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One such famous case is the July 6, 1959, so-called "Psychic Incident" which took place at a CIA building in downtown Washington, D.C. In most reports, the building is identified as "CIA Headquarters." In reality, there was nothing glamorous about the place, nor was it a "Headquarters." Located at 5th and K Sts., N.W., it was known as the "Stewart Building," with an automobile dealership on the ground floor and the CIA occupying the **four** floors above. It was a shabby and dreary building right in the middle of a high-crime area--personnel from the place often got mugged during their late-night excursions for takeout food. All in all, an unlikely site for a UFO

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Friend's version of the incident appears in "UFOs: Past, Present, and Future," a movie produced by Allan Sandler and also the title of a book written by Robert Emenegger, who wrote the script for the movie. Both the book's and movie's versions of the incident were based on a document provided by Dr. David Jacobs, author of "The UFO Controversy in America," who happened across Friend's hand-written memo on the incident in the files of Dr. Hynek. Subsequently, Jacobs interviewed Friend about the memo and was sworn to secrecy as to the names of the individuals listed as participants in the report--CIA and Navy personnel.

Because neither Jacobs nor Emenegger/Sandler attempted to talk with any of the participants and publicized the incident without ever verifying the details, CAUS Director Todd Zechel made it a priority mission to conduct an investigation. It took nearly two years to determine the names, and, so far, Zechel has interviewed only one of the participants, Arthur Lundahl. This is Zechel's reconstruction of what occurred, based on his investigation:

In 1954, Mrs. Guy Swan of Elliot, Maine, began claiming she was in contact with extraterrestrial beings who were orbiting Earth in an artificial satellite. Mrs. Swan claimed she communicated with these beings through a "sound-on-sound" device; when they wished to speak with her she would hear an audible whistling noise, at which time "they" would begin speaking to her and she would speak back, each hearing the other by means of the invisible device. No telepathic or psychic method was involved.

Soon, Mrs. Swan spread the good news to her neighbors, retired Navy Admiral Knowles and his wife. Both were impressed and requested Mrs. Swan to ask questions of her alien friends. Of course, the "aliens" would never contact Mrs. Swan when anyone else was present, but she would write down their answers to the Knowles' questions. Admiral Knowles then decided to write to the Office of Naval Intelligence and ask them to check out some of her information, some of which seemed to entail technology beyond her knowledge and comprehension. (According to the Navy Intelligence Command's Inspector General Office, the Navy received Knowles' letter and asked the FBI to investigate. Sometime in 1954, apparently, the FBI

interviewed Mrs. Swan. CAUS has requested the records from the FBI.)

In any case, Knowles' letter apparently remained in ONI files until July of 1959, when USN Commander Julius M. Larsen happened across it. Larsen was an ONI liaison officer to the CIA's Photographic Interpretation Center at 5th and K Sts. He was also a pilot and needed some flying time to keep his pilot's status, so he and a Lt. Commander flew to Elliot, Maine. They spent the evening talking with Mrs. Swan about her extraterrestrial contacts, slept in the Knowles' home and returned the following day.

Larsen, like Knowles, was impressed with Mrs. Swan. But he was confused. Mrs. Swan had experimented with automatic writing prior to 1954, but nothing much had come of it. However, she demonstrated automatic writing--a procedure that called for placing oneself in a psychic trance--to Cmdr. Larsen. He assumed this was the means by which she communicated with her "alien" friends: a false assumption that was furthered by the reams of messages she had written down and were strewn throughout her home.

Thus, on July 6, 1959, after he had signed in at the guarded entrance of the Photo Interpretation Center, Larsen headed straight for the office of the Center's Director, Arthur Lundahl, knowing that Lundahl was deeply interested in UFOs and psychic phenomena. Larsen walked in, sat down and subsequently went into a trance. Present were Lundahl and his assistant, Lt. Cmdr. Robert Neasham, who formerly worked at the Naval Photographic Interpretation Center (NavPIC) when Lundahl directed that center. In fact, Neasham, along with civilian employee Harry Woo, spent countless hours analyzing the Newhouse/Tremonton UFO film and testified about his conclusions before the Robertson/CIA Panel in January 1953. Neasham and Woo had concluded the objects on the film were extraterrestrial spacecraft and both became very upset when the Panel rejected their conclusions and opted for the infamous "seagull" explanation.

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In spite of the fact nothing of any consequence occurred, other than Neasham suspecting a UFO lurking behind the clouds, both Lundahl and his assistant decided to report the trance session to Project Blue Book. It's possible Neasham influenced Lundahl in this regard by telling him he had phoned the Washington National Airport radar section and they had informed him that radar returns from that sector of the city were "blocked out" during the time of the sighting. Whether Neasham ever made such a call or was told such a thing is open to question; Neasham, it seems, is prone to embellishment, if not fabrication.

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Friend arrived on July 9th, prepared to be given a "TOP SECRET" briefing by CIA personnel on UFOs. Instead, he was taken to Lundahl's office by Neasham and the two chatted about the Tremonton and Great Falls UFO films, which Lundahl had supervised the analysis of. Subsequently, Neasham briefed Friend about the July 6th incident, telling him a UFO was seen out the window and confirmed by radar. Friend, needless to say, was impressed and amazed. Being basically in awe of the CIA, it never dawned on him he might be receiving erroneous information. Later, Larsen came to the building and in Friend's presence attempted to re-contact Mrs. Swan's alien friends. Nothing much happened except that Cmdr. Larsen scrawled the same incomprehensible doodles on paper. A request for another fly-by went unanswered in the cloudless sky.

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Comment: The reason it took nearly two years to get to the bottom of this case was because those persons who participated in the event or had knowledge of it all felt the need to protect the names of the key individuals. Lt. Col. (USAF-Ret.) Robert Friend believed he was under a caveat not to disclose the names and, moreover, wouldn't and didn't speak about the incident until the Secretary of the Air Force's office had cleared it. (This came about as result of Emenegger/Sandler getting permission to use the case in their film.) Even after Jacobs discovered the memo in Dr. Hynek's files (seemingly, Hynek "borrowed" the memo from Project Blue Book files while serving as Scientific Consultant), Friend felt obligated to protect the sources and swore Jacobs to secrecy about the names.

I was able to ascertain Lundahl's name from Col. Friend, however, through a series of interviews. At first, Lundahl denied any involvement in the incident, but did say it hadn't happened as had been reported. Lundahl also felt obliged to protect Cmdr. Larsen, knowing this was not an official experiment of any sort and that Larsen considered it a personal experience. In addition, Lundahl's eventual admissions rather impugned his top assistant for many years, Bob Neasham. Therefore, Lundahl was understandably reluctant to discuss the event in any detail.

Be that as it may, it seems to me that the writers and producers who reported the incident should have at least talked with one of the main witnesses to make sure it had happened as described in Friend's memo. Had they done so, and had they subjected this case to the kind of scrutiny all UFO incidents need to be under, it would have never made its way into UFO folklore and I would have been saved the expense and anguish of investigating it. WTZ

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FT. RILEY LANDING: HOAX OR DELUSION? - Another case headed for the UFO folklore collection is one being currently promoted on radio shows across the country by former soldier stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, Aaron David Kaback, who claims to have guarded a "flying saucer" that had landed at the base.

Kaback originally wrote to CAUS on June 29, 1978, stating: "This is probably the hardest letter that I have ever written But (sic) I swear to God every word of it is true." He then went on to describe how he had been on guard duty sometime in November of 1965, standing sentry at the motor pool, when the Duty Officer came along at about 2 AM and ordered him into his jeep. The O.D. drove Kaback to a remote area on the base, where they met three other enlisted men who had also been pulled off their regular posts. The four men were taken to the rear of five-ton truck parked there in the field. According to Kaback:"...we drove for about 10 minutes and came to an area where there were three officers standing in the

back of a 5 ton (sic) truck, ...we were given a full clip of M-14 ammo, and told that 'our balls' would be shot off if we gave out any information on the object we were to guard."

"After about a ten minute hike we came to an area where a large oval object was resting, an army chopper was flying above the object and shining a powerful light on it, lighting up quite an area, (sic) at times the chopper would fly a short distance away and light up the area away from the object. The object I guarded was approx (sic) 35 to 48 feet in diameter (sic) had a fin on the end and an exhaust port, or some kind of hole below the fin, (sic) it also had a row of squares all around its rim...the object was completely dead and never moved during the 2½ hours that we guarded it. I can only tell you that this was **no** known object of the U.S. Army. I had read little about UFOs until after that happened, (sic) since that date I have read many books on the subject and know that the object I guarded that morning in Fort Riley was truly something from out of this world!"

A follow-up telephone call to Kaback revealed he had previously been in contact with UFOlogist Len Stringfield and that Stringfield had requested a tape-recorded version of the incident for presentation at his forthcoming speech at the MUFON Symposium (July 29th, Dayton, Ohio). Kaback related that he had been handed the clip of ammo and told to guard the "saucer" by a two-star General believed to be "Gen. Seaman, the commanding general of Fort Riley." CAUS requested proof that Kaback had been in the Army and the subject promised to mail his separation papers. The subject also disclosed he had contacted a "publicity group," which had referred him to "Eugene Marvin," a Las Vegas resident who had previously produced a TV show about UFOs (apparently a local show). Because the subject kept insisting he only "wanted someone to check out the incident," and that he absolutely wanted no personal publicity or reward, CAUS suggested to him it seemed curious he kept contacting people about the incident even after Stringfield had promised to investigate it. The subject could not resolve the inconsistency.

A more serious inconsistency arose when Kaback's separation papers arrived in the mail. Kaback had claimed the incident occurred sometime in November 1965, yet his DD214 revealed he had been given a hardship discharge on July 16, 1965, after being inducted on April 24, 1964. Since he had served for only one year and two months, CAUS found it strange he would confuse the date of the incident. The subject's only reply was, "I just forgot."

In the first follow-up conversation CAUS had with the subject, he expressed total familiarity with UFO literature, remarking on such cases as Ray Fowler's "Fritz Werner" crashed saucer case and the reported diary entry wherein "Werner" writes something to the effect "went on a special mission today that I can't talk about" on the day he claims to have participated in the recovery of a crashed saucer. Kaback says he thinks he wrote a letter to his wife shortly after the guard-duty incident and will look for it.

Sure enough, Kaback later produces an alleged copy of the letter he wrote to his now-divorced wife, mimicing "Werner's" letter completely. Although the letter seemed authentic, in that it chats about Kaback's difficulty in getting home for Christmas (the letter is dated Dec. 11, 1964--the incident allegedly took place on Dec. 10), the closeness to the diary entry in wording ("got put on a special guard duty I can't talk about") makes it highly suspect.

Another serious inconsistency popped in the first conversation with the subject. He claimed to have received a series of threatening phone calls in which someone simply said, "Keep your _____ mouth shut!" That was it; no explanation of what the threat was related to. Kaback expressed extreme fear of danger based on the calls, even to the point of the feeling his life was threatened. Yet, while claiming to be "scared sh__less," Kaback's voice and manner belied any sort of fear; he in fact sounded quite calm and the so-called threats had no effect on his efforts to speak about the incident.

Much later, when more and more inconsistencies reared their ugly heads, Kaback was questioned about the threatening phone calls. At this point, he said they were probably intended for his brother. Asked why he now thought the calls were meant for his brother, Kaback said, "Oh, he got into a fight with some guys at a bar; they were probably calling him." Needless to say, CAUS concluded the phone calls were contrived out of the subject's imagination.

The straw that broke the saucer's back occurred when CAUS spoke with Gen. (U.S. Army-Ret.) Johnathon O. Seaman, former commanding general (1964-65) of Fort Riley, Kansas. Seaman, now retired and living in Beaufort, S.C., was phoned by CAUS Director Todd Zechel, who told the General he had been assigned to guard a "flying saucer" at Fort Riley on December 10, 1964. Now, Zechel said, one of his fellow guards had talked and he (Zechel) was being contacted by people in the news media; he wanted to know if the incident was still classified or if he was free to talk about it. Seaman was clearly taken aback by the call--but not in sense of having something to hide. Rather, he seemed to think the call was being made from some nearby mental hospital and could

barely suppress a chuckle throughout the conversation. He had no recollection whatsoever of any "flying saucer" incident or anything like it, but said, "If you think it happened and you want to talk about it, go ahead."

Subsequently, CAUS played the tape of Seaman's conversation to Kaback, who had emphatically stated he was sure the two-star General who handed him the ammo, told him to guard the "saucer," and threatened to "shoot his balls off" if he told anyone about it, was General Seaman. After hearing the tape, Kaback said, "He's lying." But when CAUS said it was totally clear the General wasn't lying and that everyone who had heard the tape expressed the same opinion, Kaback admitted it did seem the General was telling the truth. When asked to resolve this total inconsistency, Kaback could only say, "Well, all I know is it happened."

CAUS related its findings to UFOlogist Len Stringfield, stating it had concluded the case was either a hoax or a delusion. Stringfield, however, disagreed with CAUS's conclusions and went ahead with his MUFON Synposium presentation which featured a tape-recording of Kaback relating his story. In mid-October, CAUS discovered Kaback had approached a radio station newsletter service with his story and it was now being circulated around the country, with instructions to call "Dave" (Kaback's middle name) at his home number. At the time, CAUS had agreed to cooperate with radio station WPGC, Cheverly, Md., which was producing a two-week series on UFOs entitled, quite uncreatively, "Project UFO." WPGC, which has a wide listening audience in the Washington, D.C.-metro area, recorded Kaback and aired his story before CAUS could add its disclaimer. CAUS was even more chagrined to learn Kaback had been interviewed by radio stations across the country--"450" according to Kaback, who seemed to be reveling in the publicity. In fact, Kaback's gleeful manner when contacted by CAUS Director Todd Zechel in the midst of this publicity blitz seemed to confirm CAUS's conclusion that the subject was suffering from a powerful delusion.

Although Kaback still expressed a desire for anonymity, CAUS feels it can no longer grant the subject this protection. After all, he gave his home phone number to any number of radio stations. If anyone in the government was interested in tracking him down, it would take only a few seconds. Therefore, CAUS feels he has compromised his own confidentiality and only wants anonymity to avoid being held responsible for a bogus story.

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Comment: UFOlogists who report unsubstantiated claims and/or apologize continuously for inconsistencies in a witness's story are doing everyone a disfavor, including themselves. Promotions of weak or phony cases through major publicity campaigns only serve to offset painstakingly detailed investigations conducted CAUS, CUFOS, MUFON and others. It is difficult enough to separate the wheat from the chaff without having the chaff being called wheat. W/TZ

UFOS IN PERSPECTIVE: COMMENTARY BY CAUS DIRECTOR W. TODD ZECHEL - During the waning years of its UFO project, the Air Force contended it could readily identify 90% (or thereabouts) of all sightings and explain the rest after some difficulty or if more information was available. Most UFO believers scoffed and rejected these claims, often pointing to the seemingly reckless manner in which Blue Book assigned identifications, sometimes appearing to have tossed a coin to decide which one to use.

In recent years, in particular since the closure of Blue Book, UFO debunkers have made similar assertions. Unfortunately, the debunkers' methods of identification have often seemed as hit-and-miss as the Air Force's, even to the point of publishing entire books devoted to attributing UFOs to theoretical phenomena such as electrical plasma--a theory which has now fallen into the dung-heap of tried and failed catch-all explanations. (The plasma theory contended that high-voltage power lines created huge plasma clouds which sometimes escaped into the atmosphere and survived long enough to be seen and reported as UFOs.)

More recently, Time magazine revived the old glowing bug theory in its science section, proving once again that there's no fool like an old fool. And Time has been wrong enough, often enough, about UFOs and a multitude of other matters--China, Viet Nam and Nixon, to name a few--to be safely classified as an old fool, even though Henry Luce has bitten the dust. No, Henry will never fire another correspondent for reporting the truth instead of what the old man wanted to hear, but Time marches on in his tradition.

What's wrong with all these calculated guesses--calling them theories or hypotheses would be an overstatement--is that they fail to account for how and why plasmas, or bugs, or strange ice masses, or other undiscovered, unobserved natural phenomena; hover over Air Force missile bases and sites; play chicken with Iranian fighters; bother foreign governments enough to cause officials to scurry to the U.S. embassy in search of help; and the CIA felt strongly enough to use covert agents to collect information on them, engage in psychological warfare against them and keep everything secret it learned about them. (If, by some major miracle, Time's bug theory turns out to be correct, then the CIA and Air Force are going to have to explain why they wasted millions on something they could have hired the Orkin Man to handle.)

This is not to say 90% of all sightings can't be identified. Al Hendry, Chief Investigator for the Center For UFO Studies (CUFOS), has assembled a large body of objective evidence that indicates the vast majority of civilian UFO reports can be identified or explained. Hendry's studies have conclusively established that most reports are spurious--that they are based on emotional reactions to mundane phenomena such as stars, planets and ad planes. Nor are military sightings automatically classified as unidentified; he has positively identified several, including an impressive-sounding report by Navy personnel.

What makes Hendry's work so significant is that he did not decide beforehand that UFOs were or were not spaceships and set out to prove or disprove either position. This is what is known as objectivity. Debunkers, on the other hand, start from the position that UFOs--extraterrestrial spaceships--cannot exist, their thinking locked into the fortyish notion of Flash Gordon-like flying saucers traveling from some distant planet to Earth. Being familiar with man's current state of space technology, debunkers make rudimentary calculations on the travel-time involved and decide it just can't be done;

therefore, UFOs as anything that won't be ultimately identified as something terrestrial cannot exist. This has become known, for some peculiar reason, as the "scientific" position on UFOs.

Because UFOlogy has dared question the "scientific" position, its members have been branded as heretics. This is a reversal of the days when the church suppressed scientific discoveries and scientists were called heretics. Times have changed, though. Back in the good old days they liked to poke hot things up your most personal orifices in order to get you to see the error of your ways. The modern method of punishment for a heretic is to use non-physical tortures like smear campaigns. Lies have replaced the hot poker, but the pain's still the same.

So, while the military tracks UFOs on radar, chases them in jets and helicopters, only to be evaded and out-maneuvered, and whirring objects hover defiantly over weapon storage areas at SAC nuclear missile bases, and in the meantime (October-November 1975) enough cattle to feed Exeter for a year are being mutilated in fields across the country (if this is being done by a Satanic cult, it has to be one that's larger than the American Legion, more clever than the Moonies and more dedicated than the People's Temple), Time magazine revives someone's old bug theory, the leading UFO debunker revives the Air Force's discarded flap-follows-publicity slogan, and the Air Force runs off a few thousand more copies of its famous "no UFO ever investigated gave any indication of being an extraterrestrial vehicle" release. } cover!

And how would a UFO do that, pray tell? Drape a banner over the side that reads, "This is an extraterrestrial vehicle"? Perhaps someone should point out to the Air Force that in order to know what something isn't, one first has to know what something is. In other words, if they don't know what an extraterrestrial vehicle looks like, how do they know what they're seeing isn't one?

Whomever said "Military Intelligence is a contradiction in terms" hit the nail squarely on the head. For the small sum of only \$20 Billion a year they can't accurately predict what our friends are going to do, much less our enemies (case in point: Iran). To be sure, they've got a string of successes going--from Pearl Harbor to Saigon, from Watergate to Koreagate, and from Cuba to Chile. Those who suspect the Watergate operation was deliberately bungled haven't been paying attention. If a former President of the United States can bang his head on three separate occasions on the same helicopter door, it stands to reason almost anything can be botched. (After Ford cracked his head on the helicopter door for the third time, the Secret Service forbid newsmen from filming future chopper boardings.)

What has this got to do with so-called "government cover-up?" Well, for one thing, the general view of most UFO believers is that a bunch of devious men sit around in a room and plot the suppression of UFO evidence. Out at Wright-Patterson, meanwhile, so the story goes, they've got so many recovered crashed saucers that they've had to build additional hangars. And the alien cemetery is overflowing with 4½ foot graves. (Why saucers have to end up at Wright-Patterson has never been fully explained.) After so many accidents, one begins to suspect the "aliens" have as many problems as we do. That hardly makes them worth knowing.

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only worthy of investigation, but the subject should be a high priority for any intelligence agency. And, since his numerous interviews with CIA officials, Air Force officers and other intelligence personnel had established that the Central Intelligence Agency had taken control of Scientific Intelligence (which includes the study of UFOs) in mid-1958, he turned the focus of his attention to who he knew was ultimately responsible for the cover-up: the CIA.

"SIGHTINGS OF UNEXPLAINED OBJECTS AT GREAT ALTITUDES AND TRAVELLING AT HIGH SPEEDS IN THE VICINITY OF MAJOR U.S. DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS ARE OF SUCH NATURE THAT THEY ARE NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO NATURAL PHENOMENA OR KNOWN TYPES OF AERIAL VEHICLES."

(Excerpt from a memo on UFOs addressed to the

Director of the Central Intelligence Agency)

Zechel's trip to Kensington, Maryland, in May of 1977 had actually been only a sidebar to his main intent: a trip to Washington, D.C. for a face-to-face meeting with a retired CIA official with whom Zechel had developed a friendship by phone.

Art Lundahl, Zechel's phone friend, had joined the CIA in January of 1953. Ostensibly, his hiring was based on the photo-analysis work he'd supervised on several UFO films the Naval Photographic Interpretation Center—of which Lundahl was the Director—had conducted. Lundahl and his men had concluded that at least one film, a 16mm movie taken by Navy photographer

Delbert Newhouse, depicted extraterrestrial spacecraft. Lundahl went on to become the world's foremost expert on photographic analysis; developing, in 1954, computer-enhanced imagery processing—one of the most important and productive capabilities the CIA had.

Lundahl's career with the CIA has been one of steady ascensions to respect and authority. Photo-analysis, under his guidance, had risen from being regarded with skepticism to a position where it was regarded as one of the CIA's few sources of reliable intelligence. Lundahl personally made the discovery (through his interpretation of U-2 photos) that the Soviets were transporting offensive weapons into Cuba and was subsequently granted an audience with John F. Kennedy in order for JFK to express his gratitude.

According to a reliable source, Kennedy was neither the first President Lundahl had meetings with, nor the last. A former CIA colleague states that Lundahl briefed at least three Presidents on another subject he is probably also the world's foremost authority on: UFOs.

Zechel respected Lundahl not only for his award-filled CIA career, but also for his ability to play cat-and-mouse whenever Zechel attempted to pin him down on particular UFO points of fact. Although Lundahl often told obvious lies in response to Zechel's questions, his charming manner always offset any perturbation Zechel might have felt. One could not remain angry long; Lundahl mixed homespun wisdom and philosophy with his CIA recalcitrance.

Once in Washington, Zechel made an appointment to meet with Lundahl the following morning. Foremost in Zechel's mind was the item which had appeared some three weeks earlier in the U.S. News & World Report; the "startling disclosures" prediction which had most UFO researchers wetting their pants in anticipation. Extremely skeptical of any CIA reversal of form, Zechel, knowing Lundahl was a key part of the Agency's cover-up, turned to him for guidance and figured he would accept whatever Lundahl said as the CIA's official position. Previously, they had discussed the Report item on the phone and Lundahl had promised to check with "the boys." Apparently, "the boys" included former CIA Directors William Colby and Richard Helms, both close friends of Lundahl's.

At the last moment, Lundahl almost ruined Zechel's plan to really "get down" with the CIA man and pump him for truthful answers. Shortly before Lundahl was scheduled to arrive at Zechel's hotel, he called and said he was bringing his wife with him. Zechel saw this as a clever ploy on Lundahl's part to prevent any inquisition, in that the presence of Mrs. Lundahl would make it extremely difficult to have a "truth" session. Being careful not to tip his hand, Zechel insisted that he must see Lundahl alone at least for an hour or so. Lundahl reluctantly agreed, but only if they could meet Mrs. Lundahl for lunch after their private discussion.

Lundahl proceeded to give Zechel a guided tour of Washington, driving by and pointing out such historic sites as the former National Photographic Interpretation Center at 5th and K Sts. (the Stewart building), and the present NPIC location, where the CIA security people recognized Lundahl's car and waved to him as he wheeled by on the opposite side of the street. Needless to say, Zechel was impressed.

After lunch, Lundahl invited Zechel to his home in Bethesda, Maryland. Before sitting down on the porch for a frank discussion, Lundahl beckoned Zechel into the library and invited the researcher to look at his collection of books. To Zechel's mild surprise, rather than the shelves being loaded with technical literature pertaining to photogrametry and geology—ostensibly, Lundahl's main interests—at least 80% of the collection were books about UFOs; Lundahl had nearly every UFO book ever published. To Zechel, this seemed to be an indication the CIA official took the subject very seriously—and perhaps that the Agency took it seriously as well.

While Zechel's "truth session" did not pry loose much specific information on the CIA's involvement with UFOs, Lundahl did make two interesting revelations: (1) There was no doubt in Lundahl's mind that UFOs are a physical reality, most likely

(Interview, Continued)

job for you in retirement. You're not doing anything now." I said: "Are you crazy? If I were starving I wouldn't take a job like that." And he asked me why not. I said: "Do you realize with the background I have in CIA, if I suddenly showed up at NICAP, I couldn't even hold the front portals until the 4:30 whistles blew. There'd be more crazy people in there than you could shake a stick at with allegations I could never cope with — wild!" He said: "Yeah, I didn't think of it that way. I guess it would be a fiery mixture." You bet your boots, I said. If you call that a job offer, that's what happened.

Q: *How do you feel about your employment with the CIA?*

AL: I don't have any slings and arrows to throw at the CIA. I found them to be an excellent employer. I thought they were wonderful, dedicated people. I've had tremendous experiences there, meeting people, and dealing with big issues. I don't know of any job I could have had that I would have enjoyed more. I guess the only way to top it would have been to have a great big fat UFO land out there on the monument grounds and we'd covered it from three sides with metric cameras with all kinds of things including magnetic spin recorders and then we got it all measured up and we went on NBC live at 8 o'clock Sunday night and told the world what was there. I guess that would have been a topper, but we never had a shot at that.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

These notes correspond to sections of the interview marked with an asterisk.

The question of whether Art Lundahl and the CIA are or were "officially" involved with UFO investigations is an important one. Lundahl has always denied it, and has often professed great ignorance of the subject. However, it is known from private sources that during the early 1960's the Air Force routinely referred movie films of UFOs (from gun cameras and other sources) to NPIC for analysis, while Lundahl was NPIC Director. Also, Lundahl had another "window" on the Colorado Project through a friend at Raytheon

Corporation who did some photo-analysis for the Condon Committee.

The Navy photo-analysis lab did have "numbers" to go on in analyzing the Newhouse film, and Lundahl must have known that. They had lens resolution data and someone in government had frames of the film showing one of the UFOs disappearing over the horizon (frames that were missing when the Air Force returned the film to Newhouse). Ex-Major Dewey Fournet, Project Blue Book Monitor in the Pentagon, told NICAP that the Navy analysis specifically ruled out birds. "...it would be necessary to conclude that Newhouse was lying in many of his statements in order to conclude that the Tremonton objects were birds," Fournet said, and the intelligence officers considered him to be "completely sincere and somewhat reserved." (See *The UFO Evidence*, p. 112.)

The evidence indicates that both the CIA Office of Scientific Intelligence and NPIC, under Art Lundahl, have had a long-standing and official interest in UFOs and that Lundahl probably knows more about the nature and performance of UFOs, as determined by photoanalysis, than anyone in the world. He is also part of an informal Washington UFO "underground" that includes Robert C. Durant (writer of the 1953 CIA panel report) and Dr. Charles Sheldon, expert on Russian missiles and rockets at the Library of Congress, among others. By making disarming public statements and professions of ignorance, Lundahl has served as a CIA "cover" to conceal from the public the extent of the CIA's scientific data and top-level awareness of UFOs.—Richard Hall

MUFON personnel who have not already done so are invited to submit photographs of themselves, and of any special equipment or facilities used for UFO investigation or research. If you are part of a group that meets regularly, group photographs also would be welcome.



NEWSNOTES

The Scandinavian UFO Information (SUFOI) organization in Denmark has announced Project FOTA, a new program of instrumented investigation including a new electronic UFO detector to be distributed widely in the country. A series of recording stations using advanced electronic equipment will be part of the program. SUFOI has a special interest in sound recordings of UFOs, and presently is studying two such cases. Information is invited from other researchers. Address: SUFOI, Box 6, DK 2820 Gentofte, Denmark.

At this writing Len Stringfield's monograph, to be published by MUFON, is in galley proofs and should be available in February. The title is "The UFO Crash/Retrieval Syndrome," subtitle "Status Report II: New Sources, New Data." It will be about 44 pages.

Orders are now being accepted for the monograph, which is in press. Price: \$5.00, from MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155.

The 1980 MUFON Symposium is scheduled for June 7 & 8 at Clear Lake City High School near Houston, Texas, hosted by VISIT, P.O. Box 877, Friendswood, TX 77546. For Sunday afternoon, a tour of the NASA Johnson Space Center has been arranged. The full line-up of speakers, movies, and workshops will be announced later. Make your plans now.

DEADLINES

In order for an article to be included in the next issue of the Journal, it must be in the hands of the editor during the last week of the preceding month. Because of a backlog of material, submission by deadline will not assure immediate publication but it will make it possible. Articles that are not typed, double-spaced, that are too long or require extensive editing, or special artwork for which clean originals are not provided, will be delayed. It is the responsibility of the author to assure that proper credits and acknowledgments are made. Regular columnists are requested to submit an extra column or two in advance in order to assure continuity of publication.

INTERVIEW WITH ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL

By Patrick Huyghe

In December 1978, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency released more than 900 pages of UFO-related documents that attest to the Agency's interest and involvement in UFOs over the past 30 years. Among the CIA's UFO papers were documents written by, concerned with, or addressed to Arthur C. Lundahl, the former director of the CIA's National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC). Lundahl joined the CIA in 1953 and served as NPIC director from 1963 to 1973, the year he retired. In the course of doing an extensive article on the government's scrutiny of the UFO phenomenon for *The New York Times Sunday Magazine* (published on Oct. 14, 1979), I interviewed Lundahl at length about the CIA's 1953 Robertson Panel Report, Edward Condon's Colorado UFO project in 1967, the CIA's involvement in UFOs, as well as his own interest in the phenomenon.

Question: What kind of help did the CIA provide the Condon UFO project? Didn't the Air Force contact you in February 1967 to help Condon?

Arthur Lundahl: Yes, that's correct. But I really couldn't provide any real help in the substantive sense because I don't know anything about UFOs at all. You see, Dr. Condon had been away from Washington for some time and he was unwitting perhaps of the status of technology in the photogrammetry field. You know there are all kinds of esoteric hardware, new kinds of photographic techniques for enhancing images and things like that. Since at the time I was director of NPIC, the Air Force asked me if I would have Dr. Condon and two of his assistants over to talk about the state of the art in the photogrammetry field. He was a very nice man and a brilliant, well-known scientist. We had a nice visit and I think he came back another time. But

as far as any substance, any additions, or suggestions going into the report, I claim none of those whatsoever.

Q: In a CIA memo dated February 7, 1967, you state that you wanted to "preserve a CIA window" on the Condon UFO project. What did you mean by that?

AL: That, in the parlance of the trade, means just a seat like a mouse in the corner to hear what's going on. It involves no responsibilities, only curiosity. I, the little mouse in the corner, was interested because I was responsible for interpreting any kind of picture that the United States might have at its disposal, whether it be Cuban missiles or anything else, so I sure wanted to know a little bit about the phenomenon involved. If there was something worthwhile coming out of the Condon project that would aid in the interpretation of subsequent pictures, I thought it would be good for the national welfare to know what those characteristics were — what they found.

Q: Other CIA memos in 1967 mention such things as "the second UFO project assigned" and "UFO Mensuration Support project." What do they refer to?

AL: Well, mensuration is frequently used alternately with photogrammetry. But I didn't have any UFO project. I think it may be a vagary of the text. I don't know the answer but I'll offer a guess that Condon may have said "I've got this thing here in my briefcase" and passed some pictures over and asked us to give him a dimension on the object. You probably know, but I should mention, that photogrammetry is the science of extracting quantitative information on the real world from measurements off of pictures. As I dig back in my memory, it seems that instead of being called a project the better word would have

been "task."(*)

Q: The CIA memos also show that you advised Condon not to make any reference to the Agency's help in his UFO project. Why?

AL: The phenomenon is a fulminating subject, you see. There are lots of wild-eyed nuts in this field who sit on mountaintops doing drugs and waiting for the sunrise. There are guys with psychic phenomena pouring out of their ears. There are weird people all over. And of course, the CIA is a kind of exciting enough name in itself. And if you mix fire and kerosene together, you get the whole place excited. I wanted to be careful and not imply that we were substantially involved. I was hoping he wouldn't make a big case about the fact that the CIA was in the project.

Q: Were you satisfied with the conclusions of the Condon project?

AL: I really don't think they did a very good job as scientists. Speaking as a geologist, I really don't think of the Condon project as a detached, cold-blooded view of the subject. Some of the staffers realized that they were part of a big sham; that it wasn't going to be an even-handed treatment of the matter. They found that Condon would just produce a great big kind of document that was going to sweep it all under the rug. The biggest whitewash of all was when the National Academy of Sciences put some kind of foreword on the book. I don't think they even read the damn thing.

Q: Did you join the CIA before or after the CIA produced the Robertson Panel Report in 1953?

AL: I joined the CIA just afterwards. But I knew a little bit about the Robertson Panel because at that time I had been working for the U.S. Navy Photo Interpretation Laboratory (in Anacostia, D.C.), where I was assistant chief engineer. Some naval
(continued on next page)

(Interview, Continued)

officer named Newhouse had taken some pictures out in Utah in a place called Tremonton. He had turned them over to the Air Force, and they had scanned them and did whatever they were going to do with them. Then the Air Force passed them over to us. I was in the front office handling budget and finance at the time, so I didn't do any analysis of the film. But I had a couple of men who worked on it. They spent quite a few hours looking at the images. While we were studying the photos somebody called up from the CIA, I think it was General Phil Strong. He was the executive secretary of the arranging committee for the Robertson Panel, I think. He explained that they had these noteworthy scientists coming together and could someone from our organization bring this film over and have it projected and stand by to answer whatever questions they could.

Robert Neasham and Harry Woo showed the film to the panel many times and told them what analysis they had done on it. The problem was that they didn't have a single number to go on: they didn't know how big the things were or how far away they were. As Archimedes said: "Give me a place to stand, and I will move the earth." Well, we needed one number to get the other. So they had blocked out a hypothetical matrix of possibilities and presented them to the panel. The panel was polite, interested, and respectful and thanked the men for coming over. My men were dismissed, and that was all there was to it. But I found out years later when I was reading paperbacks on the episode that the Robertson Panel pretty much thought the images were high-flying birds. (*)

Q: Did that upset your men, who had spent 1,000 hours analyzing the film?

AL: No, I don't think it upset them. We didn't know what it was we were looking at. The images were not sharply resolved; there was no clear cut geometry that anybody could see. There were objects up there, but none of us knew anything about migratory birds. Although it had seemed to us that migratory birds at that height, whatever height it was, would not have been able to make a good target on the film.

Q: Was the CIA officially interested in UFOs?

AL: I don't know what the CIA's interest was. I never found an official version or opinion of any CIA position on the matter. In fact, I found a gross lack of interest as far as any of the people I talked to were concerned. The people that I talked to didn't seem to have any interest. Now, there may have been other people in large numbers working on this that I knew nothing about. Maybe I shouldn't say a gross lack of interest; it's simply an exciting subject. But there was no official pushing attitude on UFOs. Gen. Strong followed it. He was in the Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI), and we were just friends.

Q: What was Gen. Strong's interest in UFOs?

AL: What I remember best of Strong and the Robertson Panel in the 1950's was the concern over the welter of UFO reports coming in on various channels that might clog the North American defense pattern. Had there been some kind of real attack or threat of some kind, it might have gotten lost in the shuffle of confusing information. I think Phil Strong's main interest was to make sure that communications would not be done in by this thing, illusory or real or whatever it was. That's the main thing that got the CIA and the Robertson people together in the first place.

Q: Was anyone else in the CIA interested in UFOs while you were there?

AL: I remember another CIA man named Al Moore in OSI who was very interested in this subject in 1953-54. We were both Naval reserve officers. Moore was just wrapped around the axle full of interest in the UFO phenomenon. As I looked at his face and listened to his words I formed a feeling that this guy was more enthusiastic about the subject than Phil Strong ever was. He eventually left the CIA and opened up a patent law office in Mississippi. He was of the opinion that UFOs were something very real and that the extraterrestrial hypothesis was probably the least unacceptable one. That was his personal belief. Nothing official.

Q: Did the CIA have an active

UFO project while you were there?

AL: I had a job which got me involved with everybody's business. A picture can be made of anything, and ipso facto I was involved with everybody and everything. It seems to me that had there been some real ongoing UFO project I would have known something about it. If they had any pictorial evidence they would have had to bring it to my place for analysis. They knew I was trustworthy and not a crackpot. It seems to me that I would have had a fair chance of knowing. But I never heard of a single project, a single funded endeavor of any kind dedicated to finding out some kind of answer to the UFO enigma. (*)

Whatever I knew about it was entirely coincidental. I read paperbacks on the subject. But some outside observer might look at my job, which was very important, and notice my Tremonton background and my meetings with Condon, and they'd believe that I had a huge bunch of projects going on, analyzing pictures, reporting them to the President just like Cuban missiles, and keeping all this from the public. Well, I can assure you that nothing is further from the truth. The interest in UFOs may well have randomized among its employees, as it did with me. But I used to go to budget review functions, I used to listen to mission summations; and no where along the line did I ever gather the impression that this was a real ongoing effort with the CIA.

Q: Within the past year or so the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) in Washington, D.C., has undergone a reorganization. Were you not offered the position of NICAP director?

AL: I really wasn't offered the position. Somebody called me up about a year or two ago but I had no idea if he was calling from the Defense Department or NICAP. He sounded off his name as if he were familiar to me, but I never did figure out who had called me. Anyway he started telling me about NICAP's financial problems and change of command. At one point he said there would be someone new to take over at NICAP. Then as an aside he said: "Hey, Art, that might be a good
(continued on next page)

State or not!" I would have liked to disappear somehow, but was in the line of fire between the glaring Dulleses. Fortunately a few changes fixed things up to their mutual satisfaction, but it was a supreme test of diplomatic skill for me; it was also an example of how intelligence and policy interacted when it was all in the family!

It is not necessary to recall all of the interesting exchanges I had with this great man, whose flaw in excessive enthusiasm for clandestine operations for their own sake was far outweighed in my mind by his positive achievements in creating a dynamic, productive central intelligence system that really did enrich the policymaking process of our government. Dulles put CIA on the map in Washington and abroad—perhaps too much so. Nevertheless he led it in its drive to collect and analyze whatever information Eisenhower and Foster Dulles and the Pentagon needed. He created a monument to himself not just in the building he constructed in Langley, Virginia, but, more important, in institutionalizing the whole process of secret intelligence at the center of government.

An example of the way the NSC briefing system worked comes to my memory from 1957, close to the end of my OCI tour. In mid-year our scientists and economists had begun to stumble onto evidence of an intricate sort that indicated Soviet testing of what we then called "earth satellite vehicles" with guided missiles that propelled them from central Russia (Tyuratam) to the Kamchatka peninsula. It was the dawn of the missile age, but the thinking in Washington was not really ready for it. I prepared a rather technical item giving the limited facts we knew on the test range activities; at the pre-NSC briefing Dulles resisted it, saying the President would never understand it—which meant he himself did not quite feel at home with the military and technical details involved. I argued vigorously but lost. We settled on presenting a description of Nikita Khrushchev's drastic reorganization of the Soviet bureaucracies dealing with economic production.

The next morning, as usual, I rode over to the White House in the limousine with him as he reviewed the revised texts. He fretted over some of the material, as was normal, and then said thoughtfully, "You really think that missile test business is important, don't you?" I only had time to nod before we

LORDAHL

alighted, went into the Cabinet Room near the oval office of the President, and began the briefing. The DCI always sat at the end of the long conference table next to the fireplace, while the President sat at the middle of the table with his back to the windows.

I sat in a chair along the wall next to the door to the hall, ready to place our visual aid charts on an easel by the fireplace and answer questions if they got too technical for the DCI. Since later I did this same job for John A. McCone, I have the scene well in mind. On this occasion in 1957 I was transfixed, however, when the DCI ended his briefing with the statement that some disturbing new evidence about Soviet weapons was available which he would like Dr. Cline to present.

I sprang to my feet and looked at the grossly inadequate map showing economic regions of the USSR. With the bravado that comes from countless briefings, I swung my pointer to an area I hoped was within 500 miles of Tyuratam and briefly described the missile activity between there and Kamchatka. I said the experts thought the aim was to launch small earth satellite vehicles but of course the missiles had some potential as weapons.

Eisenhower took all this in thoughtfully, leaning forward to ask if the missiles could be fired as well from Kamchatka over the Pacific and whether, if so, they could reach the United States. Cursing my wholly inadequate map inwardly, I replied that theoretically they could reach Hawaii but not California and that at the moment the range was set up the other way for other purposes. The President courteously thanked me and the NSC went on to other business. As far as I know this was the only time the subject ever came up at the NSC before Khrushchev electrified the world with "Sputnik I," the satellite launched to circle the world in October 1957. Dulles later told me he was exceedingly grateful that we had slipped that current intelligence item in when we did.

Photographic Reconnaissance

At the time of its development I had only an inkling of one of CIA's greatest achievements—the invention of the U-2 high-flying aircraft and the camera capable of taking pictures from 80,000 feet, pictures that would permit analysts to recognize

objects on the ground with dimensions as small as 12 inches. It was the U-2 that pinned down with some precision in the course of time what was going on at Tyuratam and other military bases in the USSR. [A photographic look at things from the air opened up a whole new era.] This technical near-miracle revolutionized intelligence collection, eventually rivaling signals for producing voluminous details about foreign areas and reducing the burden on the secret agent enormously. It also gave the analyst historical depth in evidence, permitting researchers to identify lead-time traces in weapons development once new radars, missiles, aircraft, submarines, etc. had been discovered. The all-source research center where photographic signals, agent reports, and overt data files could be checked one against the other became more than ever the key to successful intelligence analysis.

The DDI had set up a small photo interpretation office in 1953, drawing on military specialists trained in the rudimentary air reconnaissance techniques of World War II. The leader of the group was Arthur Lundahl, a trained PI (photo-interpreter) and farsighted visionary, who constantly touted the potential of the picture that tells more than 10,000 words. He is one of the authentic heroes of post World War II intelligence technology. I called Art the super-salesman of photo interpretation. He started in with only about 20 photo experts and gradually built up a modern facility for the readout of U-2 and earth-satellite photography that employed about 1,200 people all told and constituted a crucial central element in most modern intelligence research and analysis. You cannot take pictures of what happens in the dark or under cover or what takes place inside somebody's head. For those things we still need agents or some other method of intelligence collection. Everything else, however, that is outside in the light of day lies open to inspection if a good enough camera can be put above it.

Lundahl's miracles of photo-interpretation were made possible by the parallel development of cameras, lenses, and special films for high-level photography. He worked with geniuses in American industry who, under contract, worked for CIA to develop these photographic devices. At the same time another great contributor to the modern intelligence era, Richard Bissell, an economist with extensive administrative

experience in government who joined CIA in 1954 as a Special Assistant to Dulles, was working on the platform to carry the camera over its targets above the reach of aircraft or anti-aircraft fire. He engaged the services of an inventive aeronautics engineer at Lockheed Aircraft Company, Kelly Johnson, to hand build the U-2 in a separate little hangar called the "skunk works" in California.

[The U-2 looked more like a kite built around a camera than an airplane; it was nearly all wing and its single jet engine made it shoot into the air like an arrow and soar higher than any other aircraft of its day. The need to keep the airframe light was so great that the plane landed on one set of tandem wheels rather than the normal pair and, when forward momentum was lost on landing, simply fell over on one of its long wingtips. Every landing was a crash landing, but the skids on the wingtips were built to take it. The wingspread was so wide and the airframe so light that the wings had to be held up by little "pogo" sticks on wheels that carried the wings down the runway until forward speed lifted the highly flexible wings and let the pogo sticks drop off on the ground. Such ingenuity made the U-2 a winner. It caught the Soviet Union unprepared. U-2s flew first in 1955 and flew over Soviet territory regularly from 1956 until 1960, when the Soviet military forces finally managed to down Gary Power's aircraft with a close explosion of an SA-2 anti-aircraft guided missile.]

Fortunately, Bissell had foreseen that countertechnology would one day catch up with the U-2 and had pioneered, with U.S. Air Force assistance, the development of even better camera systems and earth satellite vehicles capable of flying higher than the SA-2s. In 1961 the follow-on program became operational and soon the camera 90 miles or so high in space was able to send back the same level of photographic images that the U-2 had first captured in 1956. Since a satellite at about 100 miles altitude circles the earth every 90 minutes, it will, in the course of a week or two, traverse every part of the earth as the globe revolves beneath the satellite's path. Thus selective coverage of any target area on earth can be obtained.

While this quantum leap forward in technology won CIA well-deserved kudos, and Bissell is an authentic hero of the intelligence profession for that reason, it also landed CIA in the

midst of a complex collaboration with the Air Force because the launching of every satellite required a military launch pad. As satellites and missiles became more complex and costly, the technological aspects sometimes seemed to overshadow the intelligence purposes and the mountains of film piling up required a whole new echelon of analysis and processing. Still, overhead reconnaissance and photo interpretation are here to stay. Modern intelligence analysis could not do without them, nor could arms control agreements and defense policies based on precise knowledge of the strategic weapons systems the USSR or China can deploy.

These technical collection achievements have since been broadened to include underwater reconnaissance. This fact came dramatically to the public's attention when the press broke the story of the U.S. attempts to retrieve a Soviet atomic submarine in the summer of 1974. By now, of course, the USSR has much the same reconnaissance capability as the United States, but CIA put us first in the photographic imagery field by at least five years as a result of the brilliant work done in tandem by Art Lundahl's team and Dick Bissell's industrial engineers.

Open Skies

My knowledge of all of this advanced technological planning was very limited while I was still in OCI, but I had one experience as an analyst that brought me very close to the open skies world that the U-2 foretold. In mid-1955 the President agreed to hold the first Summit Conference of Heads of Government of the USSR, Great Britain, France, and the United States. Dulles decided to send me along to Geneva as a member of the delegation so that an analyst could provide daily intelligence reports directly to the Secretary of State and to the President. I was there for about ten days, working day and night at the other end of the cable line to Washington. The conference lasted from July 18 to 23, produced the "spirit of Geneva," the first of the many detente periods in U.S.-Soviet relations, but produced little else in the way of concrete results. It gave me my first direct look at Khrushchev, Bulganin, Zhukov, Molotov, and the rest of the men I had been studying so intently for so long. I was only at arm's length from them whenever I went into

the main conference hall to deliver a message to Foster Dulles.

I am always amazed when I remember the conference to realize that Eisenhower tried to achieve a diplomatic breakthrough on the basis of his foreknowledge of the U-2 by proposing an open skies mutual inspection pact based on aerial reconnaissance of each other's territory. In the eternal hopeful American spirit, he tried to make a gesture of good will and was sharply rebuffed by Khrushchev. I was standing outside the conference room when this extraordinary, farsighted proposal was made, and I learned from Ambassador Chip Bohlen, Eisenhower's interpreter at the session, as soon as they emerged, that [the Russians called the open skies proposal nothing but an American espionage trick] I wonder if they ever regretted it in the next years as the U-2s began doing unilaterally over the USSR what Eisenhower had proposed they do on a reciprocal basis. It is ironic that the peace of the world now depends to a remarkable degree on the unilateral U.S. and Soviet technical means of monitoring arms agreements that evolved from this U-2 technology of 1955. In any case the balance of strategic nuclear power that protects U.S. security is guaranteed by U.S. intelligence efforts, based on the photographic techniques CIA officers began working on 20 years ago.

CIA Overseas

After the first Summit adjourned with no agreement on anything consequential, a follow-up meeting of foreign ministers met in Geneva for several fruitless weeks, from October 27 to November 16, haggling over formulas for disarmament, German unification, and greater freedom of movement of peoples and information between Eastern and Western Europe. These subjects proved to be obdurate and they are still on the negotiating table today. In preparation for advising the President, I had organized a computerized index of data in CIA files likely to be used in connection with agenda items in Geneva. It turned out to be of little use because nobody in the delegation ever asked the relevant questions, but since I was the only one who pretended to understand the computer file, I spent many weeks in Geneva purveying current intelligence and helping out on the State delegation whenever possible.

ment of international events supplements and simplifies the intelligence reporting task. Nevertheless, experience showed that newspaper management and the broadcast media harbored extravagant suspicions of CIA as if it were solely dedicated to what they loved to call "dirty tricks," that is, covert action. This attitude called for sensationalizing all news about CIA. It was no surprise when in the post-Watergate era the news media savaged intelligence so viciously that the resulting press and Congressional reaction threatened for a time to destroy the whole intelligence structure.

Meanwhile the other DDI components were doing some of their best work. The photo interpreters under Art Lundahl and the strategic military research analysts under Bruce Clark, a Current Intelligence officer, combined forces with the economists and scientists to provide the Office of National Estimates with evidentially-based judgments that were often sounder than those emanating from Defense and State. In particular, CIA estimates and analytical reports on Vietnam provided an increasingly isolated light of reason and caution in an otherwise imprudent climate of opinion.

In this whole McCone period I benefited, as DDI, from the extraordinary diversity of research pursuits on the part of officers and staffs throughout the Agency. For example, one night late in 1962 when President Kennedy called me to ask about the possibility that Soviet missiles were being hidden in caves in Cuba, I checked with the ORR geographers and economists who had formed a task force on Cuba and found that some conscientious soul had prepared a card index on every known cave in Cuba, with indications of size of entrance and suitability for storage of weapons—which they were sometimes used for. When we plunked that file down on the conference table in the Cabinet Room at the White House the next morning and said only a very few missiles could possibly fit into or get through the entrances of these caves, the problem died right then. This is a case of serendipity in intelligence that is likely to occur when you have an adequate staff of well-indoctrinated analysts.

Close contacts with the reconnaissance and photo interpretation world also paid off. At the height of the Cuba missile crisis McCone and I persuaded Bobby Kennedy and several

others to go down to our photo center—then in a decrepit old building in downtown Washington—to look at the negative images on the processed film through our excellent optical system. The prints that we used at the White House were never quite as clear as the film itself. After this exposure to the black arts of Lundahl's crew, neither Bobby nor anyone else ever questioned the analysis of the Soviet weapons in Cuba that were presented on numerous occasions to the little band of NSC Executive Committee officials gathered together by the President to deal with the missile crisis.

Just before Kennedy made his great speech on Cuba on October 22, 1962, I was instructed to send teams of senior analysts as briefers, with a kit of photographic evidence, to accompany special ambassadors to Ottawa, London, Paris, and Bonn to fill in the governments in these key capitals on the Soviet provocation and on our decisions. William Tidwell, chief reconnaissance targeting expert, Chester L. Cooper, the DDI deputy for NSC liaison, Sherman Kent, and Jack Smith went to these cities; at each place the photo kit was so persuasive our allies—even de Gaulle—fell immediately in line. Konrad Adenauer for a long time believed we had gone to the trouble to send a man under cover to brief him; I think we never convinced him Jack Smith could be a real name of a CIA officer! I myself went to the United Nations in New York shortly after Kennedy's speech to show the photographic evidence to friendly delegates and assist in the drafting of Adlai Stevenson's speech of accusation delivered in the Security Council—the one with the dramatic offer to wait till hell freezes over for an honest answer from the Soviet delegate about missiles in Cuba. There is a picture in Bobby Kennedy's book on Cuba, *Thirteen Days*, of this confrontation with the CIA briefing charts on an easel in the background.¹⁵ Again our intelligence was never questioned in this, the proudest moment of DDI analysts.

Following McCone's lead in trying to emphasize substantive evidence and judgment at all levels, including the policymaking level of the NSC, the DDI often found itself involved in interagency problems related to the coordination of intelligence. A Special Deputy to the DCI was supposed to cope with interagency intelligence coordination. For the most part the

Between the Sun and the Earth

The First NRO Reconnaissance Eye in Space

Robert A. McDonald, Ph.D., Editor

<http://www.cia.gov/cia/dst/corona.html>.

Two individuals were driving forces behind the decision to build a photoreconnaissance satellite for the US. They were James Killian, Jr., **president** of MIT, and Edwin Land of the Polaroid Corporation. Killian chaired a committee that was established to examine the threat of a surprise attack on the United States. Land chaired a panel that was responsible for finding approaches to monitor the military capabilities of the USSR (Deutch, 1995).

That tradition of imagery exploitation can be personified in Arthur C. **Lundahl** who was the Society's **president** in 1954. A Washington Post obituary for **Lundahl** described him as "a pioneer in photographic intelligence and the art of photographic interpretation" (Barnes, 1992). **Lundahl** was widely known for his work with U-2 imagery, but he also was a major player in the use and exploitation of Corona imagery. He founded the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC), which became the Director of Central Intelligence's center for the analysis of Corona imagery. It was **Lundahl's** years of experience in photographic interpretation of airborne imagery that enabled NPIC to make its contributions to national security during the Corona era. Dino A. Brugioni's and Frederick J. Doyle's article provides a biographical overview of **Lundahl's** life and his contributions to the fields of photointerpretation and national security. The article puts the exploitation of Corona imagery in the context of a life experience.

Arthur C. **Lundahl**: Founder of the Image Exploitation Discipline
Dino A. Brugioni and Frederick J. Doyle

Art **Lundahl**, as the founder of the image exploitation discipline, was a major player in the interpretation and use of Corona imagery. During World War II **Lundahl** encountered aerial imagery by interpreting photographs of enemy targets in the Pacific Theater. He started his civilian career with the Naval Photographic Interpretation Center in 1946. In 1953, **Lundahl** became the first chief of the Central Intelligence Agency's Photographic Intelligence Division, which later became the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC). As the NPIC director, **Lundahl** was responsible for the analysis of U-2 photography, and then after 1960, imagery acquired by the Corona reconnaissance satellite. **Lundahl** enjoyed the confidence of four US Presidents and briefed many other high-ranking officials from around the world. During his career, he received many awards for his work in photointerpretation and was universally admired by his colleagues in the intelligence and remote sensing communities.

SUBJECT: Visit of Dr. Condon to NPIC, 20 February 1957

will be available to assist Dr. Condon by performing work of a photogrammetric nature, such as attempting to measure objects imaged on photographs that may be part of Dr. Condon's analysis. Work performed by NPIC will be strictly of a technical nature using services and equipment generally not available elsewhere.

5. Following this brief discussion in Mr. Lundahl's office the group adjourned to the conference room where a series of briefings was presented to Dr. Condon and his group. Following a short introduction by the following briefings were presented:

a. General discussion of photogrammetry, including definition, terminology and, in general, what photogrammetry is and what it can do, presented this discussion.

b. followed with a presentation of the analysis he had been conducting on UFO photography furnished NPIC by Dr. Rachford. discussion was of a general nature and outlined the problems he had encountered because of lack of basic information, such as camera focal length, make of camera, unspecified enlargements, etc.

c. then gave a general discussion on the microdensitometer and its application to image analysis.

d. followed this with a presentation on isodensitometer experiments he has been conducting.

e. then escorted the group into the new clean area where they viewed and discussed the isodensitometer and the new Mann Microdensitometer.

f. Returning to the conference room, briefed the group on measuring instruments used in and followed by a general presentation on the success and failure had experienced in trying to measure objects imaged on the second UFO project assigned. Following this discussion then conducted the group into the instrument area where the Point Transfer Device, Mann 880 Comparator, the Benson-Lehner Plotter and the NRI were viewed by the group.

2

Back

Next

Title:	VISIT OF DR. CONDON TO NPIC, 20 FEBRUARY 1957
Abstract:	

January 1, 2001

FBI
Lundahl.

Justice Department/Federal Bureau of Investigation

J. Kevin O'Brien

Chief, FOI/PA Section, Rm. 6296 JEH

Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear FOIA Officer:

This is a request filed under the Freedom of Information Act.

I request that all documents containing information regarding the following topic be provided to me:

I would like the FBI file of Arthur Lundahl. The CIA bio on him says

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL

1953-1974

Mr. Lundahl is recognized as the father of imagery analysis and the creator of a world-class national center for producing intelligence from overhead imagery. This thorough and highly technical intelligence enabled Lundahl to gain the confidence of four US Presidents.

I have enclosed three pages from the CIA which shows that

Mj12 Organizational Support list:1950s to Pres

Updated:01-06-2000

This first reported list of individuals were connected to Mj-12, the original t

- 1) Arthur Lundahl: CIA 1953-1974, Founder and Director of the CIA's Photog Interpretation Center. Discovered Russian missiles in Cuba. Briefed three p on UFOs.
- 2) Stanley Schneider. Former assistant to the director, White House Office and Technology.
- 3) Lt Col Robert Friend, USAF: Commanding Officer, Project Blue Book. 195
- 4) Dr. Charles Sheldon: Head of Science and Technology Division, Library o Congress, US Office of Naval Intelligence and former CIA employee.
- 5) Arnold White: Chief, CIA Domestic Contact Division, 1952-1973.
- 6) Dr. Gerald Rothberg: Stevens Institute of Technology: Served on the Con Committee: CIA Team Chief on operation "Christopher Columbus."
- 7) General James Garland, USAF: Former commanding officer, ATIC.
- 8) General William Hipps , USAF: Former commander USAF Intelligence Op Command (50s).

This second list is reported to be individuals who were on the Mj-12 advisor from the early 1950s until the late 60s.

- 1) Louis A. Johnson: Former DOD employee.
- 2) Harold C. Stuart: ?
- 3) John C. McCone: ?
- 4) Thomas K. Finletter
- 5) Gen Earle Partridge: Retired USAF Commander
- 6) Dr. John Von Neumann: ?
- 7) Eger V. Murphree: ?

This last list are of individuals most recent reportedly involved in the progr

- 1) Richard Helms**
- 2) William Coby**
- 3) Lou Tordella**
- 4) John Tovey**
- 5) Senator Pell**
- 6) Dr. Carl Sagan**
- 7) Ken Shutten**
- 8) Dr. Raemer Schreiber**

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Zeckel W.T

former Director of Ground Sensor
Watch, former radio operator for
Army Security Agency, former CAUS

X

March 26, 1963

X
Mr. Bernard L. Gladioux
Chairman
XX National Civil Service League
Sheraton Park Hotel
Washington, D. C.

To the ten winners of the Career Service Award of the National Civil Service League, I send warm expressions of gratitude. The Nation has good reason to be proud of the exceptional abilities you have applied in your productive years of service and your vital roles in shaping and moving our government programs. All citizens should be reassured to know that the demanding problems that confront our government are being met with knowledge, imagination, and leadership. The wide range of your achievements exemplifies the great variety of opportunities for a challenging career in the Federal service.

The National Civil Service League has again, by its selection and acclaim of outstanding award winners, made a valuable contribution to better public understanding of our career service. My best wishes for continued success in their endeavors go to Graeme C. ^XBannerman, Capt. Hewlett R. ^XBishop, August C. ^XHahn, Dr. G. K. ^XHartmann, Arthur C. ^XLundahl, Nicholas J. ^XOganovic, Dr. Hildrus A. ^XPoindexter, James J. ^XRowley, Frank A. ^XTaylor, and William H. ^XWeathersby.

John F. Kennedy

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CENTRAL FILES