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Dear Paul: (Paraphrase maybe but best not to quote)

Congratulations on a super news letter. It should become a collector's item overnight!

But --- there is an item on page 11 that bothers me no end. It is Bud Waite's version of what "actually happened" to the BAE I Fokker single engine airplane over in the Rockefeller Mountains in March 1929. Who does Waite think he is? Could he be approaching senility a little faster than he thinks he is or could he maybe falling off his rocker?

What he is doing is charging Larry Gould, Bernt Balchen and Harold June with being bare-faced liars and conspirators to suppress the truth to boot. Larry Gould deals with the first hand facts of the case in the 28 pages of "Cold" in Chapter I. They are presented unemotionally, as a true scientist would, even though they staggered the imagination. In addition to the facts, Larry included an excellent photograph of the nose of the airplane with a close-up of the three blades of the Fokker propeller. It is evident that all three blades are not bent 180 as Waite claimed. Further, a sketch of the tied down Fokker by Balchen was included. Another picture shows their camp site close to a wall of low but solid mountains.

When Larry estimates the wind at 150 mph the chances are excellent that it did reach that speed or higher. At Little America I we had a sustained wind of 68 mph on the afternoon of March 9th and there was no topography there to accelerate the actual wind-speed as there was in the Rockefeller with combinations of cape effect and funneling effect.

Finally, Waite said <sup>4</sup>("but nowhere any mountain") Larry's picture gives the lie to that. And Waite tried to guesstimate the cold by placing it at "50 below". Ridiculous. Larry reported 29 F on the 15th and "wet sleeping bags" during much of their stay at the site.

Dr. Paul C. Dalrymple  
Alexandria, Virginia

  
Henry T. Harrison

P.S. I have debated sending a copy of this to Larry - don't know - he surely will see the item. He sounded real tired when I talked to him on Monday.