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STRANGE BUT TRUE.. BIZARRE STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

COMING SOON AT BUG KING: THE HOPPER WITH CHEESE

A BUTCHER will sell worms and grasshoppers if foot and mouth forces a meat shortage.

Jon Janssen is planning to sell spring rolls with worms and baked rice served with grasshoppers.

He says grasshoppers are nutritional and is also planning a range of sweets by removing the insects' wings and legs and covering the bodies in chocolate.

Jon, of Heerlen, Holland, said: "They're extremely healthy. They contain a lot of protein, minerals and vitamins."

One of his cooks, Victoria Viehoff, said: "Grass-hoppers can be used in any meal and are very tasty when you add herbs."

A LIFE-SIZED sculpture of two headless and armless humans covered in anchovies is creating a stink in Tasmania, Australia. Called Catch of the Day, it's being shown by sculptor Josh Meyer at Roaring Beach. But local council chiefs say it's a health hazard and have roped it off with signs warning of the offensive smell.

A RAIL passenger bound from Montreal to New York complained to the guard his seat was lumpy and uncomfortable. The guard searched and found packs of marijuana worth pounds 15,000 under the seats. A rail insider said: "Train travel is all the rage for smugglers." Cops have launched a crackdown.

Home truths

A CHEEKY thief phoned victims to complain about the quality of goods he nicked from their homes.

Police traced the calls and swooped on Stuart McPherson's home in Canterbury, New Zealand.

A cop said: "He was calling people to say their gear was rubbish."

IRAQI tyrant Saddam Hussein wears women's tights under his army uniform.

He told a reporter he finds them "more comfortable" than boxer shorts or briefs.

Rumours about the Iraqi president's unusual underwear habits first surfaced in a newspaper in Saudi Arabia.

Top prize? pounds 14 and a vodka

A TV station in Moscow is trying to follow up on *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* with their own version of the show. But they're so strapped for cash their top prize is pounds 14 and a quart of vodka.

WHEN robbers Edward Buckley, 33, and Brenda Watts, 29, appeared in court in Kansas, they asked the judge to marry them. He agreed, conducted the service, wished them well - then sentenced them to eight years each.