

Twinning

July 7, Council meeting with Boeing. Something important had come up. Went to Roswell & then Wright field

- 3 top Annuals

6 weeks before he died

- one lived Twinning visited him

# TRUMAN, JOHNSON RIDICULE 'SAUCERS'

United States Not Producing  
Such a Weapon, Say White  
House, Defense Officials

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

KEY WEST, Fla., April 4—President Truman said today he knew nothing about the flying saucer, while other White House comment relegated this reputed wanderer of the air to the realm of myths.

The United States was not producing these fantastic weapons, the White House said, and it doubted very much that any other country was launching them into space, either.

The views of the President and members of his staff, made public by Charles G. Ross, White House press secretary, seemed to demolish the element of reality that had been creeping into current reports of flying saucers. There has been a widespread resurgence of these reports, and The Miami Daily News has been publishing copyrighted photographs of a glowing, concave object which it identifies as the saucer that flies.

### Ross Sees General, Admiral

Correspondents, however, questioned Mr. Ross on the basis of an article in the current issue of the weekly magazine, United States News and World Report, which stated that the flying saucer was a real aircraft of revolutionary design being developed for the United States by the Navy Department.

They put the questions in the morning. Mr. Ross returned with his answers in the afternoon, after consulting the President as well as Brig. Gen. Robert B. Landry and Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison, the Chief Executive's Air Force and naval aides.

Mr. Ross quoted Admiral Dennison as saying he knew nothing of the flying saucer. General Landry also said there was nothing to it, recalling that the Air Force had investigated the reports and found no reality in them.

"General Landry told me," said Mr. Ross, "that in December, 1947, the Air Force set up a project to investigate all rumors and reports as to flying saucers and carried on this project until last August, when it made a final report that there was nothing to these flying saucers. This report was so conclusive that the project was ended."

Mr. Ross was asked whether the reports were being denied for security reasons.

"I'm not denying this because they are in the secret weapon category," replied Mr. Ross. "No one in the [President's] party knows anything about them, including the President."

"Do you think there could be a secret weapon project without the President knowing about it?" was another question.

"I think it extremely unlikely," responded Mr. Ross.

His tone indicated an understatement rather than doubt. Mr. Truman sees a continuous flow of reports on American developments, as well as daily intelligence reports on foreign activities.

In reply to another question, Mr. Ross said, "as far as I know, no other country has them."

An anonymous White House source said the official comment did not rule out the possibility that the Navy or some other agency might have experimented with types of aircraft shaped like a saucer, but added that these could not have produced the recurring rumors. The press has published an actual photograph of a one-third scale model of an eccentric-looking aircraft used only in wind-

## House Member 43 Years Is Congratulated at 84



Representative Adolph J. Sabath in his Chicago office yesterday.

Associated Press Wirephoto

By The United Press.

WASHINGTON, April 4—The House extended congratulations today to its dean of members, Representative Adolph J. Sabath, Democrat of Illinois, on his eighty-fourth birthday.

Mr. Sabath was not on hand to hear them because he was at the side of his wife, who was ill in Chicago.

Speeches were made on the House floor and Mr. Sabath's office received a congratulatory telegram from President Truman expressing "confident hope" that the Congressman would see "a long tomorrow."

Mr. Sabath, who came to America as a 15-year-old immigrant from Czechoslovakia, has served in Congress since 1907, longer than any other present member.

At the end of his present term, next January, he will have matched the all-time record of continuous membership, forty-three years and ten months. The record was set by Senator Justin S. Morrill, a Vermont Republican who left office in 1898.

tunnel tests by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

Mr. Ross said it was unlikely that Mr. Truman would alter his plan to return to Washington by plane next Monday. Mrs. Truman, however, will return on Friday, by train, so as to keep some Saturday appointments. Their daughter Margaret, who arrived with Mrs. Truman last Saturday, has not decided whether to return with her mother or make the trip by air with her father.

If Mr. Truman stays here until Monday, he will have been away from the capital thirty-one days, his longest absence from Washington since he went to the Potsdam conference in 1945. His stay here has been marked by unusual activity. In this eighth stay in Key West, White House correspondents have had to cover a much greater volume of Presidential business than on any previous trip.

Last night Mr. Truman saw the motion picture, "The Third Man," shown in his vacation cottage for the second time. Miss Truman had seen it Sunday night and liked it so much that she had it shown again, apparently to get her father to see it. Margaret made it a

double-feature night, but the President went to his desk to work as the picture, "Champagne for Caesar," started.

### Johnson Dismisses Reports

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON, April 4—Flying saucers came up at a press conference of Louis Johnson, Secretary of Defense, today, and brought forth little more than grins from the man who ought to know.

Secretary Johnson said the subject had not even been mentioned at a meeting a few minutes before of the Armed Forces Policy Committee. On the committee are the civilian Secretaries of the three services, their military chiefs and representatives from such groups as the Munitions Board and the Research and Development Board.

By way of dismissing the reports that flying saucers were an official secret research project, Mr. Johnson said he would not mind having a few squadrons of anything that would increase national security.

A few seconds later, discussing pressure in Congress to increase

funds for procurement of aircraft, the Secretary of Defense said that he was for "anything that increases our security within reason. Then he asked the reporters to make it look as if he wanted a few squadrons of saucers.

Later, a harassed Defense Department press office announced from the Pentagon that there was no intention of reopening Project Saucer, an Air Force special project officially closed four months ago."

Then, to wash up the whole subject, spokesmen for the three services said none of them or other agency in the Defense Department was experimenting with secret or non-secret "disk-shaped flying objects" and that there had been no evidence that the phenomena were attributable to activity of any foreign nation.

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From: "Carol Briley" <carol.briley@truman.nara.gov>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 2000 12:05:01 -0400  
To: <squishy@altavista.com>  
Subject: Re: President Truman Trips

August 28, 2000

Dear Mr. Cameron:

Thank you for your e-mail of August 27, 2000. We were unable to find a record of President Truman visiting Alaska. If you can provide us with more specific information, we will be happy to search our files again.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Carol Briley  
Archivist  
Harry S. Truman Library  
500 West Highway 24  
Independence, MO 64050  
(816) 833-1400, extension 260  
Fax: (816) 833-4368

>>> <squishy@altavista.com> 08/27 1:00 PM >>>  
Carol

I have a question related to a trip supposed taken by Truman to Alaska in 1948. Using the NYT's index I was not able to find such a trip. Maybe the date I have is wrong.

Could you let me if Truman travelled to Alaska in 1947, 48, or 49.

If there was such a trip what was the date, and could I get the Presidential calander for those dates?

Thanks

Grant Cameron



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From: "Carol Briley" <carol.briley@truman.nara.gov>  
 Date: Tue, 31 Oct 2000 11:11:33 -0500  
 To: <sqquishy@altavista.com>  
 Subject: Re: Satellite Study

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October 31, 2000

Dear Mr. Cameron:

Thank you for your e-mail of October 30, 2000. I was unable to locate the name of Aristid Grosse in our holdings. The Papers of Wallace Graham have not been processed.

I suggest that you contact the Eisenhower Library. You can reach them by e-mail at the following: <library@eisenhower.nara.gov>

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Carol Briley  
 Archivist  
 Harry S. Truman Library  
 500 West Highway 24  
 Independence, MO 64050  
 (816) 833-1400, extension 260  
 Fax: (816) 833-4368

>>> <sqquishy@altavista.com> 10/29 10:22 PM >>>  
Carol

From a NASA book the following quote:

"Sometime in 1952, President Truman discussed the satellite issue with his personal physician, Brigadier General Wallace Graham. Graham persuaded Truman to commission a study from Aristid Grosse, a chemical engineer who had worked on some military projects. Grosse conducted extensive discussions with Wernher



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From: "Carol Briley" <carol.briley@truman.nara.gov>  
Date: Fri, 17 Nov 2000 11:20:27 -0500  
To: <sqquishy@altavista.com>  
Subject: Re: Couple Questions

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November 17, 2000

Dear Mr. Cameron:

Thank you for your e-mail of November 14, 2000. We have two photos of the meeting between President Truman and Eisenhower in November 1952. The photos are number 78-445 and 78-446. An 8x10 black and white copy of these photos can be purchased for \$19.00 per copy. The copyright of these photographs is held by Photo World-New York. You would need to obtain their permission to publish the photographs.

Presidential quotes are often difficult to authenticate. We were unable to locate the satellite quote in our holdings. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Carol Briley  
Archivist  
Harry S. Truman Library  
500 West Highway 24  
Independence, MO 64050  
(816) 833-1400, extension 260  
Fax: (816) 833-4368

>>> <sqquishy@altavista.com> 11/14 3:59 PM >>>  
Carol

Have an question about pictures. The New York Times of Nov. 19, 1952, stated that President Elect Eisenhower was in Washington on November 18, 1952, and had pictures taken with President Truman. Can your picyure archives people find such a picture. I am not sure what system

they use for filing.

Also a quote from an article "Harry Truman, for one, told reporters during an early morning walk in 1956 - a year before the Russians shot Sputnik into space - that artificial satellites were "a lot of hoey."

Is there a file for satellites? or any way to track down this quote?

I hope you can help.

Grant Cameron

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Volume 46, No. 6  
June 5th, 1999

## MORE ON HARRY S TRUMAN'S UFO VIEWS:

In our March 15th issue, we discussed the Truman quote in Joe Firmage's recent full-page ad in the newspaper USA Today, and we also modestly mentioned our own two meetings with Truman in which he definitely expressed negative opinions about flying saucers.

Once again, the Firmage quote, from an April 4th, 1950 press conference, is: "I can assure you that flying saucers, given that they exist, are not constructed by any power on earth". The key phrase here is "given that they exist". The obvious implication is that Truman did not believe they exist!

*get  
activity  
log*

Firmage apparently obtained this quote from "The Unidentified Flying Objects Briefing Document", published in 1995 by Don Berliner and Antonio Hunneus. The problem is that according to MUFON Eastern Director George Filer, Stanton Friedman claims that there is no record of Truman having had any press conference on April 4th, 1950. In our opinion the quote is quite consistent with Truman's views as we knew them, but nevertheless it may be bogus.

We asked Antonio Hunneus about all this, and he admits that he obtained the quote from someone else (probably Berliner), and that he never had time to check it out for himself. Thus there is a bit of a mystery here.

Several of Firmage's thirteen other celebrity quotes in this ad are from the Berliner/Hunneus source, and it must be said that some of them (not necessarily the same ones) are misleading or taken out of context. (Our thanks to Karl Pflock & Antonio Hunneus for help on this item.)

Volume 46, No. 3  
March 15th, 1999

## THE INSIDE SCOOP ON HARRY S TRUMAN'S UFO VIEWS

A full-page ad in the Feb. 19th issue of the newspaper USA Today is of interest. It was placed there by the International Space Sciences Organization, which is in reality

millionaire saucer enthusiast Joe Firmage. Fourteen celebrities or public figures are quoted as to their positive feelings about UFOS. The ad is nicely done, but unfortunately several of the quotes are misleading or taken out of context.

The most extreme example of this is the quote from Harry S Truman which reads: "I can assure you that flying saucers, *given that they exist* (italics ours), are not constructed by any power on earth". This statement is from a 1950 White House press conference and sounds very impressive, except that the phrase in italics is the key part. We had a brief private meeting with Truman in 1954, after he was out of office, and the quote he gave us regarding flying saucers was simply "I've never seen a purple cow, I never hope to see one ... He refused to add to that statement.

Several years later we attended a Truman press conference (not at the White House), and received similar negative responses from the ex-president in answer to our UFO-related questions. Naturally we never asked about Roswell or MJ-12, as these were still unknown to the public at that time.

*see if  
Truman  
press  
conferences  
are on  
file*

This Truman story is one of the items we were saving for our forthcoming book with Karl Pflock, but it looks like the millennium may end before said book is ever published. (Our thanks to hard-core non-subscriber Denis Corey for this item.) ...

---

*James W. Moseley  
July 15 Savoca Smear*

- CHRISTOPHER ALLAN of England writes as follows:

"I received your latest 'Smear', with the Paul Bennewitz tale therein.

"One matter of interest is this: How and when did the expression 'Extraterrestrial Biological Entities' (or EBE for short) arise? According to the MJ-12 papers, the term was first used by Dr. Detlev Bronk when MJ-12 was set up in 1947. Only MJ-12 diehards (the few that still exist) believe this now.

"I read somewhere that the term EBE was first suggested by Paul Bennewitz around 1980, but probably this was only in conversation and not in writing. It would be a 100% knockout punch on MJ-12 if we could lay our hands on a Bennewitz paper known to have been written before 1984, the date the MJ-12 stuff allegedly reached Moore and Shandera.

"So my question is: Is there any paper or article or are there any notes of Bennewitz written earlier than 1984, containing the term 'EBE'?"

"Discovery of such would finally sink MJ-12 and all its follow-up documents, forever. Was Bennewitz in fact the inventor of the concept of an EBE???"

"Re Edward Condon's article written in 1969, has anyone ever been publicly horsewhipped in the U.S? Do such public punishments or humiliations still occur? (Not to be confused with lynchings, of course!)"

Truman.

- **Volume 46, No. 8**  
**July 25th, 1999**
- 
- The search goes on for the original source of a quote, supposedly from a 1950 Harry S Truman press conference, which reads: "I can assure you that flying saucers, given that they exist, are not constructed by any power on earth".

In our last issue we published a letter from Paris Flammonde, stating that he used the quote in his 1976 book "UFO Exist!", but he does not remember just what his source was. Now Christopher Allan of England has written in, pointing out this same fact, and also telling us that Truman was on vacation in Key West, of all places, on the date in 1950 when he supposedly had the press conference.

Allan thinks the quote is false, but as previously stated, your "Smear" editor had the opportunity to interview Truman twice about flying saucers, and the quote, whether false or not, accurately represents Truman's view, in our opinion. The key phrase is "given that they exist". Obviously he did not believe that they do exist.

Incidentally, Truman often went on vacation in Key West when he was president, and stayed at a home called the Little White House. After his presidency ended, he continued coming down, and freeloaded with the Spottswood family, who are still prominent (and very wealthy) citizens in Key West ... The Little White House is now a museum here ...

- 
- 
- Another old-timer, PARIS FLAMMONDE, writes as follows:

... Joe Firmage's quote (re Harry Truman), 'I can assure you that flying saucers, given they exist, are not constructed by any power on earth', need not have been borrowed from Berliner and Hunneus (1995), since twenty years earlier it served as an epigram for Chapter One ('The Renaissance') of my book 'UFO Exist!' (G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1976) and, of course, in Ballentine's paperback edition, as well as the German & French versions. To wit: There were many accesses to the text and the quote ... I originally found it in a news magazine, I believe, but it resides or hides among ten thousand cuttings, and I haven't the four years required to excavate it.

- **Volume 46, No. 8**  
**July 25th, 1999**

CHRISTOPHER ALLAN writes:

"Another tidbit about that Truman quote: I have now located an earlier source than the one I gave before: The quote appears in 'Science, the Public and the UFO' by the Canadian author Arthur Bray, published in 1967 (page 11). He prints the date of Truman's press conference as April 4, 1960 (presumably a misprint). Now wait for this: Bray also gives the source for the alleged quote as 'Flying Saucer Review', a UK zine, in the issue for Vol. 5, No. 5 (1959). So it will be necessary to look at that issue of FSR to see exactly what it said. Alas I do not possess it. Does any reader have FSR Vol. 5, No. 5 of 1959? That might resolve the matter, but again it might not!"

nt experts on everything...

# DOSE FLYING SAUCERS: ARE OR AREN'T THEY?

Everybody, Including the President, Is  
Buzzed and Many Guesses Are Made

By JOSEPH NOLAN

The mystery of the "flying saucers" was accorded renewed attention last week, this time even President Truman himself. The president said he was just as puzzled as the next fellow by the latest flurry of reports about weird and wonderful sights in the sky. A police chief in Illinois swore he saw a "strange disk-like object, fish in the center, with blue lights on the outer edges." Residents of an Ohio city reported "two bright lights in the sky," each leaving a streak of orange flame. Other "saucer" stories popped up in such widely scattered points as Mexico, Argentina, Germany, China and Chile.

The reports were reminiscent of ones that made the rounds in the summer of 1947. In the fall of that year, a business man named Kenneth Arnold, piloting a private plane in Washington State, spied nine shimmering disks flying along in the vicinity of Mount Rainier. He told his story to the newspapers and pretty soon people all over the country were seeing "saucers." Some of them looked like "shiny chromium caps off a car." Others resembled "an ice-cream cone topped with red." Still others suggested a hardtop, a doughnut, or a ball of fire.

The Air Force inaugurated the "Project Saucer" to investigate and evaluate the reports. Experts at Wright-Patterson Air Force base in Dayton, Ohio, spent two years studying almost 400 cases. Their conclusion, made public last December, was that all of them could be accounted for in one of three ways: (1) misinterpretation of various conventional objects like balloons, meteors, or birds in flight; (2) a mild form of mass hysteria; (3) pure hoaxes.

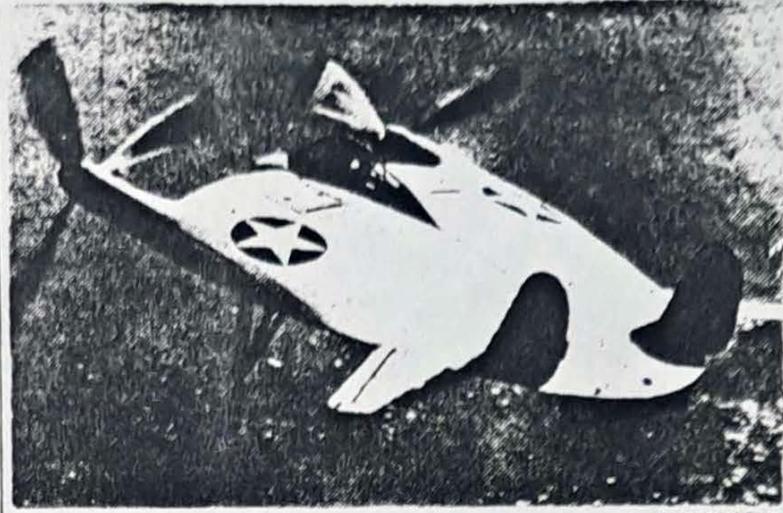
## More Theories Than "Saucers"

But if the Air Force figured out its official report would tend to speculation, it was undermining the public curiosity and imagination. If anything, the theories have multiplied. Some represent an elaboration or variation on the Air Force findings, while others have a distinct Buck Rogers flavor. Here are some of the ones that have been put forth to explain the celestial crockery:

**Secret Weapon.** The magazine *News and World Report* says in its current issue that the disks are aircraft of a revolutionary design—a combination helicopter and jet plane. It says well-documented accounts show these planes to be 105 feet in diameter and circular in shape, with what appear to be jet nozzles all around the outer rim. Indications are, according to the magazine, that the "saucers" are being developed by the Navy. This story brought emphatic denials from the President and from Defense Secretary Louis Johnson. Mr. Truman said that if there were any such project in the works, he had not heard about it. Igor Sikorsky, noted aeronautical engineer and a pioneer in helicopter design, commented: "I doubt much that of the present

was advanced recently by *True Magazine*. It has a counterpart in stories making the rounds on the West Coast to the effect that one of the disks crashed and that a body was thrown free of the wreckage, the body of a monkey-like creature about three feet tall. The Air Force insists that its investigations "lend no support to the view that the 'saucers' may come from another planet."

Despite the frequency with which the flying disks have turned up, most people have trouble discussing them with a straight face. Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko, in a rare moment of whimsy, suggested that perhaps they were caused by a Russian



Associated Press

The V-173, experimental fighter the Navy developed during the war.

discus thrower who didn't know his own strength.

Speaking as a psychologist, Prof. G. Milton Smith of the College of the City of New York, offered this theory: "The explanation of the saucers is obvious—they originated in Scotland, where the Loch Ness monster caused such a sensation several years ago. The sea serpent, angered by a lack of attention, has

been discharging eggs at supersonic velocity by lashing its tail about. These eggs have been floating through the stratosphere and as they descend toward the earth their rotary motion has flattened them into the shape of disks. The glowing effect reported by some observers is undoubtedly due to frictional changes at various altitudes."

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