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## **The Ohio State University UFO Collection**

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➤ *The Ohio State University Libraries, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Room 327, Main Library, 1858 Neil Avenue Mall Columbus, Ohio 43210*

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[http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/OSU\\_profile/rarweb/](http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/OSU_profile/rarweb/)

Since the early 1990s, William Jones has been regularly donating UFO publications and materials to the library at Ohio State University (OSU). The Collection is housed at the OSU Library, Rare Books and Manuscripts Department. Briefly, OSU provides a secure holding area, national access and complete public services subject to the policies of the Rare Book and Manuscripts Department (RBMS). The collection contains primary source materials and supporting published works that do not circulate, but are available for advanced study and research in the James Thurber Reading Room of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department.

OSU has a particular interest in preserving materials relating to Popular Culture. In the words of Geoffrey Smith, head of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department, “*UFO studies enter all areas of contemporary culture: literature; film; TV; science; religion; etc. which contributes to OSU’s interest in maintaining and enriching its UFO Collection.*”

Recently, with the kind assistance of Candy Peterson, an alphabetical list of the OSU UFO materials collection was compiled. The list is fifty-three pages in length and includes well over 2000 items, including books, newsletters, journals, manuscripts, reports, etc. OSU is interested in acquiring additional materials that does not duplicate its present holdings.

The OSU collection listing can be viewed at:

<http://www.project1947.com/osu/index.html>



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## **The Bill Chalker / Australia Collection**

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➤ *Bill Chalker, UFO Investigation Centre, P.O. Box W42, West Pennant Hills, NSW, 2125, Australia*

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Extensive collection of UFO books, magazines, research materials and audio/video archive.

### **Research Files**

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Extensive files in the following principle areas:

- Pre 1947 Australian cases
- Australian government & military involvement
- Australian UFO physical trace (CE2) cases
- Australian abduction cases
- Australian social & natural UFO history materials

Storage per files is in the form of computer disks, 8 filing cabinet drawers, numerous archive boxes, box files and display folders. Materials vary in the degree of organization and accessibility, but serious research efforts are supported within the limits of time and resource availability.

A significant amount of material from Chaulker's collection has been made available on the Internet at the following sites:

- <http://www.project1947.com/bctrace1.htm>
- <http://www.project1947.com/bcausenc.htm>
- <http://www.project1947.com/forum/index.htm>
- [http://www.powerup.com.au/~ufologist/Bill\\_Chalker.html](http://www.powerup.com.au/~ufologist/Bill_Chalker.html)
- <http://www.powerup.com.au/~auforn/BCintro.htm>
- <http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/newse/aus3.html>
- <http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/a1999/jun/g9.htm>

**Accessibility:** Serious research efforts are supported within the limits of time and resource availability.

### ***RAAF Official Records***

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) has carried out most of the governmental investigations of UFOs. Records indicate data back to 1950 with fragmentary evidence suggesting some activity as early as 1930. These investigations continued for decades, with formal downgrading in 1984 and curtailment in 1993. Most of the official data was inaccessible to civilians. Although selective case files were provided to individual researchers and groups on a selective basis requiring some censorship of witness details. That changed in the period from 1982 to 1984 when Bill Chalker succeeded in gaining complete access to the files during a number of visits to the Defense department headquarters in Canberra:

- 1955 to 1974 in File series 580/1/1 Parts 1 to 35
- 1974 to 1983 in file series 529/1/3 Parts 1 to 15
- 1893 & beyond in file series 84/3265

Bill Chalker published the result of his file reviews in extensive detail. The most detailed version of the study exists in *UFOs Sub Rosa Down Under - the Australian Military & Government Role in the UFO Controversy*, which has been widely circulated and is available on the Internet at:

<http://www.project1947.com/forum/bcoz1.htm>

Other sources of Bill Chalker's descriptions of the RAAF file research include:

- "The RAAF Investigation of UFOs." *MUFON UFO Journal*, No. 143, January 1980, pp. 3-6. This article first appeared in the *ACOS Bulletin*, No.20, August, 1979; and as "UFOs over Australia." *ACUFOS*, 1985.
- "UFOs and the RAAF—the Inside Story." *UFORAN*, Vol.3, Nos. 2,3 and 4, March-April, May-June, and July-August, 1982. This article appeared in abridged form in the *MUFON UFO Journal*, Nos. 175 (Sept. 1982) and 176 (Oct. 1982).
- "UFOs: Australia's Secret Documents Revealed." *OMEGA-Science Digest*, Sept.-Oct. 1982. This article appeared in the *APRO Bulletin*, Vol.30, No.10 (Oct.'82) & Vol.30, No.11 (Dec.'82) as "Australian AF UFO Report Files."
- "The RAAF Files." *Journal of ACUFOS*, Vol.3, No.3, May/June, '82 and *UFORAN*, Vol.3, No.4, July-Aug.'82.
- "Study of Official Australian Government Involvement in the UFO Controversy - A Progress Report." *ACUFOS Bulletin* Appendix, 1983.

- “The UFO Connection - Startling Implications for NW Cape and Australia’s Security.” OMEGA-Science Digest, March/April, 1985. This article along with Addendum (letter) appeared in *FSR*, Vol.31, No.5, July 1986.
- “Yes, There is a UFO Cover-up.” *OMEGA-Science Digest*, Nov/Dec, 1983.
- “The North West Cape Incident: UFOs and Nuclear Alert in Australia.” *IUR*, Jan/Feb, 1986, Vol.11, No.1.
- “Working with the Government.” Spencer/Evans *Phenomenon*, Futura, 1988 and Avon, 1989.
- “History of Involvement of Official Government Organisations.” *The Australian UFO Experience, ACUFOS*, 1988.
- “UFO Sloring (UFO Coverup).” Produced by SUFOI/Kim Moller Hansen, from a selection of Bill Chalker’s RAAF research papers, 1985 (in Danish).
- “The Australian Government and UFOs.” *International UFO Reporter*, Fall, 1997
- “Implicacion Militar y Gubernamental en la Controvesia de los OVNI en Austrailia.” *Cuadernos de Ufologia*, Spain, No.22-23, 1998.

Most of the RAAF UFO files are currently accessible in visits to the Australian Archives at Canberra. The 30-year rule applies in terms of general access. The Freedom of Information Act permits access to documents from 1976 with exceptions, since; officially the gap prior to 1976 will not close until 2006. Between 1982 and 1984 Bill Chalker was able to examine a continuous run of files from 1955 through June 1984. This access occurred before the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act.

Keith Basterfield used the Archives act to expand on Bill Chalker’s research, securing copies of RAAF files from 1955 to the early 1960s. Bill Chalker has duplicates of these and a cross-section of the more interesting cases and material from 1953 to 1984 from his own research of the Air Force Intelligence files. The latter collection is in excess of 500 pages of material.

### ***Other Official Records***

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Other official enquiries, though less in quantity, have been examined in Department of Civil Aviation files. Information exists indicating other government organizations have been involved in the UFO controversy including:

- Joint Intelligence Bureau (JIB), which became the Joint Intelligence Organization (JIO) and now operates as the Defense Intelligence Organization (DIO).
- Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO).
- Australian Security & Intelligence Organization (ASIO).
- Other branches of the Department of Defense including the Army & Navy.

### ***Civilian Records***

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Extensive collections of data exist in the various groups. Some of this material has appeared in reports, publications, catalogues and on web sites. Accessibility to group data varies and is contingent on the ebb and flow of group and individual researcher cooperation and politics. The Internet and e-mail have increased the sharing and accessibility of some of the group and individual collections of data and material.

- *The Australian UFO Experience*. (1988), Bill Chalker presents an overview of the phenomenon in Australia
- “Australian Ufology: A Review.” Keith Basterfield, Vladimir & Pony Godic and Mark Rodeghier, in the *Journal of UFO Studies*, New Series, Vol.2, 1990, describes and references a number of these data collection efforts.

A few books have appeared that include or list sighting data: James Holledge, *Flying Saucers over Australia* (1965)

- Richard Tambling, *Flying Saucers - Where Do They Come From?* (1967, 1978)
- Michael Hervey, *UFOs Over the Southern Hemisphere*, (1969 & 1975)
- John Pinkney & Leonard Ryzman, *Alien Honeycomb*, (1980)

- Kevin Killey & Gary Lester, *The Devil's Meridian*, (1980)
- Keith Basterfield "UFOs, Close Encounters of an Australian Kind" (1981), revised & updated as *UFOs: A Report on Australian Encounters*, (1997)
- Vladimir & Pony Godic (editors), *UFO Research in Australia & New Zealand*, (1992)
- Bill Chalker, *The Oz Files—the Australian UFO Story*, (1996)
- Moira McGhee & Bryan Dickeson, *The Gosford File*, (1996)
- Robert Frola, editor, *The Jarrold Listings*, (1990), provides an extensive collection of data from pre 1947 to 1979.

## **Organizational Journals**

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Amongst the numerous Australian group magazines that have carried extensive UFO reports are:

- Australian UFO Bulletin (VUFORS)
- UFOIC Newsletter (UFOIC)
- UFO Newsletter (SA)
- The AFSRS Magazine
- The Tasmanian UFO Annual Report
- UFORAN (UFO Research Australia Newsletter)
- INUFOR Digest
- UFO Reporter (UFOR (NSW))
- UFO Encounter (UFOR (Qld))
- PRA Journal

Only a few of these continue today. *The Australasian Ufologist* began to publish as a newsstand publication in 1999 and includes a cross section of Australian UFO research.

## **Early Historical Studies**

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Several studies and reports have focused on the earlier historical phase of sightings including:

- *Early Australian Historical Encounters*. Bill Chalker, on the Project 1947 web site at:  
<http://www.project1947.com/bcausenc.htm>
- "Historical Reports in Australia." Bill Chalker, *ACUFOS Journal*, Vol.2.1 to 4, 1981, reproduced in *UFOs over Australia*, edited by Mark Moravec & John Prytz, (1985)
- "Items From the Australian Flap, 1909-1910." Paul Norman, *FSR*, Vol.22, No.6, 1976
- "A UFO Vision? The Mystery of 'A Machine to Go Through the Air', 1873, Parramatta, NSW, Australia." Bill Chalker, *UFORAN*, Vol.3, (1), Jan./Feb 1982, 14-29.
- *An Old Australian Phenomenon* by John Auchettl, in the Jarrold Listings (1990).
- "UFOs in Australia and New Zealand through 1959." Bill Chalker in Jerome Clark's, *The UFO Encyclopedia, Volume 2, The Emergence of a Phenomenon*, Omnigraphics/Apogee, February 1992, 333-356.
- "The Terror Down Under." Bill Chalker, *Fate*, September 1988, (re: 1927 Fernvale, NSW, UFO milieu).
- "Australian 1947 UFO Cases." Bill Chalker, in "Project 1947" by Jan Aldrich (1997).
- "The Victorian UFO Report, 1954." Ray Fischer & Les Bristol, *VUFORS* (1978).

- *1954—A Turning Point in the Australian UFO Controversy*. Bill Chalker, in seminar papers of “50- Years of Flying Saucers”, Riverwood, NSW, June 1977.
- “The 1954 UFO Invasion of Australia.” Bill Chalker, *UFO 1947-1997*, (1997) and *A World History of UFOs* (1997).

### ***The Social History Down Under***

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The social history of the UFO controversy in Australia has been elaborated in a number of diverse ways, sometimes detailed and other times fragmented. There are many areas requiring more detailed elaboration. Civilian group publications are rich sources of information, though very few have described their own social histories.

Stan Seers described some local Queensland group social history in his book, *UFOs—The Case for Scientific Myopia* (1983). His reminiscences were augmented with Annette Bramelt’s account “From One Man’s Vision ... A Brief History of UFORQ Inc. 1956-1973,” which appeared in *UFO Encounter* (Queensland) magazine during 1995-96.

Other items have appeared over the years including:

- “UFOIC and Ballarat—First Australian Convention of UFO Groups.” *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, Sydney Edition, No.8, June 1965.
- The Victorian UFO Research Society carries a brief account in its publication, *Australian UFO Bulletin*, titled “Society History 1957.”
- “The UFO Phenomena and its Investigation by UFO Groups Within Australia.” Keith Basterfield, *UFORAN*, Vol.3, No.2, March-April, 1982
- “Who’s Who in Australian Ufology.” Compiled by John Prytz, *ACUFOS*, 1982.
- Edgar Jarrold’s involvement, as the founder of Australia’s first group, is described in some detail by Bill Chalker in *1954—A Turning Point in the Australian UFO Controversy*; *The 1954 UFO Invasion of Australia* and *UFOs in Australia and New Zealand through 1959*. Further information on Jarrold is contained in extensive correspondence files between Harold Fulton of New Zealand and Jarrold. This correspondence was made available to Project 1947 by Murray Bott of New Zealand. Bill Chalker also holds a copy courtesy of Project 1947/Murray Bott.
- Peter Norris’ contribution has been described in “Peter Norris 14 Years After.” John Auchettl, *PRA Journal*, No.7 Sept 1992.

Other researchers have recorded extensive oral history in the form of notes and recordings, of the social aspects of the Australian UFO controversy, by undertaking interviews with people who have contributed to the subject in Australia. Including: Harry Turner; Colin Norris; Peter Norris; Rev. William Gill; Air Marshall Sir George Jones; Stan Seers and many others.

The collections of individual researchers and groups have not been described in any detail and it is hoped that they can be encouraged to do so!

(Source: Bill Chalker)

