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"A "Real" ID4 "Alien Invasion" Gov Ops Plan ??"

By **Robert Collins**

In a USA Today newspaper dated July 5-7, 1996 there appeared in reaction to the ID4 movie an article entitled, "What if they did land ?" When the different agencies were asked about a "plan" in case of an "alien" attack USA Today received the following responses: "No plan, say the White House" ; "No plan, say the Federal Emergency Management Agency."

Relating these quotes to the reports of an elite committee of members known as "MJ-12" who reportedly dealt with "Aliens" and their recovered artifacts: The following has been uncovered over the years of research. MJ-12 had a "cover" under which it operated and that cover was reportedly "The Office of Emergency Preparedness, **Special Facilities Division.**" The OEP office is now the "Federal Emergency Management Agency." If the reader will note that's quite something to have the reported MJ-12 group under such an office and yet have no "plan" in case of an "alien" attack. The MJ-12 name has reportedly been changed at least three or four times. The first name change in the eighties was reportedly the "ORACA Panel:" And ever since the "MJ-12 Security System" has been changing this and other "code names" at the drop of a hat.

And from an anonymous mailer we get this:

Wrong, the Government has, or at least had, a plan to face a possible Alien attack. National Strategic Operation Plan 355-1, Annex IIIK was the plan as of 1988. It might have changed but that was the plan when I left. The plan was codeword Top Secret. The codeword was , I better not say what that was just in case the plan is still classified. The plan was very complexed and contained thirty volumes of "what if" senarios.

For more information see: <http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/framefst.html>

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On Wednesday, July 15, 1998, Joel Carpenter wrote:

"In 1992 "Time" magazine published an article called "The Doomsday Blueprints," an expose of Cold War secrets. The article contained an interview with J. Leo Bourassa, an Air Force officer (I don't think they gave his rank but I would guess he was a Colonel - he supposedly delivered the news of the 1960 U-2 shootdown to Eisenhower) who was the former commander of "High Point" - a bomb shelter complex for the President and executive branch officials. It's better known as Mt. Weather, and is located in West Virginia. The complex was built in the late 1950s. Bourassa had been the commander of the complex for its whole active lifetime - presumably until shortly before the 1992 article was written. He said that during the entire time he had been in charge of the base, he had put it on alert exactly one time. Remember what happened between around 1957 and 1992 - the Berlin crisis, the Cuban missile crisis, several mideast wars, the KAL shootdown, etc. The one single alert was called on November 9, 1965, the day of the Northeast blackout - because Bourassa thought a surgical nuclear attack was under way. I wonder if some nuclear sensors somewhere were giving false alarms, or if he just made the assumption on his own."
- Joel Carpenter

Mt. Weather USGS. Aerial Image April 1965

02 Overhead

03 "

J. Leo Bourassa

Time 10 August 1992
32-39

Time 9 December 1991
26-29.

Ted Gup

11-11



From: "Dwight Strandberg" <dwight.strandberg@nara.gov>
To: <presidentialufo@presidency.com>
Cc:
Subject: Re: J. Leo Bourassa
Date: Mon, 30 Jun 2003 17:38:19 -0400

Dear Grant:

Seems that it has been awhile since I've heard from you.

I found three items on J. Leo Bourassa in the Alpha File. One is dated in November of 1954 when it was reported that Bourassa "quite his job because of not enough work to do." The writer sent a clipping to the President about the incident with praise for the action. The letter was referred to the Civil Service commission.

In June 1958 there is correspondence between Bourassa and Sherman Adams. On one occasion Bourassa wrote from the Federal Civil Defense Administration in Battle Creek, Michigan expressing satisfaction with his work with the Agency. On the other occasion he wrote from the Roger Smith Hotel in Washington DC in support of Adams with regard to the Goldfine controversy. There is nothing in the Alphabetical File connecting him with Mount Weather or the Gary Powers incident.

There may be additional material in our files on Bourassa. You could check the Adams papers. It is possible he may have written to others on the White House Staff but who is anyone's guess.

It appears that Bourassa was never a high ranking government official. Even someone running Mount Weather is not at a level that would normally suggest contact with Eisenhower or the White House. Bourassa has proven to be a bit of an exception so there is that going for him. But it seems to me that the odds are still against there being more documentation.

The Official File and the General File, components of the White House Central Files, contain files on the Signal Corps and the White House Signal Detachment. The material in files of this type is generally of a routine administrative nature. Neither the Official File or the General File contain files on Mount Weather.

Please contact me if you have further questions. I'm going to be out of the office for two weeks beginning next week. If you need something that cannot await my return then send your request to eisenhower.library@nara.gov and another member of our staff will assist you.

Sincerely,

Dwight Strandberg
 Archivist
 Eisenhower Library

>>> "Grant Cameron" <presidentialufo@presidency.com> 6/25/2003 7:03:46 PM >>>
 Dwight

Could you give me a quick overview of what you might have on J. Leo Bourassa. He ran Mount Weather "Highpoint" and claimed to have been the guy who handed Ike the teletype saying that Gary Powers had been shot down.

I would also be interested in material that might be in the library on Mount Weather and the Signal Corps. I am planning a trip to your library in mid Sept.

Hope you can help.

Grant

"She (Hillary Clinton)told me once that some guy of our age had walked up to her and said, You know, I would be really proud if my daughter grew up to be like you, but I'm sure as hell am glad as hell my wife isn't." Ford, Nixon, Reagan, and Clinton presidential advisor David Gergen

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Foreign Relations, 1964-1968, Volume X, National Security Policy

Released by the Office of the Historian
Documents 91-102

91. Memorandum From the Director of the White House Office of Emergency Planning (Ellington) to President Johnson/1/

Washington, August 2, 1965.

/1/Source: Washington National Records Center, OSD Files: FRC 330 70 A 1266, 384 (July-Dec) 1965. Secret. An August 9 covering memorandum from Bundy to McNamara briefly summarized the memorandum and concluded: "You need not be reminded of the importance of the relationship between Defense and OEP in developing prompt and adequate contingency plans, but it might be useful to ensure that the procedures and lines of communications are in good shape."

This is a summary of readiness to put into effect civilian mobilization measures as necessary to support an increased military commitment to Vietnam.

--The Nation faces the present situation with greater economic strength and preparedness to mobilize our civilian effort in support of national defense than ever before in our history.

--The Defense Production Act of 1950/2/ contains authority to meet the immediate problems of the buildup. It provides for priorities and allocations and other actions for expediting defense production. Authorities for price and wage stabilization have expired. Legislative proposals are ready if needed.

/2/P.L. 81-774, approved September 8, 1950. (64 Stat. 798)

--The Director of the Office of Emergency Planning coordinates, on behalf of the President, all mobilization activities of the Executive branch. Executive Order 10480/3/ gives him the priorities and allocations authorities conferred upon the President by Title I of the Defense Production Act.

/3/E.O. 10480, August 14, 1953, established procedures for the administration of the Defense Mobilization Act of 1950. (*Federal Register*, vol. 18, August 20, 1953, pp. 4939, 4941-4944)

--The Defense Materials System provides machinery for expediting and allocating materials for defense production. It is administered by the Business and Defense Services Administration (Department of Commerce) under re delegation from the Director of OEP. It successfully supports Defense, AEC, and NASA programs today, and can be expanded.

--Although the economy may be able, in general terms, to accommodate a stepped-up military effort, there will be instances where specific industries, materials, components, or facilities will require action under the Defense Production Act to facilitate production.

--The state of our strategic and critical materials stockpiles, having a market value of about \$8 billion, is very good. Sixty-three of the 77 stockpiled materials equal or exceed stockpile objectives for limited or conventional war. Although the inventories for the remaining 14 materials are adequate to meet a limited war of short duration, they should be brought to the level of established stockpile objectives, and we are taking steps to this end without unduly affecting markets.

--We are in touch with the Council of Economic Advisors and other agencies to watch economic indices affecting mobilization.

--Economic stabilization measures are of two types--indirect controls and direct controls. Indirect include: taxes, credit controls, and other monetary measures within the responsibility of the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve Board. Some of these measures are part of our day-to-day economic system.

Direct controls include those for prices, wages and salaries, and rents as well as rationing. Authority for such controls does not exist today. Legislative proposals are kept ready, but capability to administer these controls does not exist since substantial national organizations would be required. Preliminary plans and arrangements have been developed as a part of our regular preparedness. A national organization could be established and in operation in a period of 60-90 days.

--No major national manpower problem is foreseen. Manpower shortages, to the extent they would exist, would be in critical skills and localized. These shortages could generally be met through existing voluntary manpower measures already established by the Department of Labor and endorsed by the National Labor-Management Manpower Policy Committee. Care will have to be exercised in meeting military requirements for medical personnel to minimize the effect on civilian communities. Selective Service is ready to meet increased calls for military personnel.

--In the transportation field there are three areas of possible shortages: ocean shipping (where the Maritime Administration has already pulled 14 ships from the National Defense Reserve Fleet), air cargo, and rail freight. Shortages occur in rail freight today. Necessary action to meet national defense requirements can be taken by the President under existing law.

--To evaluate the potential economic and industrial impact of increased defense spending, and to plan effectively the mobilization effort, we must have a clear and detailed statement from the Department of Defense on the size, composition, and phasing of defense requirements. I will review this matter with the Secretary of Defense so that we can provide coordinated civilian support.

Buford Ellington

92. Letter From Secretary of State Rusk to the Deputy Secretary of Defense (Vance)/1/

Washington, September 3, 1965.

/1/Source: Washington National Records Center, OSD Files: FRC 330 70 A 1265, 031.1 White House (23 Jan 65). Secret.

Dear Cy:

The Department of Defense study, *Command and Control Support to the President*, transmitted with your letter of March 6, 1965,^{2/} contributes significantly to the development of a comprehensive Executive Branch approach to crisis management. The President's command and control support requirements are of obvious concern to the Department of State and to me personally.

^{2/}For the conclusion of the study, see Document 86. The letter of March 6 was not found.

I am of the personal view that much of the prevailing thinking about the problems of conducting essential governmental processes after sustaining a nuclear attack is inadequate and dated and fails to grapple realistically with the formidable obstacles which would confront officials surviving such an encounter. Of necessity, this basic reservation colors and qualifies some of the comments which follow.

Many of the observations and recommendations contained in this study confirm the validity of present State/Defense understandings and arrangements which have enhanced the President's ability to give direction to politico-military operations. I have in mind particularly the exchange of personnel between our Operations Center and the National Military Command Center, the monitoring by one department of the other's significant message traffic, and other machinery for managing crisis situations at the Presidential level. Moreover, the study emphasizes the value of such activities as the recently inaugurated State-Defense-CIA cooperation in politico-military contingency planning and in the development and conduct of major JCS exercises.

We also note that the current study reinforces the previously advanced justification for the construction of a

Deep Underground Command Center (DUCC). The National Military Command System's *Master Plan* and the *JCS Continuity of Operations Plan*^{/3/} contemplate State Department representation in both the sea and airborne alternates, as well as the ANMCC. We will give further study to operational concepts and physical arrangements applicable to State Department functions both at and in support of such command posts.

^{/3/}Neither further identified.

Under its terms of reference, the DOD study group was instructed to state projections of Presidential support obtainable from non-DOD sources in "general terms" only. We concur in the view that a Presidentially directed response to varying crisis levels, up to and including general war, requires the marshalling of a wider range of governmental resources than those of the Department of Defense. Hence we believe that there is a need to explore more specifically the conceptual requirements for non-DOD command and control support to the President which will supplement the analysis of Department of Defense support developed by the DOD study group. Initially, such an undertaking would appear to call for a careful stock-taking by other key agencies of their own responsibilities and capabilities in this field. The Department of State, accordingly, will initiate a study along these lines at an early date. We hope such a study will contribute to government-wide understanding of the components of a total "national command" concept.

We shall be giving study to improving our own Command and Control System in the days ahead. Undoubtedly this work will include consultations between our respective Departments and joint consideration of pertinent materials, including the present study. If this exercise results in additional suggestions or proposals which might be worth your consideration in connection with review of command and control procedures, we will be in communication with you.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Dean

93. National Intelligence Estimate^{/1/}

NIE 11-6-65

Washington, September 16, 1965.

^{/1/}Source: Johnson Library, National Security File, National Intelligence Estimates 11-65, USSR, Box 3. Top Secret; Controlled Dissem. A prefatory note and cover sheet are not printed. According to the prefatory note, the CIA and the intelligence organizations of the Departments of State and Defense, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the National Security Agency participated in the preparation of this estimate. Representatives of the State Department, DIA, AEC, and NSA concurred; the FBI representative abstained, the subject being outside his jurisdiction.

SOVIET CAPABILITIES FOR CONCEALING STRATEGIC WEAPON PROGRAMS

The Problem

To estimate Soviet capabilities for secretly developing and deploying strategic weapon systems and to examine factors bearing on Soviet intentions in this regard, over the next few years.

Scope Note

In this estimate, we assume that Western collection efforts will continue at approximately their present levels. Soviet capabilities for concealing strength under terms of an inspection agreement have not been considered, since these capabilities would have to be assessed in detail in relation to each of the many possible forms which such an inspection agreement might take. We have, however, considered in general the effect which arms control might have upon Soviet concealment.

DIA___Defense Intelligence Agency
FTD___Foreign Technology **Division**
CIA___Central Intelligence Agency
Army MI_ Military Intelligence
ONI___Office of Naval Intelligence
AFIS___Air Force Intelligence Service
AFOSI__Air Force office of **Special** Investigations
AFSAC__Air Force **Special** Activities Center
NISC___Naval Intelligence Support Center
SAFSS__Secretary of the Air Force Space Systems
SAS___Special Activities Sector under SAFSS
AFTAC__Air Force Technical Applications Center

Closing Remarks: Its important again to remind the readers that this organizational chart is only being reported: And it can almost certainly be said that this "org chart" has changed substantially since the reporting period of 1984-85. This chart was primarily constructed from FOIA documentation and Gov Intel sources for the years 1978 thru 1985. The dotted lines and stars that tie these organizations together are not meant to give the idea that the whole or even a large part of the organization is involved in **UFO**/Alien matters: It may only be a handfull in some cases for each organization. Also, the chart is not meant primarily to convey a rigid chain of command but rather, a cooperative effort amongst the organizations.

The reader, I think, will note the prominence of the Navy in this chart: Perhaps unknown to a lot of our "**UFO** buffs" and others is the "reported facts" of just how deeply involved the Navy is in this subject area. The reported depth met or exceeded that of the Air Force.

Bill Moore of 4219 W Olive Ste 247 Burbank Ca 91505 was the person primarily responsible for the bulk of the research on this "org chart."

The reader is directed to the following URLs for further information on FEMA and the AFOSI/PJ offices which figure prominently at this point, in this subject area.

- 1) FEMA: <http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/news2/fema.html>
- 2) AFOSI/PJ: <http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/news2/disinfo.html>

from intel. sources
1978 thro 85

MJ-12 Organ. Chart reported for years 1984-85

PRESIDENT

Special advisory Committee
to President on Alien matters

OROCA PANEL

Federal Emergency Management
Agency

MJ 12: FEMA-NSA

Special Facilities Division - FEMA & C-Group for NSA

Strike from Space Phyllis Schlafly Chester Ward
'underground command bunker near High Point, Virginia
Air Force Colonel J. Leo Bonassa. In Charge of the
Presidential bunker intended to be used in case of nuclear attack.
- November Blackout 22 Septem 210-A nuclear blast detection
sites had gone down. Salt Lake City and Charlotte N.C sites
were showing red on the display board.

Mt Weather was put on full alert ~~the only time~~ for the
first and only time during the cold war.

Reagan Pres. directive #54 Foma readiness exercise REX84



MUTUAL UFO NETWORK

www.mufon.com

Susan E. Hill
State Director
Oklahoma MUFON
Email: itsallconnected@theshop.net

13341 NW 84th St.
Yukon, OK 73099-8441 USA
Home Phone: 405.350.2156
Cell Phone: 405.204.6201

September 25, 2003

Grant Cameron
649 Silverstone Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3T 2V8

Dear Grant,

Please find enclosed the reimbursement check from J. Molder in regard to the book *Kids' Letters to President Reagan* that you purchased from EBAY.

I've read about one half of the book so far. Kids are so cute in what they say, but sometimes they can be so brutally honest that it tugs at your heart. When you read it, you'll know what I mean.

As I mentioned in a previous email, I'll keep the book safe until I bring it to you next April at the 2004 Ozark UFO Conference in Eureka Springs.

Sincerely,

Susan

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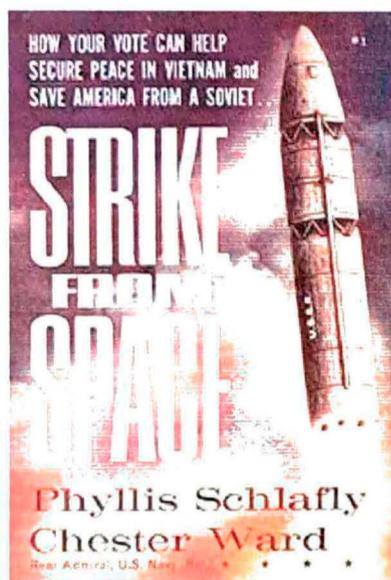
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Strike From Space?

Orbital Bombs, UFOs and The Great Northeast Blackout of 1965

[Draft 24 Mar 02]



In the fall of 1965, conservative activists Phyllis Schlafly and Rear Admiral Chester Ward (Ret) published forgotten book called "Strike From Space," aimed at warning America about the growing menace of exot "Strike From Space" was clearly the product of behind-the-scenes work by members of the Goldwater wi perhaps even more conservative circles – and bitterly attacked the military policies of the Lyndon Johnsc Ward reserved particular venom for Defense Secretary Robert Strange McNamara (they loved to use his regarded as a representative of an elite social clique that was bent on deliberately undermining US secur Soviet nuclear threat.

Schlafly and Ward relied on a star-studded cast of military advisors when researching the book, probably

LeMay and Thomas Power, both former chiefs of Strategic Air Command. According to Schlafly, another strong supporter and friend of strategic theorist Dr Stefan Possony, who had long been an advocate of strengthened space defenses. Possony and his assistant (in the 1970s, Assistant Chief of Staff, Air Force Intelligence) had been members of the ultra-hawkish Air Force Intelligence Special Studies Group (Possony had been an attendee at the 1953 CIA UFO Scientific Advisory Panel meetings). Possony's and Keegan's deep, almost paranoid approach to analysis of Soviet space developments is vividly described in books like Kaplan's "The Wizards of Armageddon".

Of course, the early 1960s was an era of very impressive Soviet space advances. Every week seemed to bring news of a new space satellite payload, or a huge new missile. As Johnson and McNamara's cancellation of systems like Dyna Soar and the B-70 bomber demonstrated, Schlafly, Ward and their advisors were determined to expose what they saw as a carefully-planned slide toward an inevitable Soviet strike that would use a new type of weapon – not ICBMs, but orbital bombs that could strike from the heavens without warning, an unstoppable, massive decapitating blow. McNamara was deliberately ignoring this possibility, the ultraconservatives argued, and A

Here is how Schlafly and Ward portrayed the coming Soviet sneak attack:

Have the Soviets the capability of launching a crippling strike from space on the United States?

In March 1965 General Curtis LeMay, recently retired as Air Force Chief of Staff, warned that Russia might be developing the capability to give them military superiority over the United States. Also in March, Air Force General Thomas S. Power, for Strategic Air Command, warned that Americans 'may wake up one morning' and find a number of nuclear-armed Soviet satellites in stationary orbits over every part of the United States.'

On July 4, 1965, Communist Party Chief Brezhnev, in a Kremlin speech, declared that the Soviets possess 'orbital rockets' and that the Soviets launched the heaviest space craft payload ever orbited. Named Proton 1, it weighed 26,500 pounds - much heavier than the previous Soviet satellite. Only one day earlier, the Soviets had orbited 5 unmanned satellites with a payload of 100,000 pounds. On September 3 they launched 5 more the same way. In the light of these actual demonstrations of massive rocket technology, the fact that they have had 4 years to multiply the 100-megaton warhead capability they demonstrated by tests in October 1961, their yield/weight ratio, no responsible authority can deny the possibility that the Soviets possess 'gigaton' warheads. Multiple warheads for super-missiles. This would mean that the Soviets have the capability to accomplish their worst nuclear weapons.

First, their attack against the United States could be delivered with complete surprise -- with 'zero warning' - because carrying a warhead in the gigaton range does not need to be deorbited before the button is pushed. Second, the attack would render inoperative up to 90% of US strategic retaliatory forces. Our so-called 'invulnerable' land-based missiles are such unprecedented explosive power, and all our remaining bombers (except the few on airborne alert) are vulnerable to a few minutes warning; nor could our communications, command and control networks function after such an attack. This "genocidal," that is, the entire population of the United States would be the prime target.

This genocidal result could be re-insured 30 minutes later by a follow-on attack with multiple-warhead missiles, directly at major population centers, and still later by their manned bombers which, unlike missiles, can seek out undestroyed areas.

...Stacked in space, stockpiled in the sky - the Soviets now have more than 85 known Cosmos satellites, with unknown numbers of orbital bombers, armed as General Power warned they could be, with 'multi-megaton nuclear warheads released upon radio command from Russia'? No one from our side knows the answer.

We do have a clue - from high authority on their side: from First Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, former czar of the Soviet Union and co-conspirator in the plot to destroy the United States from Cuba. In mid-summer 1965, published boasts in US papers that our multi-megaton warheaded US missiles had put the US number at 800 and had downgraded Soviet multi-megaton missiles to 200-300. Brezhnev could afford a little derisive understatement in reply:

"We hate to boast, and we do not want to threaten anyone," Brezhnev confided delicately to the graduates of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

"However, it is necessary to note that the figures and calculations quoted in the West about rocket and nuclear power are given no credit at all to the intelligence services of imperialist states."

Pentagon war planners are constantly writing up 'scenarios' for 'war games' so they can play-act-out versions of how a strike from space would be like?

At evening rush hour on the east coast, 3 gigaton orbital bombs would be fired by radio command with zero warning directly at our nation. The Proton 1 fleet would be de-orbited and exploded over major population centers and Minuteman missile bases.

communication and command facilities would be hopelessly damaged, including our 'Looking Glass' Command on c
**Even if there were any US officials left alive with authority and the code to command our Polaris submarines to ret
 communicate? The attack would continue immediately with missiles from Soviet submarines, from Cuba, and over 1
 minutes, the Cosmos series of orbital bombs would be de-orbited and fired, plus 100-megaton missiles fired from 5
 would arrive soon after to mop up any targets still undestroyed. Secretary McNamara estimated 149 megadeaths fi
 - and he did not figure space weapons or bomber mop-up.**

**The stark fact is - if the Soviets play this scenario for real - the American people would then be assassinated as a w
 then hold the rest of the world in ruthless slavery.**

Schlaflly and Ward's book was published in November 1965. And what is most remarkable about it is that - as will be seen shortly
 immediately seemed to come true.

Orbital Nuclear Bombs

The concept of Soviet orbital bombs had been broached early on in the space age - as early as 1947, in fact, when an FBI agent r
 rumor of a secret search for "atom bombs in the stratosphere" by Fred Whipple's Harvard Meteor Project using the Perkin-Elmer S
 course, orbital bombs were virtually fantasy in 1947, but by the early 1960s the possibility that the Soviets would develop such sy
 consideration in the US. According to Soviet space history expert Asif Siddiqi, high-level deliberations about orbital weapons began
 and by 1962, three of the major Soviet rocket design bureaus were well into development of prototype systems.

These spacecraft are known technically as "Fractional Orbital Bombardment Systems," or FOBS - "fractional" referring to the fact t
 nuclear payload in orbit, but after completing only a fraction of a revolution of the planet, the warhead fires a retrorocket that brin
 target. Likewise, the warhead may remain in orbit as a Multiple Orbital Bombardment System, or MOBS.

The strategic advantage of such a weapon stemmed from the fact that ordinary ICBM warheads rise hundreds of miles into space
 can be detected by long-range warning radars long before they reach their targets. In the early 1960s, NORAD Ballistic Missile Ear
 aimed at the North Polar region, where Soviet land-based ICBM raids were expected to appear. A FOBS warhead, placed in a low-
 Pole, or approaching the US from virtually any other azimuth, would not be detected by US radars until the last moments before ir
 impossible. FOBS missiles were therefore considered to be first-strike, sneak-attack systems intended to blind and decapitate an a
 by more conventional systems.

In the context of the massive Soviet missile buildup of the early 1960s it's not hard to understand why senior US military officers
 developments, since they potentially undermined the whole basis of the US deterrent system. The typically more cautious CIA did
 according to Siddiqi:

[CIA analysts concluded that] the Soviets have the capability to develop an orbital bombardment satellite and might decid
 space weapon at an early date for propaganda or political reasons.

There was a strong implication that such weapons would only be effective as propaganda weapons and be seen as militarily ineffec
 their poor accuracy compared with conventional ICBMs. In mid-1963, the CIA prepared a dedicated report on Soviet orbital bombs
 significantly from the findings of the earlier pronouncement:

We have thus far acquired no evidence that the USSR plans to orbit a nuclear-armed satellite in the near term, or that a p
 orbital bombardment capability is at present seriously contemplated by the Soviet leadership. However the USSR does hav
 orbiting one or possibly a few nuclear-armed satellites at any time, and at comparatively small cost. [1]

Of the three competing Soviet FOBS concepts, the Yangel R-36 (State designation 8K69, NATO designation SS-9 *Scarp*) was selec
 1962. Construction was started on new launch facilities for the missile in January 1965, and this must have been noted by US rec
 spring of 1965 US officers were publicly referring to Soviet orbital missiles, as Schlaflly noted in her book.



Yangel R-36 (NATO SS-9 Scarp) experimental Fractional Orbital Bombardment System launcher

But FOBS weapons hit the front pages of US newspapers in early November 1965, when they suddenly appeared in a major display. On November 8, the *New York Times* ran banner headlines on the previous day's military parade marking the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution: "Huge Orbital Missiles Among Those Paraded Before Communist Leaders." The missiles capped a comparatively restrained display that began with 26 battalions of troops marching through Red Square past reviewing stands where including Party Secretary Brezhnev, Defense Minister Rodion Malinovsky, and Fidel Castro's brother Raul looked on.



The Soviet hierarchy views the "huge orbital missiles" parade

"The display of military equipment took only eight minutes," the *Times* reported.

Tass, the Soviet press agency, made a new claim for one of the missiles that had been displayed previously, the 115-foot of the type that orbited the Vostok and Voskhod ships. Calling it an "orbital missile," Tass said its "warheads can deliver their payload to any orbit around the earth." To Western experts this meant that a command system had been installed to direct the missile toward a target on the earth from an already orbiting missile. Western military sources here said the United States had no equivalent weapon. [2]

The announcement of the FOBS capability of the missile seems to have taken some US circles by surprise, and on November 9, the

State Department said today that it was studying whether the Soviet Union had violated a United Nations disarmament agreement. The department asserted development of an "orbital missile." There was concern that this signaled a Soviet retreat from one of the few agreements that had been reached between the United States and the Soviet Union – an agreement to prevent the arms race from spreading to outer space. The department's reaction was described by officials as more than just a psychological riposte to what may have been primarily a Soviet ploy. According to Robert J. McCloskey, the department's spokesman, the question of a possible violation was at "fairly high levels throughout the government."

The State Department may have been "concerned," but it seems probable that military leaders were much more worried by the Sc

Strike From Space?

Just a few hours after the *Times* article describing US concern about the new Soviet orbital bombs hit newsstands, at 5:16 on the massive cascade of power surges shot through the electrical transmission grid of the Northeastern United States. Circuit after circuit offline, and within moments, power ceased flowing to almost everyone living and working within a region encompassing some 80,000 square miles of State and New England as well as the Canadian shore of Lake Erie ... nearly 30 million people. New York City and a dozen other major cities plunged into frightening pitch darkness and rush-hour confusion. [3]

Meanwhile, in an underground command post called High Point, near Berryville, Virginia, Air Force Colonel J Leo Bourassa was gazing in charge of an Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP, an ancestor of FEMA) installation that was intended to be the Presidential command center. High Point, or Mt Weather, was linked to a national network of nuclear blast detection devices called System 210-A, or "Bomb Alarm." (See <http://www.ufx.org/fobs/bombalarm.html>)



Designed to react only to the distinctive optical double flash of a nuclear explosion and transmit signals to a central command center, the Bomb Alarm displays in locations like High Point, Bomb Alarm was a primary indicator of nuclear events in the days of the Cold War. The Bomb Alarm display board at High Point was blazing with yellow lights, indicating that communication with the Soviet Union, Greenland, as well as twenty-one other System 210-A sites, had gone down. But worse - much worse - ones for Salt Lake City and Charlotte, North Carolina, were showing red. Red for nuclear detonations. It was that a surgical nuclear attack was under way - and placed Mt Weather on full alert. It was the one and only alert during the Cold War. [4]

While I have seen no documentation specifically linking the Northeast Blackout Alert to the Kremlin's First Strike, it seems likely that OEP officers in charge of "Continuity of Government" installations like High Point were aware of new military developments such as the Tass declaration about orbital warheads. And the fact is that the blackout may have played out a scenario that may have been increasingly on the minds of military leaders: a Soviet sneak attack, because it probably looked much like the effects of electromagnetic pulse (EMP) from a nuclear explosion.

High-altitude EMP effects had been confirmed by the rocket-launched 1958 Argus shots in the South Atlantic and Hardtack tests in the Starfish series of exoatmospheric thermonuclear blasts that tested a prototype Air Force antisatellite missile system. Power by some of the tests, and by 1965 the new Minuteman ICBM force was being actively hardened against EMP damage. It would have been reasonable to assume that the massive blackout in the Northeast, coupled with indications of surface bursts in other locations, was the opening move of a nuclear attack. If Bourassa had just heard the Soviet boasts about their new FOBS missiles, his decision to declare the alert is even more understandable.

There seems to be no indication that other US military forces increased their alert status because of the power failures, but the situation in Washington or other major command centers had been inside the blackout zone.

One of the more fascinating aspects of the Blackout is the timing of the prescient Schlafly/Ward book and the Soviet revelation of orbital warheads. It predicted that the Soviet first strike would occur without warning at evening rush hour on the East Coast and would use orbital warheads at a level of technical jargon achieved by the book, that it contains no discussion of EMP effects, particularly since Schlafly was eager to discuss the effects of Soviet high-yield bombs (which she speculated would reach the "gigaton" range in the near future). I recently emailed Schlafly about the effects of EMP at the time, and if so, why it was not mentioned in the book. In a brief message she stated that she and Ward did know about EMP but had no explanation for its omission.

Electromagnetic Effects

A "great event" like the Northeast Blackout of 1965 reverberates on many social planes. Bourassa's Bomb Alarm alert was one kind of event around UFOs.

UFO reports cascaded in from the blacked-out region, and some of them were spectacular, particularly the ones centering on a creek near New York, near Syracuse, where large glowing orbs were sighted by several witnesses. (It seems hard to avoid the thought that the 1965 blackout resonated with memories of the similar events depicted in the 1951 UFO film "The Day The Earth Stood Still.") UFOs became a major part of the 1965 event as the legend that a mini baby-boom took place nine months later. [5]

On July 29, 1968, Dr. James E. McDonald, one of the most intelligent, knowledgeable and capable scientists to ever tackle the UFO problem, testified before the House Committee on Science & Astronautics (which happened to include a young Illinois Representative named Donald Rumsfeld and a former director of the unpopular University of Colorado UFO study (or Condon Report). The report had noted the spate of UFO reports during the Blackout and included a page to discussion of power outages related to UFO incidents. McDonald was interested in the concept of electromagnetic effects and was asked to comment on this by Representative William F. Ryan, a Democrat from New York City:

Mr. Ryan: Let me ask a further question: In the course of your investigation and your study of UFO sightings, have you

contemporaneously with the sighting of UFO's allegedly, there were any other events which took place, which might or might not be related to the sighting of UFO's?

Dr. McDonald: Yes. Certainly there are many physical effects. For instance, in Mr. Pettis' district, several people found their cars starting to vibrate while this object was nearby, but there are many cases probably on record of car ignition failure. One famous case in 1957. Ten vehicles were stopped within a short area, all independently in a 2-hour period, near Levelland, Tex. There was a thunder storm, and only a trace of rain.

There is another which I don't know whether to bring to the committee's attention or not. The evidence is not as conclusive as it seems, but there are too many instances for me to ignore. UFO's have often been seen hovering near power facilities. A number of them, a number but still a little too many to seem pure fortuitous chance, of system outages, coincident with the UFO sighting. On Tamaroa, Ill. Another was a case in Shelbyville, Ky., early last year.

Even the famous one, the New York blackout (Nov 9 1965), involved UFO sightings. Dr. Hynek probably would be the most qualified to describe the Manhattan sighting, since he interviewed several witnesses involved. I interviewed a woman in Seacliff, N.Y. who saw the object going up and down. And then shooting away from New York just after the power failure. I went to the FPC [Federal Power Commission] for data, they didn't take them seriously although they had many dozens of sighting reports for that famous evening. There were sightings in England in the midst of that blackout, and five witnesses near Syracuse, N.Y., saw a glowing object ascending within about 10 minutes of the blackout. First they thought it was a dump burning right at the moment the lights went out. It is rather puzzling that the power was tripped the relay at the Ontario Hydro Commission plant has never been identified, but initially the tentative suspicion was that it was the Substation of the Niagara Mohawk network right there in the Syracuse area, where unidentified aerial phenomenon has been reported to witnesses.

This extends down to the limit of single houses losing their power when a UFO is near. The hypothesis in the case of cars starting to vibrate might be high magnetic fields, d.c. fields, which saturate the [ignition system solenoid] core and thus prevent the pulses from getting to the other side. Just how a UFO could trigger an outage on a large power network is however not yet clear. But this is a coincidence that I think warrants much more attention than they have so far received.

Mr. Ryan: As far as you know, has any agency investigated the New York blackout in relation to UFO?

Dr. McDonald: None at all. When I spoke to the FPC people, I was dissatisfied with the amount of information I could gain. It was a puzzling and slightly disturbing coincidence here. I'm not going on record as saying, yes, these are clear-cut cause and effect. It ought to be looked at. There is no one looking at this relation between UFO's and outages.

A Fall of Moondust?

So ... EMP from Soviet Orbital Bombs or EMP from UFOs? It would seem that the jittery American psyche in 1965 was under a great deal of implacable, ill-defined forces from outer space. And if these concepts were two sides of some kind of cosmic coin, fate was about to be tossed.

On December 9, a month to the day after the Blackout, a strange object appeared to streak from the sky and impact near the small town of Pennsylvania. According to researcher Robert Todd, OEP officer Col Bourassa was once again on the case, having received reports from witnesses concerning the meteor-like phenomenon. And an urgent military recovery effort is alleged to have occurred.

Notes and Sources

[1] Asif Siddiqi FOBS webpage: <http://home.earthlink.net/~cliched/spacecraft/fobs.html>

[2] The convoluted nature of this story is emphasized by the fact that the missiles displayed in the 7 Nov 65 parade were not the SS-6 that had launched Vostok and Voskhod as Tass claimed. According to *Russian Strategic Nuclear Forces*, Pavel Podvig, ed, actually the Korolev GR-1 "Global Rocket" (SS-X-10 Scrag) and mockups of the earlier R-26 missile which had been cancelled in 1958. See painting of the GR-1 on the cover of later editions of *Strike From Space*.

[3] Report to the President by the Federal Power Commission on the Power Failure in the Northeastern United States and the Province of Ontario, 1965.

[4] "[I]t was not learned until several days after the power failure that the two reds (nuclear detonation reports) were false indications of the circuitry of the particular Bomb Alarm Console." Fritz, C. E., "Some Problems of Warning and Communication Revealed by the

9-10 November 1965," Institute for Defense Analysis Report R-142, April 1968, cited in Scott D. Sagan, *The Limits of Safety: Org: Weapons*. (1993: Princeton, NJ, Princeton University Press)

[5] See for example the oral history interview at the Blackout History Project website:

<http://www.blackout.gmu.edu/forum/interviews/eyewitness3.html>; also

<http://www.niagarafallsreporter.com/ufo.html>

<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/mufonontario/archive/blkout.htm>