

EXPEDITION No. 10: MEXICO BY CAR – 1972 (August 30 – Dec. 4, 1972)

[Daily logs taken from Jack Harlan's PN (Pocket Notebook). No journal has been found for this journey. Note that Tape 10 goes along with this expedition. Spellings are approximate – have not been verified. My notes in **[brackets] and bolded, so as to be easily distinguished from Dr. Harlan's notes. HVH2**

SUMMARY: We have to start with this: Harlan had made three seed collecting expeditions in Africa to locate the center of origin for the three most important indigent African crops: Sorghum, Millet and African Rice. This was from 1967-70. Having made his collections and analyzed them, he pulled together a World Exposition of the Origin of African crops to be held at a castle in Austria from August 19-27, 1972. He was the organizer. He had experts on Africa and her crops from all over the world. They ended up writing a book containing the results of their work. It is called "Origins of African Plant Domestication", Mouton Publishers, 1976. However, it looks like Jack Harlan had to leave the conference early in order to get back to Champaign in time to depart for Mexico the next day, August 28, 1972. Harlan's pocket notebook (PN) is of little help for the W-G phase. On Saturday, Aug. 19, 1971 he has "W-G¹ starts 10:10 BEA 7:00 ar 12:10 Vienna." And then there is nothing until Sunday August 27 when he wrote, "W-G ends". The entry for the next day, Monday 28, is "Pick up Mexican Tourist card \$ advance funds, glasses / get visa for Perm in Mexico D.F."

Try this:

Saturday, August 19: "W-G starts." Then there are no notes until Sunday, August 27 where it says, "W-G ends". Next day: Monday, August 28 "Pick up Mexican tourist card. \$ advanced funds, glasses, get visa for Peru in Mexico DF." Tuesday August 29 is blank. Wednesday August 30 "Mileage 485 L.V. 8:30 a.m." Then he switches to a dark pen and writes "Springfield for car title. Lv. Springfield Noon, Mo." At the top of the next page, Thursday August 31, in the same (dark) pen "So. Texas" then he switches back to the ball point pen, "Lv Aust Air 451 9:00 am; Air London 1:06; Lv BOA 521 1:15; Ar. Wash 4:30; OZ 971 7:30; ar 8:06" Note that on the left hand side of the ball-point pen entries he has a wavy vertical line and then a very light horizontal line pointing to the Sunday 27 "W-G ends" space. This must mean that the flight information given in the Thursday 31 space really goes back in the Sunday 27 space.

Friday September 1, 1972: in dark pen: "Saultillo"

Saturday, Sept. 2, in dark pen: "Mexico D.F. Metropol"

Solution: W-G ends on the morning of Sunday Aug. 27, 1972. He rushes to the Austrian Airlines and makes his 9:00 am flight. Since he is flying west the time zones help him and he lands in London in time for his 1:06 pm flight to Washington DC on BOAC flight 521. He arrives in Washington at 4:30 pm. Then we have a little mystery "OZ 971 7:30." I suppose this is another flight which lands him finally at 8:02 pm, I suppose back in Champaign, or perhaps Chicago. At any rate the next day (Monday, Aug. 28) he

¹ The world conference on origins of African crops was hosted by the Wenner-Gren Foundation and held at the Burg Wartenstein Castle in Austria. Thus W-G refers to this event.

picks up the Mexican Tourist Card, the advance money, and his glasses. He makes a note that the visa for Peru he can get in Mexico DF, takes a rest on Tuesday and sets out for Mexico on Wednesday, August 30. So, between the end of W-G (TR-3) and the beginning of Exp. No. 10 we have 2 days of travel and rest "at home".

The entry for Tuesday, Aug. 29 is blank and the next day (Wednesday, August. 30, 1972) he departs by car at 9:30 am with 485 miles on his odometer. Then he switches to the dark pen and writes the note about Springfield. It looks like he drove first to Springfield, IL to pick up the title for his car and then to Springfield, MO, where he spent the night of Wed. Aug 30. The next day Thursday, Aug. 31, he makes his way through eastern Oklahoma, then probably Dallas, San Antonio and to south Texas, where he spent the night of Aug. 31. The next day he crosses into Mexico and then on to Saltillo, Mexico, where he arrived on Friday, Sept. 1. This first leg of his journey must have been in excess of 1350 miles. Now, what was the big rush to get to Mexico by a certain date? It might be that he had to make certain crosses by a certain date. He seemed to be traveling with certain urgency and this may have been it.

Harlan departed for Mexico via Springfield, MO and then south Texas. He entered Saltillo, Mexico, on September 1 and Mexico City the next day. On September 4 he visited the CIMMYT facility in Haltizapan to see what they had going on there. This was an experimental farm where Norman Borlaug had developed high yield wheat and corn, thus launching the Green Revolution, and for which he had won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970. Harlan went on to Tlaltizapan, where for 18 days (Sept. 7-24) he made crosses, probably with *Tripsacum* and *Zea* [See Oct. 24 notes]. He then made a loop back to Mexico City, and drove all over the area noting Tr as it went. He returned on October 11 to start the harvest of his crosses. He finished harvesting the crosses that he had made through September 19 on October 13 and gave the harvest to someone named Mano. Then Harlan drove around some more and returned for a second harvest on Oct. 20. He spent 4 grueling days cleaning and sorting the seeds. The Oct. 24 entry summarizes the success of the crossing experiment. On Nov. 4 he went to a teocintle harvest and returned on Nov. 6, then spent time drying the harvested grains. He drove around some more, went to CIMMYT again and gave a lecture on the origin of agriculture. It looks like Jean came down and visited him in Mexico for a few days, then they visited Peru and she flew back on November 28. Jack drove back, stopping in New Orleans for a day or so to see Harry and Kathy at the Ecumenical Institute Religious House. He returned to Champaign on Dec. 4.

TRANSCRIPT OF POCKET NOTEBOOK FOR 1972 (AUG. 28 – DEC. 4)

Monday, Aug 28 (In Champaign) Picked up Mexican tourist card and got advance funds. Glasses / get Visa for Peru in Mexico D. F.

Aug 30 Mileage 485 lv 9:30 a.m. Springfield for car title, leave Springfield noon, MO

Aug 31 So Texas, [here Harlan has inserted with a different (ball point) pen the flight schedule to get him from Vienna to Champaign on August 27.

Sep 1 Saltillo

- Sep 2 Mexico DF [Distrito Federal, i.e. Mexico City] Metropol [Hotel Metropol]
- Sep 3 Chakeo – Amecameca, Tlaloc Motel
- Sep 4 To CIMMYT² in AM, & Haltizapan³ [Google: Altizapan] in PM w. M. Gutierrez [Don't know why he goes to Altizapan, unless it is an area where he can collect.]
- Sep 5 Bagged and went to Cuerna Vacca [Google: Cuernavaca] [he bagged, meaning he collected something at Altizapan] [Cuernavaca is 85 km south of Mexico City]
- Sep 6 First pollinations, called Jean from Cuerna Vacca (gone 1 week) doing well (So, he stayed at Cuerna Vacca and is doing some crosses: FIND OUT WHAT HE WAS CROSSING.)
- Sep 7-17 Tlaltizapan [each day] [130 km south of Mexico City] [Then he goes on to Tlaltizapan. This route from Mexico City to Cuerna Vacca and then to Tlaltizapan takes him out into the country where he can stop and collect all kinds of good stuff.] JRH mentions Taltizapan in his letter to Ed Wellhausen, Feb 7, 1972 (U/I # 51), where the Rockefeller Fnd has some facilities. JRH told Ed that he would like to use his facilities in the fall – well here it is, September and JRH is here.]
- Sep 17 Tlaltizapan, called Jean fr. Cuerna Vac.
- Sep 18-23 Tlaltizapan [each day]
- Sep 24 Stopped crossing; packed & checked out, called Jean fm Cuerna Vacca [the crossing seemed to be near Cuerna Vacca but he is staying in Tlaltizapan, 42 km away. The crossing experiment lasted 18 days]
- Sep 25 Field trip w. Gutierrez & Randolph to Zepileta Canyon; ret to Cuautla, Hotel Vasco nice [Can't find Zepileta Canyon, but found Hotel Vasco in Cuautla.]
- Sep 26 To CIMMYT at El Batan, Room in Dormitory [So, he completes a loop.]
- Sep 27 11:00 Marlo; CIMMYT ; eve at Cuatra's

² CIMMYT (The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center) In 1966 “CIMMYT is officially founded through an agreement between the Rockefeller Foundation and the Mexican Secretariat of Agriculture.” (<http://www.cimmyt.org/en/who-we-are/our-history>) Norman Borlaug is appointed director of the Wheat Program. He has already produced superior strains of wheat, bread in Mexico which have been imported to India & Pakistan. In 1970 Norman Borlaug is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and credited with saving millions of lives across Asia. In 1972 CIMMYT is at the heart of the Green Revolution. It is not very clear why Harlan visited CIMMYT, except to see it with his own eyes.

³ Ciudad López Mateos is a city in State of Mexico, Mexico, and the seat of the municipality called Atizapán de Zaragoza (Wikipedia), outside Mexico City.

- Sep 28 To Mexico D.F. to see air photos; lago Cajititlan looks interact. CG 22B R-294 55-20 [he added with an arrow: call No. photo and cd. Guzman
- Sep 29 Hotel Ram-Val; Zamera 214 Long beautiful drive fr. Texcoco to Zamora
- Sep 30 Toured lake area w La Bera – nil. Went to Cajititlan Tela unexpected Bizoe nr Tlajomuica Rose Motel edge of Guadalajara.
- Oct 1 To Tapalpa Magnifico! 2 collections of Tr. Called Jean
- Oct 2 Took little roads to Ameca, Ahualulco, Etzatlan, Magdalena, Tegula & back. Lots of Tr.
- Oct 3 Did the Tequila series much variation & good pop. to study – pretty green yet see the RR track!
- Oct 4 To Colima via Colima Corta & back vie 110 to Cd. Guzman ; lots of Tr.
- Oct 5 Hiked hills behind Cd Guzman & looked at Lake NIL sandstone, not limestone.
- Oct 6 West across valley in a.m. to Colima by train & return by bus in p.m. Tpi fantastic!
- Oct 7 Easy trip to Morelia – but eye trouble; otherwise could have gone further.
- Oct 8 To the city via Valle de Bravo. 2.6 mi below dam found something Horrible traffic!
- Oct 9 Seminar in aft. 3:00 p.m. came to CIMMYT. Think the seminar went well. Called Jean.
- Oct 10 See Hernandez Beans? No. Did some markets w/Calia & photographed. Sent letter to CEL. Eve. w. Cuadra.
- Oct. 11 To Tlaltizipan to **start harvest**. Taking material pollinated through 19 Sept. there are seeds at least.
- Oct 12 Harvest all day. Saw E. Sparague briefly.
- Oct 13 Finished through 19th by 10:00 a.m. Met Mano & gave harvest to him. Toured hills N. Yautepec only a little.
- Oct 14 Liesurely tri to C. V. then Taxco. Iguala, Zepilote Canyon & Acuibexotla (T.M.) Bravo Hotel Chilpancingo. T. maizar very impressive Looks like it will disappear. Bush growing up. When was road abandoned?
- Oct 15 **[At top of page:]** Hotel El Mirador is where the boys jump the cliff.
Chilpancingo to Acapulco, tripsacum along the way Tescjutle very green. Called Jean (Collect) + 10 peso service.

- Oct 16 To Atoyac & up country: reversed by army picked up victim of bus wreck; saw tm: in Acapulco again but better motel. Hotel Mirador is where the boys jump the cliff.
- Oct 17 Tried roads to Ayutle & Quechultenango. The farmer had big ones; the latter tela. To Iguala.
- Oct 18 To Areclia & back Teocintle too green. Collected the El Aguacate pop as best I could. green to Cucrna Vaca.
- Oct 19 West to Ixtapan & beyond Tda sighted in canyon before Taxco turnoff – other wise a blank; not on Imestone ? to CIMMYT
- Oct 20 To Tlaltizapa'n & **second harvest**. More than I had expected & long day. Plants tied up; good idea! Back to CIMMYT 7:00 pm
- Oct 21 Cleaned & sorted seeds all day. CIMMYT
- Oct 22 Cleaned & sorted seeds all day. Tried to call home; no luck.
- Oct 23 Cleaned & sorted seeds all day. Called Jean at office, but missed her.
- Oct 24 Cleaned & sorted seeds until finished about 4:00 pm. Sick of it, but looks like TripsXZea in 71-30, 71-44, 71-52; 71-19. Maybe so, maybe no.
- Oct 25 To Tlaltizapan w/ Celia Cuadra – collect seed & return to Mark [?] in eve.
- Oct 26 To Valle de Bravo w/Mario collected Tr. Sp. + sew more; good trip. Stayed w. Gutierrez again.
- Oct 27 E. Spragus 1:30 [this was in a different pen] Collected Tela at Bot. Gard. Crash! Appointment w. Sprague went well. Recorded crosses & kept out specials.
- Oct 28 Left going E. Puebla – Tehuacan & finally Veracruz. Techacan too dry. Tpi impressive at Fortin.
- Oct 29 Called Jean in a.m. To Tuxtepec. Tpi impressive over high road to Oaxaca – magnifica! But dysentery struck
- Oct 30 Touristiques at Oaxaca; Minte Alban – Mitla – rested
- Oct 31 Called at Rancho San Felizie – no one. Did market, laundry & etc. Finally contacted a Robert Drennan – Kent in Michigan.
- Nov 1 Long drive to Cuautla Vasco Hotel again. [Hotel Vasco in Cuautla, from Sept. 25]
- Nov 2 To Ixtapa'n, Toluca, Temascaltepec, Tejupilco, Luvianos, Zacazonapal, Valle do Bravo. Too much. Late in rainstorm. [written along side:] Motel Monteil

- Nov 3 Retraced what I missed in the dark, then to Morelia – also a bit too much. Motel at edge of town.
- Nov 4 Down the Huetamo road for a teocintle harvest. Tough going. But most of it done. Need a rest.
- Nov 5 (Sunday) Loafing in Morelia, laundry & collection notes.
- Nov 6 Back to finish teosintle harvest nr. Devanader. Did better this time. To Motel at Tuxpan [Google has this on the east coast, 547 km from Morelia – is this right?]
- Nov 7 Drive across cliff, but good only for scenery [he might be on the coast, but I don't see a cliff road in this area using Google]. Tolvca Temascaltepee, Tejupilco Bejucos & beyond. Camped in car somewhere 20 miles farther
- Nov 8 On to the highway only 41 miles of bad road, but 6 ½ hrs. Drive back to CIMMYT. Long day.
- Nov 9 Gathered herbarium specs & seeds / one box ready to go. Car serviced & other details.
- Nov 10 Teocinte drying; to the pyramids. To take pictures; climbed both.
- Nov 11 Teocintle drying; to Popo for pictures, but too many clouds; climbed to snowline. Processed one lot of teocintle – not very good.
- Nov 12 Processed teocintle looks like ½ kgm/hr by this technique. Walked CIMMYT farm for obsidian blades.
- Nov 13 To Teotihuaca'n area for blades & projectile points. Lecture at Chipingo in aft. on origins of agriculture. Much interest, I think.
- Nov 14 To Teotihuaca'n again; no whole blades & not likely Preparations for leaving & cortabalsas prevention measures.
- Nov 15 Took car to customs at airport & deposited. Killed day in town to Gutierazin eve.
- Nov 16 Plane late of course. Stopped at Guayaguil for fuel & to Lima – Bolivar
- Nov 17 [in ball-point pen – he seems to have switched to a ball-point pen for most of the rest of the entries] 3:00 fr chic [then at the bottom of that space] 9:00 pm / 12:33 am Miami / 2:15 6:20 [he wrote sideways near the last entry:] \$354
- Nov 18 Jean leaves [ball point pen]
- Nov 19 2:30 chi 11:45
- Nov 20-22 [no entries]

Nov 24 [the following entries are different. I suspect that he was in a museum or something. HVH2]
Dasatour Oskar RUNA-CHARI the Inca foot plow

Nov 25 M'Zaca – root not a Carrote but similar Phoo of Yoca in market COCOna fruit like Diospyrea
#UNO – Potato-like photo

#ANO – yellowish tuber – carrot like

LLoca w. deep wrinkles photo

Oxalis tuberosus

[Then written across the side of the page containing the notes for Friday 24 & Sat. 25:] #The Spotted
"potato OYOCO" Ullucus tuberosus

Nov 26 [Sunday] Photo of M'Zaca, Oca, Cocona & pacaye ate Ullucus at the Grabman's

Nov 27 very nice w spices [this must be a comments on the Nov 26 entry placed in the Nov 27 spot.]

Nov 28 Jean back⁴/ 1:40 am lv Lima // 6:00 am Mex DF // 9:30 am Lv Mex DF// 2:00 pm air chi/ / 4:40 lv
chi [this seems to be a flight itinerary for Jean's return to Champaign]

Nov 29 Jean to work. [Harlan adds to this date:] Lv CIMMYT 10,056.2 8:15 am Tula & to S L Potisi [?]

Nov 30 Fog! To Laredo & barrier 10830 mi

Dec 1 To Baton Rouge; collision in Houston, called Jean & Harry

Dec 2 El Regional meeting in Gretna out in eve w. Harry & Kathy stayed in El House.

Dec 3 [Sunday] House Church to French Markey & seafood lunch off ca 2:00 pm to Duncan

Dec 4 Home by car 4:30 ice & snow. Trip ended.

Note that towards the end of his 1972 pocket notebook he has some addresses: Sue and Bob are living in Methuen Mass. near Lawrence. Harry & Kathy are living in New Orleans, Sherry & Mark are living in San Francisco and Rich is living in Chicago. So, Jack & Jean's children are scattered across America and they are near the middle, in Champaign, Illinois. On his way back from Mexico Jack stopped in New Orleans, attended an El Regional Meeting and stayed one night in the Religious House on Milan St. Later, on December 22, he put in his PN "Harry & Kathy". It could be that H & K came to visit them in Champaign over the Christmas Break. Jack seemed to be pretty interested in the Ecumenical Institute.

⁴ I think he means Jean back home. See next entry.