site, as to the origin of the specimen. The particular brand of film was once a very common one, though it hasn't been manufactured for over a decade. LNX-1 is a single negative— it was cut (not torn) from a longer strip. The rest of the strip has not been located, though several false leads have been eliminated through [REDACTED] techniques. County records indicate that the current city hall building has held offices of some kind or another for decades, with the city moving in relatively recently. Research is ongoing into whether a previous tenant could have created LNX-1. As of this writing, the most promising leads are:

- Analytical GeoSciences, an [REDACTED] shell company.
- Several category C<sup>††</sup> heavy industry firms, including a now-defunct mineral concern.
- There are no public records or contemporary reports of any tenant from 1987 to 1992 in the west wing of the second story. Historical maps<sup>‡‡</sup> suggest the space was used to store antiphase Lagrange protogens undergoing [REDACTED] around that time, but exact dates and locations are difficult to pin down without [REDACTED] or higher clearance.

Mr. [REDACTED] and the Obsolete and Unusual Media Desk have been tasked with restoring the photo and locating the original subject. Attempts at “rehydrating” LNX-1 with injections of LNX-3 work only momentarily and typically push even more of the substance out. The glossy surface’s liquid, semi-corrosive nature resists most forensic markings, including fingerprints and DNA. [REDACTED] infraspection produced dangerous levels of [REDACTED] interference, forcing an emergency stop and rendering CF Site [REDACTED] useless until next [REDACTED]. Data remaining after [REDACTED] synchronization and [REDACTED] expungement<sup>§§</sup> suggests two key findings. Whatever event induced these anomalous properties was distinct from both the manufacture and initial exposure of the film, and that both happened within the past 50 years. Not only does this suggest that prints of the photo<sup>##</sup>, and therefore clues to its origins, exist, but also that those origins can likely be discovered and reproduced. Currently, a soil survey is in progress to determine whether anomalous levels of crt-xt1000 ^@\$\$i~% PuTTY PuTTY PuTTY PuTTY PuTTY PuTT P PuTTYuTT PuTTYYY

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[REDACTED] Recalibration Parameters	$\begin{bmatrix} \mathfrak{J} & \hat{\vartheta} \\ \mathfrak{M}\mathfrak{M}' & \iint \\ & \zeta \rightarrow \xi \end{bmatrix}$	$\kappa'' \iff \langle \Delta \rangle$

<sup>¶</sup>See incident report I-772.

\*\*Special thanks and apologies to Dr. [REDACTED].

<sup>††</sup>“Captain Planet villain”

<sup>‡‡</sup>See Metamedical Commission Reports N-7 through N-19.

<sup>§§</sup>See CE-76 $\alpha\lambda$  and CE-76 $\alpha\lambda$ - $\iota$ .

<sup>##</sup>Likely pre-anomalization, since LNX-3 reacts violently to film processing chemicals. See incident report I-773.