

"TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

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The Case Of The "Perennial Rats"

It was another hot summer day in Orange County and the office phones were ringing non-stop. The ladies in the office were busy scheduling appointments, when one person called and insisted that she be allowed to speak to Termite Terry.

Termite Terry was repairing some equipment when he took the call. The person calling him turned out to be a landlord, whom he had known for sometime.

The landlord shared her story with Termite Terry. She said that a rental home of hers had a rat problem, and that it had been going on for four years. She also said that another pest control company had been battling these rats for the entire time, and that they had failed to get rid of them. After discussing the issue for a few minutes, they set an appointment for him to investigate the house.

Termite Terry arrived at the home the next day and met with the tenants. One of the tenants, a lady, took Terry for a tour around the inside of her home. The tenants had lived in this location for quite sometime, and had accumulated a lot of clutter. But, there were no signs of rats inside.

The lady of this house said that she could hear the rats running around in her attic at night. She pointed to areas of the home's ceiling where she most often heard the noise.

Terry went out to his truck to put on a pair of coveralls and respirator. He also got a flashlight and ladder. He went back into the house, set up his ladder and climbed up into the attic.

As soon as he opened the attic hatch, an overwhelming cloud of stench came out from the attic. Once standing in the attic, Termite Terry turned on his flashlight to have a look around. This attic was covered with rodent droppings and urine stains. Besides a few dead carcasses spread around, most of the rodent activity appeared to be located the north end of the attic. There were no obvious holes or entry points where the rats could get in. So, he decided to go outside of the home and see if he could figure out how these pests were getting into the structure.

Termite Terry started his inspection at the front of the house and went all the way around, looking for a way for the rats to get in. This home was built pretty well, and he saw nothing that would lend a clue.

Next, he went onto the roof and checked every inch of it for any signs of rodent activity. He found nothing up there that would indicate a problem.

Running out of places to look, he decided to go back inside of the home and look further. With all of the stuff that these tenants had collected over the years, the interior of this home was not all that easy to inspect. Fortunately, the tenants were very cooperative and helped him clear out cabinets, closets and move furniture around so he could find where the rats were getting in. Again, he came up with not a single shred of evidence.

Termite Terry was puzzled by this time, but he promised the tenants that he had not given up on finding the answer.

(turn the page)

100 Years Ago . . .

On June 5, 1917, the first WWI draft registration day was held in the United States. About 10 million men, between the ages of 21-31, registered for military service. By the end of the war, about 2.8 million men had been drafted.

Celebrating a Member Of The Rat Pack

"I've got seven kids. The three words you hear most around my house are 'hello', 'goodbye', and 'I'm pregnant'."

Dean Martin, born June 17, 1917

Rave Reviews!

"Today, Skip, Jose and Saul completed work on the demolition of an existing second floor wooden deck and the construction of a new one in its place at my house in Huntington Beach. I want to let you know that I am very pleased with their execution of this project, and with the beautiful finished product. I would certainly want to use your services in the future, and I would gladly recommend your company to friends and neighbors."

Stephen Sharp,
Huntington Beach

"Thank you and your excellent work crews for the seamless termite work on this residence. Skip was very helpful in explaining very carefully what damage we had and how to proceed with the tent, etc. He made sure that I understood what my part was and I am grateful. The repairs were done in a timely manner, also. We had a family tragedy with the death of our dog that day. They even helped us with the removal of the dog to our vehicle. All is well. Thank you!"

Millie Noble
Newport Beach

"He wasn't cheap, but he came out in person and did the job. Terry is professional and did it right after another company came out and tried to rip me off. Terry did a FULL inspection and explained everything. I liked when he told me, 'I'm going to do it right, cause I don't like coming back and I don't like giving your money back.' I like a guy like that. No BS."

Kurt Owen
Huntington Beach

He said to himself, "This is crazy! I know there are rats in the attic, but how are they getting in? There's no food or water in the attic for them to live off of. So, I know they've got to be going in and out of this place, somehow."

With no clues to be found in the attic, interior or on the roof, the only place to look further would be on the outside of this house.

Knowing that most of the rat activity was on the north side of the home, he went back to that area to look further.

Termite Terry just stared at the north side wall. There was nothing to look at but a solid wall that was covered with stucco. The wall had a couple of windows that were sealed very well, so they weren't a problem.

It was at this point that he started to look closely at the electric meter that was located on this wall. The meter was in good shape, and there was no way for a rat to get in there.



"Termite" Terry
As Columbo

Looking closer, he observed that the meter had been installed on what they call a "wall chase". This construction element protruded out from the main wall about ten inches, it was about two feet wide, and it started from the ground and ran all the way up to the roof line. The builder of this home had installed this so that there would be this "tunnel", built on the outside of the main wall, for him to run all of the

electrical wiring from the meter and to the rest of the house.

If it weren't for the electric meter and fuse box on it, one could have easily thought this wall chase looked like a fireplace that had been built onto the wall. It was covered in stucco, just like the rest of the house and appeared to be rodent proof.

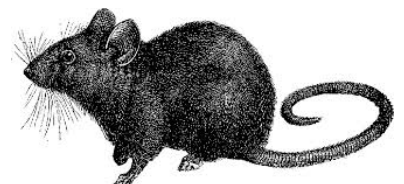
Termite Terry kept looking, and then got down on his hands and knees. He started looking at the bottom of the wall chase. After looking closer, he saw that there was a very small gap between the bottom of the wall chase and the ground. Termite Terry said to himself, "That's funny. There's no concrete under this thing. You'd think that the builder would have poured a slab under this."

He pulled out his pocket knife and started probing under the wall chase. Sure enough, there was no concrete to be found. He then got his mirror and flashlight to see what was under it. Low and behold, he found that the bottom of this wall chase was wide open. Any rat could easily squeeze under this thing, crawl up the wall, and go into the attic.

Solving this case took a lot longer than Termite Terry had expected. But, he was excited to have the answer and couldn't wait to call the property manager.

Now that he had found out how the rats were getting in, fixing it was the easy part. His crew dug out the dirt from below the wall chase, and then filled in the bottom of it with concrete. The "Case of the Perennial Rats" was now closed, permanently.

Do you have a problem with mice or rats and need help? **Call us at (949) 631-7348** and we'll be happy to "investigate" your case.



Russians Stung In Stolen Bee Case

A beekeeper from Montana lost his hives to bee rustlers in California, earlier this year. He never expected to see them again and suspected that Ukrainian-Russians may have been behind the heist.

He turned out to be right. Two Ukrainian-Russians have now been charged with possession of stolen property – over \$150,000 in beekeeping equipment and hives.

In January of this year, there were 10 victims of bee theft across seven California counties. Law enforcement officials believe that Ukrainian-Russians have turned to agriculture thefts, particularly bees, to fund organized crime rings.

Several weeks ago, a hired hand at a bee farm noticed that one of the hives matched the description of the hives reported stolen by his friend in Missouri. The Missouri beekeeper flew to California and contacted local law enforcement. He had matching photos of his stolen hives and that was when the investigation really got going.

There were three properties connected to the alleged thieves. Fresno detectives uncovered hives from 10 different victims on the properties and made two arrests. They expect more arrests and charges may be coming, as the investigation is still ongoing.

The beekeeper from Montana received a photo from a California beekeeper, who was working with law enforcement. He recognized his equipment from the photo then flew to California and identified the equipment as his. Of the \$224,000 worth of bees and equipment, he was able to recover about \$170,000 worth. The hives were put on trucks and are now back home in Montana.

Scorpions Are The Latest Problem For United Airline's

The problems for United Airline's just won't go away, and now for the second time in a month, scorpions have been found in their airplanes.

A United Airlines plane was recently evacuated when a passenger saw a scorpion crawl out of a fellow passenger's sleeve.

The passenger, who was leaned back in his seat and sleeping when the scorpion appeared, was later examined by paramedics. They determined that the passenger had not been stung, and he declined further treatment. We don't know if the scorpion was ever found.

As a precaution, a new aircraft was arranged. All passengers, along with this man, got on the new plane and their flight finally departed after a three and one-half hour delay.

Several weeks earlier, a passenger on another United Airlines flight had a scorpion fall from an overhead bin. The venomous creature landed in the passenger's hair as he was eating lunch. He grabbed it out of his hair and it fell onto his dinner table. The scorpion stung him when he tried to pick it up by the tail.

Flight attendants were able to corral the scorpion, and they later flushed it down the plane's toilet.

While still on the flight, another passenger gave the man a Benadryl, in case he had an allergic reaction to the sting. Medical personnel were called, and they met with him after the plane landed.

Officials from the airline apologized and offered him compensation for the incident.

Fun Facts About The America's Cup

The 2017 America's Cup will be held this month in Bermuda. This will be the 35th edition of this yacht race. Here are some fun facts about the America's Cup:

- The first event was held in 1851 and they raced around the Isle of Wight, in England. The schooner *America*, of the New York Yacht Club, won the race with an 8 minute lead.
- The New York Yacht Club has won the most titles (25).
- The USA has won 28 times. New Zealand and Switzerland have two wins each. Australia has one win.
- The entry fee for the 2017 America's Cup is \$2 million per team.
- The winner of the America's Cup has the right to decide the rules for the next event, including the types of boats to be used, the race course, and when the race will take place.
- Sir Russell Coutts, of New Zealand, has won the America's Cup five times, including three times as skipper.
- Sir Thomas Lipton, the British tea magnate, challenged for the trophy five times between 1899 and 1930. He never won the event, but is credited with introducing the idea of sponsorship in the sport.
- In 1997, a Maori activist damaged the America's Cup trophy by hitting it with a sledgehammer. Its makers, Robert Garrard of London, later repaired it.
- Glenn Ashby, the skipper of Emirates Team New Zealand, learned to sail on a lake that was often near dry.
- The gaff schooner, *America*, won the first race. It was later sold to the Confederate States of America, and was used in the American Civil War for blockade running. After the war, it was used as a training ship at the US Navel Academy.

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785 W. 17th St. #G, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

(949)631-7348 www.termitemerry.com



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Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Office: (949)631-7348 Fax: (949)722-6190

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Parasites In Your Sushi?

A medical journal recently featured the story of a previously healthy 32-year old man, who was suffering from severe abdominal pain, vomiting and fever for more than a week.

The doctors questioned this man and he revealed that he had recently eaten sushi. This led the doctors to believe that he may have a disease called *anisakiasis*. This disease is caused by worm parasites of the species *anisakis*, and they are often transmitted by eating raw, or undercooked fish or seafood.

An endoscopy was performed on the man and they found a large, worm-like parasite growing in an enflamed area of his gut. Surgeons used a special device, called a Roth net, to remove the parasite. Once this parasite was removed, the man’s condition improved immediately.

Cases of this disease have appeared in many countries, but the disease is mainly found in Japan because the consumption of raw fish is so common in that country. A new study shows that Japan sees about 2,000 to 3,000 cases of *anisakiasis* per year.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration states that seafood should be cooked to an internal temperature of 145 degrees Fahrenheit. They also say that freezing fish can kill parasites.

If you are going to eat sushi, you need to carefully choose your restaurant, and check the results of their recent Health Department inspections. You also need to be very selective when you plan to eat ceviche or poke.

Are you ready to join me for a sushi dinner tonight? On second thought, let’s go and have a nice, juicy steak instead.



“Termite” Terry Singleton