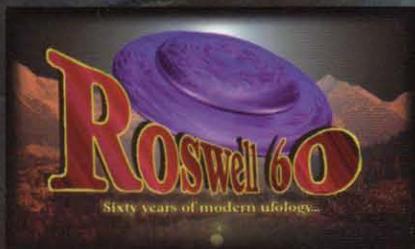


Reports, Reviews and Articles from the world of Ufology

UFO DATA

MAGAZINE

May-June 2007
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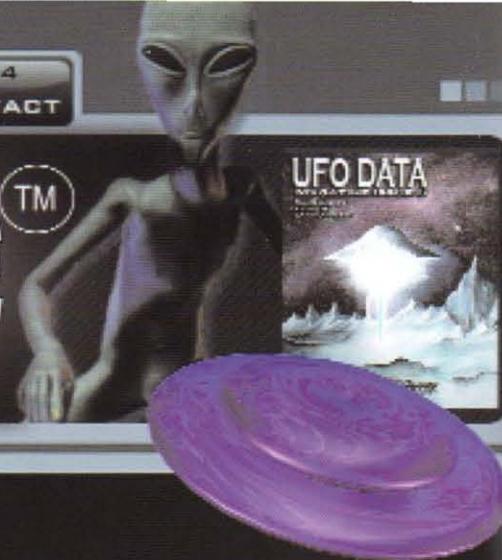
60th Anniversary Issue
In 1947 something happened.
Share 60 years of research
in this issue...

UFO DATA MAGAZINE

The UK's only Glossy UFO Magazine

TM

UFO DATA



Contents



Russel Callaghan
Editor

Can you believe it? May - June issue already and thanks to you, UFO DATA Magazine is growing from strength to strength.

July this year will see celebrations of the birth of the modern era of Ufology. It will be 60 years ago that Kenneth Arnold's sighting coined the phrase 'Flying Saucer' and 60 years since the infamous 'Roswell Incident' took the world by storm, bringing the reality of UFOs and aliens into the public domain.

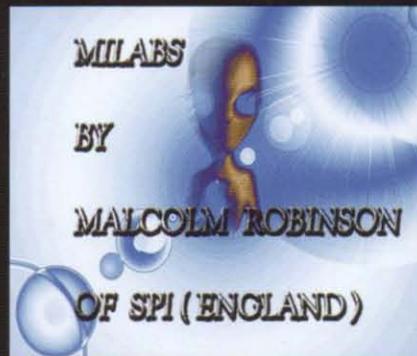
In an interview for 'Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious World' in the 1980s, Arnold told Gordon Honeycombe that what he saw were labelled 'Flying Saucers and people had been seeing them ever since'.

On a 'did you know' basis one of the researchers of that series was Adam Hart - Davies he of 'What the Victorians Did For Us' and similar fame. His partner is Dr Susan Blackmore, long associated with alien abductions, etc...



UFO DATA have brought together a collection of articles and research about Roswell.

See pages: 13, 22, 32, 48, 52, 55.



Regular contributor Malcolm Robinson looks at strange accounts of suspected military/alien abduction, Scary stuff... page 17

Lead Story page 3.

F15's report UFO encounter and investigate. Official sources deny then retract, sound familiar, UFO DATA hosted the actual pilots radio conversation for the world to hear...

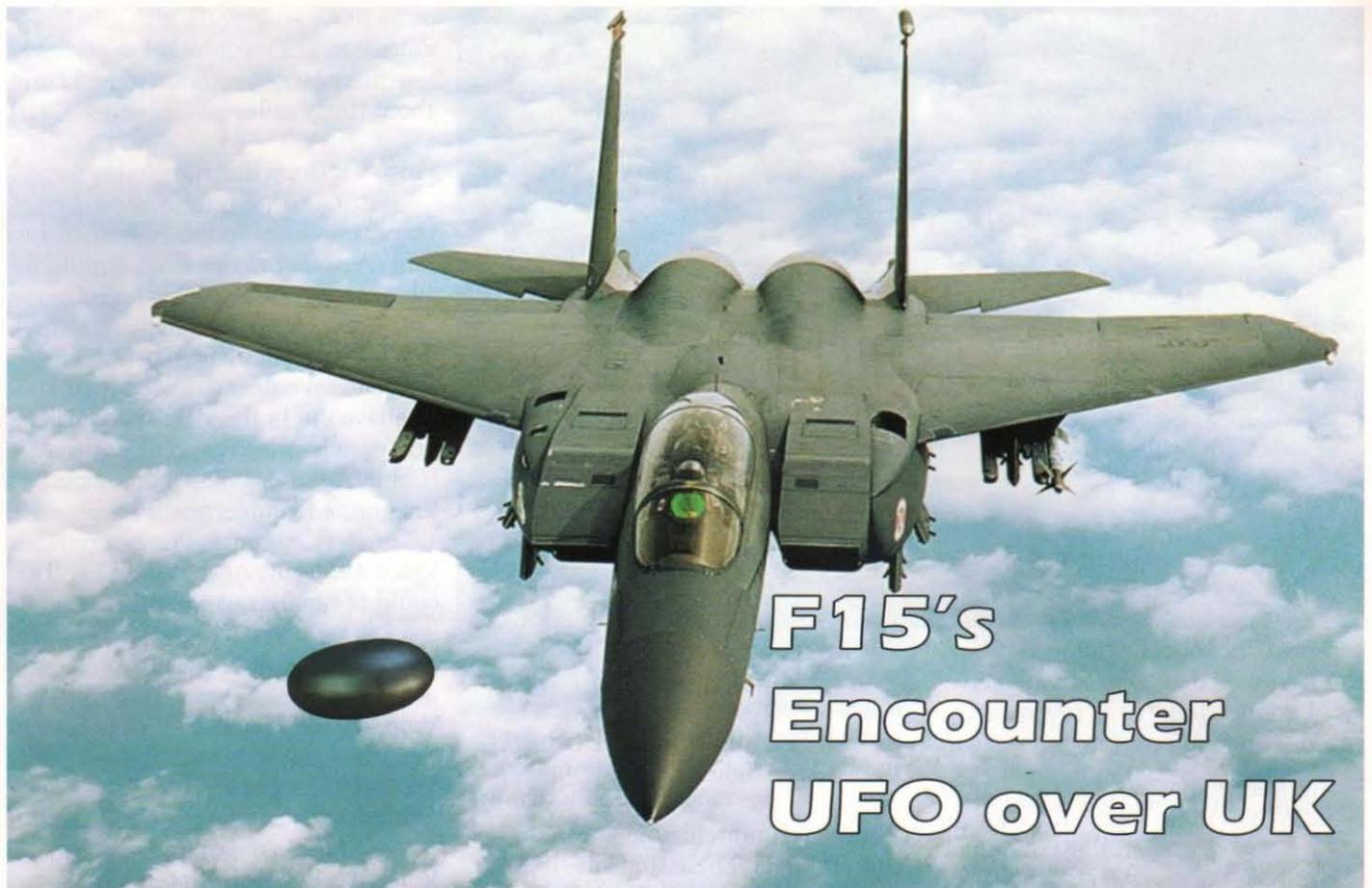
All this and much, much more across 68 UFO packed pages.

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F15's Encounter UFO over UK

What makes a good UFO story? Evidence, witnesses, cover-up, denial, blunder and cock-up. Well, this is no story from the fading memories of WWII bomber pilots or moonshine-soaked hillbillies, this encounter has all the above and what's more, it happened this year in 2007 and it also happened somewhere over central England. Steve Johnson and Chris Rolfe have been in touch with several researchers, reporters and different agencies to try and get to the bottom of this fascinating case.

In early March, *UFOData Magazine* was contacted by Chris Rolfe, of UFO Monitors East Kent (UFOMEK), with regard to an audio file that had come into his possession. The file apparently recorded the observation of an unidentified object by at least two United States Air Force (USAF) F-15 fighter jets from RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk. The actual location of the incident is not yet known.

Chris had read about the incident in an article published in *Radio User*

magazine by Kevin Patterson, an aviation reporter who has also contributed to *UFOData Magazine*. Kevin has a regular column in *Radio User* entitled 'Military Matters'. Chris contacted Kevin and discovered that an audio record of the event had been made by an anonymous radio enthusiast. Kevin passed on the recording to Chris, who, in turn, forwarded it to us. Kevin reported that London Military Air Traffic Control

had picked up the object at between three and four thousand feet and had requested the jets to investigate. The F-15s, call-sign 'Gator' duly manoeuvred and encountered the object. The audio appears to be a conversation between three men and they pick up an object on their radar. It is at an altitude of seventeen thousand feet, rising to seventeen thousand seven hundred feet, considerably higher

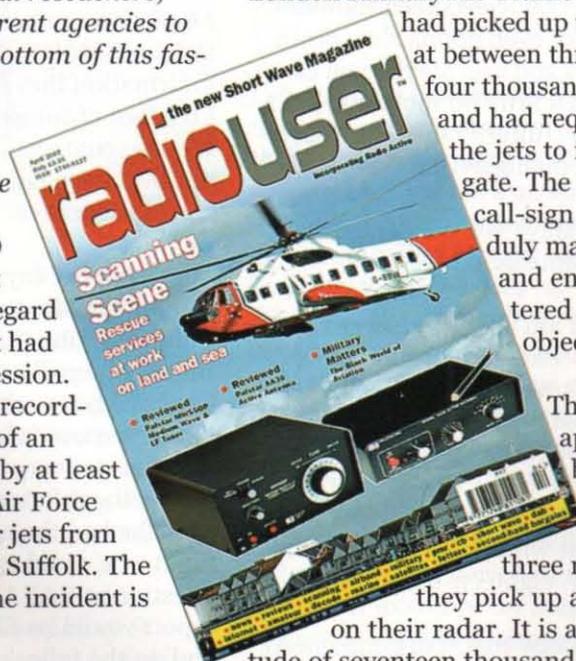
than when London Military ATC first detected it. Its airspeed varied from a dead stop to eighty knots and the planes made at least two passes of it, flying both beneath and above the object.

Below is a transcript of the audio recording. It may not be a hundred percent accurate, given the noise in the file, but it should be pretty close:

Voice #1: Alright, dude. No kidding. I just flew over Bullseye zero zero eight for twenty. I had a radar hit and it was swinging, looked like thirty knots. There was something there. It looked like, it didn't look like a bird. It looked like a rock to me. I... CQ negative. I have no idea what it was, but, er, basically this... heads up, try to stay away from seventeen thousand feet, keep your nugget on, so I have no idea what it was. I'm gonna use our radar and see if I can pick this object up again. I picked it up twice, the first time I picked it up, my radar broke lock, so I thought it was just, er, some kind of bad lock or superficial chaff. I'm gonna turn back towards the north a little bit.

Voice #2: Fuel pick up trail.

Voice #1: Thanks, I'm gonna start





coming back towards the west... I think zero zero four for about twenty... I got it again. It's at seventeen-seven. Three miles off my nose. Yeah at seventeen-seven. I'm flying that way now, I'm gonna slow down. I'm not gonna get below three hundred knots, but, er...

Voice #3: ...back towards you. Something small. Very small, black object. I had it at seventeen-seven. He just flew... it just flew right over me.

Voice #2: Confirm the object appears stationary.

Voice #1: Well, I couldn't tell, because [unintelligible static].

Voice #2: Nearer eighty knots.

Voice #1: My radar shows at between thirty and sixty, so I have no idea what it is actually doing. But it went from seventeen, the first time I saw it, to seventeen-seven. It's not falling. I don't think it was a bird.

Voice #2: [unintelligible]

Voice #1: What's that?

Voice #2: Are you taking a manual lock or is it a auto-guns lock?

Voice #1: I'm getting a auto-guns every time. Got it at Bullseye zero zero nine for fifteen. Showing, basically, no airspeed on it.

Voice #2: [unintelligible] is clean.

Voice #1: Say again.

Voice #2: Two was clean. Two was locked! Full burn. Zero one two continue to ten thousand.

Voice #1: [unintelligible]... I'm up [unintelligible] here. I wanna try and look at it, then you follow in behind me, if you can.

Voice #2: I'm at fifteen thousand.

Voice #1: Dude, I have no idea what that is. But it has passed over me... I got it at seventeen thousand feet. Eight miles off my nose. Bullseye zero four nine for twenty. Seventeen thousand, I wanna get down to sixteen-five. Two point five miles off my nose right now. Seventeen thousand feet. I'm not even gonna slow down as much as you are. Maybe you can slow down a little bit more and get a better look. [interference]... twenty knots, not manoeuvring.

Voice #2: Have you confirmed the merge [unintelligible]

Voice #1: I am about to merge right now. I'm seeing him. Going underneath me now and I'm going to get my airspeed back before I manoeuvre. Are you locked or clean?

Voice #2: I'm no joy, approaching line abreast with you, two thousand feet higher, eighteen-five.

Voice #1: Copy that. I'm gonna need your right hand turn... You said you're at eighteen?

Voice #2: Yeah, contact, I'm at eighteen-five now. At your six o'clock, er, about thirty miles.

Voice #1: Copy that.

Voice #2: Clear, you're well clear. I won't descend at this time. [unintelligible] are we clear of this target?

Voice #1: I'm not sure. It stays between seventeen and eighteen, so... I believe I'm in the vicinity of it. I'm not, er, a hundred percent positive. [unintelligible]. I have visual now. I'm gonna fly underneath him.

Voice #2: Copy. At that time I still could not make out what it was.

Voice #1: You didn't see it?

Voice #2: Confirmed.

Voice #1: I'm gonna circle back around.

Voice #3: Follow [unintelligible] see if we can see it through the HUD.

Voice #2: Have we got somebody else back here with us?

Voice #3: Yeah, it's him. Dude, did you see anything?

Voice #2: Negative.

On March 6th, 2007, *UFOData Magazine* contacted the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and asked for any information they had via the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). We also contacted RAF Lakenheath, but they have failed to reply to our correspondences.

The very next day, I received an email from Mrs Sue Welch, of the Defence Flying Complaints Investigation Team. She wanted me to phone her so that I could provide her with more information. I did this and she was very nice and thanked me for the information. She said that now she had the call-sign of the flight, she could contact the pilots in question at RAF Lakenheath. A report would be filed with the MoD and, in the fullness of time, we would hear back from them (not her).

On March 8th, 2007, I received an email from Mr Paul Welch, of the MoD Freedom of Information office. His email said:

Thank you for your e-mail of 7 March 2007 asking for any information or documentation relating to an alleged incident on 12 January 2007, when London Military Air Traffic Control tasked two USAF F-15 aircraft to investigate an unknown object that had been picked up on radar.

We have no record of London Military Air Traffic Control Centre making such a request.

I immediately sent a reply to Mr Webb, explaining that, while we appreciated his speedy reply (perhaps the fastest ever in response to a FOIA request!), he had only referred to the request from London Military ATC for the jets to intercept the unknown object. I asked if it was possible for him to look into the interception incident itself.

In the meantime, various explanations of what the object might be had been submitted by various researchers, including weather balloons, vultures, mythical birds or a helium-filled, toy balloon.



By 19th March, 2007, I had not heard back from the MoD, so I sent an email to Mr Webb, asking if he had received my initial reply. The next day, an email arrived confirming that my reply had been received and two hours and forty-two minutes later I received the following message from Mr Webb in my email inbox:

Thank you for your e-mail of 8 March 2007 asking me to look into any records of an alleged sighting of an unknown object by two USAF F-



15 pilots on 12 January 2007. I am dealing with it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Ministry of Defence have no record of UK military air traffic control tasking USAF aircraft to undertake any such investigation on or around 12th January 2007. However, I understand that two USAF aircraft spotted an object on their onboard radar whilst on a routine training flight and, on their own initiative, made a number of passes over it. They believed the object, no bigger than a football, was floating with the wind and had probably come from a weather balloon.

I should also like to take the opportunity to explain that the unless there is corroborating evidence to suggest that the UK's airspace may have been compromised by a hostile or unauthorized foreign military aircraft, the MOD does not investigate or seek to provide a precise explanation for each of the 200-300 "UFO" reports we receive every year. However, we believe that rational explanations could be found for most of the sightings if resources were devoted to so doing, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

Touchy! So, it wasn't a bird, after all.

What part of a weather balloon is black, rock-like and can go from three thousand to nearly eighteen thousand feet and be locked on radar, despite being no bigger than a football? I asked Mr Webb if he could send me a hard copy of his findings and he said he would pop it in the post. All I got, however, was a printout of the email I received from him. I have asked for hard copies of the information he has received from his investigation, but have yet to receive a reply to this request.

Chris Rolfe, in the meantime, had contacted UFO researcher, Don Berliner, in the States and he made a FOIA request from over there. The reply he got, from Joanne F Kitchen, of the 48th Fighter Wing (USAFE), read as follows:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of March 4, 2007 which you seek information and copies of all materials related to the January 12 2007 radar/visual observation from and/or attempted intercept by the crews of two RAF Lakenheath based F-15's of an unidentified object. Your request was received by this office on March 5, 2007 and assigned file number 2007-018.

A thorough search by the 48 Operational Support Squadron did not locate any records responsive to your request. The FOIA applies to existing Air Force records; the Air Force need not create a record in order to respond to a request.

'A thorough search' did not locate any records? This clearly contradicts the Ministry of Defence's assertion that the pilots did encounter an object. Is this a case of one hand not knowing what the other is doing, or are the MoD's searches more 'thorough' than the United States Air Force's?

In an effort to ascertain where the incident took place, Chris Rolfe is trying to find out which region of UK airspace the frequency of the radio exchange covers. As yet, he has been unsuccessful. Two frequencies were used, according to the enthusiast that recorded the transmission, one of which is used by London Military ATC and the other reserved for the

492nd and 493rd Fighter Squadrons at RAF Lakenheath. The 492nd use F-15E Eagles, while the 493rd fly F-15Cs.

According to Kevin Patterson's original article, on the same day, there was a report of an aircraft over Norfolk executing some unusual manoeuvres at high altitude and a report from Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland, of 'flaming debris' falling from the sky. A helicopter from RNAS Gannet was despatched to investigate, but nothing was found. It is not known, though, if these incidents are related to what the American F-15 pilots intercepted.

A member of the Above Top Secret forum (www.abovetopsecret.com), 'PW229', who claims to work in the area of aircraft communications, has determined that the aircraft in question were F-15E Eagles, which have a pilot and a weapon systems officer and utilise APG-70 radar systems. He also stated that the APG-70 cannot attain an auto-lock on a balloon.

The APG-70 system has a feature that can recognise many different types of aircraft from a continually-updated database. The auto-guns mode of the radar locks on the first target that enters its beam between three thousand feet and fifteen nautical miles distance. The radar also features a High Resolution Map mode (HRM) which can resolve objects down to eight and a half feet across at a distance of up to twenty nautical miles. Smaller objects can be detected, but they will appear on the scope as being the minimum resolvable size of eight and a half feet i.e. much larger than a football.

'PW229' has also claimed that one of the voices on the recording actually came not from one of the F-15s, but from a NATO-E3 AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) aircraft. He said: "This aircraft tracked the object for quite some time and saw 2 very unusual manoeuvres. The first was a rapid acceleration from 30 knots indicated to around 150 knots in 6 seconds... Although this first manoeuvre was nothing outrageous, the second manoeuvre most certainly was. The target dropped from 155 knots indicated to 10 knots indicated in less than half a second at which



point the E-3 lost the target (it was lost in ground clutter)... From here the E-3 telemetry is very hazy on the target... I have received additional info that there was no IFF transmission from the object."

Chris Rolfe is attempting to contact 'PW229' for more information. Even though the information provided by the Above Top Secret members appears interesting and seems to come from those who know what they are talking about, we accept that such information presented via internet forums can often be unreliable and, more often than not, unverifiable.

Another Above Top Secret forum member, 'USAF1N051', who claims to be a member of the Texas Air National Guard, reported that the terminology used in the audio recording was accurate and consistent with the way pilots speak to each other over the radio.

On March 27th, 2007, Mr Eric Rush received a reply from the Meteorological Office in Exeter, Devon, after making enquiries about whether the object could have been a weather balloon, as suggested by the MoD:

Dear Mr Rush

Thank you for your email.

As the National Met Service and a world leading source of information

and advice on the weather and natural environment we are well equipped to deal with your enquiry.

This sighting, if it was one of our weather balloons ascending then at 17000 feet it would be considerably larger than a football as at launch the balloon is approximately four feet in diameter and with the reduction in air pressure the balloon only gets larger in volume. The balloon is made is of a translucent [sic] latex that is beige in colour. The parachute is white. The radiosonde is also white and the size of a paperback book. If the balloon has burst and the radiosonde is descending then that would be approximately three to four feet in diameter.

I don't believe that the radiosonde is large enough to be picked up on radar.

I think that this sighting isn't anything to do with weather balloons!

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact the Customer Centre on 0870 9000 100 where one of our advisors will be happy to help you. The number is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Kind regards,

*Richard
Customer Centre, Met Office,
FitzRoy Road, Exeter, Devon, EX1*

3PB, United Kingdom.

UFOData Magazine contacted NATS (National Air Traffic Services), the leading company tasked with providing air traffic control for fifteen of the UK's largest airports, as well as 'en route' services for aircraft crossing UK airspace. We spoke to Richard Wright, Senior Press Officer at the NATS Press Office, and he explained that our skies are divided into two, distinct sections: controlled airspace and open airspace.

Open airspace is not covered by air traffic control, so pilots are responsible for avoiding any other air traffic. Most flights in open airspace take place during the day, although pilots with instrument training may be allowed to fly at night or in low-visibility conditions. When low-visibility is a factor, restrictions are placed on flights for reasons of safety.

As would be expected, there are more stringent controls in controlled airspace. These areas cover regions around airports and air corridors and NATS are paid to keep aircraft safely separated in these areas in any weather. All aircraft in controlled airspace are required to carry active

transponders to send vital information to air traffic control about height, speed and the aircraft's identification code or call sign. This will be displayed on the radar screen as a small box of information attached to the 'blip' on the ATC screen.

Any metallic object will be detected on radar and return a 'blip' on the screen, but unless the object carries a transponder, no other information will be displayed.

Hot air balloons generally do not carry transponders, but they are required to stay well away from controlled airspace. As a rule, hot air balloons will not be detected by ATC radar. This is because they usually fly at low altitudes and, for the most part, are non-metallic.

Meteorological balloons also do not carry transponders for the most part, but they are required to be launched in areas where they will not drift into controlled airspace. A metallicised weather balloon will be detected on radar, but, unless it is carrying a transponder, will only appear as a 'blip' on the radar screen with no altitude data etc.

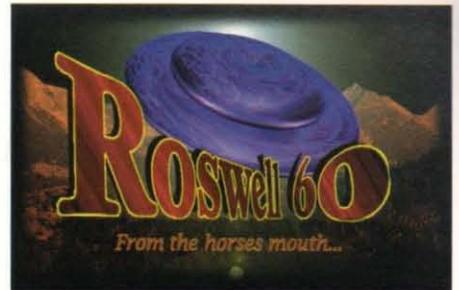
Mr Wright was familiar with this case and was sceptical of the claims being made. He found it unlikely that an object the size of a football would be visible to pilots in jets flying at several hundred miles per hour.

UFOData Magazine would like to thank NATS and Mr Wright for their invaluable assistance.

Sheffield Hallam University lecturer, Dr David Clarke has said that the weather balloon explanation offered by the pilots satisfies him, although he encouraged us to keep digging for more information on this case.

UFOData Magazine and UFOMEK are still investigating this case and if any new information comes to light, we will let our readers know in the next issue (June/July 2007).

Steve Johnson



"[Mac' Brazel] said he had found some wreckage... on his ranch. He sounded upset and he asked me what to do about it... I recommended that he go to certain authorities and I suggested that he contact the Roswell Army Air Force base. As I said, they are fliers and they'll know what to do about anything that flies. And that was the first part of how this story got started."

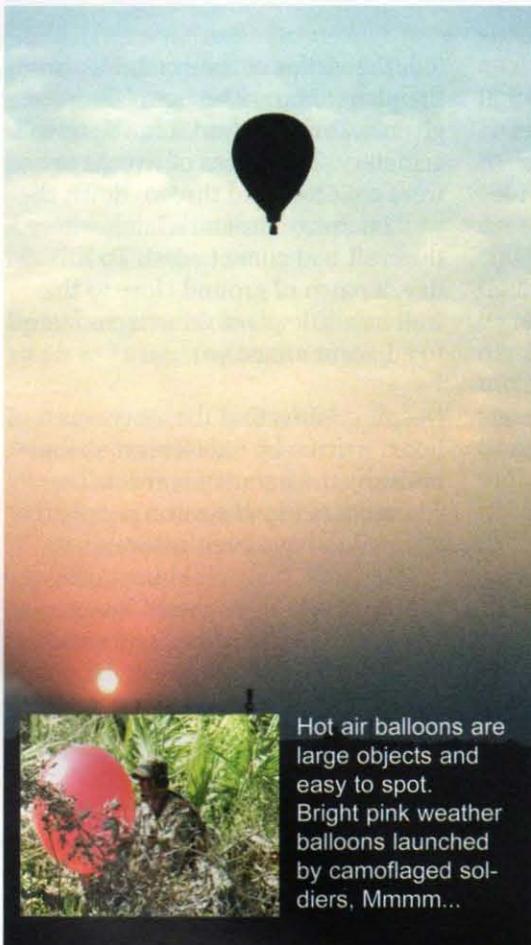
"I get a phone call again and it's Brazel. He is saying in a very clear voice, you know, very loud, 'Well, look, this story is, erm, we haven't quite got this story right and I don't know whether it was that night or the next night.'

"He wanted to come over and talk to me. So I said, 'Okay, come over to the station.' And that's where I said, 'Look, you know it's a very interesting story, but it's completely different from the story you told me on the phone the other day, especially about the little green men' and that's where he said, 'Yeah, only they weren't green.'"

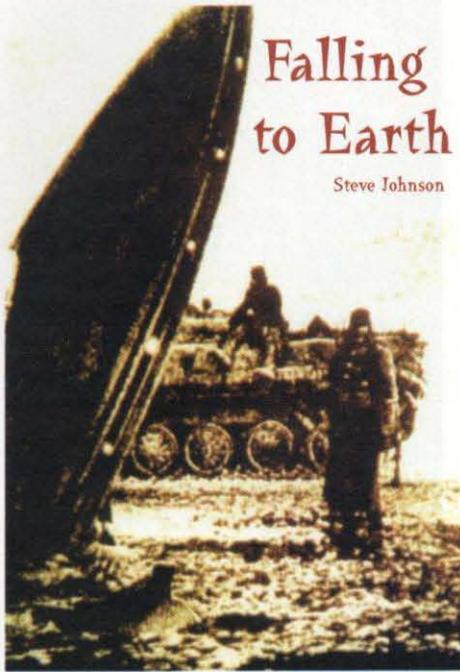


Frank Joyce - Announcer, KGFL Radio

From Recollections of Roswell - The Fund for UFO Research



Hot air balloons are large objects and easy to spot. Bright pink weather balloons launched by camouflaged soldiers, Mmmm...



Falling to Earth

Steve Johnson

While the Roswell Incident, celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, is the most famous example of the crash of an unidentified flying object, there are countless other cases of alleged extra-terrestrial craft dropping out of the sky. From Roswell to Kecksburg, Tunguska to Shag Harbour, it seems that UFOs hit the ground with surprising regularity. This article will examine just a few of what are perhaps some of the less famous cases.

Benkelman, Nebraska - 6th June, 1884

The small town of Benkelman lies about 300 miles west of Nebraska's largest city, Omaha and about 250 miles from the state capital, Lincoln. As you travel on Highway 34, it's the kind of place that, if you blink, you might miss it, being barely a mile from top to bottom.

As the Nineteenth Century wound down and the famous 'Great Airship Invasion' was heating up, the Nebraska Nugget published an article that described something remarkable. The event would be revisited in the Nebraska State Journal in 1887.

On June 6th, 1884, a group of herds-

men heard a strange noise in the sky and saw something crash down over a nearby hill. They scrambled to see the site of the impact and were shocked to see 'cog-wheels and other pieces of machinery' lying about on the ground.

The object had slid into a deep ravine, but it was giving off so much heat that it was difficult to approach without getting burned. One of the herdsmen, Alf Williamson, remained exposed to the searing heat from the craft for too long and suffered heat-stroke and blisters broke out all over his head.

Unable to do anything about the object, the men returned to their cattle. When night fell, the light from the mysterious object cast a glow so bright that the area around it was illuminated like day.

The next day, more people visited the



crash site and examined the scattered pieces of debris: 'One piece that looked like the blade of a propeller screw of a metal of an appearance like brass, about sixteen inches wide, three inches thick and three and a half feet long, was picked up by a spade. It would not weigh more than five pounds, but appeared as strong and compact as any known metal. A fragment of a wheel with a milled rim, apparently having had a diameter of seven or eight feet, was also picked up. It seemed to be of the same material and had the same remarkable lightness.'

Bizarrely, a rainstorm was said to have melted the object, which was said to have been a 50-60 feet long, 12 feet wide cylinder.

Aurora, Texas - 19th April, 1897

It seems that UFOs have an affinity with small, American towns. Aurora, about 45 miles north-west of Dallas, Texas, certainly counts as one of those, having a population of a little under 900.

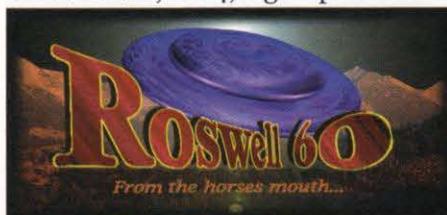
On the morning of April 19th, 1897, an 'airship' collided with a windmill and crashed to the ground, scattering debris over the immediate vicinity. Apparently, there was one occupant of the craft, as the Dallas Morning News reported:

'The pilot of the ship is supposed to have been the only one aboard and, while his remains were badly disfigured, enough of the original has been picked up to show that he was not an inhabitant of this world.'

A military officer on the scene, Mr. T.J. Weems, stated that, in his opin-

ion, the victim of the crash was from the planet Mars. The poor 'alien' was given a Christian burial in the town's cemetery. The pieces of wreckage were collected and thrown down the well on Judge Proctor's land, where the craft had come to rest. To this day, a patch of ground close to the well has little plant growth compared to adjacent areas.

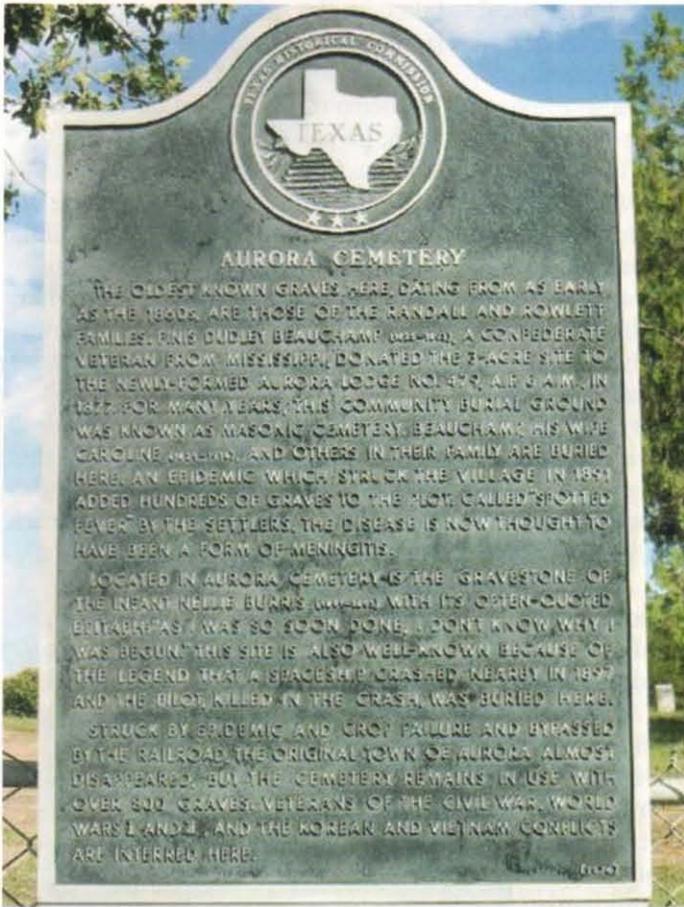
Despite claims that the story was a hoax, written by a mischievous journalist by the name of Haydon, researchers found several people that claimed to have been witnesses to the incident. Only children at the time and, when they were interviewed, in their eighties and nineties, they confirm that an object did come crashing down on Judge Proctor's



"I was told that if I ever talked about it, I could be taken out into the desert never to return, or that my mother and father would be taken to 'Orchard Park', a former POW camp."

Frankie Rowe - daughter of Roswell fireman, Dan Dwyer





land and a small body was found.

In 1973, investigators asked to be allowed to exhume the alien, the grave of whom they had found, marked by a small headstone. They were refused permission. When they returned later, they found the headstone had gone and rumours persist that the US military removed the body.

A memorial that tells of the crash now exists in the town.

Spitsbergen, Norway - May, 1946 & June, 1952

In August, 1946, General James Doolittle travelled to Sweden, allegedly to investigate the cases of sightings of so-called 'ghost rockets'. While there, he travelled to the Norwegian island of Spitsbergen, deep inside the Arctic Circle.

According to an article in the *Los Angeles Examiner*, written by famed US journalist, Dorothy Kilgallen, Doolittle saw wreckage from the crash and, per-



haps, up to 17 bodies. It is said that she may have got her information from Lord Mountbatten, who had a famous interest in UFOs. Unfortunately, the article seems to have disappeared completely and even the publication in which it appeared is not certain. Kilgallen allegedly did not mention Spitsbergen in the article and it has been suggested that it was a hoax or disinformation to distract attention from a real UFO crash in Great Britain (hence

Mountbatten's introduction). Kilgallen would enter the domain of the conspiracy theorist when she was found dead in 1965. Although judged a suicide, it is alleged that she was murdered to prevent her publishing an article after interviewing the killer of Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby. Her notes on the interview are said to have disappeared from her room.

Another crash occurred on that chilly, northern island in June, 1952. German newspapers reported that a disc-shaped craft, about 150 feet in diameter came down. The craft was metallic, bluish in colour and appeared to be using a radar direction finder on a different frequency to that used by the Norwegian fighter jets that encountered it. The jets experienced radio difficulties as they flew over the crash site. The pilots saw wreckage on the ground and reported back to base.

Later, several planes were despatched and the disc located. A radar direction finder with a plutonium core was discovered on board, which, according to Norwegian rocket specialist, Dr

Norsel, accounted for the radio interference.

According to the newspaper articles, instruments aboard the unmanned craft had Russian symbols on them. Forty-six jets around the perimeter of the disc powered its flight and there was enough space inside for several nuclear bombs. It has been alleged that the craft was a Russian variant of a German V-7 craft.

Later, the story became embellished with new features, such as exotic metals, burned bodies, beam weapons and the like. The location moved from Spitsbergen to the German island of Heligoland. The victims of the crash were bizarrely described as having 'excellent teeth'!

Along with the 1946 case, this later incident of an alleged UFO crash is mired by rumour, conflicting stories and a lack of evidence.



Eureka, Utah & Las Vegas, Nevada - 18th April, 1962

An object was tracked streaking across almost the entire continental United States on April 18th, 1962. It was seen by thousands of witnesses from New York to Utah and was initially explained as a bolide or meteor. It was described as appearing as a brilliant, yellow flame, giving credence to the natural phenomenon explanation. Other descriptions likened it to a soccer ball with a flame at the rear or 'slender' with no trail behind it.

It crashed to the ground near Eureka, Utah, interrupting the town's electricity supply, before taking off again and, after making a sweeping turn (something a bolide or meteor cannot do) over Reno, Nevada, heading towards Las Vegas, some 300 miles south-west of the first crash site.

Kevin Randle, appearing at this year's *Roswell 60* conference in Pontefract, investigated the story and gained access to several official documents. He found that fighters from Nellis Air Force base were scrambled after the object was picked up on radar. He also learned that, despite them explaining the object as a 'U-2 or high balloon', the military took an interest in the case and visited at least a dozen eyewitnesses to the Eureka crash. The object was also seen by several pilots at an altitude below their flight level, again despite Dr Robert Kadesch, a physicist from the University of Utah, saying that it was a bolide that exploded 60-70 miles up.

In his book, *A History of UFO Crashes* (Avon Books - 1995), Randle says: 'Something extremely extraordinary happened on the night of April 18, 1962. The air force offered a series of explanations ignoring the facts. But the witnesses who were there know the truth. They saw something from outer space, and it was not a meteor. It was a craft from another world.'



Pacific Ocean - 1973

The story goes like this: A US naval destroyer, travelling from San Diego to Hawaii some time in 1973, encountered a UFO over the ocean. It made three passes over the vessel and they fired a surface-to-air missile, hitting the craft, but not destroying it. It crashed and sank in about 350 feet of water. The ship designed by the Hughes Corporation, the *Glomar Explorer*, was assigned to retrieve the UFO and it was shipped to Hawaii before being relocated to the Great Lakes Naval Centre, near Chicago. The craft was described as

'silvery blue and shimmering, it tapered like a teardrop with a flange running along its topside from one end to the other and there were no windows.'

An intelligence officer, who saw the UFO in Chicago, when he was asked to deliver a sealed report to a commander in a restricted part of the facility, later spoke with several crewmembers of the destroyer that shot down the craft. They made drawings of what they had seen and he confirmed that it was exactly the same thing he had seen in Chicago.

Baluchistan, Pakistan - 15th - 27th August, 2000

Unidentified objects were seen in the skies over Baluchistan, Pakistan, close to the Afghan border, on several nights in mid-to-late August, 2000. Initially thought to be flares or missiles in that troubled part of the world, this was later ruled out.

On August 15th, seven unidentified objects were sighted over 'Noshki, Quetta, Loralai, Barkhan, Maiwand, Kohlu, Hekhtar, Uchli, Maratangi and Fort Munro crossing the provincial boundaries.' An official statement from the Baluchistan government stated: 'Due to the technical peculiarities it could very safely be said that the objects were not missiles at all'. Some reports suggested that one of the objects may have landed close to a Pakistan Air Force base in Rajanpur. Wreckage was recovered and removed from the site by 'appropriate agencies'.

On August 27th, an object landed or crashed in the remote region of Dera Ghazi Khan, east of Baluchistan. The Pakistani media outlet, *Dawn*, reported: 'Sources in the office of the tribal area political assistant confirmed receiving the report and said a team had been sent to the area to ascertain the facts.'

Bahia, Brazil - 20th - 21st November, 2006

Editor of Brazil's *UFO Magazine*, A.J. Gevaerd, received a photograph on November 25th, 2006, of a disc-shaped object on a flat-bed truck in the Brazilian state of Bahia. It was

taken by the magazine's consultant into abductions, psychologist, Francisco Baqueiro. Baqueiro reported that on November 20th, he had received a message from an intelligence informant that a UFO had crashed in a sugar cane plantation south of the state capital, Salvador. He was told how it was going to be transported and to where (the city of Feira de Santana, some 100 kilometres north of Salvador).

Despite being ill, Baqueiro and his wife set off in an attempt to find this crashed disc. At 6:30am on Tuesday, November 21st, they found the truck and saw that it did, indeed, have a disc-shaped object loaded on its trailer. They followed the vehicle, which was escorted by four police cars, two in front and two behind, to



a petrol station, where the truck stopped.

The object on the trailer was completely exposed and he could see that it projected from the sides of the truck to such a degree that it was forced to drive in the middle of the road, still clipping trees at the side. He tried to get closer, but federal agents prevented him from doing so. Pretending to make a phone call, he snapped an image with his mobile. Later, he returned to the gas station, but the staff there seemed reticent to talk about the strange truck that had pulled into their workplace.

It has been suggested that what is on the truck is nothing more than a lid from some industrial cylinder, but Baqueiro is convinced that it is not, having worked in the oil industry and being familiar with such equipment. It is also interesting that he received notification of the transport of the object the day before he encountered it on the road. Crashed UFO or industrial part? The debate rages.

SJ

We're not being secretive!

Robbie Graham

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92

TOP SECRET

erson's comments on the political
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Conversations with DI55

By Robbie Graham

I stared hard at the numbers in front of me - telephone numbers received upon request from a leading British UFO researcher. How he came to acquire them he wouldn't say, but he assured me they were genuine, and suggested I exercise caution should I ever decide to use them. Keeping this in mind, I picked up the phone, attached a small recording device to its receiver, and dialled the first number...

'Hi, is that DI55?' I enquired, confidently.

'It is,' came the immediate response. It was a woman with a strong, South London accent.

I cleared my throat and took a deep breath. Then, trying my best to sound older than my seventeen years, I asked the question...

'I was wondering if you could give me some information on a UFO sighting that occurred back in 1988.' The phone went silent for a moment before she replied, 'No, I think you've got the wrong department'.

Wrong department? I thought to myself. The leaked UFO case reports in front of me suggested otherwise. They had DI55 written all over them - quite literally. I knew for a fact that someone in this department had the answers I was looking for.

'I don't think so,' I countered.

'Yeah, I think so,' she snapped back. I sensed from her pointed tone that I should desist from my line of questioning. But of course I had absolute-

ly no intention of doing so.

'Are you sure... DI55?'

'Yeah,' she said '...but... I don't know anything about any UFOs.' Her voice seemed to waver a little. She seemed nervous.

'Well could you put me through to someone who does?' I asked, politely.

'I don't think there's anybody here that does now.'

Her last word sent a jolt straight through me; I fully understood its implications, and I jumped on it...

'Now?'

'Er, um, er, www... I've not been down here long,' she stuttered, '... I can't help you.' But she'd said too much already and I wasn't about to give up now...

'I don't suppose you could give me another number?'

'No, I don't know of any other number. Alright?'

It wasn't alright. I wanted answers.

'Is this DI55 B? What section is this?'

I pressed.

'It's just in the Ministry; I can't tell you what section it is. Alright? Bye.'

And that was that. The phone went dead.

I should note at this point that my real objective in phoning DI55 was not to learn more about a dusty UFO case file, but to attempt to trick someone from this clandestine division of the MoD into acknowledging their ongoing role in British UFO investigation. Deceitful, yes. And probably more than a little foolish, but then I was bestowed with a youthful arrogance and a hopeless naivety to boot. This was 1999 and I was still a teenager; one who had yet to fully comprehend the seriousness with which our government, behind closed doors, had long regarded the subject of UFOs.

Since my first conversation hadn't gone as smoothly as planned, the following day I decided to try my luck with the next number on my list. This time, a man answered. He was well spoken, with a soft southern accent. Once more I took a deep breath, cleared my throat and tried my best to sound mature:

'Hi, have I called the right number for DI55?'

'Who are you after?' replied the man, taking care not to reveal the name of

his section to an unknown caller.

'Just someone who can help me out.

I'm trying to get some information...'

'On?' he enquired.

I stated plainly, 'UFOs'.

He responded to the subject matter with immediate familiarity and not a hint of surprise...

'No it's er...' But just as I thought I was about to be passed over to someone who could help me, he appeared to stop himself, and asked in a tone of exaggerated surprise, 'UFOs?'

'Yes,' I told him.

'You certainly haven't come through to the right number for UFOs,' he said with a nervous chuckle. I wasn't in mood for games...

'I think I have,' I said.

'I know there's... erm... there's an MOD number for UFO reports...'

He was of course referring to Air Staff 2A, the MoD's 'official' UFO desk, at which Nick Pope used to work, and which had long been regarded within the British UFO research community as nothing more than a smokescreen for the government's wider, entirely secretive investigations into the UFO phenomenon. I refused to be fobbed off though...

'I know of that one, yes,' I informed him, 'but I was told this was the right number for UFO calls.'

'No. No, no,' he muttered, 'we don't deal with UFOs in here'.

'Really? Is that DI55?' I asked.

'Well if you're a member of the public we don't tend to discuss the MoD organisation.'

'Fair enough,' I conceded, 'but if this is DI55, then I can assure you that you do deal with UFOs.'

'No.'

I thought this might be a good time to confront him with some facts...

'Well that's quite strange,' I told him, 'I know that DI55 do have a lot of case reports on UFOs...'

There was no response, so I pushed a little further:

'So I'm assuming they're interested?' His response to this was carefully worded:

'Well that depends... some of the things that we're interested in here, erm, are to do with... aircraft, er, so I suppose if we thought it was an aircraft that had been spotted and there might be something peculiar about the aircraft then the report might come in here, yes.'

It almost sounded like an admission.

Almost... 'But I mean as to, as to UFOs, the MoD certainly... as far as I'm aware - and I've been working here a while - doesn't have, er... you know like a UFO branch or anything like that.'

His last sentence was intriguing. I never suggested to him that the MoD had a 'UFO branch', as he termed it. Those were entirely his words. His voice was now sounding decidedly shaky...

'There is an organisation that takes reports I know... it's probably a very interesting subject to look at, but the things that we deal with here are more... are a little more factual.' 'Factual?' Now that just annoyed me...

'Well,' I replied, 'DI55 seem to take it very seriously, along with DSTI, because they receive more copies of reports than do Air Staff 2A...' There was no response, so I continued:

'I'm looking at some documents in front of me here from 1988 which say that DGSTI and DI55 received more copies than Air Staff 2A, concerning very strange UFO sightings'. I assumed from the silence that followed that he was now at a loss for words. Eventually though, he responded...

'Well I, I... unfortunately I don't know about those.'

Yet more silence.

'Do you know of anyone who does?' I asked, insistently.

'No I don't, no.'

I suggested to him that this was 'quite strange', to which he replied, 'We're not being secretive by not telling you. It's just, I mean, I don't know who the hell you are... It's MOD policy that we don't discuss...' 'I'm aware of that, yes,' I interjected. In hindsight, though, I should have let him finish his sentence - 'don't discuss...' What? UFOs? But I didn't have time to back-track, as the very next second he suggested something that left me momentarily dumb-struck...

'But if I take your number, I can ask around; there're people who have been here longer than I have...'

Hold on a second. Had this man from one of the UK's most covert intelligence divisions just offered to ask around his office about UFOs and then to ring me back at my home

to update me? This seemed extraordinarily odd, but, hey, why not? I thought to myself, 'I've got nothing to lose.' I was almost one-hundred percent certain that this phone call was being monitored anyway and I knew that if the MoD did want my phone number and personal details, then to retrieve these would be an unimaginably easy task. And so I agreed...

'Well if you could ask around, and if I could leave my number?'

But not for a second did I expect to hear from him again.

Thus, it was to my great surprise that around fifteen minutes later I received a phone call from my friend at DI55! Rather less surprising, however, was that he continued to profess his ignorance of DI55's involvement in British UFO investigation. Unfortunately, I was unable to record this last conversation due to the fact that my Dictaphone was not ready for action - I had, by now, removed the small microphone extension from the telephone's handset, leaving me completely unprepared to record any sudden incoming phone calls. As I said, I was certain I would not be hearing from him again.

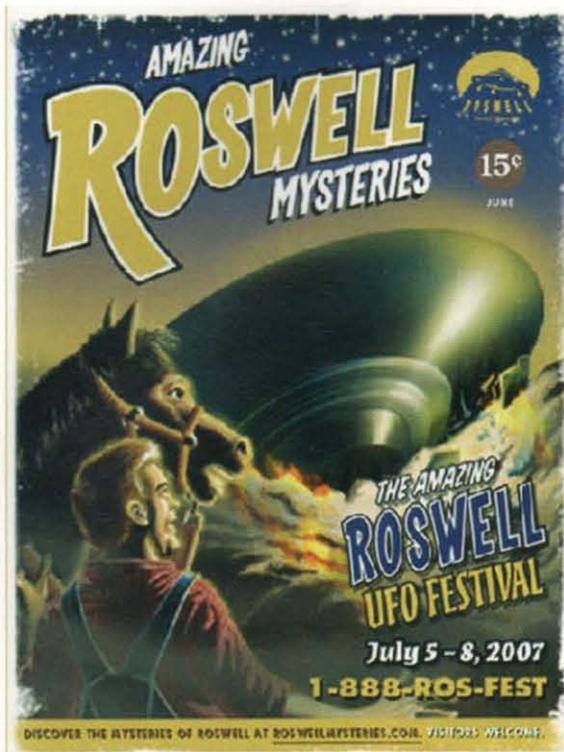
These discussions, though hardly revelatory, were interesting for a number of reasons. Take for example, with regards to both conversations, DI55's strong assertions that I had 'got the wrong department' for UFO-related matters, and that I 'certainly hadn't come through to the right number for UFOs'. Time has revealed these statements to be false. In April 2006, due to public pressure exerted through the Freedom of Information Act, the MoD reluctantly admitted that DI55 had in fact been collating and investigating UFO reports since 1967. Not only that, but between the years 1996 and 2000, DI55 had spearheaded an exhaustive investigation into the UK UFO phenomenon codenamed Project Condign. The resulting report, *Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAPs) in the UK Air Defence Region* was immediately classified 'secret' by the MoD, but was duly released under the FOIA six years later. Thus, at the very moments DI55 were assuring me they had no

interest or involvement in the subject, the division was actively compiling a massive UFO computer database as part of its secret UFO study, Condign.

So had I been lied to? Not necessarily. It has always been standard practice for military and intelligence divisions to compartmentalise classified information, therefore it is entirely possible (probable even) that the people with whom I spoke in 1999 were genuinely unaware of Project Condign's existence, or even that DI55 took more than a passing interest in UFOs. It is my feeling though, based upon the consistently aggravated, nervous and even startled tones of those with whom I spoke at the very mention of the term 'UFO', that most, if not all employees at DI55 are at least aware of the subject's sensitivity. The fact, also, that the man with whom I spoke actually took the time to ring me back with regards to my UFO enquiries suggested far more than just a passing interest. He understood very well the significance of my call.

It has been almost eight years now since I first plucked up the courage to hassle DI55 and Britain is now a startlingly different place. Post-9/11, the UK's security apparatus has grown exponentially; and in the wake of the 2005 London bombings, a culture of fear has rapidly emerged within our society. Today, it is not the omnipresent spectre of terrorism I fear, but the speed and efficiency with which our government, in the name of 'the War on Terror', has criminalised peaceful public protest, stripped itself of public accountability and laid steel foundations for its very own Orwellian police state. The UK is now officially the most surveilled country on earth and with that in mind, it is hard to imagine myself ever being so foolish again as to openly pester a covert intelligence division about what (despite their statements to the contrary) is without doubt the most highly classified subject in our country... That's not to say you shouldn't have a go though!

Robbie Graham.



Today, those people involved with the 1947 Roswell Incident would never have thought their names would still be fresh on the minds of others, and that the incident would still be creating questions 60 years later. Such, however, is the case with the 1947 Roswell UFO Incident. Several researchers, who don't believe we've been told the truth, are still pursuing the few remaining living civilian and military personnel involved with the incident. The Roswell Incident went dormant a few days after it occurred and stayed that way for 31 years, until Stanton Friedman, a nuclear physicist and the original civilian researcher, interviewed the 1947 Roswell Army Air Field Intelligence Officer, Major Jesse Marcel. The interest spread like wildfire to create hundreds of books and documentaries, with many yet to come, because people simply want to know the truth.

Walter Haut and Glenn Dennis, both involved with the Roswell Incident joined with local businessman Max Littell to found the International UFO Museum & Research Center in 1991, which now draws over 150,000 visitors annually. With the major New Mexico cities of Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Las Cruces and the Texas cities of El Paso, Amarillo and Lubbock all within three hours drive from Roswell, it's easy to see how the interest has generated and is now

spread worldwide

Planning for the first annual UFO Festival in 1995 began two years prior. The 1997 event caused the population of Roswell to almost double during the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Roswell Incident. Media from around the globe swarmed the city, making Roswell, New Mexico, a household name and the undisputed Mecca for all things UFO and/or Extra-Terrestrial. We've come a long way in 12 years, and with the city backing the event with several national sponsors for the first time ever, this year's 60th Anniversary UFO Festival celebration will be the one to

beat for years to come. If you're not part of this year's event, you'll be missing out on a great festival.

The 2007 Roswell UFO Festival will run July 5th through July 8th. For continuously-updated information about the event, the hotels and restaurants, the speakers and entertainment, go to www.roswellufofestival.com. Some new speakers coming for their first Roswell appearance include five researchers from Mexico, doing bi-lingual lectures. We will have over 30 speakers in all, including: Yours Truly, Greg Bishop, Donald Burleson PhD, Stephen Bassett, Richard Dolan, Adam GoRightly, John Greenewald, Michael Heiser PhD, Tom Horn, Guy Malone, Nick Redfern, John Rhodes, Peter Robbins and Rob Simone to name but a few.

As a member of the Mayor's Planning Committee we are very excited to introduce our brand-new event called "UFO-Spotting with your favorite researchers". This will be three separate, nightly events, held on July 5th, 6th and 7th, limited to 100 people per event, which allows them to go to a designated site north of Roswell and spend the night searching the sky for UFOs with their favorite group of researchers. The event includes a gourmet dinner with all manner of drinks and snacks served throughout the night, except alcohol which will be cut-off during

the night, and the event ends with a full-service breakfast, before everyone is taken back into Roswell. Each event will have special appearances from world-famous researchers and Dean Haglund, better known as "Langley" from the "X-Files". There will be commercial grade 20" and 11" telescopes on site to view stars and planets, along with questions and answers with Peter Lipscomb, published astrophotographer, stargazer and life-long student of the sky. Go to www.roswellufofestival.com to sign-up for this special event. The deadline is May 31st!

Other activities include: a spectacular 4th of July fireworks display choreographed to music; the world-famous Murphy Bros. Exposition Carnival; musical entertainment by the Alan Parson's Project, plus 20 other national and regional bands; Dean Haglund, better known as "Langley" from the "X-Files" will be present along with cartoonist Doug Ogg introducing his new book. We also have helicopter rides, hot-air balloon rides, the Alien Costume Contest, the annual night parade and invasion, Lazer-Tag, theatrical plays, running events, static air displays and about 30 more events too numerous to mention... but you can preview each of these events in greater detail by going to the website address above.

So whether your interest is in UFOs and aliens, or you just want to have fun, there will be more going on than anyone can possibly do in Roswell, New Mexico, this July 4th - 8th, and we look forward to you coming to help us celebrate the 60th anniversary of the 1947 Roswell Incident.

Dennis G. Balthaser
 Website:
www.truthseekeratroswell.com
 Email truthskr@roswell.net





**IN 1958, RADAR
SYSTEMS AT THREE
R.A.F. BASES
TRACK A U.F.O.
FLYING OVER THE
MEDITERRANEAN
AREA .**

I was delighted to receive a copy of the first A4-sized *UFO DATA Magazine* from your office. Congratulations, Russel and all the team! If *GWB* is looking down, he would heartily approve!

Furthermore, I was more than delighted to read at last, the full account of Group Captain Gordon Burgess's encounter with his UFO whilst flying his AVRO Shackleton aircraft over the Mediterranean Sea, enroute back to his Base in Malta from Akrotiri in Cyprus in August, 1958. There was obviously UFO activity in the area at the time, as my following report will verify!!

We cannot prove, of course, that it was the very same object that Burgess and his crew of 16 witnessed, because I do not know the precise date of this other event, but I especially found his candid report very gratifying, coming from the lips of a very senior RAF officer and I share his sentiments regarding the irritating attitude of the mainstream media! Hopefully, in future more senior ranks will

break their silence to support the junior rank reports. I 'salute' you, Gordon!

I served 10 years as a photographer in the Royal Air Force. During my RAF career, certain 'events' sparked my interest and awareness of advanced unidentified aerial craft performing amazing, abrupt manoeuvres and speeds, way beyond the capabilities of any of our current aircraft types in the late 1950s.

As an example, radar scopes had recorded speeds up to 18,000 mph, thirty times the maximum speed of our jet fighters at that time!



The particular incident I am now going to describe took place in 1958 and was recorded by the radar site at the summit of Mount Olympus, the highest point at 6480 feet (*above sea level*) of the Troodos mountain range in Cyprus. As photographers from JARIC (ME) Episkopi, we were required to photograph the radar screens as new secret equipment was being tested at that time. My friend and Air Force photographer colleague, Barry Porter (deceased), was on duty one night, when he realised there were excited exchanges going on between the radar

operators. Barry then joined the operators in the radar control room with camera at the ready. On the screens they were observing and tracking an 'unknown' target moving North-West across the Mediterranean Sea from the direction of the Egyptian coast. A radar site on the North African coast and at RAF Malta were also observing and plotting the unknown object. All three radar site operators were conferring with each other, confirming speed and direction.

Halfway across the Med, the object executed an acute 90-degree right turn north-easterly, towards Cyprus .

This sharp manoeuvre was achieved without reduction of its high speed or gradual direction change, probably pulling a G-force of something in the region of around 150 Gs in the process!

Two QRA (Quick Reaction Alert) Hawker Hunter jet fighters from RAF Nicosia were now scrambled in a vain attempt to intercept the 'unknown' target (t was the 'Cold War' days remember). A short while later the object then suddenly climbed vertically from its height of around 38,000 feet to nearly 60,000 feet in just a



"There was a bad thunderstorm the night before and the next day, he was out on the ranch and he found this debris. He picked it all up and loaded it into his pick-up. He was talking to people and, of course, there was some talk about UFOs.

"He was going to Roswell and, as far as I know, he got in touch with the sheriff's department and they in turn called the air force. Then the air force got with dad and swore him to secrecy. They came up to the ranch and picked up this debris.

"I call it wood, but I don't know what it was. It was something like balsa wood, but it wouldn't burn and I couldn't cut it with my knife."

"[My dad] said that's what the Air Force tried to make him believe, that it was a weather balloon. He said, 'Bill, it was not a weather balloon. I don't know what it was.' He said it was something altogether different and much bigger.

"I went in to Corona and I was sitting there in a beer joint and, of course, my friends were asking me if I'd found any more [of the debris] and I said I'd picked up a few scraps, about a cigar box full. Somebody, I don't know, must have been born into the Air Force because first thing I know, I have visitors and they say they'd like to have this material. They didn't tell me they'd confiscate it, they just said, 'We're going to have it, one way or the other.'"

Bill Brazel - Son of 'Mac' Brazel.

From Recollections of Roswell - The Fund for UFO Research





second or two, way beyond the maximum operational ceiling for the Hunters.

The object passed Cyprus off the Western coast, still travelling at about 18,000 mph, then crossing the 40 miles of sea to the Turkish mainland and eventually beyond our radar range over northern Turkey.

Early the following morning before Barry and the half-dozen other personnel went off duty, a Wing Commander appeared at the site from HQ at Nicosia



to warn them not to speak of this event and remind them that they had signed the 'Official Secrets Act'! (I always wondered why, since the MoD's policy towards public and media is that these things are of 'no defence interest and do not exist'!!)

To put this object's flying capability into perspective, now, over 48 years on, the Americans have only recently managed a new aviation record of a mere 5,000 mph for a very short duration with their experimental SCRAM jet, launched from beneath a B52 flying at high altitude! With our current aviation technologies, our combat aircraft are still incapable,

nearly 50 years on, of matching the object's demonstrated rapid vertical climbs (or descents) from high speed forward flight, in this case a jump of 20,000 feet in just a 'blink of an eye'! Nor are we able to execute instant and acute flight direction deviations, or go from

being stationary or flying below stalling speeds, then accelerate to 10,000 mph-plus in just a few seconds and then back again in an instant! We 'Earthlings' are still mere infants in the aviation and space exploration business!!

I hope this report acts as a supportive adjunct to Group Captain Burgess' 'close encounter' around the same timeframe. It would be even better if all his other crew members aboard that night would step one pace forward and be counted!

DAVID CAYTON March 2007. (This report was sent by email last November)

SPECIAL READERS OFFER

Alien Autopsy



a little bit of this and a little bit of that

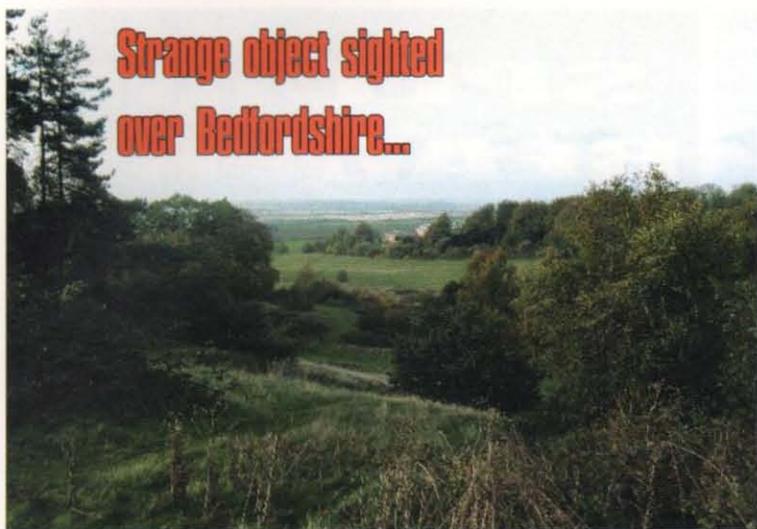
To help celebrate the forthcoming 60th anniversary of the events at Roswell, New Mexico, UFO DATA are giving readers the chance to own 'Alien Autopsy... a little bit of this' on DVD. This feature DVD introduces some of the main players behind Ray Santilli's alien autopsy hoax. Based on the research of Philip Mantle, we believe this documentary finally puts the lid on the claims and proves once and for all this was nothing more than a hoax.

To obtain a copy simply send a cheque or postal order for £2.50 to cover duplication costs to UFO DATA, PO BOX 280, Leeds, LS26 1AN

£2.50

To cover P&P

Strange object sighted over Bedfordshire...



Amphill, Bedfordshire, Mk45

I've just sighted something that there is no way I can explain fully. Walking home at approximately 22:09, I saw an object moving between south-east and east-south-east.

I perceived the object to be close, no more than a mile away. It was a large green ball of fire, trailing a green tail around 2-3 times longer than the mass itself.

behind houses.

The objects were completely silent, no noise, no rushing of air, no explosion.

Weather conditions are perfect, no clouds only a slight breeze.

I am a scientific person with an interest in astronomy and astrophysics. I cannot even make a guess as to what this is. My first thought is a meteor, the smaller object being it breaking up, but it only seemed to

light up coming overhead. If it was a meteor it would have landed and I heard nothing, also it disappeared above ground level. No conventional aircraft I have ever seen could move towards the ground at that rate and pull up to avoid a crash. I heard no bangs and saw no fireworks. Also it was moving too fast for a flare. It could not be mistaken for any building this is a rural area with nothing that high up.

UFO DATA
The report came to us 27th

UFO DATA

The report came to us 27th



Drawing of object by witness

November, 2006. Could this have been an exotic firework?

Perhaps we'll never know.

LAPIS (Lancashire Anomalous Phenomena Investigation Society) Presents:

UFO & PARANORMAL CONFERENCE

Alan Murdie: UFOs & The Magical Mind

Jon Downes: The Strange World Of Cryptozoology

Joe McGonagle: UFOs & The Men From The Ministry

Larry Warren: Update On The Rendlesham Incident

VENUE: YMCA, St Annes, Lancashire

TICKETS: £12 advance or £15 on the day

INFO/TICKETS: Tel 'Janet' 01253 890601



10.30am • SATURDAY • 16 JUNE • 2007

MILABS (MILITARY MIND CONTROL AND ALIEN ABDUCTION.)

Written by Malcolm Robinson.
(SPI England)

UFOlogy today, is a mish-mash of many weird and wonderful ideas. Speculations and theories abound like there is no tomorrow and one wonders if this subject get any more fanciful! Admittedly, we should not forget that speculation is fine so long as it is constructive and is done with the sole purpose of finding some answers. UFOlogy has seen many books, all portraying our subject with these differing ideas. Some authors would have us believe that we are being visited by 'beings' from Zeta Reticuli, whilst others would have us believing that we are being visited by time travellers, parallel universal beings or whatever, the list is extensive.

One thing's for sure, there is no denying that we have a UFO presence, that much we can say, but a presence is one thing, determining what that presence can be is another. I am in total agreement with researchers, wearing as many 'hats' as possible and opening as many UFOlogical doors as possible, the truth of the matter is within all these avenues of possibility - an answer must lie somewhere, it's just a case of finding it.

I am in the fortunate position of being sent many UFO and paranormal books by publishing houses to review and recently, I was sent a copy of a book which absolutely blew me away. Why? Well, because it was so new and was so shockingly important to the subject of UFOlogy, that it just screamed out to be read by UFOlogists and sceptics alike. The book is entitled *MILABS*, subtitled (*Military Mind Control And Alien Abduction*) [Illuminet Press, 1999] and is written by Dr Helmut Lammer and his wife Marion Lammer. It is my opinion that this book holds a very big piece of the UFO puzzle and I hope that through this article I can, at the very least, share some of the salient points with you. Of course for a more overall view of the book, one must purchase

a copy oneself, but take it from me, it will be the best money you will have parted with for some time. Dr Lammer has a Ph.D in geophysics and works at the Austrian Space Research Institute as a planetary scientist. He has published many scientific papers in prestigious scientific journals such as *Journal Of Geophysical Research*, *Geophysical Research Letters*, and *Planetary and Space Science*. Dr Lammer is a member of the European Geophysical Society (EGS) and the New York Academy of Sciences.

In his spare time, he writes for numerous UFO magazines and is the Austrian representative for the American society, The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) and is also an associate member of the Society for Scientific Exploration (SSE). Marion Lammer studies law at the University of Graz, Austria, has a lifetime interest in Fortean phenomena and has helped her husband with his studies in his MILAB research. Okay, let's take a look at what Helmut and Marion Lammer have to say.

MILABS, A STUDY OF UFOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE. THE MILITARY KIDNAPPING OF ALIEN ABDUCTEES.

The main thrust of the Lammers' book is to inform us that 'not all is as it seems!' We are informed that many UFO abductions are the result of military personnel, men in business suits, or men in white lab coats, each who are abducting individuals either:

- (a) To obtain as much information from the abductee as to what transpired during their abduction i.e. to obtain any 'technology or advanced information as they possible can which could potentially be used by their country (America) to advance their own technology from the 'abductors'.
- (b) The American government 'agencies' are themselves imprinting false and misleading information into the minds of the unsuspecting public to further the cause/belief that UFO abductions/aliens are a reality. This is to steer the public's belief away from what really is going on i.e. a new stealth technology or advanced, black budget technology to which they (the Americans) do not wish the public to learn about, and they are

more than happy for this technology to be camouflaged under the guise of 'alien abductions.

Now, as we progress, both the above categories play an important role in the understanding of the MILAB scenario and it is my hope to paint a presentation of facts which you, the reader, can judge for yourself. So let us now continue on with what the Lammers have to say about the above and I ask that you keep an open mind and try and grasp the importance of what this article is all about.

Now, what we have to bear in mind, and what is a proven fact, is that numerous UFO abductees not only report seeing small grey 'beings' during their abduction, but they have also told researchers the world over that they have also been 'interrogated' by what appear to be 'humans' who not only threaten them but implant devices into their head which cause them much distress. They describe being taken to military hangars in which strange UFO-like craft are housed. For instance, Brenda, a Canadian UFO abductee, explains that she was abducted and taken to a military hangar, where she was met by two 'men' in white coats who interrogated her for a period of time.

This proved most distressing to her, more so because these men used chloroform to knock her out. The main thing is, though, she claimed to have seen advanced, disc-shaped objects in this 'facility', similar, it is said (by the author), to advanced, disc-shaped objects that are apparently being developed at Lockheed's Hellendale underground research facility near Palmdale in southern California.

Another MILAB abductee, Melinda Leslie, has also experienced both alien and military abductions, one of which occurred at an aerospace facility in southern California, near Lancaster. Not only did she witness men in Navy uniform during her abduction, whilst she was being examined by small grey 'beings', but she also claims to have seen a strange, triangle-shaped craft in a large hangar and also a dark, unmarked helicopter. Melinda remembers being forced to sit in a chair where she was forcibly given a strange drink and had a syringe inserted into her arm by a human in



Betty and Barney Hill
A classic case from 1961

a lab coat. She was then asked repeatedly by a red-haired military officer to tell them all about her 'alien' experiences and that he wanted information about the aliens' technology.

Leah Haley, one of America's more noted UFO abductees, also talks about being taken by a helicopter to a military base where she was interrogated by 'humans' in regards to her 'alien' experiences. She also states that she was given a shot in her arm and asked repeated questions by military officers to tell them all about the aliens' technology.

These are but a few of the many references that are made by the author in regards to individuals being forcibly taken by military people in order to try and extract some details to better the minimal knowledge of the military chiefs. We are also told that the husband of the late Dr Karla Turner (a noted UFO researcher) also recalls an abduction in which he too was forcibly taken by military personnel to an underground facility where he too was drugged and repeatedly asked all about the aliens' technology. Although some of these UFO abductions in regards to military presences being seen on board strange-looking objects have been reported elsewhere, it has only been tentatively, as if the authors of previous UFO books really didn't know what to do or make with them.

I would probably say that some, if not a lot of other, UFO authors have, in point of fact, kept these vital facts away from their readers, not knowing whether there were any truths in

of human military and/or civilian personnel inhabiting the same physical reality as the alien beings exceeds the mindsets of the sceptics and the open minded researchers by several orders of magnitude."

A more truer statement has never been said. Dr Scott Jones believes that it's quite possible that the military machine's interest in UFO abductees may well be due to them (the military) gaining important ground as to developing brain implants, virtual reality implants, holographic image projection and cloaking devices, but more so for genetic research. This all sounds incredible and seems like something out of *Star Trek* or *Deep Space Nine*, but the facts are that more and more UFO abductees are coming forward with stories of not only meeting up with 'aliens', but seeing and being interrogated by their fellow human beings. Of course, as things stand, this would all appear to be hidden from the US Congress and may be masked under the secret 'black budget' projects.

During the 1980s, a lot of money, we are told, was being used for top secret military projects, the major one being for Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). It's not that hard to imagine that a certain percentage of the black budget programme went towards the procedure of finding, locating, abducting and interrogating helpless UFO abductees to try and elicit from them what the 'aliens' were up to. Now, this all presupposes that we *have* an alien presence and this is what makes this book so

them or, moreover, it may well spoil the thrust of the book they were writing. Thankfully, these stories are now surfacing. Karla Turner referred to them numerous times and told many people that we should start to sit up and take notice of these accounts. Dr Lammer states,

"The presence

darned important. The evidence contained within this book, clearly shows that there is indeed, without any shadow of a doubt, an alien presence on this planet whose programme is decidedly targeted towards a genetic programme of sorts. Let us now take a look at some of the other important issues contained within this book.

CONTROLLED EXPERIMENTS ON HUMANS WITHOUT CONSENT, AN INFRINGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

The Lammers present the reader with case after case of experimentation by the people we have been led to trust, military chiefs, on not only the people of the United States, but on citizens of Canada and other countries. These experiments from many years ago, were nothing to do with UFOs or the search to understand alien technology, it was to find out various things about what the human individual could endure.

Covert operations have been deployed on countless thousands of people for many years. Even our own Ministry of Defence has carried out secret radiation experiments on humans during the past 40 years. In America, nerve gas, LSD and various biological agents were used on people without their permission.

We often talk about the atrocities that the German Army committed during the Second World War, the experimentation on the Jews, both children and adults, filled us with horror and to think that the people we elected to serve and protect us are still experimenting on the minds and bodies of citizens today should make everyone everywhere stand up and protest from the highest tower.

Whilst I appreciate that mankind must learn what biochemical agents can do to someone, to use it on people without their consent is immoral. Dr Lammer tells us that horrific psychological experiments were conducted on American soldiers at Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland. Eight former Nazi scientists worked at Edgewood for the Americans between 1947 to 1966, developing and testing lethal nerve gas and psycho-chemicals on humans. Dr Ewen Cameron led a CIA-funded laboratory at McGill University during the 1950s, where people were used as

guinea pigs for brainwashing experiments.

People were given huge amounts of hallucinogens, some were given electro-convulsive therapy and others were subjected to sensory deprivation. More importantly, Dr Lammers tells us that a panel, appointed by the Clinton administration in 1994 to look into these matters, found that four hundred documented government-backed bio-medical experiments involving humans were undertaken between the years of 1944 and 1975.

How much more has gone on that we don't know about? I'm sure we'll never really know. Mind control victim, Claudia Mullen, testified before the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments in Washington D.C. during March 1995 and explained that she was taken by military people over a course of many years and was subjected, against her will, to experiments concerning chemicals, radiation, drugs, hypnosis, electric shock, sleep deprivation and even sexual abuse!

Another witness, Delora, recalls that her father, who was a career navy officer, was stationed at an ammunition depot in Shoemaker, Arkansas, and during those early years whilst he was stationed there, she remembers flashbacks of being with both her parents inside a military bunker where she saw 'aliens' performing experiments on humans.

Delora knew that this bunker housed chemical and biological weapons which may have been of interest to these 'aliens'. She also claims to have seen a number of humans suspended in gas- or liquid-filled capsules.

Delora holds the opinion that those people that were contained inside these capsules were clones and being used for secret bio-warfare or chemical warfare experiments. American UFO researcher, Dan Wright, who is head of the MUFON Abduction Transcription Project has a number of records on file which detail this description of humans being witnessed in large tubes or containers. Some of his cases feature humans who somehow had to 'breathe' the strange liquid that was found inside these containers.

This puts me in mind of the famous Scottish A70 UFO abduction, where one of the two witnesses, Colin Wright, found himself enclosed in a

large glass or Perspex container. He was naked and was strapped to a chair when, suddenly, this glass or Perspex started to frost up. Colin doesn't recall the container being filled with any fluid, but certainly recalls the situation very vividly and with a certain amount of fear.

The Lammers explain that this concept about 'fluid breathing' more or less began in the mid 1960s when a certain Dr J. Kylstra, a physiologist at the State University of New York at Buffalo, found that salt solutions could be saturated with oxygen at high pressures. He went on to perform experiments with mice and was able to keep them alive for 18 hours, however, his eventual use of this practice did not work when he applied it to humans! Other researchers began to take an interest in the work of Dr Kylstra and a number of people began their own experiments (mostly on mice). We learn that the early 1990s proved successful, scientists kept dogs alive for around 2 hours in a perfluorocarbon container.

After removal, the dogs were apparently hypoxic but returned to normal after a few days. UFOlogists will of course recall another famous American UFO witness by the name of Betty Andreasson. Betty claimed that she was placed inside a large tube filled with liquid which, she was told, was to cushion the large force of gravity during the UFO's acceleration. The Lammers also go on to explain that during the 1960s a Dr Robert Goodwin experimented with human embryos by keeping them alive in artificial, womb-like, steel containers. However, pressure applied by the scientific community and also members of the public forced him to abandon these experiments. Clearly then, this business with UFO abductees reporting tubes and containers which hold some form of liquid and which they have either been placed in there themselves, or have seen others in there, is something which is a major part of the UFO abduction phenomenon. But of course, why? What real purpose do these containers have?

Is it, as was told to Betty Andreasson, 'to cushion the G-forces of acceleration', or does it hold a more sinister purpose? Is it really for the benefit of the UFO abductee?! It's frustrating that we are no further forward in

answering these and other questions than we were when the modern era of UFOlogy first began.

One might say, however, that we do have the answers and those answers are all to do with the genetic inter-breeding programme that seems to be part and parcel of the make up of the aliens' agenda. They may be modifying the genetic make up of humans for their own purposes, introducing their own DNA to create some kind of hybrid species, a species which will be adaptive in all environments, which can stand high pressures, breathe liquid with ease etc.

However, and I've said and written about this many times before, why, oh, why is this abduction procedure 'still occurring'?! Haven't they (the aliens) got enough genetic material by now?! They have been abducting the people of this planet for nigh on 50 years, if not more, and here at the dawn of the new millennium, they are still taking people from their homes and environments and subjecting them to clinical and medical procedures without consent. As a researcher, this angers me as I'm sure it does to most people, but more so because, if there truly is any truth to what these UFO abductees are telling us i.e. that the military chiefs of this world know what's going on and are assisting in this, then this is the biggest deception, this is the biggest lie and this is the biggest shock.

As human beings, we expect those in power to look after us and to think that those we elected to serve us can betray us in this way, well it just beggars belief.

The Lammers present case after case after case of factual data which informs us that the governments of this world have not been treating their citizens with any respect. Far from it, they are abusing our trust, abducting us for medical procedures which can cause lasting harm, if not death, all in the name of science. We quite rightly concern ourselves about the plight of the animal kingdom, but it's also about time that we should equally be concerned about the plight of humans as well! During the Cold War, scientists were using mind control on helpless victims by inserting devices up their nostrils in order to control them, a procedure all too reminiscent of alien abductions.

In the authors' studies, they soon came to realize that there were around three 'human' agendas associated with the 'alien abduction' scenario. They found that one group of humans were interested in UFO abductees purely for mind and behaviour projects, sensory deprivation and liquid breathing experiments. Another group were interested in biological and genetic experiments, indeed a number of MILAB abductees clearly recall seeing other human beings enclosed in tubes filled with liquid. They also tell of seeing genetically-altered animals! All these were witnessed in military underground research facilities. A third group, the authors explain, are solely interested in the actual alien abduction phenomenon itself, purely for information gathering purposes. Dark, unmarked helicopters have been a growing trend within the confines of UFOlogy of late. A large number of UFO witnesses (but more so UFO abductees) claim that their lives have been subjected to harassment by low-flying, unmarked helicopters that have buzzed their homes morning, afternoon and night, and when they complain to the local or national airports, no-one can provide them with an answer as to where or who they belong to! Debbie Jordan, Budd Hopkins' star UFO abductee, claims that her life has been a misery since she had her UFO abduction, for since that time, many large, dark, unmarked helicopters have stalked both her and her family.

Debbie was quoted as saying, "Even when I am outside and obviously watching back, it doesn't seem to bother them. They just sit there in mid-air, about 60 to 90 feet above the ground, whirling and watching. They are completely without identification and are always low enough so that I could easily see the pilot if the windshield were clear glass. But the windshield is smoky black and with a finish that makes it impossible to see who's inside."

What I, as the author of this article, find hard to believe is that this form of harassment is necessary!! Surely the pilots of these helicopters are drawing much attention to themselves by doing this! If they are so interested in these unfortunate UFO abductees, then this form of behaviour surely shouldn't happen and could be done in their usual 'covert'

way. Of course we can't forget the fact that these black, unmarked helicopters have been seen many times over the pastures in which cattle mutilations have been found and, more recently, dark, unmarked helicopters have been witnessed flying above the wheat fields of England, where many strange crop circle formations have been found. Clearly then, there is great interest by these shady 'agencies' in the lives of the UFO abductees and the crop formations in Southern England, not forgetting the obscene and tragic animal mutilations that have been discovered in unusual circumstances with each passing year. In their book, the Lammers present many cases where dark unmarked helicopters have made miseries of the lives of many a UFO abductee.

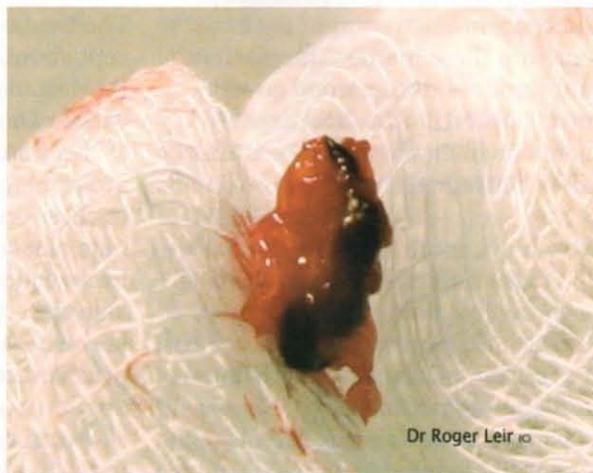
WORKING IN HARMONY!

Probably the most important aspect and significant, if not disturbing, part of the Lammers' book, is their presentation of facts which clearly show that certain American government 'agencies' have been working side-by-side with the 'greys' for a good number of years now. This aspect of UFOlogy has, of course, been speculated about by many UFOlogists for a number of years now. And this is why perhaps UFOlogists and the general public at large never obtain a statement of sorts from the American government, admitting to what's going on. They 'know' what's going on - 'they' are part of it.

The abduction of humans from this planet is part orchestrated by the military chiefs of this Earth in order to obtain information from these visiting 'intruders', which may further and advance the cause of potential warfare capabilities of those who learn the secrets first of people from other worlds.

The above, of course, sounds incredibly fanciful and full of speculation, but can there be any real truth in this? The Lammers again present an incredible amount of information to say that this is so. The MILABS book will clearly change your perception

about what UFOlogy is all about, it certainly changed mine. I was sent this book to review and, believe you me, it's impossible to review a book of such a proportion in so little words, hence I chose to do a slightly more worded version and, even so,



Dr Roger Leir ©

this will not do it justice. At the end of the day, where would UFOlogy be without the sterling work of a number of UFOlogists like the Lammers and the late Karla Turner who are bringing these military/alien cases to our attention.

TERRESTRIAL AND EXTRATERRESTRIAL IMPLANTS !!

The finding of implants in the bodies of UFO abductees is a well known factor in UFOlogy. Strange small metallic devices some round, some small and slim, have been found in the nasal cavities of abductees and also other parts of their bodies as well (sometimes even their big toes!!) Why would a sophisticated, intelligent race of beings want to track and monitor a person in this way is beyond this writer's comprehension. If they (the aliens!) can ghost into someone's bedroom and abduct someone of an evening, it seems unusual that they would need to know where people are. Or do these devices perform some other kind of function? The Lammers present the reader of the MILABS book with an in-depth look at the implant phenomenon.

They tell us that the military have been implanting electrodes into the bodies of unwitting subjects as early as 50 years ago and some horrific tales can be found in this book. I present the following paragraph (with permission) to illustrate the

point:

During the 50's and early 60's, neuro scientist, Dr Jose Delgado invented the stimoceiver, an electrode capable of receiving and transmitting electronic signals via FM radio waves. Such a device, implanted in the brain via the sinus cavities, will act as a powerful stimulant when activated by FM radio waves. One can speculate that the stimoceiver has since been modified to receive stimulation from micro-wave pulses, and is capable of wielding a great degree of control over the implanted victim's response mechanisms.

We then learn that this implant technology was developed after World War II and, by now, I'm more than sure that this technology has superseded its expectations. The Lammers speculate that the Military Intelligence community are or have more than likely been using this technology for secret, government projects. Some of the photographic plates contained within the book clearly show the implants on the X-rayed skulls of various individuals. The Lammers uncovered a pre-classified 1960s government document pertaining to a secret project called MKULTRA, which clearly showed that the CIA was interested in expanding implant studies onto humans. They speculate that the various military agencies that implant various humans could be using the 'alien' cover story to mask their own clandestine endeavours. This is entirely feasible and may account for a high percentage of abductions the world over. This is not to say, that the actual 'alien' abduction phenomena is not real, it may well be, but we have to consider the fact, that the military chiefs would be more than happy to use the 'alien' abduction cover story in order for the public at large to be kept in the dark about their secret and unsavoury actions. Of course there is another way to look at the implant phenomenon and that is that the military chiefs may be inserting these implant devices to monitor the 'real' UFO abductees' respiration, muscle tension and physiological data. There is no denying the evidence from UFO abductees, when they say that they have witnessed military personnel, either on board a strange craft, or in an underground cavern, whilst they

have been 'operated' upon by 'beings' which are clearly not human.

Admittedly, implant technology has its medical benefits (for a whole range of reasons) and one can safely say that a pacemaker is one of the biggest implants that we have in the human body, which serves a very useful purpose, but what we are talking about here is entirely different. We are talking about the implanting of devices (without consent) into the bodies of terrified victims by humans and 'non humans' alike. The one main aspect of the Lammers' book, is the continued reference to the fact that many UFO abductees are taken to underground facilities where they see both humans and 'non humans' alike. They (the UFO abductees) also witness strange, disc-shaped craft, large, dark, unmarked helicopters. They are interrogated by military personnel, sometimes viciously and with mind-bending drugs, all in a desired attempt to find out from these poor, unfortunate abductees, what the 'aliens' have told them. I found the following paragraph quite illuminating in regards to the overall theme of the Lammers' book: *"Perhaps the military split the personality of some abductees with known mind control techniques like sensory deprivation, spin programming, flashlights, electric shocks, rape, in order to create 'Manchurian Candidates' for information gathering purposes during alien abduction experiences"*.

The Lammers then pose two interesting questions to the reader:

1. Are MILAB abductees military-programmed 'Manchurian Candidates' who spy for a secret military task force in alleged 'alien crafts'? Are they so called 'Trojan Horses' inside 'real' UFOs during an alien abduction experience?
2. Is their alien abduction experience a synthetically-programmed screen memory for hiding secret spy or military missions?

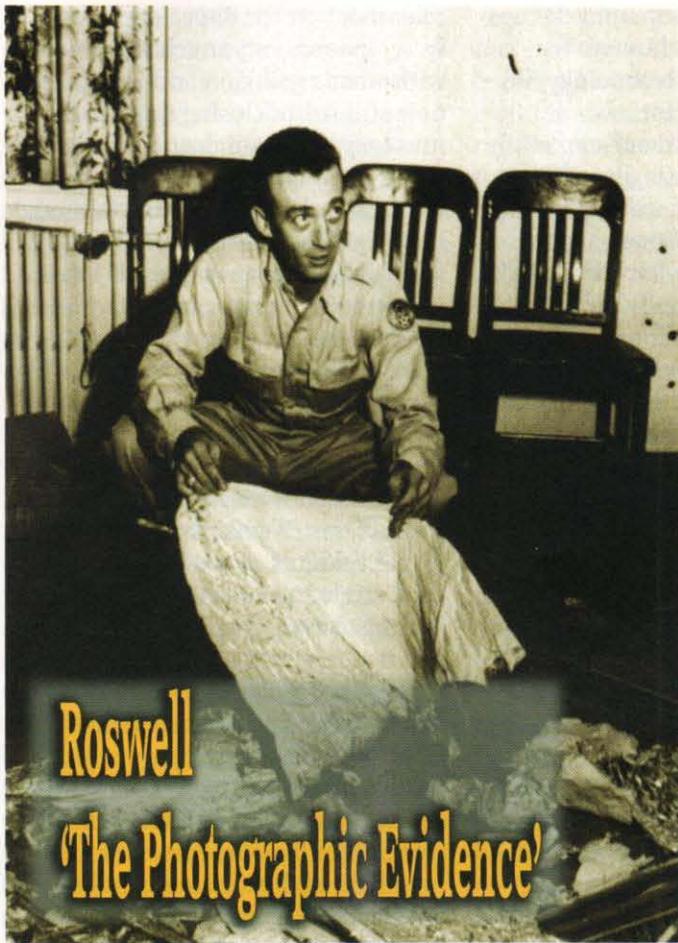
What we can deduce from all this, is that the military people are clearly involved and very much concerned about the alien abduction phenomenon as they have been for decades now. The CIA, FBI and NSA have in the past denied their involvement in the UFO study, but thankfully, under the Freedom of Information Act, passed several years ago now, it was plain to see from the documentation

released, that the above agencies were, indeed, very much involved with what's going on and are surely now still so! In closing this article, I must say that I am deeply concerned about not so much the threat from the 'non humans' in all this (although that is still a concern), but the threat and deceit from those people whom we elected to serve and protect us. They are abusing our trust, they are abusing their positions to learn what is going on, but ultimately they have now become a 'big part' in the UFO problem themselves. It seems inconceivable that we have a situation such as this. It's like something you would find in a 1950s B-movie or back street, American comic shop, but this is *real*, this is *happening*, and it's happening now. I think we should be deeply concerned about what's going on - this is a crime against humanity.

But like any crime, we require proof, and this subject is so bizarre that the stories told to us by these unfortunate UFO abductees may not be believed, but slowly we are turning the screw. This monumental book has untold possibilities for the community, no longer are we talking about strange lights in the sky, we are now on the threshold of an alarming twist in the UFO enigma, a twist that is unsavoury and demands action. It's bad enough having to deal with UFO abductions at all, but to have the military involved (who deny everything) just begs for action to be taken.

I don't know what comes next: it is my hope and the hope of many others that something can be done about this, that the tables can be turned, so to speak. With the dawn of the new century, I am concerned and intrigued at what might happen next within the confines of the UFO subject. It's been with us for many years now, but what lies ahead? I expect that there are more twists and turns to follow and whatever happens next, I hope that for the sake of humanity the new experiences will prove beneficial to us and may lead us into a better world, a world of which may find us sharing with people not of this Earth.

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and suggests:

'The Fort Worth Debris Should Not be Dismissed Lightly.'

During the year 2000, after some 18 months studying the Fort Worth Photographs and in reply to several articles and email postings on message-boards skeptical as to what we in the RPIT research group were finding in the FW photographs, I published on the *UFO-UPDATES* web forum, a long list of observable points within the photographs that proved the debris

seen in the images was not what the USAAF claimed it represented.

To this date, no-one has come forward with any credible counter-arguments, explaining what in fact the items are and why they appear in the photographs.

In this new report, I would like to once again illustrate some of these contentious points and also go over what we now believe the events surrounding the taking of the photographs at Fort Worth Army Air Force base on the afternoon of July 8th, 1947, were.

Most of this new timeline, I should point out, goes against what is currently accepted as the believed chain of events for that day.

We have firm testimony from numerous military and civilian witnesses, much of this sworn on oath, that the Roswell Event did take place, but to date we have nothing we can touch or hold up as "physical evidence" to say the Roswell Event took place. Would photographs showing the actual recovered debris be the next best thing?

We may very well have had these under our noses all the while.

For many weeks during the spring and early summer of 1947, newspapers were reporting sightings of odd disc-like objects being witnessed in the skies over the United States. Then on the morning of the 9th July, 1947, a story was reported in most US newspapers that went on to claim that staff from the USAAF 509th Heavy Bomb Group, stationed at Roswell Army Air Field, Roswell, New Mexico, had recovered a "Flying Disc" from the New Mexico desert.

The official press office release sprung the world's press into action, but then, a few hours later, another release from the base suggested that the 509th, the only nuclear weapons-equipped base in the world had mistake a spacecraft for a weather balloon.

The story then went on to say that the find was just a mistake and actually when the debris had been examined at 8th Army Air Force HQ in Fort Worth, it was found to be nothing more than the battered remains of a "Weather Device". Also in many papers, alongside the story, were photographs taken of Gen. Roger Ramey, Commander of the 8th Army Air Force, examining the weather device debris in his office at Fort Worth Army Air Field. End of story.

But... have we all been led up the garden path for the last 60 years?

When interviewed before their deaths, both Jesse Marcel and Thomas DuBose, Gen. Roger Raymey's Chief of Staff at that time in July, 1947, independently confirmed that the debris they were photographed with was some of the original debris recovered from the Foster Ranch outside of Roswell, NM. In Jesse Marcel's case, he claimed he was only photographed in one session and there were a number of press photographers present and he also said in that instance he was photographed holding "some of the less interesting debris" he recovered and had brought to Fort Worth.

In his interview, Thomas DuBose

Until renowned Roswell researcher and lecturer, Stanton T. Friedman, reintroduced the events of July, 1947, into the public domain, Roswell had just about been forgotten. However, since those days, much evidence has been both discovered and re-discovered. One area where interesting advances have been made is the use of modern technology to look deep into the evidence we have.

Of this 'real' touchy feely evidence, there is little available, but what was available to a group of specialist researchers turned up trumps and opened a big, fat can of worms amongst the Roswell debunking community.

Neil Morris, a laboratory technician at the University of Manchester, along with colleagues in the USA, came together as 'The Roswell Photographic Interpretation Team' (RPIT) and, working with the only known press photographer present at the time of debris being put on display at Fort Worth, Texas, James Bond Johnson, made some very interesting discoveries indeed.

In the following article Neil Morris presents an update of the work done

was questioned about a possible "switch" of the original debris for that of a wrecked weather balloon. He replied quite forcefully that no such switch took place and what he's seen with in the photographs was the original debris from Roswell.

He also confirmed that the weather balloon story was issued as the result of an order from Maj. Gen. Clement McMullen, Deputy Commander of Strategic Air Command, being received and which told Ramey, in no uncertain terms, to "get the press off our backs".

The Photographs: Background

There have only ever been 7 photographs traced that claim to show the Roswell debris. All these were taken on the 8th July, 1947, in Fort Worth.



Four of the images (fig 1a) show General Roger Ramey, Commander of the USAAF 8th Air Force, together with the debris in his private office at the Fort Worth Army Air Field. In two of these images his Chief of Staff, Col. Thomas DuBose, is also seen.

Two further images (fig 1b) show Maj. Jesse Marcel, A3 of Roswell Army Air Field and the person credited with recovering the debris from some 65 miles NE of Roswell.



Fig 1b
One further photograph (fig 1c) exists and this shows Warrant Officer



Fig 1c
Irving Newton from FWAAF's weather office who, so the accepted story



goes, was called in by Gen Ramey to confirm the identification of the debris as a "weather device", or more specifically, the remains of an ML307 radar target and neoprene rubber balloon.

(fig2b next page) A photograph published in the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* on 10th July, 1947, but taken on the 9th July at Fort Worth Army Air Field, showing a demonstration launch of an ML307 radar target and a weather "pilot" [balloon].

Again, according to the accepted story, these 7 photographs were taken during a hastily-called evening press conference, at which Newton's identification of the debris as a mundane balloon and weather device quickly took the heat out of the firestorm of interest that had built during that afternoon after the "Roswell" story broke, with the announcement by Roswell Army Air Field's public relations office that RAAF had "come into the possession of a Flying Disc".

After a long and thorough examination of the photographs, information gleaned from them suggests the accepted story of events at Fort Worth are wrong and the circumstances surrounding the photographs that day were far more complicated.

The examination of the photographs has also brought to light the possibility that even 50 or more years after the Roswell Event took place,



Fig 2b

attempts are still being made to wipe the information the photographs hold from the historical record.

The Photographs: The Negatives Analysis

Of the 7 photographs, 6 of these, those including Ramey, DuBose and Marcel, have been traditionally attributed to Fort Worth Star Telegram reporter and photographer, James Bond Johnson, or just Bond to his friends.

I can now say with certainty that Bond DID NOT take all the Ramey/DuBose/Marcel images but only the 4 showing Ramey and DuBose. See [fig-1a]

So how do we know this?

With some great 3D computer modeling work by my Canadian research colleague, Andrew Lavoie, we have been able to analyse the lens characteristics used in each of the images for which original negatives survive, that is 1 of the Ramey alone images, 1 of the Ramey with DuBose images and the 2 Jesse Marcel images.

We know for certain that Bond took the other surviving Ramey image as his hat can be seen sitting on a chair behind Ramey, so we used this image's characteristics as a reference to test the other images against. We also know from Bond that he only had the one "standard"

lens for his SpeedGraphic Press Camera.

The results took us quite by surprise: the Marcel photographs' characteristics DID NOT match Bond's lens at all, he could NOT have taken those photographs, in fact the results from the Marcel images hinted, though not conclusively, that the two Marcel images may have been taken by 2 different cameras altogether.

UFO DATA: In an interview carried out for UFO Magazine with Bond Johnson in 2000, I recall him telling us that he had no recollection of Jesse Marcel being present in any of the photographs he took.

Russel.

Bond had always maintained that when he took his photographs he was the only photographer present, but we now had up to possibly three cameras involved, four if we include the mystery Newton photograph. How could this be?

With Bond's firm testimony saying he took his four photographs alone, we now had to accept that we had multiple photo-sessions at different times through that afternoon and evening and not the simple story of a single, hurriedly-called press conference.

We then tried a long shot in the hope it could provide us with some timing information. While examining one of the negative scans we could actually look out through the window in Ramey's office, and there parked out-

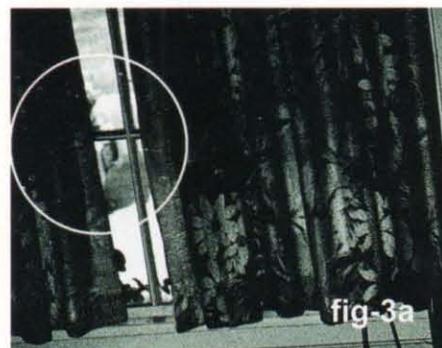


fig-3a

side we could actually see the front bumper, a very distinctive bumper as it turned out, of a car. [fig-3a]

This bumper was casting a shadow...we had a sundial!... if we could measure the sun's shadow angle we could tell exactly what time the photograph was taken.

The car was identified from the bumper and it was distinctive to one model, the Series 60 Buick, a car widely used at the time by the military as a staff car.



fig-3b Buick Series 60 Staff Car

Using measurements from original car manuals, verified against an actual surviving Series 60 we modeled our "sundial" and again the photographs gave us another surprise. The "sundial" model indicated Bond had taken his photographs of Ramey and DuBose sometime around 3.15pm in the afternoon of July 8th. The surprise being Bond must have been told to make his way out to FWAAF to take his pictures long before the Associated Press broke the Roswell "Flying Disc" story to the world on the AP wire service at around 3.20pm (FW time)! The FWAAF base was a good half hour drive from the Star Telegram's offices.

Just how Bond got into Ramey's office before the story broke is an interesting back story in itself, involving events from some months before, but this is not the time to go into this, suffice to say Gen. Ramey had a great debt to repay to the Fort Worth Star Telegram and this appeared to be payback time.

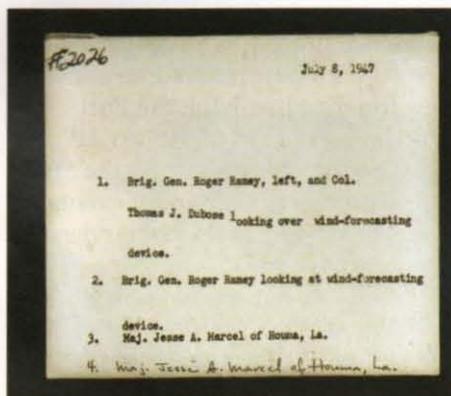
But who took the rest of the photographs and when? And how did the Marcel images end up at the Star Telegram if their own photographer didn't take them?

Looking over the complete surviving negatives, there are archiving marks which indicate the Ramey images and the Marcel images were handled separately in the Star Telegram's

photo library. Also, the Ramey and Marcel sheet negative film came from two different raw film batches and the negative holders used to hold the film in the camera were of two different styles, all contributing factors indicating, as we believe, that two different photo sessions had been involved. As if to confirm all this, Bond's hat is also now missing in the Marcel images.

But again how did these photo's find their way into the *Star Telegram's* photo library?

We know from another reporter, who was in the *ST's* newsroom all that night, that Bond was the only person from the paper to go out to the FWAAF base. But we also know from Bond's own recollections of that night that he had wished he'd taken more photographs because when he got back to the *ST's* offices, there were a number of messages from other papers and news agencies wanting to purchase any spare "Disc" photographs he had. It seems that there could be quite a market for unused or spare newsworthy photographs. Bond himself could remember on other occasions sending photo negatives across town to other papers by taxi or even by bus to out of town destinations. So if as we now know the main Roswell story only broke on AP after Bond returned to the *Star Telegram* could it be that the *ST* itself went out to this unofficial photo market and bought in the Marcel images? To me this seems the most logical answer as to how the Marcel images arrived at the *ST* and ended up in their photo archive filed, as they were from the same story, along with Bond's earlier Ramey/DuBose negatives.

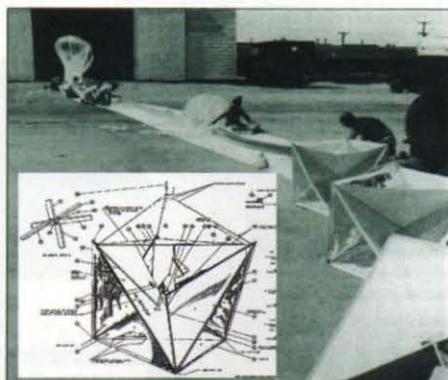


[fig-4 The original *ST* archive envelope in which the 4 surviving negatives are still stored.]

The Photographs: Contents.

The accepted story of the Roswell Event would have us believe that the Fort Worth Photographs show the mangled remains of a neoprene rubber weather balloon and the battered remains of one or more ML307 paper/foil and stick radar reflector arrays. These, according to the 1999 USAF report on Roswell, probably originated from a series of TOP SECRET test flights from a classified project, codenamed MOGUL.

So what should we see if we were looking at MOGUL debris? Well nothing very spectacular actually, although the final aims of the project were classified, all the equipment flown up until July, 1947, was standard "off the shelf" military issue. The neoprene balloons were just that, standard weather balloons. The ML307 radar reflectors were designed and had been in wide military use since 1944.



[fig-5 MOGUL train assembly and inset part ML307 engineering drawing c.1944]



[fig-6 MOGUL instrument pack Alamogordo Field 1948 season]

MOGUL was the code name given to the project to develop a high altitude balloon platform to act as a "listening post" to detect the blast from any Soviet atomic bomb tests. This ulti-

mate project aim was top secret, but the development of the high altitude balloon platform was not, and was contracted out to New York University, who carried out their test flights from Alamogordo Army Air Field, approx. 100 miles to the west of Roswell. The NYU team actually had a data-gathering station set up just outside of Roswell. Their last flight of the 1947 season was on July 7th, the day before the Roswell Debris find.

The MOGUL balloon trains in the 1947 season carried a US Navy "sonobouy" to act as an audio sensor, they also carried a battery pack, which powered a radio transmitter, which relayed back the sonobouy data to the ground stations. All these were built with "normal" 1940s electrical/electronic components. So if the debris seen in Gen. Ramey's office were, as has been claimed, from the MOGUL project we should possibly see parts from any of this equipment and nothing more.

Working from the original US Army Signal Corp engineering drawings and using 3D modeling techniques, we could now actually take measurements of the debris within the photographs. Once again we had a surprise. Very few measurements and dimensions of the debris pieces seen could be resolved against the original drawing dimensions. There was very little there that should have been, but the more we looked, we found more and more of what should not have been there.

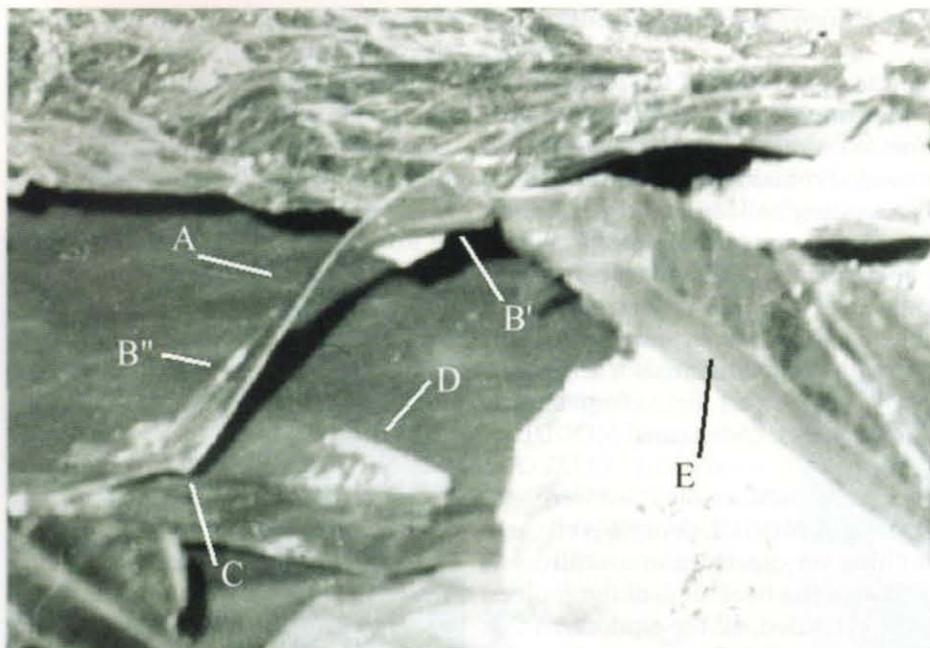
From a long and detailed microscopic examination of the images, a wide variety of anomalies have been identified within the four surviving original negatives. These include, heavy gauge (not foil) folded and embossed metallic sheet;

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[fig-7a
 (a) edge showing heavy gauge of "foil"
 (b") stamped edge forming on the sheet
 (c) 90 degree folded edge
 (d) stamped/embossed letters/symbols on sheet
 (e) yet more stamped/embossed sheet forming]

a small plug and "ribbon" type cable assembly attached to a foil sheet;



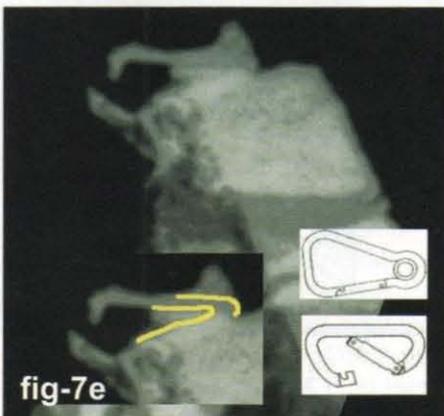
[fig-7b small plug-like fitting (circled)]

a clip/hook and buckle type fittings attached to a foil sheet;

[fig-7c hook like fitting on foil sheet]
 [fig-7d buckle-bar type fitting located on foil sheet]

hollow "sticks";

[fig-7e image "d" - point 1, indicates a stick end pointing "out of the page" its open and hollow end is clearly seen. image "c" point 1 indicates damage to this "stick" revealing its hollow core.]



examples of "technological looking hardware";

[fig-7f (next page) Peeping out from behind a foil sheet an interesting-looking piece of debris. Its open port, facing the camera, and circular top feature remind me very much of a modern day small electrical "fan" unit(see inset image)]

cables, tubing and a "button" at the end of a "fabric" like tassel associated with the so called "balloon" debris.

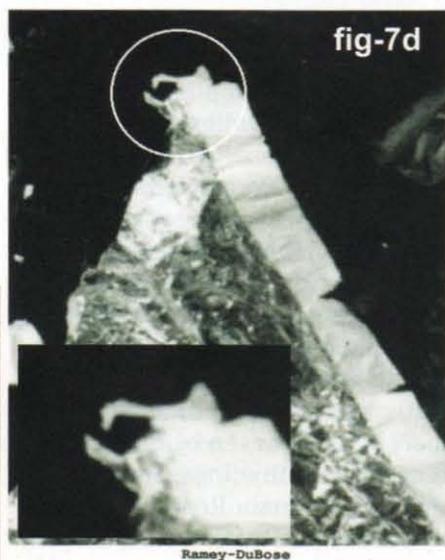
[fig-7g (next page) metallic-looking "button" attached to a fabric like "tassel" both located within the "balloon" debris]

and, most fascinating of all, a wide

selection of what appear to be "symbols" on both foil sheets, metallic beams and the "balloon envelope". It's also worth noting that many of these symbols are very similar in style and form to symbols recollected by witnesses who observed symbols on the debris recovered from the Foster Ranch crash site.

[fig-7h (next page) comparison of symbols seen in the FW photos and symbols seen on the debris recalled by Roswell witnesses]

[fig-7i (next page) What can only be described as a fascinating piece of decoration spotted within the "balloon envelope" debris, a leaping fish and plant stems/fronds?]



From the level enhanced image to the left it is just possible to make out the rest of the shape of this hook like feature. It reminds me greatly of the widely used "carabina" type fastener, 2 examples of this type of fastener are shown in the inset images.

[fig-7j (next page) Symbols on a prominent piece of debris in one of the Marcel images]

From the analysis of the photographs I believe it's now possible to outline a new timeline involving the Fort Worth Photographs. Prior to AP breaking the Roswell story, the *Star Telegram* became aware of events, possibly via another news service. We only have records/timings of the AP coverage, but it's just one source, there were other news services covering the story and we have some records of UP's coverage, but the *Star Telegram* subscribed to several other news services, including AP and had a large room off the news-

room full of teletype machines.

Whatever the source of the information, there was some communication between the *Star Telegram* and Gen. Ramey and the early photo session was arranged just as soon as an *ST* photographer could be dispatched to FWAAF. For this reason, as Bond Johnson noticed he was expected when he arrived out at the base, he knew the usual procedures and was again surprised to be directed immediately to Gen. Ramey's private office.

We now know he was in there for approx. 30 mins and took his photographs at around 3.15pm. AP broke the

Roswell story at approx. 3.25 pm (Fort Worth time).

Bond was acting as a photographer, he did not take any news copy or interview Ramey or DuBose other than to make general conversation while he was there. As he recalled, the newsroom was expecting the main story to come in from elsewhere, possibly Roswell and not Fort Worth itself. Further analysis now also tells us that the *Star Telegram* must have obtained the Marcel photos from "outside", as their picture archive sleeve notes give Jesse Marcel's home town of "Houma, LA". Bond Johnson did not gather this information or take the pictures and he has also confirmed a number of times he had no memory at all of seeing Jesse Marcel at the base while he was there. Plus the reporter who was in the *ST*'s newsroom that night told us no other reporter went out to the base and their only contact with FWAAF was by phone.

The Marcel Photographs must have come in from a third party source and the fact that Jesse Marcel's home town of Houma is mentioned also links in to an intriguing piece of news copy which only appeared in the "Late" edition of the *Star Telegram* that night and in no other paper. It's a short piece about the identification of the debris which goes on to describe how Maj. Marcel "of Houma, Louisiana" came to recover the debris. We can only speculate that both the Marcel photographs and this unique news copy probably came from the same "outside" source.

As a side note, when Bond Johnson first joined the US Army (he retired in the 1960s a full colonel) he served as a Public Information Officer, and on reading this *Star Telegram* piece, he commented that it sounded just like a transcript from a Public Information Office release. What makes this even more likely is that Marcel is "quoted" in the piece where, as we know from his own testimony, he was ordered by Ramey not to speak to the press; he (Ramey) would handle that end of things.

By 5.30pm FWAAF's Public Information Office was telling *The Dallas Morning News* that the "fly-

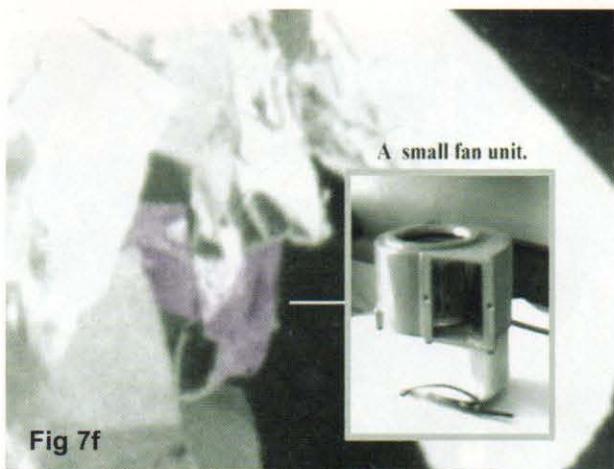


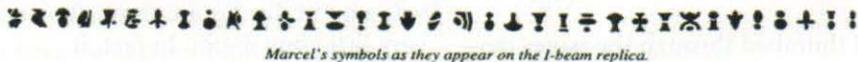
Fig 7f



A small fan unit.



Fig 7g



Marcel's symbols as they appear on the I-beam replica.



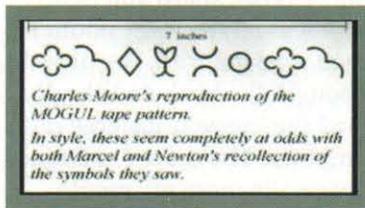
Artist's drawing showing the patterns Irving Newton recalled seeing on a 5/16-inch surface.



Fort Worth Image



The Irving Newton Image



Charles Moore's reproduction of the MOGUL tape pattern. In style, these seem completely at odds with both Marcel and Newton's recollection of the symbols they saw.

Fig 7h



Fort Worth Image



Fig 7i



Fig 7j

ing disc" was just a weather device.

At 6pm that evening, Warrant Officer Irving Newton's shift in the weather office started. Shortly after, he was called in by Gen. Ramey to identify the "weather device" and presumably have his picture taken for what we now call the Newton Image. There are a number of distinct similarities in the background in both the Marcel images and the Newton image which lead me to believe these three images were taken at or around the same time i.e. shortly after 6pm that evening, and Newton himself claims Marcel was there when he made the balloon identification for Ramey.

Epilogue:

"Curiouser and curiouser!" cried Alice...

Only two original negatives out of the four photographs I believe Bond Johnson took in Gen. Ramey's office survive. These are held in the University of Texas Library, at Arlington, TX. Of the two others, one exists only in the *Star Telegram's* microfilm archive as a copy of the newspaper's page in which it appeared in print back in 1947.

The last of Bond's four images was discovered originally some years ago, in the Bettmann photo archive in New York, as a copy negative together with its original "news cutlines". The cutlines indicated it had possibly been wired out onto the newswire network from Dallas late on the night of the 8th of July. This wired image confirms Bond must have sold on at least this one photograph to an outside newsagency that night, for although it credited to a news agency, the photo-credit is given to James Bond Johnson.

[fig-8 *The pre-1997 Bettmann Photograph (original image is cropped)*]

[fig-11 *The Corbis-Bettmann Version*]

The "Bettmann" photograph has opened up a completely new "can of worms" in the research of the Fort Worth Photographs. While browsing in a local bookshop, I stumbled across what appeared to



Fig 8

be just one more of what, at that time, seemed to be quite a number of popular style, large format UFO books. It covered the "usual cases" as these books do and, of course, Roswell was included. I was now several years into my own branch of "Roswell" research (the Fort Worth Photographs) so I thought I'd see how this author handled things.

As I thumbed through the pages covering Roswell, I stopped and did a "double-take", for there in a full-page plate image was the Bettmann photograph but not the Bettmann I was aware of.

This was a crisp, sharp and clean image; not at all the fuzzy photo I had been working with. Needless to say, I bought the book and shortly after had the image transferred onto my computer. The more I examined this image, the more my mouth dropped open. There was something very strange and new about this image. There were details in this version of the photograph that were completely missing from the images I had been working with so far.

Just where had this picture come from? It was credited to Corbis/Bettmann.

It was decided to obtain a new print from the Bettmann Archive. This wasn't as easy as at first thought, as the Bettmann Archive in New York had been bought out in around 2000 by Corbis Image and the archives transferred to Los Angeles for integra-



Fig 11

tion into the main Corbis collection.

With the help of many phone calls by Bond to the Corbis LA offices, the photo was eventually traced, but it now seems that only a copy negative exists and all the other documentation Bettmann might have held previously has been lost. The new print from Corbis when it finally arrived was a great disappointment, showing very little fine detail. In fact, it appeared to show less detail than the printed book version of what should have been the same photograph!

We were so concerned at this that we again contacted Corbis and explained the situation. They suggested a "hand printed" copy rather than relying on a machine print to extract the best image quality, but this print too, though better in overall quality than the first, showed us no improvement in fine detail.

Our attempts to trace the history of the source of the printed book version of the photograph also proved a headache. After some searching, the book's author was traced to San Francisco and contacted, but this too was a dead end. The book had originally been published in 1997 and all the images for the book had been sourced by the publisher.

After some further checking there, none of this original material now seemed to exist. We called it a day and turned to look closely at the two versions of the "Bettmann" image we now had.

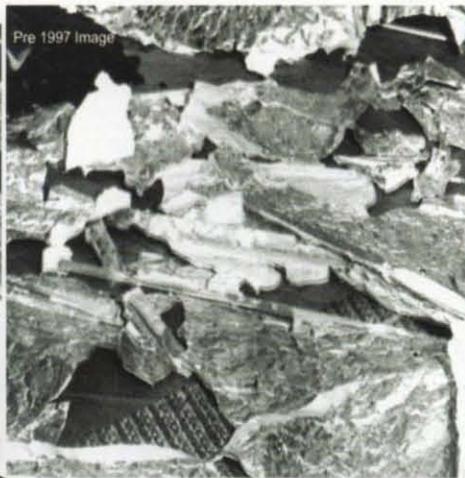


Fig-9

It became apparent almost immediately that something very strange indeed was going on. Items and details in the "book" or "pre-1997" version of the photograph were just not "there" in the current Corbis print! In a central area of the pre-1997 print, "thick" edges can be seen on a number of debris pieces. These cannot be seen in the current print. The debris is there in the current print but the "edges" are not.

This was, to say the least, very odd. Maybe the "edge" was a double exposure or printing flaw? Both these explanations have been checked out: a test "double exposure" image of the current Corbis print was made using Photoshop, only to discover the "edging" in the pre-1997 print is just far too selective for this explanation to hold water. The selectivity of the effect also argues against a printing flaw as confirmed by a contact

in the printing industry.

[fig-9 A comparison image showing the pre-1997 Bettman together with the current version of the image and the artificial "double exposure" image.]

In Fig-9, the small target comparison area clearly indicates a simple double exposure cannot produce the effect seen in the pre-1997 version of the image.

But conversely, if you imagine the thick "edges" being airbrushed out in

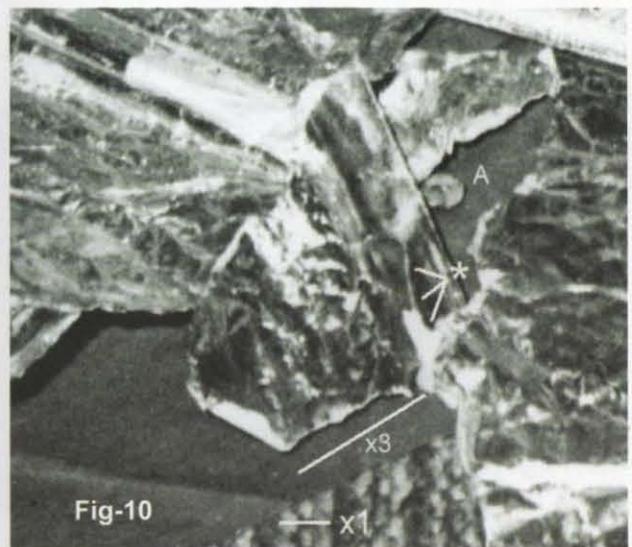
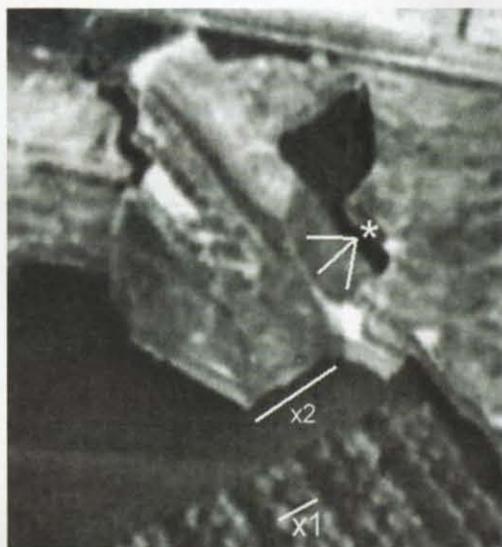


Fig-10

white, you can see that you would end up with today's version of the image.

Before I'm shouted down as a complete conspiracy theorist nut, let me say that this isn't the first "anomaly" to be spotted within the Fort Worth photos. There are some other points I can illustrate which, to me at least, make me stop and think there is something not quite right going on here.

[fig-10 Point "A" indicates the small fragment of "thick" debris in the UTA negative one carpet pattern width is taken as a std measure as can be seen the debris piece changes width from x2 to x3 of our measure between photographs]

Point 1: If only this single Bettmann "pre 1997" image shows the "thick" debris, surely this indicates that that image must be flawed in some way? If only this were true, I would be more than happy to concede and retire. ...But... Hidden away in the UTA Ramey-DuBose original negative IS a tiny fragment of "thick debris"... just the one piece...but one piece is enough to say there was thick debris. But why don't we see more in the other images? Here we come to a further anomaly.

Point 2: Close by the tiny, thick fragment in the UTA Ramey-DuBose image is quite a distinctive-looking piece of debris (please see fig-10) if you compare this with the same piece of debris in the pre-1997 Bettmann you can see it has changed size. Yet these two photographs were taken within minutes of each other. If you also study the surrounding

debris in both these photographs, you can also spot areas where there are subtle changes in the debris.

In Conclusion:

"When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth."
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

I have mulled long and hard over the mysterious "dissapearing edges" and time after time I have had to come back to the "easy option" i.e. has the image been altered?

This has not been because it IS the easy option, but because I have yet to find a natural mechanism that could have produced such a "selective" masking effect. There may yet be one, but this was certainly no simple "double exposure", an explanation we have tested.

I have had to come to the same conclusion with the "morphing" debris and, yes, the two photographs were taken from two slightly different angles, but this should not have caused this one piece of debris alone to loose some 30% of its width. After all, if you examine the image, this didn't happen to the beam section the debris is attached to. And there are other small things too: traces of shadows which seem to be in slightly the wrong place or at slightly the wrong angles, all of which mount up and seem to say that in at least one of the UTA images we might actually be looking at an altered, re-photographed photo-montage rather than an original image.

But if the pre-1997 Bettmann image is the genuine unaltered article how did it miss out on any outside "attention" until it seems some time in the last few years?.

I believe the Bettmann image was "the one that got away", Bond appears to have sold this negative on to a news agency just before he left for home between 5 and 6pm. It was only transmitted out on the newswires much later that evening and by that time the Roswell story was dead in the water.

Very few papers picked up the image and printed it and so it dissapeared

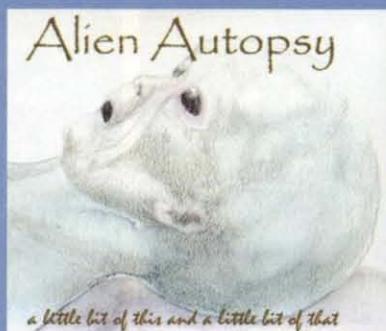
from the historical record only to surface when Kevin Randle came across it while researching his Roswell books some 40-plus years later. But its contents might only have become a potential embarrassment after 1998 when the RPIT, of which I was a lead member, started the detailed re-examination of the original images.

With the discovery of the partial Ramey message wording, I can only imagine the alarm bells that might have started to ring in certain quarters when that revealed in just what fine detail we could now examine the images. At that point the Bettmann image, if it truly was still in the form of the pre-1997 print, could have become Roswell's "smoking gun".

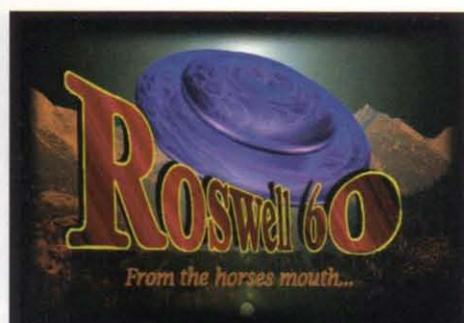
Can any of this ever be proved conclusively? I doubt it. If the images have been altered and if the originals are squirreled away in an anonymous US government archive, I see little chance of them ever seeing the light of day again. You'll just have to look at what evidence is left in the images as they are and make up your own mind.

Neil Morris,
Manchester, March 2007.

Neil can be seen in our special readers offer DVD, talking in-depth about this and other interesting areas of his research, research that suggests there is far more evidence to back up something exotic happening at Roswell in 1947 than some would have you believe...



See page 15 for details



"[At the ranch] it looked to me like something had landed... The material that we saw was just like it had vaporised. There was nothing jagged, nothing was cut... Some of [the pieces] were curved, a number were flat. We walked around the hill to the other side and there were military police all over. They wouldn't let anybody in or out. And they gathered up that stuff as far as I can remember.

"I know that it wasn't plywood, it was as hard as it wouldn't bend and it was as light as a feather. There was enough that they had to put it on a weapons carrier, I think they called it, a truck that the military had. They put it in there and the major took it with him. I know that we had some and we had to box it up. It wasn't a big package at all... and a plane came in and I think I knew the pilot that was on it and he knew me, but he just shook his head, as though he didn't want me to recognise him. And he just wanted to know something about a package and by this time, Cavett [Counterintelligence Officer] was running the whole thing and they left."

Lewis Rickett - Master Sergeant,
Roswell Army Air Force base

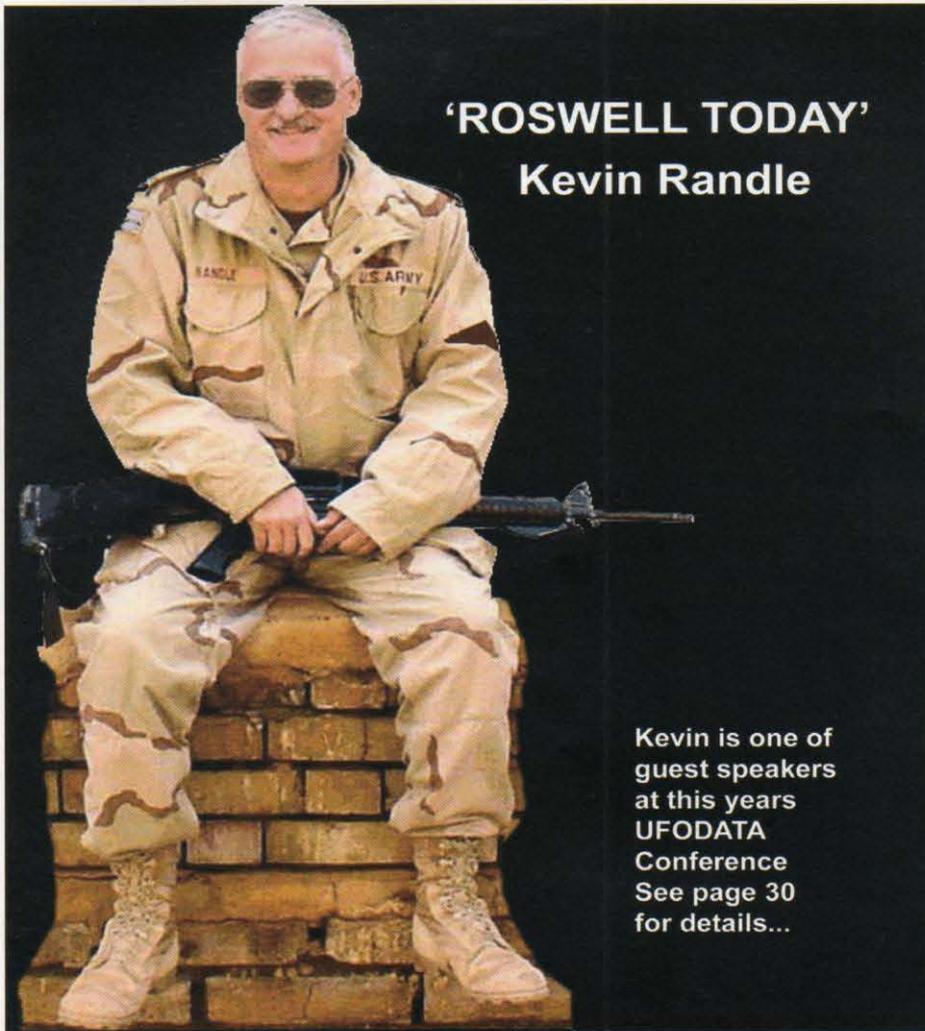
From Recollections of Roswell -
The Fund for UFO Research





We would like to share with you this fascinating work of computer art created by Peter Martin, graphic artist and UFO enthusiast. It will feature as the back drop and theme to our 'Roswell 60' conference weekend 20th - 21st October 2007

Peter Martin / UFODATA(C)



'ROSWELL TODAY'
Kevin Randle

Kevin is one of guest speakers at this years UFODATA Conference See page 30 for details...

There are a handfull of extremely professional and competent researchers who are associated with the Roswell story. Dr Kevin Randle is one such researcher.

As you can see from this photo Kevin is still active in the Military Reserve as a pilot and has recently travelled to the Middle East and the troubles. In this update Kevin talks about why certain things still do not simply add up.

UFODATA

There is much that has been discovered in the last ten years about the Roswell UFO crash case that is positive. Some very good witnesses have told their stories about how they were involved. Other witnesses, such as Major Jesse A. Marcel, Major Edwin Easley, Master Sergeant Bill Rickett, Major Patrick Saunders and Brigadier General Thomas DuBose have all withstood the test of time. While there have been attempts to character assassinate these men, and while sceptics have attempted to discover flaws in their testimonies, most

of the attempts have failed.

We know that Jesse Marcel did walk the debris field and that he did recover strange, metallic debris. We know that Edwin Easley, as the "top cop" at Roswell did supply guards for the crash sites and that his men did hold Mack Brazel in the guest house. We know that Bill Rickett picked up metallic debris that was light and strong and that couldn't be easily identified. We know that Patrick Saunders confirmed to friends and family that the Roswell case was of extraterrestrial nature and there are some new revelations. More about that later.

And we know that Thomas DuBose

did order the some of the strange material from Roswell on to a higher headquarters in Washington, D.C. and that he helped Brigadier General Roger Ramey, on orders from that same higher headquarters, initiate the cover-up that has lasted for sixty years.

All these things are confirmed through multiple interviews and documentation. While that is not as exciting as having pictures of the craft and autopsy results on the bodies, it does make for a persuasive case.

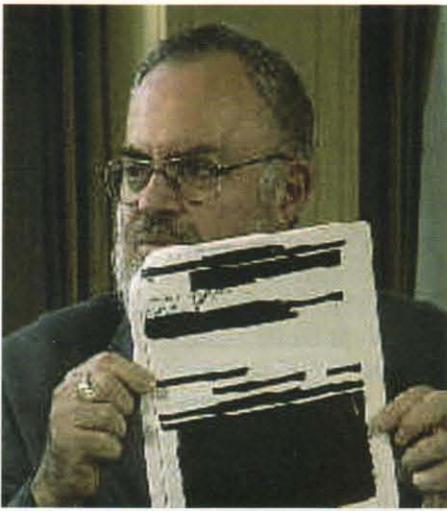
But we have also been sucked into debates of aspects of the Roswell case that were more tangential than important and these have diverted our resources and attention for far too long. The first of these was the revelation that a secret committee had been formed to study the Roswell case and that some of the top scientists as well as top political and military leaders were on this "Majestic" committee, now referred to simply as the MJ-12.

The first mention of this committee was on documents that appeared on an undeveloped roll of 35 mm film sent to a Hollywood producer and friend of William J. Moore. Moore, with Charles Berlitz, had written the first of the books about the Roswell



case, but the evidence contained in it was thin, mostly eyewitness testimony about strange debris and no real hints of alien bodies. About the only interesting evidence were the photographs of Jesse Marcel holding, according to the book, a few of the less spectacular

pieces of spacecraft debris. When the un-cropped photographs were found, it was clear that Marcel was holding bits of a Rawin target and not something from space.



Moore, in the early 1980s, told fellow UFO researcher Stanton Friedman that he had run into a brick wall and was thinking about creating a "Roswell-type" document to see what he could shake loose. And then, mysteriously, the film appeared in Los Angeles, at the home of Moore's friend who had no public ties to the UFO community. For someone wanting to release critical documents to UFO researchers, Jamie Shandera didn't seem to be a good choice. Other, better known, researchers or a well-established newspaper seemed more logical.

Once the film was developed, the Eisenhower Briefing Document, a report created for then president-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower, and a letter providing the authorization of the formation of the MJ-12 committee were revealed. If the documents were authentic, this was the smoking gun of ufology. It provided absolute evidence that the United States had recovered an alien spacecraft near Roswell in July, 1947.

The first problem was that there was no provenance for these documents. The only thing that could be said was that the package containing the film appeared to have been mailed from Albuquerque, New Mexico, which did little to prove anything other than the package had been mailed from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Analysis of the documents revealed a number of flaws in them which some researchers, including me, believed to be fatal. Friedman and others have argued and continue to argue that these flaws are the normal mistakes you would find in any documents that are scrutinized as closely as MJ-

12 has been.

Among the critics is questioned document examiner, Peter Tytell, who, ironically, was first approached by Friedman to study the documents. Tytell, in discussions with me, among others, has said that the Truman memo, which accompanied the Eisenhower Briefing, is a fake. He based this on a couple of points.

First, the signature matches, exactly, a Truman signature from another, authentic document dated several days after the memo was allegedly signed. That it is an exact match, according to Tytell, proves that it was lifted from the "donor" document and pasted onto the Truman memo. The whole thing was then photocopied so that it would appear that Truman had signed the memo.

Second, he pointed out the Truman signature was uncharacteristically low. Truman habitually signed his name so that the top stroke of the "T" in Truman touched the bottom of the text. On this document, the "T" didn't touch the text and no examples of authentic Truman documents have been found where the "T" didn't touch the text.

More importantly, Tytell could detect slight wavers on the "T" that suggested it had been doctored to remove traces of the letters it had touched. To him this was the "slam dunk." Without a provenance, this underscored the fact that the memo was a hoax.

Others have argued that these things don't prove the document a hoax and suggest alternatives. They have failed, however, to offer those alternatives into evidence and they have yet to provide any provenance for any of the MJ-12 documents. Given Moore's suggestion of creating a "Roswell document", his later suggestions that he thought these might be a hoax, and the failure to find any reference to MJ-12 in legitimate documents, the MJ-12 documents, all of them, must be considered a hoax.

Second is the Santilli Alien Autopsy film which we should be able to ignore simply because Ray Santilli, in 2006, said that the film presented to the world as the "real" autopsy was a

recreation of the real thing. He said the initial film stock was in such bad shape that it couldn't been viewed and he had much of it recreated.

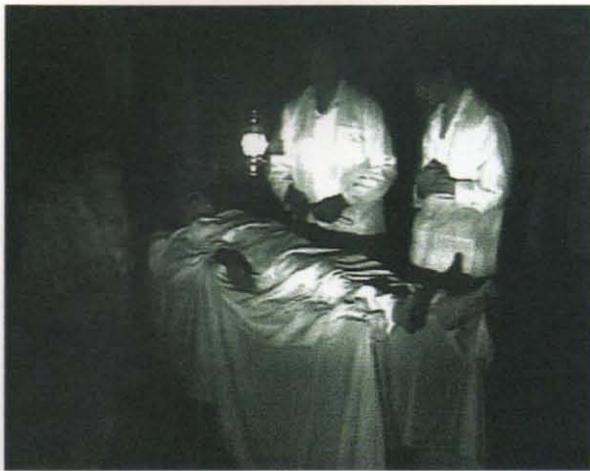


Santilli (C)

Almost from the moment that the autopsy film was released into the public, it was controversial. Like the MJ-12 document, the film lacked a real provenance. Santilli tried to cover that with the story of a cameraman who was either afraid of retribution by the American government or that he didn't want to pay income taxes on the money Santilli paid him. All we were told was that he had been an Army cameraman in 1947 and through error had retained some of the footage he shot of a preliminary autopsy in a barn in New Mexico and later of a full-blown autopsy in Texas.

To prove this, Santilli released a copy of an interview he had conducted with the cameraman, but there were immediate problems. The "voice" of the American cameraman had an English accent, even on the typewritten page. For example, the cameraman talked of "joining the forces," which seems to be English for joining the military. An American wouldn't use that term, saying instead that he had joined the Army or the military. When this, and other similar statements were pointed out, the transcript was changed to a more American "voice." This, of course, made the matters worse. How could you edit the transcript that way, and if you did, what other points have been edited?

In December 1998, the tent footage, which was a dark, difficult to see preliminary autopsy was said to be a recreation. Bob Kiviat, who had produced the original autopsy special in the United States for FOX-TV, was producing a second documentary in which he would prove the tent footage fake. He had found and interviewed those who had created it.



Santilli, however, said that he warned Kiviat, and other producers in other countries, that the tent autopsy was not part of the original autopsy. He said that the tent autopsy was so poorly preserved that he asked a studio to enhance the image, which confirmed what Kiviat was now claiming. Sometime after Santilli received the "enhanced" image he returned to the US and learned, from the cameraman, that the footage seemed to have been altered. I suppose he was trying to suggest that he was as surprised as the rest of us. He had been among the duped.

Going back to England, Santilli learned that his friend who was the owner of the studio where the film had been processed, had played a trick on him. Since they had been unable to retrieve anything from the film, the studio owner staged a new autopsy as a joke. It wasn't that his friends were acting maliciously, they thought of it as great fun. Or so Santilli would have us all believe.

There was other footage taken in another tent that contained some of the wreckage picked up on the field. There were controls set up for creatures with six-fingered hands and the I-beams that were supposed to be like those Jesse Marcel had described. The only problem was that these I-beams weren't the thin, delicate things that Marcel told me about, but large cumbersome things that didn't look as if they belonged on a spaceship.

And, to make matters worse, if possible, there were symbols on some of the beams. The camera clearly showed them, and although stylized,

one word, in English, was visible. It said, "Video." Now, what are the odds that an alien language, for which we have a limited number of symbols, is going to spell out a word that we can read in English?

Then, in the summer of 2006, came an admission that other aspects of the autopsy had been faked. The "good" footage, taken inside an operating room, might have been "enhanced". The problem was that though Santilli had purchased a number of three minute rolls of film, when he got them to England, some of, if not nearly all of the stock was ruined. Nothing much could be recovered from it, so, Santilli had that footage recreated.

When interviewed by UFO researchers including Philip Mantle, Santilli suggested that he couldn't remember which parts were from the cameraman and which parts were recreations. Given that Santilli has never supplied any evidence that the cameraman existed or that any "original" footage existed, the logical conclusion here is that the alien autopsy is a hoax.

But the biggest hoax in the Roswell case might be the one perpetrated by the US Air Force. They claim, after their "comprehensive" investigation in the mid-1990s, that the Roswell crash was the result of a balloon research project known then as "Mogul".

Mogul, in 1947, used off-the-shelf weather balloons and Rawin radar reflectors. The purpose, to create a constant-level, high-altitude balloon which could be used to monitor the Soviet Union, was so highly classified that even some of those working on it didn't know the name. The equipment being used, however, was unclassified and used by hundreds of weather stations all over the country in 1947. This is where the Air Force explanation breaks down.

The Air Force didn't find the Mogul explanation, but had it handed to them by UFO researchers including the late Karl Pflock. According to

Pflock, Mogul Flight No. 4, launched on June 4, 1947, was responsible for the debris that Mack Brazel found three or four weeks later. All other balloon launches were accounted for in the documentation available. Only Flight. No. 4 was missing.

The problem for the Air Force was that Flight No. 4, according to a diary kept by Dr. Albert Crary, the project leader, was not a regular flight. Scheduled for launch on June 4, it was cancelled when the corresponding rocket flight was scrubbed. According to Charles Moore, who worked on the project, they couldn't deflate the balloons. The removed the equipment from them because that could be reused and then let the balloons go. If that is the case, then there would have been no radar reflectors to scatter the metallic debris and there would have been nothing for Brazel to find in early July except for some deflated balloon envelopes.

The Air Force during its investigation interviewed only five people, three of them who had worked with Project Mogul. They also interviewed Sheridan Cavitt who had accompanied Marcel to the debris field. They did not bother to interview the former military officers who were still alive who would have suggested something stranger than Mogul on the field, nor did they review either the audio or video tapes of witnesses who had died prior to their investigation. That would have complicated the Mogul explanation.

Happy with the Mogul explanation, the Air Force announced that they had solved the mystery. They didn't bother with answering difficult questions and they ignored the fact that there was no documentation for a Mogul flight other than the partially equipped Flight No. 4. They couldn't explain how it had laid in the field for nearly a month before Brazel found it.

Nor could they explain the number of officers at Roswell, including the air intelligence officer, Major Jesse Marcel, the Provost Marshal Major Edwin Easley, the base Adjutant Major Patrick Saunders, and several others who said that something strange and extraterrestrial fell out-

side of Roswell. And they couldn't explain why none of them recognized the balloon for what it was.

Saunders, for example, told me, in my first interview with him that he remembered nothing about "little green men" at the base. But that isn't what he told family and friends when they asked him. To a friend, on the fly sheet of one of my Roswell books (*The Truth about the UFO Crash at Roswell*) he wrote, "Here's the truth and I still haven't told anybody anything!"

That page said, "After the impact site was cleaned, the soldiers debriefed, and the bodies and the craft removed, the silence fell." He didn't need to cram his words at the top of this page unless there was important information on it. Saunders confirmed, from his point of view, that this was the truth.

But there is one additional fact that is new. In the late 1990s, I was in touch with one of Saunderson's children. She, in a letter dated February 20, 1997, wrote, "At one point he bragged to me about how well he had covered the 'paper trail' associated with the clean up!"

Here was a man who we could assume was on the inside because of who he was. The documentation available at the time puts him in Roswell and he is on the primary staff of the commanding officer. He would know. And what does he tell us? That the information about the crash being extraterrestrial is true and that he covered the paper trail. This is significant information.

As is the information supplied by Brigadier General Arthur Exon, who was stationed at Wright Field in 1947. During the interviews that I and others conducted with him in the late 1990s, he said that he believed the Roswell crash was extraterrestrial. He said he knew that debris from the crash was studied at Wright-Patterson and that the debris was extremely unusual. His description matches that of other first-hand witnesses. He said bodies were found and that they were located at "another location", or in other words, not at the location of the metallic debris. He said he flew over the Roswell

crash site and saw the "gouge" the crashed object made in the ground, which, of course, eliminates Mogul. He said there was a coverup and he calls it "a national cover-up project."

Thomas DuBose, who had been General Ramey's Chief of Staff in Fort Worth at the time of the crash, the higher headquarters of the units based in Roswell, said that the balloon explanation, offered in Fort Worth, was a cover story designed to get the reporters off Ramey's back. In other words, a man who would become a general, was telling us that the balloon explanation, the explanation the Air Force would recycle in the 1990s, was part of a cover story, confirming what Exon said and what Saunders had said.

DuBose also talked of debris from Roswell being ordered to Washington, D. C. by Major General Clements McMullen. DuBose described how it was flown from Roswell in a sealed container and taken from the Roswell aircraft to another by Colonel Alan Clark. Clark then flew it on to Washington.

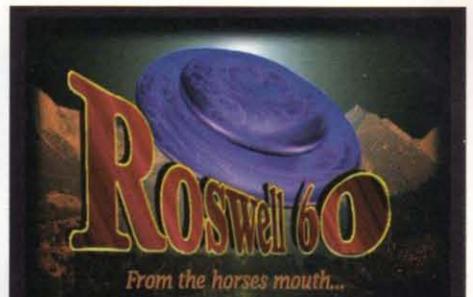
What all this tells us is that something extraordinary fell outside of Roswell and that extraordinary measures were taken to deal with it. There is testimony, not from witnesses who came forward with their tales, but from men who were located by various investigators, that the craft was from another world. These men, who were in a position to know what happened, whose positions and presence in Roswell can be documented, have told us that something extraterrestrial fell outside of Roswell.

In fact, one of them, Major Edwin Easley was interviewed by me several times. I asked him once if we were following the right path in our investigation. He asked me what I meant by that.

I said, "We believe it was extraterrestrial." He said, "Let me put it this way. That's not the wrong path."

And he should have known. He too was there...

Kevin Randle



"One evening, we were watching TV and there was something on about space. My grandmother looked over at me and said, 'Barbara, do you believe in anything outside of the Earth?' and I said, 'You know I do.' She said, 'I have something I would really like to tell you but I don't want you to discuss this or tell anyone because I've never told anybody.' She just wrote an article one time and put 'flying saucer' on it one time and that was all she'd written down on a piece of paper..."

"She said, 'In the Forties, there was a spacecraft... crashed outside of Roswell.' I said, 'How do you know about it?' She said, 'Your grandfather, George, was a sheriff at the time...' She was very hesitant to talk about it, but she knew within her that there was something that she needed to tell me.

"When the incident happened, the military police came to the courthouse, to the jailhouse, and George and I that if we ever told anything about this incident, talked about it in any way, that not only we would be killed, but they would get the rest of the family."

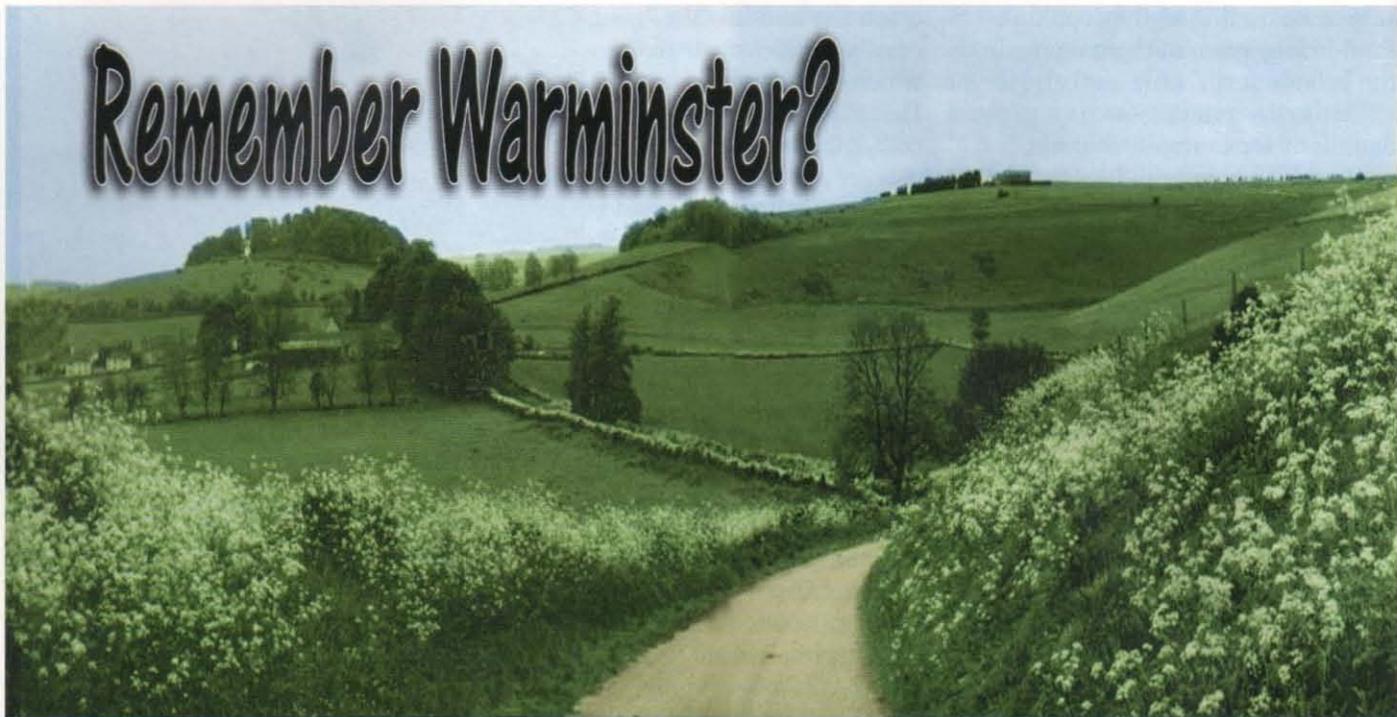
"I asked jokingly, 'Did he see any little space beings?' and she said, 'Yes, there were four of them.' She said they were, like, grey and granddaddy said their heads were large and the little suit that they had on was like silk or something. They came back into town and they thought it was okay to talk about it and put it on the news, but something happened and it was not okay.



Barbara Dugger - granddaughter of Sheriff Wilcox

From Recollections of Roswell - The Fund for UFO Research

Remember Warminster?



Don't worry, there's plenty more Roswell information to come in this special issue, but we thought now would be an appropriate time to take a short break from the events of 1947.

One of my first encounters with this subject was when, as a 10 or 11-year old boy, I remember looking around the public library in my home town of Heckmondwike for books about flying saucers. I had heard things on the radio and seen the odd documentary on BBC2 (we must have been a bit posh because we had a telly that got all three channels) and I was interested.

I came across a blue-covered, hard-back book, entitled simply, Warminster. I loaned the book and read it that night at home. I slept with the light on in my bedroom for weeks after; the accounts in the book scared me.

The following article by Warminster author, **Kevin Goodman**, will introduce this small, Wiltshire town and its unearthly past to those new to this subject and act as a reminder to those who are well-read on all things ufological.

UFO DATA

Warminster the forgotten mystery

Two words. Remember Warminster?

Put this question to a young ufologist and, the chances are, you will receive a blank look. Put it to older students of British UFO research and you will elicit one of two reactions: a mocking smile, followed by a dismissive retort; or a dreamy expression, followed, hopefully, by a long conversation full of memories of those long-gone, halcyon days and nights spent on the hills around the town, scanning the skies for any UFO activity.



Arthur Shuttlewood

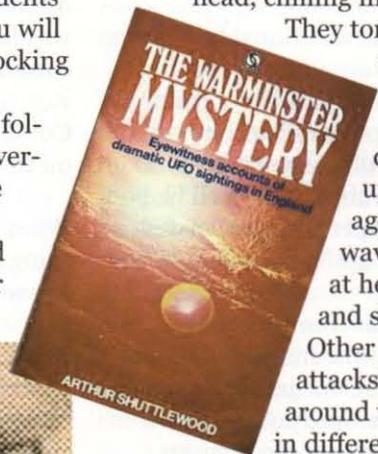
Warminster's long and chequered UFO history began on Christmas Day, 1964. Mrs. Marjorie Bye was walking to early morning Mass at Christ Church when, as Arthur Shuttlewood reports in *The Warminster Mystery*, "The air was

brazenly filled with a menacing sound. Sudden vibrations came overhead, chilling in intensity.

They tore the quiet atmosphere to raucous rags and descended upon her savagely... shock-waves pounded at her head, neck and shoulders." Other such "sonic attacks" occurred at around the same time in different locations around the town, and were later reported to Shuttlewood, who was, at the time, features editor on the local weekly newspaper, *The Warminster Journal*.

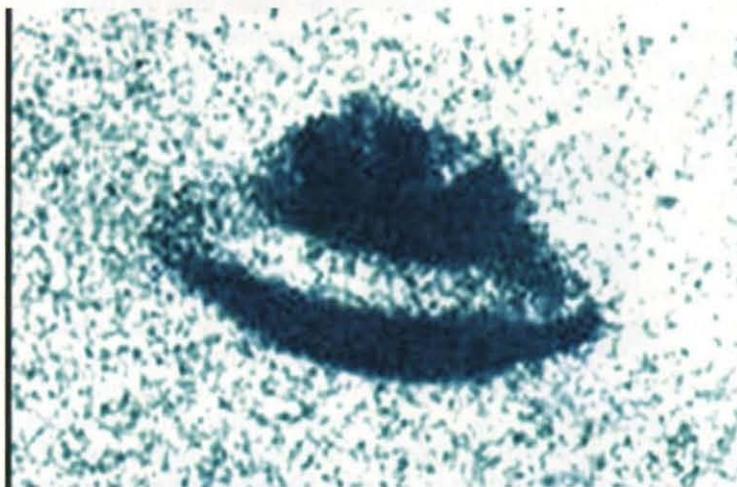
Within weeks, the floodgates opened. When interviewed by Shuttlewood, all the witnesses referred to the phenomena as "Things", as no-one had actually seen anything to which the sounds could be attributed. The name stuck, and the phenomenon was henceforth "The Thing".

Around June, 1965, strange objects began to be witnessed in the skies around the town. Shuttlewood amassed a sizable file of these sightings, but it was not until September, 1965, that he became a believer in the "Thing". This was a turning point, as Shuttlewood subsequently became the voice and champion of



what he was later to call the Warminster Mystery.

Such was the concern of the local populace that a public meeting was held in the town - just before the August Bank Holiday - to allay fears that, as the chairman of Warminster town council, Emlyn Rees, explained, "The happenings were a danger to Earth." Reports of the meeting made it into regional newspapers and television news and Warminster would never be the same again. Within weeks, thousands of people converged on the town to see this strange phenomenon for themselves.



The iconic image of Warminster's UFO activity is a photograph taken by Gordon Faulkner in 1965. The typical "flying saucer" photograph - so enlarged that the grain of the emulsion is clearly visible - was sent by Shuttlewood, along with an accompanying article, to the *Daily Mirror*. The article and photograph were run in the *Mirror* on September 10th, 1965, and gained the town a vast amount of publicity.

By the end of 1965, Shuttlewood was contemplating writing a book on the events in the town, as the flyleaf to Brinsley Le Poer Trench's book *The Flying Saucer Story* (Neville Spearman, 1966) attests. A book titled *The Warminster Sighting* is advertised; the title was to become the more familiar *The Warminster Mystery* when it was finally published in 1967 by Neville Spearman.

The BBC were quick to latch on to the events in the town. BBC West filmed a half-hour documentary in 1966, entitled "Pie in the Sky". Of all the programmes made about the town, this is by far the most level-

headed and fair.

Shuttlewood claimed, at the end of *The Warminster Mystery*, that he had been contacted by the occupants of the craft that were haunting the skies around the town. The aliens contacted Shuttlewood via the rather prosaic medium of the telephone. The calls were purportedly made from a local telephone box. The reports of these encounters form an appendix to *The Warminster Mystery*. Shuttlewood does note that the calls might have been made by hoaxers.

After *The Warminster Mystery* was published in 1967, Shuttlewood was visited at his home, on the town's Portway Road, by an alien who seemed to be of an imperfect Aryan type. The

alien proceeded to give Shuttlewood a dressing down for suggesting that the telephone calls had been made by hoaxers. However, given that Shuttlewood was, by this time, at the centre of the mystery, it is possible he was the victim a rather cruel hoax. Having upbraided Shuttlewood for his lack of belief, the alien disclosed further information and revelations that were recorded in Shuttlewood's second book, *Warnings from Flying Friends*, which was self-published by Shuttlewood in 1968.

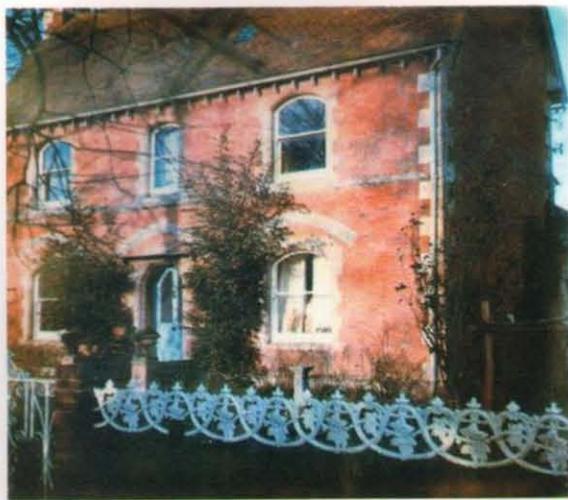
By the early 1970s, UFO sightings were beginning to decline. Because Warminster was old news, and was no longer reaching a wide audience through national newspapers, the number of sky watchers on the hills had dwindled. In August, 1971, a local UFO buff, Ken Rogers, began publishing his *The Warminster UFO Newsletter*. Ken Rogers had a book posthumously published by Coates and Parker (Warminster), in 1994, entitled *The Warminster Triangle*. Although heavy in UFO content, the book also delves into the legends and folklore of the area.

Shuttlewood allied himself to Rogers, and it is interesting to note that among Roger's papers, which were donated to the town's Dewey museum after his death in 1993, there are a number of original diagrams and reports of sightings that are to be found in Shuttlewood's third book on the phenomenon, *UFOs: Key to the New Age* (Regency Press, 1971). This book, of all the titles written by Shuttlewood, is probably the most contentious.

By now, Shuttlewood had become totally immersed in UFO lore, and some of his theories seem, by today's standards, to be quite absurd. After this book was published, Shuttlewood appeared to take a sabbatical from writing books, but still took an active part in sky watches and the local UFO scene.

The Warminster UFO Newsletter continued publication, as far as I am able to ascertain, well into 1973. In the same year, *The Warminster Mystery* was published in paperback by Tandem books. It was this book that sparked my interest in the UFO phenomenon in Warminster. The only books I had read before *The Warminster Mystery* were books by American authors, such as Brad Steiger's *Flying Saucers are Hostile* and *Strangers from the Skies*.

Late in 1975, or early 1976, a new UFO research centre, The Fountain Centre, opened in Warminster. The Fountain Centre, run by Peter and Jane Paget, was located in a house just off Portway. They changed the name of the house from Rose Villa to Star House and offered bed-and-breakfast accommodation to sky-watchers who visited the town. Peter Paget also wanted to set up branches of the Fountain Centre across the UK and, to this end, The Fountain Centre Association was formed. I became a member of both the Fountain Centre and the Fountain Centre Association, the latter was an organisation set up by the Pagets to put like-minded individuals in contact with one another. I also stayed at Star House on a number of occasions and I was involved with The Fountain Journal. With my close ties with the centre, Peter Paget also asked me to run the Midlands branch of The Fountain Centre



Association. The Pagets also planned to publish a bi-monthly magazine, *The Fountain Journal*, that was to concentrate on the UFO sightings reported in and around the Warminster area. Shuttlewood joined the editorial team early on, before the publication of issue one. *The Fountain Journal* was, by today's standards of desktop publishing, a quite primitive affair, with a hand-drawn title page, possibly designed and drawn by Shuttlewood himself. Photographs were simply cut out from either books or other magazines and glued into place on the relevant page. Each page was typewritten, at first on a primitive manual typewriter, and then, from issue 9, a more up-to-date electric typewriter that Paget had managed to obtain.

The first three issues, which were edited by the Pagets, Mrs. Tedder-Shepherd - Jane Paget's mother - and Arthur Shuttlewood, contained much more information on the local UFO scene than later issues. This was, in part, because of Shuttlewood's input. After the third issue, Shuttlewood bowed out. I believe he had a major disagreement with the Pagets and was also suffering a protracted period of ill-health. At around the same time, November 1976, *The Flying Saucers*, Shuttlewood's fourth book, was published in paperback by Sphere books. The Pagets now had another disagreement, this time with Mrs. Tedder-Shepherd, who was a co-owner of Star House and had a 50% stake in the property. With the Fountain Centre now in danger of closing, due to mounting costs, Peter Paget appealed to members of The Fountain Centre for money. One way in which members could provide

funds for the Centre was by taking out various long-term subscriptions to *The Fountain Journal*. One of these was a £100 life subscription. Unsurprisingly, no-one took up the offer.

From issue four onwards, the content of the magazine leant increasingly towards New Age topics, with articles on such subjects as astrology becoming more prevalent. Possibly as filler material, Peter Paget began writing the 'M86 Notebook', a rather

poor attempt at a science fiction story.

The number of members re-subscribing to *The Fountain Journal* was dwindling, and it wasn't until the British newspaper, *The News of the World*, ran an article on the centre in 1977, that, for a time at least, the magazine enjoyed a brief resurgence. Indeed, following the newspaper article, Peter Paget produced and sent to anyone who enquired about the centre a promotional brochure, hoping to boost the membership of the Fountain Centre. This brochure was also included as a supplement in issue eight of *The Fountain Journal*.

By now it was early 1977 and the Warminster phenomenon was very old news. A new area of the UK was hitting the headlines. There had been a rash of UFO sightings in South Wales, around the Haverfordwest area, which soon earned the locality the name of 'The Welsh Triangle'.

It was during decline of the Fountain Centre, in July 1977, that I had an unexplained UFO sighting. I was with a friend, Chris Butler. Late in the afternoon, we had both retired to the Green Room at the top of Star House. Chris was lying on his bed, gazing out of the window. I sat on my bed reading a book. I had mistakenly assumed that Chris had fallen asleep, but he suddenly jumped up off the bed and ran to the window crying out, "What the f**k's that?!" I got off my bed, which was in a corner of the

room, and joined him at the window. We could see a silvery, cigar-shaped object over Cop Heap, a wooded hill near the Centre. The object was slowly moving from right to left across the sky, Chris fumbled for his binoculars, and through them could see a uniform elliptical object. He passed the binoculars to me and I confirmed what Chris had seen. I handed the binoculars back to Chris and began to rummage through my camera equipment. This was too good an opportunity to miss.

Screwing a 400mm telephoto lens onto my camera, I left the room and ran down the stairs into the back garden of Star House. I was using a long, heavy lens and I didn't have a tripod with me. I needed to avoid camera shake and knew that in the back garden there was a post in the garden against which I could brace the camera. During the week, I had changed the film in the camera from slide film to negative film. This film had a rating of 400ASA (one of the fastest film speeds commercially available at that time), so I was certain that I would be able to catch the object in mid-flight, without any blurring.

I reached the post, lined-up the camera and carefully focused. The object was in the viewfinder, with blue sky and high, light-grey cloud in the background. I carefully took three exposures, manually winding the film on, refocusing each time, before the UFO went behind the trees on Arn Hill and out of my view. As I finished, Chris yelled from the bedroom window, binoculars still to his eyes, "There are people on the hill, and they're pointing at it too... it's got to be a real object!"

When we informed Peter Paget of the sighting and photographic evidence, he offered to get the film developed in the town that day. For reasons too long-winded to go into here, but which are well-documented in my book, *UFO Warminster: Cradle of Contact*, Chris and I were suspicious of Peter Paget's motives, thinking that he would use the images for his own gain. Both of us



made the hard but sensible decision to wait until we got back home to get the film developed.

The film was developed when we returned home. When the photographs came back; I could see blue sky, white clouds but no UFO! On the left bottom corner of the final print were the tips of the trees on Elm Hill. To this day, this is perhaps the most striking evidence of the Warminster Mystery we never had! I assure you, I had the object dead centre in the viewfinder, and the exposure was obviously correct. Just what was it we had seen? I had, at the time, my own enlarger and printing equipment at home. Both Chris and I spent a good few hours looking at the negatives through the enlarger, at different settings, and at no time did we ever see any sign of that UFO. But we believe that what we saw was a real, tangible object...

How else could the golfers on the hill above the house have seen it as well?

Because of what, I assume, were mounting debts, Peter Paget planned to move from the large and costly Star House to a more manageable property, which he intended to call Fountain House. With pressures mounting on the Pagets, the publication of *The Fountain Journal* became more sporadic. The magazine became much thinner in content. Issue 11 - which was only dated with the non-specific '1977' - was the last to be published. Tucked away on page three was an apology for its late publication, and a further apology that informed readers that issue 12 would also be late.

Soon after the publication of issue 11, the Fountain Centre, unsurprisingly, folded. There were a number of reasons for this. The first, and major, was that another research group, UFO-Info, had set up in the town, towards which, I feel, the Pagets had a certain amount of hostility. It was as if they felt they had the exclusive right to be the official voice of the Warminster UFO scene. It also didn't help matters that Arthur Shuttlewood allied himself with the new group, which, unlike the Fountain Centre, was run and staffed by unpaid volunteers. The second cause

was that sightings in the area were, as I previously noted, by this time declining and public awareness of the Warminster phenomena was rapidly dwindling. The Pagets never bought their planned Fountain House in Warminster and, instead, moved into the Welsh Triangle. Shuttlewood had two further books published in the late 1970s: *UFO Magic in Motion* (Sphere books, 1978) and his final book, *More UFOs Over Warminster* (Arthur Baker, 1979). Shuttlewood then retired from active UFO research. Two years later, Peter Paget's book, *The Welsh Triangle*, was published in the UK by Granada books. Soon after, a second book, *UFO-UK*, was published by New English Library. This book contains a lot of material that had originally appeared in *The Fountain Journal* a few years before.

UFO-Info folded early in the 1980s. It is interesting to note that one member of the organisation, Ian Mrzyglod, went on to form the Bristol-based Probe and now lives in the United States, where he is a paranormal investigator. With the closure of UFO-Info, all research effectively ceased in the town. In the subsequent years, Warminster began to fade from public memory.

Arthur Shuttlewood died in Warminster in 1996. With his death, the last lingering memories slowly faded away. Now, in the new millennium, the people who were around during those heady days are either dead, unwilling to talk, or are, sadly, even with the use of the internet, untraceable. Warminster, however, refuses to die. In 2005, *In Alien Heat*, a critical overview of the Warminster phenomena by Steve Dewey and John Ries, was published.

A new book by Dr. David Clarke and Andy Roberts, *The Flying Saucerers*, a social study of the history of ufology in the UK, is published in April 2007 and contains a chapter devoted to Warminster. My own book, *UFO Warminster: Cradle of Contact*, which chronicles my experiences in Warminster, has been privately published and is available from the UFO Warminster website at www.ufo-warminster.co.uk.

Yet, despite all this new research into

the Warminster Mystery, all I can say is this: something strange did happen there. I know. For a time, I was part of it.

Grateful thanks to Steve Dewey for editing this article.

RECOMMENDED READING:

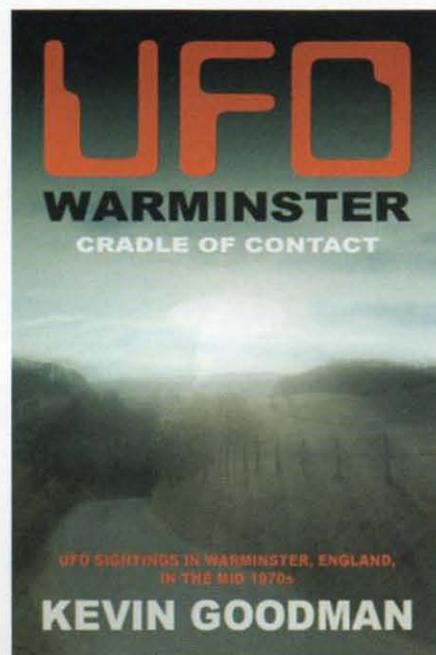
Arthur Shuttlewood:
The Warminster Mystery. (Neville Spearman, 1967, Tadem Books, 1973)
Warnings from Flying Friends. (Portway Press, 1968)
UFOs-Key to the New Age. (Regency Press, 1971)
The Flying Saucerers. (Sphere Books, 1976)
UFO Magic in Motion. (Sphere books, 1979)
More UFOs over Warminster. (Arthur Baker, 1979)

Peter Paget:
UFO-UK. (NEL Books, 1979)

Ken Rogers:
The Warminster Triangle. (Coates and Parker, Warminster, 1994)

Steve Dewey and John Ries:
In Alien Heat. (Anomalist Books, 2005)

Kevin Goodman:
UFO Warminster-Cradle of Contact (Swallowtail Publishing, 2007)



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The Thousand Oaks Incident

Brian Vike Reports...

Thanks to our correspondents, we are able to bring you stories from around the world. Brian Vike has faithfully and professionally reported the UFO subject from Houston, British Columbia, both on the internet and via his HBCCUFO Radio show for many years. The following is an account of a terrifying experience back in 1975 in the Los Angeles suburb of 'Thousand Oaks'.

Incidentally, Thousand Oaks is the home of Alien Implant surgeon, Dr Roger Lier. As they say 'It's a small world'.

UFO DATA

Thousand Oaks is a sprawling suburb of Los Angeles, some forty miles from the City of Angels. To the east rise the Santa Monica Mountains and twelve miles to the west shimmers the Pacific Ocean.

Sapra Street was originally intended to cut across the hills that border the eastern portion of Thousand Oaks and work began from either side, but, for some reason, they never met, so now there are two Sapra Streets, separated by about a third of a mile of scrubland and two hundred and fifty feet of elevation, both ending in cul-de-sacs.

Steve's family lived at 2130 Sapra,

the lower section of the unfinished road, in 1975 and during November of that year, they had an extraordinary encounter with something that may have been literally 'out-of-this-world'.

Interviewed by Brian Vike for his HBCCUFO Radio Show, Steve and other members of his family recounted what happened over several nights and the impact it had on their lives over the following years. This article will also reference the written statement that was sent by Steve to Brian's website, www.hbccufo.org.

The house, recalls Steve, was the last house on a cul-de-sac and the hills beyond stretched out to Simi Valley for miles and miles. The incident happened in several different stages over a number of nights. The first night, at about seven or eight o'clock, Steve, who was twenty-years old at the time, his brother, Rick (19), their cousin and a few friends were sitting outside, playing guitar and generally hanging out as young men do, when all of a sudden, from over the house, a blue fireball, about a third larger than a basketball, about two feet in diameter or so, came shooting over their heads and hit in the field across the street.

"The minute it hit, it let out tentacles of energy in all directions that cov-

ered the whole field," Steve recalled. "It didn't make a sound at all. Me, my brother and this guy name Mark were the only ones who saw it and we were like, 'Whoa! What was that?' But it dissipated instantly and you could see nothing, so everybody was laughing at us, telling us that they didn't see anything and things like that."

They continued playing guitar and hanging out and about a half hour later, a pine tree a couple of streets away spontaneously burst into flames. They watched as a fire truck arrived and the fire was extinguished. Steve, Rick and Mark remembered seeing this fireball and thought it was probably related, despite the tree

being about half a mile from the point where the fireball came down in the field. According to a local newspaper, the fire had been caused by the shorting-out of an electrical transformer. Steve did not recall if there were any power failures in the area that night, but he was certain that if there had been any, he would have noticed. If a power transformer had blown, he would have expected to see some lights go out, but none did, as far as he was aware.

The next morning, Steve and his brother set out to investigate the field across the way, hoping to find some evidence of what they had witnessed the previous night. Expecting to see burn marks in the grass where the fireball had struck the ground, they were surprised to find nothing at all. Everything was undisturbed, as though nothing had happened.

Steve and his wife at the time, Viv, who was pregnant, had just moved back to his parents' house after living for a while in Alaska. They were in their bedroom later that day when Rick came in and said that he could hear something in the hills behind their house. It was about seven-thirty or eight o'clock in the evening.

They all listened and, roughly a mile or so in the distance, they could hear a bizarre scream. They had no idea



whether or not it was a person or an animal, but it would scream three or four times, then fall silent for a while before screaming again. They mused that it might have been some kids goofing off in the hills, although to get up there meant a rough trek through thick bushes. There were no roads or tracks up in the hills. It was also dark and would probably be dangerous to go tromping out there without a flashlight. Westlake village now exists in the spot where they heard the eerie screams coming from, but thirty-two years ago, it was raw, undeveloped land.

The following night, Steve and his brother, Rick, were sitting up in his room, watching television, when Rick suddenly shushed everybody and turned down the volume on the TV set. Only a hundred yards or so up the hill, the screaming had started again!

Steve described it as 'the most incredible scream that I've ever heard in my life'. He said it was otherworldly and primeval, though sounding more human than animal. He later researched animal screams on the internet, even going as far as to listen to alleged Bigfoot recordings, but he never found a match for what was heard in Thousand Oaks that night. He described it as sounding more female than male. In his written account to Brian, he wrote: "Part human, part animal? Pain? Fear? Certainly wasn't happy." Whatever was producing this shriek, Steve and his family knew that something was wrong out there in the dark.

As they listened, the screaming appeared to be slowly getting closer to the house, while moving from left to right on the hill. This was an area that was covered with purple sage so dense that only small animals would be able to get through, certainly not a person. With each scream, it sounded three or four feet closer to their position. When it seemed no further than fifty yards away, the three of them decided that 'it was time to get Dad!' He was a tough veteran of the Korean War and very little could shake him.

Steve realised that he had not heard a sound from either of their German shepherd dogs. At the slightest noise, they would start barking, but he had not heard anything. So, while Rick and Viv went to get dad, Steve went to check on the dogs. He opened the garage door to the backyard and expected, as usual, to have the large animals bound on top of him, but they were nowhere to be seen. Not willing to go out into the backyard alone, he closed the door and followed Rick and his dad out of the front door of the house. As Rick and their father headed down the driveway, Steve decided to go around to the gate that led to the backyard and give it a rattle to see if it provoked a reaction from the dogs.

Meanwhile, whatever was up on the hill was still screaming at about thirty second intervals.

With no reaction from the dogs, Steve went back round to the front of the house and could see his dad and Rick looking up the hill, about fifty

feet from him. Suddenly, they both looked up into the sky and then ducked. Just then the thing out there on the hill emitted a 'horrendous scream' that was at least twice as loud as anything they had heard before. They ran back up the driveway to Steve's location, partially behind the house.

"Did you see that?" asked Dad. Steve had only seen them duck down. Rick and their father explained that two, blue fireballs had streaked over their heads and hit the hill as the loud scream had cut through the night air. There were a couple more shrieks and 'the thing' fell silent for a while.

Steve was perplexed, as he should have been able to see what had happened, despite being partially behind the house. He had seen them duck, so he should have seen the fireballs. He could not explain it. They described the fireballs as being much larger than the one that they had witnessed two nights earlier. Steve said it was the only time in his life that he had seen his dad scared.

Steve recalled that during the whole incident, 'it was like being in a vacuum'. Normally, they would hear traffic on the road, crickets and other animals out in the hills, but while this thing was shrieking, there was nothing.

They went back inside the house and tried to call Steve's cousin, who lived next door, but nobody answered the phone. They then called the Thousand Oaks Police Department. At about eight-thirty, a pair of police

officers arrived in a squad car.

Their dad explained what had happened to the policemen, but did not mention the fireballs. He said that they had heard what sounded like somebody in distress up on the hill, perhaps a child or a woman being assaulted. The family did not really believe what was being recounted to the police officers, but they wanted somebody in authority to check it out.

The officers shone their flashlights up onto the hill, but nothing could be seen. All was silent - no screams, no animals, nothing. They stayed for about twenty to thirty minutes before climbing back into their squad car and driving away.

As soon as the police car turned right onto Erbes Road, less than three hundred yards from their house, a huge scream came from the hill behind their home. Should they call the police again? The screaming continued and, by this time, it seemed quite close to the back of their cousin's house.

Steve estimated that his cousin Kim's room was level with where the screams were coming from and barely fifteen feet away. "Even with her stereo on, she should have heard it," he said. They were told later that nobody had heard a thing.

After the police had gone, they took a flashlight out to the backyard and found the two dogs in their doghouse, shaking. They managed to get them into the garage, dragging them by the collar.

They went back inside and their father told them about an incident that happened when he was a radar technician for the US Air Force at Sioux City in 1952. One night, they got an alert that something was coming down from Canada at eighteen-hundred miles per hour and at an altitude of about eighty-thousand feet. He did not know what it was, but everybody was told not to discuss it at the time.

Anyway, they attempted to continue their evening in a normal way. Steve, Viv and Rick returned upstairs and Mom and Dad watched television

downstairs. There had been no noise from the hill for a while and everything seemed tranquil.

Then at about eleven-thirty or twelve o'clock, a huge scream erupted from outside. Steve yelled down for his dad and both their parents came rushing upstairs. All five of them piled into the bathroom that adjoined the parents' bedroom - it had the best vantage point to look out at the back of the house.

At this point, Steve estimated that 'the thing' was only thirty feet away, moving from right to left right at the edge of their property. He said that it sounded like the screaming was coming from just above the level of the purple sage that covered the hill, as though whatever it was out there was on top of the dense brush rather than inside it.

Another shriek was heard, this time followed by a loud, electronic-sounding beep. The thing screamed two more times, each utterance being followed by the odd beep, and Viv 'freaked out'.

Steve admitted that they had seen *The UFO Incident*, the TV movie about the Betty and Barney Hill abduction, just a month or so before. Viv, being six months pregnant, had recalled Betty describing having a needle inserted into her stomach and she became hysterical.

Steve stepped from the window and went out into the hall to where Viv had retreated. Suddenly, a brilliant, white light filled the entire house. Steve said that it appeared to come from downstairs, made its way up the stairs and filled the rest of the house. As it came up the steps, he thought he could see dark shapes moving about, then it was blinding before blinking out in an instant. This all happened in about half a second.

As soon as the light went out, everybody calmly walked to their rooms. They could still hear the screaming from the hill, but now it seemed further away. Steve looked at the clock in his bedroom and it read four-thirty in the morning! Somehow they had lost four hours. It was between twelve and twelve-thirty when they

had been in the bathroom and now it was close to dawn.

Rick said that he had to be up for work and went to bed. Everybody did likewise, as though nothing had happened.

Before he went to sleep, Steve remembered hearing the thing screaming on the hill and could not now, thirty-odd years later, imagine being able to sleep with that cacophony ringing out in the early morning.

The next morning, Viv demanded that Steve stay home, but Rick and their parents went off to work. Steve scrambled up the hill as far as he could get, confident in the light of day, but found nothing up there except two odd, intersecting circles in the weeds, about eight feet in diameter.

Later, Steve's mother would learn from a friend that, at about eight o'clock that night, she had seen two cars parked on Erbes Road, with the occupants watching a bright, white light hovering over the area near their house, before blinking out. Bizarrely, this lady quit her job that day and committed suicide two weeks later.

Steve's cousin said that they had not heard a thing, despite being home all night. They had not even heard the telephone ring when the family had tried calling them.

The dogs became sick and the younger male lost control of his nervous system, resulting in him dragging his back legs. He was put down a few weeks after the incident. The veterinarians had no idea what had caused his illness. At first they thought it was an incidence of the hip problems that German shepherds are prone to, but tests ruled that out. The older female went blind and was put to sleep a few months after that night.

Just after his daughter, Cynthia, was born, Steve and Viv moved to their own home, about five miles away. One day, several months after the incident, Steve returned home to help his dad move some things and decided to go up on the hill again. He was surprised to find the two inter-

Not a fireball, but this photograph was captured over 'Thousand Oaks' of a strange fiery object.

It's actually a 'Minute Man' Missile test launched from Vandenberg Airforce Base in California.

Can't hear it scream though...



locking circles still plainly visible in the weeds. That night, Steve went to sleep, feeling perfectly fine, and woke up the next day in hospital with a temperature of 106 degrees F. For the next year, he would be sick and endure a battery of tests, but nobody could find anything wrong with him, beyond his blood having some unknown abnormalities and advising him that he should not donate blood. At one point, it was suggested that he had cancer. He still has occasional liver problems, but has come to the conclusion that, seeing as he has lived for over thirty years with this, it is not going to kill him now!

Their dad, who was a strong, fit man, passed a physical with flying colours over a year after the incident. During a company softball game at a picnic, he hit the ball, ran to first base, had a heart attack and died. This was about eighteen months after that night.

As to the missing time, the family say that they are willing to undergo hypnotic regression in an effort to discover what happened in this stolen four hours. Brian Vike is attempting to find a reputable hypnotherapist

that will be able to help these completely ordinary people find out what really happened that night.

This case is absolutely fascinating and must be one of the most intriguing stories of the last few years. What were those fireballs? What was screaming out there in the dead of night? Why did everything go deathly quiet and why did the neighbours seemingly not hear anything, despite the shrieking being only feet away? Were the health problems experienced by the family and their pets afterwards connected with what they witnessed?

Brian Vike is trying to get to the bottom of this and will keep us posted.

Steve Johnson



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The Cosford Incident 'a case of wishful thinking'



Joe McGonagle & Gary Anthony

The "Cosford" Incident - a Case of Wishful Thinking?

Joe McGonagle and Gary Anthony -
January 2007

On the night of 30/31st March, 1993, multiple witnesses, mainly in the South and West of the UK reported seeing unusual lights in the sky. Other observations were recorded in Ireland, Belgium and France, but this article will only concern itself with reports from the UK since they are all that feature in the official paperwork held by the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

The basis of this article is documents obtained from the MoD under the Code of Practice on access to government information in 2003 by Dr. David Clarke, Gary Anthony, and myself, and further documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by Chris Fowler in 2005. These documents are now available for download from the MoD website, see the "Internet Resources" at the end of the article.

It is the authors' intention to present some of the facts in order to counter popular misconceptions about the series of events which are widely circulated by certain UFO enthusiasts, as recently exemplified by "*The British UFO Mystery*" broadcast on Channel 5 in November last year and a recent article in this magazine.

The MoD received thirteen reports through official channels and a similar number were passed to the MoD by UFO investigator Doug Cooper of DUFORO (the Devon UFO Research Organisation, now defunct). Of these,

question was, what was it?

The MoD civil servant who manned the UFO desk at the time had the responsibility of assessing the reports in order to determine if they were of defence significance and if they were, to pass the details on to an intelligence section at the MoD dealing with ballistic missiles (DI55) for more detailed assessment. The civil servant in question at the time was Nick Pope.

Pope checked with Fylingdales (part of the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS)), asking if they were aware of any space activity that might have been responsible for some of the sightings. They incorrectly identified the re-entry of a resupply vehicle for MIR (the Russian space-station, since de-orbited) which they advised should have re-entered at around 01:30 but may have been visible over the UK on a previous pass at around 00:10. This was, in fact, incorrect. At no point was the vehicle visible from the UK and it didn't re-enter until 1st April.

In contrast, ufologists had learned from astronomer, Dr. Thomas Sean Kelso, that a rocket body from Russian spacecraft Cosmos 2238 (Catalog Number 22586, International Designator 1993-018B) had re-entered and was visible over the UK between 01:09 and 01:12, and this information was conveyed to the MoD at the time by Doug Cooper. Kelso's calculations have subsequently been validated by Dr. Richard Haines (a Senior Research Scientist at the NASA-Ames Research Centre),

three of the official reports were duplicated with different times attributed in the paperwork. The net result is a total of 27 reports, with 16 of them concentrated in a 35-minute period between 00:55 and 01:30. Clearly, something happened to generate so many reports in such a short period of time. The

Dr. Nick Johnson (chief scientist and program manager for orbital debris at Johnson Space Center), and co-author of this article, amateur astronomer Gary Anthony. A subsequent investigation by BUFORA under the direction of the then Director of Investigations, Jenny Randles, also concluded that this re-entry was the cause of the majority of the reports on the night in question.

You might have expected the MoD to recognise this re-entry as accounting for a large number of reports, but this was not the case. The MoD placed undue trust in the observational abilities of "expert witnesses" i.e. policemen and people connected with the aviation industry, and broadly accepted their estimates of size, height, direction and speed. Using the distorted data, Pope concluded:

"Whilst the decay mentioned in para 2 might explain some of the high level sightings, it does not explain the low-level sightings."

In fact, only two of the thirteen reports made to the MoD could be classed as high-level according to the witnesses, but it is a common error in witness reports to misjudge size, speed, height and direction of an object in the night sky which is unidentified at the time of observation. Pope himself was aware of this, but chose to disregard the fact, seemingly crediting the witnesses with mystical powers of observation. In an undated document, he wrote:

"The observers were mostly RAF/civil police or personnel involved in aviation, making them reliable witnesses."

Yet later in the very same document, he wrote:

"Some of the witnesses quoted dimensions and altitudes. How do you estimate the height of a light of unknown size at night, with nothing with which to compare it? Also, the estimates are not necessarily independent. For example, Sgt.[obliterated] estimated an altitude of 1,000 feet. However, he filled in his report after interviewing another witness who also gave that figure."

Even the official MoD report forms include the following notes:

"E. Direction in which Object first seen (A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing)

F. Angle of sight (Estimated heights are unreliable)."

Not only did the MoD reject the potential explanation for many of the sightings, but also went on to link these to sightings which occurred much earlier or later than the main event, writing:

"The spread of timings and bearings of the sightings also argues against this decay explaining all of them."

While it is obvious that the re-entry doesn't account for all of the reports, it would have been useful if the MoD had eliminated those reports that it was likely to account for then focussed efforts on the residue, rather than to persist in relating all of the reports. In not doing so, more significant sightings were not adequately assessed.

An additional factor which may have led to confusion in the reports was that only two days earlier, the UK local time had changed to British Summer Time (BST) from Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), meaning that clocks were moved forward one hour. For the previous five months, GMT and local time had been the same. The military and aviation industry usually quote time in GMT and this certainly produced time errors in some of the military signals. It might also have been a factor in some of the other times quoted, if they were based on unadjusted clocks.

Pope also requested radar tapes, but limited the request to tapes relevant to 01:10 on 31st March. Clearly, this would not provide any information relevant to reports on 30th March, and a satellite re-entry is unlikely to leave any trace on air defence or Air Traffic Control radar. It did however produce a possible clue to a sighting by the Meteorological Officer's report at 02:40. The listing of traces included one directly over Shawbury at 02:46. Although this aircraft was at over 20,000 feet, it may have played a part in the sighting. There is no

indication in the file that this was either noticed or considered by the MoD.

So what of the reports which were definitely not related to the re-entry?

The MoD were in possession of information that might have led to the resolution of some of them. In addition to the radar indication over Shawbury, there was a memo reporting that there was helicopter activity in the Southwest of England at the time of some of the reports. There is no indication that this was followed up either.

Although the MoD had tried to identify military and commercial air activity, they did not apparently check air ambulance, oilrig, private, or police helicopter activity. This may be an important factor in the Shawbury case, as a letter published in the Daily Mail on 8th February 2005 put forward a specific explanation that the report was generated by a police helicopter involved in a car chase. When this possibility was put to the Met Officer witness by Dr. David Clarke, the witness conceded that it was viable and the most likely explanation.

There are some very interesting reports from 30th March which were not followed up by the MoD at all and cannot be explained by the re-entry or helicopter activity at first glance;

30/3/93 21:00, Quantock Hills, Somerset.

A large object resembling 'two concord aircraft fixed together' covered in a number of white bright lights was witnessed by an off-duty policeman and a party of scouts.

30/3/93 21:30, Penistone, South Yorkshire.

A witness reported seeing a glass-bottomed object with 2 rows of bright white lights. The witness drove directly underneath the object.

30/3/93 23:40, Bradway, near Sheffield.

A witness reported a triangle with central red glow.

Of all of the reports on 30/31st March 1993, these appear to the authors to be the most interesting, yet there is no indication that any of these were followed up by the MoD. There was no request for radar tapes, there was no direct communication with the witnesses. Instead, the MoD spent their time chasing a satellite re-entry and possibly a police helicopter.

The authors' estimate that in the order of 16 (60%) of the 27 reports could be reasonably attributed to the re-entry with minimal investigative effort, with some of the remainder being identifiable as helicopter or commercial air activity with a little more effort. Unfortunately, with the passage of time and the anonymity of the witnesses, this would be far more difficult to carry out nearly 14 years after the events.

In summary:

The MoD placed undue trust in the observational skills of "expert witnesses", ignoring their own advice.

The MoD was incapable of correctly identifying or detecting the satellite re-entry which caused the main body of sightings.

The MoD ignored information contained in their own files which would have led to resolution of most of the reports.

Possibly significant reports were not followed up by the MoD.

There was no "Cosford Incident", but a series of reports of a satellite re-entry, fallaciously linked to unrelated isolated reports, some of which may have been explained by helicopter activity.

None of the witnesses reported seeing more than one event at around 01:10. It is confirmed that a satellite re-entry occurred at around that time, so the single event witnessed was most likely the re-entry.

So why was the MoD assessment so poorly conducted? The answer to this is essentially a combination of resourcing and policy. At the time, MoD policy on the topic of UFOs was based on the 1951 Flying Saucer

Working Party study, and re-inforced by the conclusions of the US Project "Blue Book" and the "Condon Report". These all concluded that there was little if anything of defence interest provided by reports of UFOs. Consequently, the MoD invested the minimum possible of effort and resource in evaluating such reports. Typically, the UFO desk officer spent in the order of 25% of their time evaluating UFO reports (this was confirmed by Nick Pope and other desk officers) and they had little or no training relevant to the investigation of UFO reports.

The MoD attitude is highlighted in an internal memo from Sec(AS) (the department that Nick Pope used to work in) to DI55. The document is dated August, 1995 (only a year after Pope left his post at the UFO desk and two years after the "Cosford Incident"):

"The MOD does not undertake research into the "UFO" phenomena; we have not undertaken any such research and we only would if there were good reason for doing so - ie. Evidence of a potential threat. It remains that case that to date no threat has been discerned which has been attributed to a reported sighting of a "UFO"."

Evidently, the MoD did not consider the "Cosford Incident" to be anything to get worked up about.

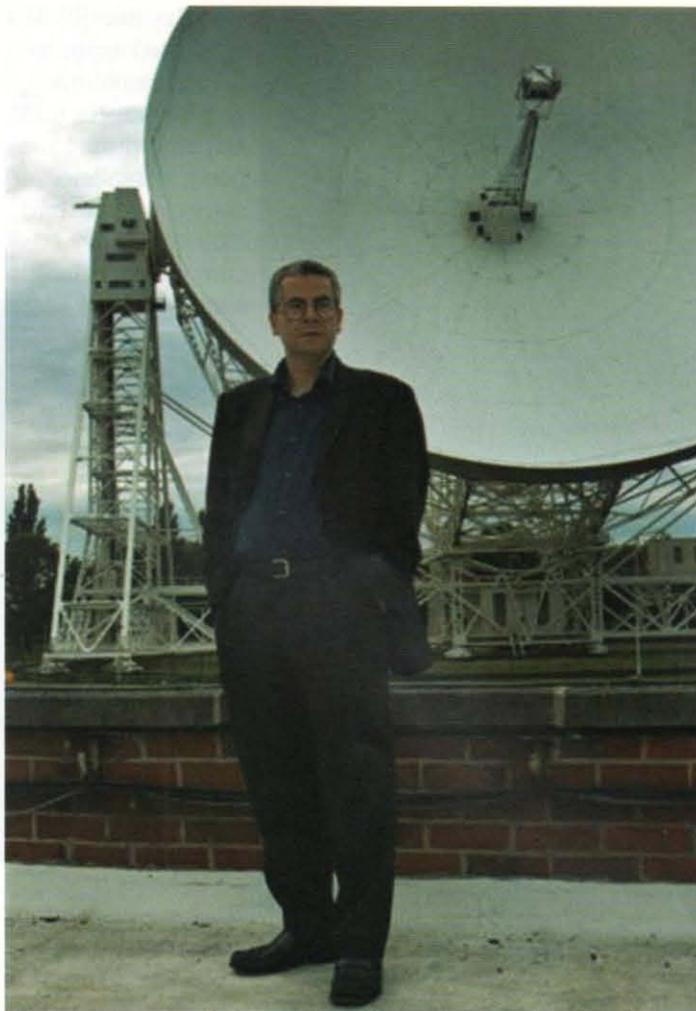
Internet resources:

<http://www.uk-ufo.org/cosford> - a detailed analysis of the MoD handling of the reports.

<http://www.mithrand.karoo.net/index.htm/cosford.htm> - detailed information about the re-entry of the Cosmos 2238 rocket booster.

<http://tinyurl.com/ymrsjn> and <http://tinyurl.com/yks73t> - scans of all of the documents held by the MoD in regard to the "Cosford Incident" (official MoD web site, Adobe Acrobat format)

<http://www.ufoevidence.org/documents/doc1408.htm> - an interview with Nick Pope including discussion about the "Cosford Incident".



UFO DATA asked Nick Pope to respond to the points made in this article. Here is his reply:

I'm afraid that this article is inaccurate in various respects, possibly because the authors are unfamiliar with the way in which the military and the MoD record information such as aircraft heights, and the time of day. While no witnesses are infallible, suggesting that RAF personnel may have been fooled by an aircraft at 20,000 feet, or by a police helicopter, is stretching credulity beyond breaking point. And to try to suggest that the MoD didn't regard the Cosford Incident as significant is bizarre, because the MoD case file - freely available on the Department's website - clearly shows that the Department did take this extremely seriously. I led the investigation, but it was my sceptical Head of Division who wrote to

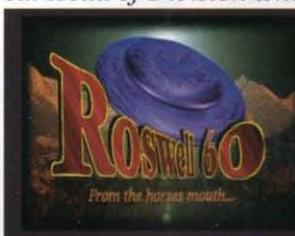
the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (one of the RAF's most senior officers), which in itself shows how seriously the sightings were taken. As the 22 April 1993 briefing document states:

"In summary, there would seem to be some evidence on this occasion that an unidentified object (or objects) of unknown origin was operating over the UK".

The MoD knew all about the satellite re-entry and knew details of all aircraft in the air

at the time. All of this was taken into account in the official investigation. The MoD's assessment of the Cosford Incident as "unexplained" may not be popular with everyone, but there's more to this case than satellites, aircraft at 20,000 feet, and police helicopters. Further proof of this emerged recently, in the aftermath of "The British UFO Mystery" - Channel Five's investigative documentary on the Cosford Incident. Following broadcast of the programme over 30 new witnesses have now come forward, many of whom reported having seen a UFO on either 30 or 31 March 1993. Many of the descriptions involve massive triangular-shaped craft at low level, performing speeds and manoeuvres that no aircraft could match. Case closed? Far from it.

Nick Pope.



"What he told me was that they were small people. I don't remember, three feet high, but certainly shorter than we were. Small people, pale, slightly slanted eyes, sort of larger heads and humanoid-looking, humanesque-looking, but not like us. Different from us. He said they were dead and that he had seen them and that he had flown the wreckage of this flying saucer"

Katherine Groode - daughter of Capt. Oliver Wendell "Pappy" Henderson

ALIEN AUTOPSY INQUEST ALIEN AUTOPSY INQUEST

PHILIP MANTLE



ALIEN AUTOPSY INQUEST:

By Philip Mantle.

Unless you have been hibernating in a cave somewhere since 1995 you cannot have failed to have heard at least something of Ray Santilli and the alien autopsy film. In brief, for those who are not familiar with the alien autopsy film, I will outline some of the details here.

London businessman, Ray Santilli, was on a research trip to Cleveland, Ohio, with his friend and colleague, Gary Shoefield. This was the summer of 1992. The purpose of this trip was to try and obtain rock 'n' roll memorabilia of people such as Pat Boone and Elvis Presley. Apparently this was an area where these stars performed before they became famous. During this trip, Ray and Gary were approached by an elderly gentleman who had been a freelance cameraman during the 1950s. He had indeed a piece of film depicting the then unknown Elvis Presley. A deal was done and this film was purchased for cash.

Shortly before heading back to the

UK, Ray Santilli was contacted again by this same elderly gentleman. He told Ray that prior to being a freelance cameraman he had been a military cameraman. He went on to say that in 1947 he had been flown to Roswell, New Mexico, to film the crash of a UFO. Not only did he film the crash, but also the autopsy of the occupants of it as well. Apparently, according to this unidentified cameraman, he had kept back a few rolls of film for special processing, but the military never collected them. He now wanted to know if Santilli was interested. Again, it would have to be a

cash transaction and Santilli was also forbidden to release the cameraman's identity.

A deal was done and in 1995 the alien autopsy film as we know it was released on TV and video across the world. To say it caused a sensation is an understatement. It quite quickly became the most controversial film in the entire history of UFO research.

Fortunately or unfortunately, I was the first recognised UFO researcher contacted by Ray Santilli regarding his controversial film. At the time (1993) I was the Director of Investigations for the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA). I was also BUFORA's conference organiser. For a number of reasons I did not see the film until early 1995, this was at a private screening at Ray Santilli's London offices. I asked Santilli to show it at our conference in Sheffield in August of 1995

and he agreed. In return for this Ray Santilli asked if I would help research the film to which I readily agreed. Most people got to know about the alien autopsy film later that year when Fox in the USA broadcast 'Alien Autopsy - Fact or Fiction?', produced by Robert Kiviat. I have been researching it ever since.

In 2006, *Alien Autopsy - the movie* (Warner Bros) was released along with a Sky One documentary entitled 'Eamon Investigates - Alien Autopsy'. In both the movie and this new documentary, Ray Santilli tells a different story. He still maintains that he met the cameraman and purchased the film as previously stated, but now went on to add that what we had all previously seen was a 'restoration'. According to Ray Santilli and Gary Shoefield, it took quite a while to raise the money and bring the film back to the UK. By the time they had done this the film had badly deteriorated. So, not wanting to lose out on their investment, they hired UK sculptor, John Humphreys, and they made and filmed a restoration. Some have labelled it a reconstruction, but Ray Santilli is adamant that this is not the case.

It goes without saying that Ray's change of story caused quite a stir and a lot of people had a lot of questions for him. It took a while, but I eventually did persuade Santilli to take part in a telephone interview and answer some of the many questions myself and others had been looking to have answered.

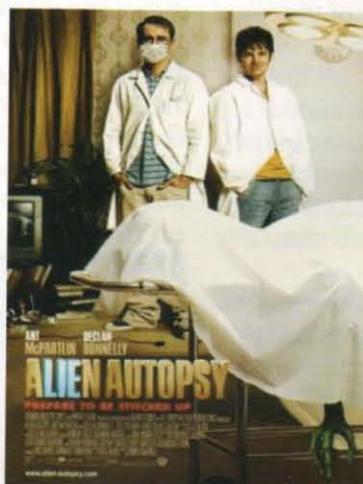
Telephone interview between Philip Mantle (PM) and Ray Santilli (RS), dated 20th March 2007:

PM: Nice to speak to you again. How are things.?

RS: Fine and how are things with you?

PM: Just a quick interview as I know you are a busy man.

RS: Just a couple of things, there may be a few questions that I may choose not to answer as we have our own projects running



which I don't want to compromise.

PM: I don't have a problem with that at all. The Alien Autopsy movie with Ant & Dec, how did that whole thing get off the ground?

RS: Like most things in my life, it happened over a few drinks. My col-



league, Gary (Shoefield), introduced me to Michael Khun who is the owner of a company called Qwerty Films. We were in a hotel for a social gathering, I told Michael the story of us being in Cleveland, Ohio, meeting the cameraman, and then getting the film back to the UK, then the panic when we realised large parts of the film had been destroyed and we therefore needed to do some repair work. Michael went away and he called Gary the next day and said it was an amazing story. We were then called into their offices and Michael pitched the fact the he could turn this into a movie. From that point it took two years before we got a scriptwriter onboard. The writer spent some time with myself and Gary and he dumbed-down the story a bit. We were a little disappointed because it was a shame that alot of the real story did not come across in the movie. The movie is what it is and we enjoyed the whole thing.

PM: Is the movie due to come out in the USA?

RS: It is due to come out in the summer, I don't have the exact dates, but it should coincide with the Roswell anniversary. It should go out in other countries as well.

PM: To coincide with the movie's release you took part in the Sky One documentary, *Eamon Investigates - Alien Autopsy*. Do you still stick by your story that what we see on your film is a restoration?

RS: I still maintain that there is no difference between our film and what

goes on in various art galleries around the world.

PM: The only problem I have with that is that you claim that there are snippets of authentic film inserted into the restoration. Now I've

spoken with a number of people who have worked in film all their lives and they state that this is simply impossible to do in such a seamless manner.

RS: Well, it's interesting, if you look at the alien autopsy movie and the recreation that John Humphreys did, if you put that in black and white and run it side by side with the restoration and they are pretty much the same. It is not impossible to do. It would be almost seamless. We did not do a cut and paste but instead we built on images that we had. We had frames with full images on and frames that did not. We just built on the images that we had. Digitally, I might add.

PM: Frames, you say you have a few frames.

RS: More than a few frames.

PM: More than a few frames. A number of frames.

RS: A number of frames indeed.

PM: Any information on what these frames depict.

RS: The creature you see there laid out on the slab in the autopsy.

PM: You said in the Sky One show that the whole thing was filmed in East London, where was the debris film shot.

RS: Same place.

PM: When John Humphreys was preparing to shoot this film, did he study any text books, reference books in order to correctly replicate the autopsy scene?

RS: We all read '*Autopsies for Dummies*' (laughs). But seriously, John had images to work from in terms of the creature and what he did was to turn that into a 3-dimensional image of the creature (dummy). The creature was based on the images and my recollection of the film as well.

PM: Now, I know you said in the Sky One show, you said there was a bit of artistic license used in respect to the 'panels'.

RS: Yes, but all based on fact.

PM: Regarding the creature, does it have six fingers and six toes or was that the result of artistic license as well?



RS: Absolutely.

PM: We just wanted to clear that up.

RS: The physical characteristics that you see of the creature

are entirely accurate. The six fingers, the extended tummy are all correct.

PM: Regarding the frames you have can anyone take a look at these.

RS: The next time you come to London, I will show them to you. No problem at all. Various people handled the film, but we were careful at times not to unravel it because of the condition it was in.

PM: In the Sky One show again you hold up a few frames but none of these depict anything that shows the creature or anything that can be directly related to the alien autopsy film.



RS: Some of the frames we have come from other material we bought from the cameraman all of which are relevant to him, his work and the era in which they were filmed. Eamon Holmes did see frames with the creature on. A lot of the Eamon Holmes show was also tongue in cheek and it was to promote the movie

PM: All I can say is that none of us who have scanned the images seen in this show depict the creature. Maybe if I see the frames in London that will settle that question.

RS. Any time you are in London, Philip.

PM: What about the future, Ray? What are your plans for later this year?

RS: I know it's also tongue in cheek, but Gary and I love the idea for *Alien Autopsy - the musical*. We've gone a long way to secure that and finance it and hopefully it will turn into reality either by the end of this year or early next year. On top of that, we have a TV special on the go for later this year. This is a serious topic that will finally tell the full story and reveal the cameraman's name for the first time. We believe the time is now right for that. What we want to do with this is to set the record straight

and tell the full story.

PM: So you still claim that you were in Cleveland, Ohio in 1992, met the cameraman and bought the film?

RS: That is a matter of public record; I could show you the flight tickets. We were indeed there.

PM: You were looking for old film of pop stars when you were there?

RS: Yes, we certainly purchased the first ever film of Elvis on stage and we also tried to purchase the Pied Piper of Cleveland, but we did not manage to get that.

PM: Is your cameraman still alive?

RS: I'll have to decline to answer that for now as it may compromise one of our future projects, but we do now feel the time is right to reveal his name.

PM: What are the words on the lower half of the Danger sign on the back wall of the autopsy room?

RS: They are numbers in the original film, possibly telephone.

PM: What were the actors writing on the sheets during the autopsy?

RS: Not sure the actors did write anything.

PM: Did you use Super XX film for the restoration? If you did, was it vintage film or contemporary? If vintage from where was it obtained?

RS: We used the closest film we could find with the same attributes as 1947 film and shot the autopsy with an original Bell & Howell (camera).

PM: Who is the man in the debris film?

RS: Cannot say.

PM: Who is the woman in the autopsy film?

RS: Cannot say.

PM: Do you have any outtakes, stills photos, notes, etc. from the filming of the restoration?

RS: Yes, plenty.

PM: How much did the restoration cost?

RS: Around £35,000.

PM: The suits the actors wore in the restoration, where did you get these from? Were they originally designed for use in something else or were they designed specifically for your project?

RS: The suits were designed to match the images we had.

PM: Were you surprised that Trey Stokes of the Truly Dangerous Company and Theresa Carlson figured out fairly quickly that the film was in fact manufactured and was not vintage 1947?

RS: They were (and are) both wrong.

PM: Will you prosecute anyone who bootlegs your footage now that you are on the record as its creator?

RS: Yes, of course.

PM: In total how many dummies did John Humphreys make for this film?

RS: Dummy is the wrong word...The answer is two, though.

PM: Before I forget to ask, will you now be releasing the other autopsy sequence?

RS: Yes.

PM: Anything else you would like to add?

RS: The only thing I'd like to say is that there seems to be a malicious element in ufology. This is the thing I don't like. Irrespective of whether you believe me or not this is a compelling story and it's just a shame that certain elements turn malicious. But the next time you are in London come and see me and I'll show you the frames and we'll have lunch.

PM: Many thanks.

As always when it comes to Ray Santilli and the alien autopsy film, you have to make up your own mind of what is fact and what is fiction. Time will tell of course with regards to Santilli showing me these frames and releasing the name of his mysterious cameraman. More often than not when Ray is interviewed, you only go away with yet more questions.

In order to help answer some of your questions, I have now completed the book '*ALIEN AUTOPSY INQUEST*'. This book took me six years to write and contains fourteen years of research. I have attempted to gather as much information as I can from

around the world. This information is both for and against the film's authenticity. It looks at the alien autopsy film from every conceivable angle and allows you to make up your own mind. Is it a fake made purely for monetary gain? Does it depict some poor, genetically-deformed human being? Is it, perhaps, a US military intelligence film of some kind? Or is it the genuine article, an autopsy of a deceased alien? It is entirely up to you to decide, once you have read *ALIEN AUTOPSY INQUEST*. The book, published by PublishAmerica, is 284 pages in length (illustrated).

Reviewers say...

Alien Autopsy Inquest is a searching, insightful and much-needed examination of the truths and lies behind the famous 'alien autopsy' film. It shines light into the shadows surrounding this world-famous piece of film. Is it a fake or not? This engaging mystery story takes the reader in some very surprising directions. A most interesting and provocative book."

-Whitley Streiber, author of international bestseller, *Communion*

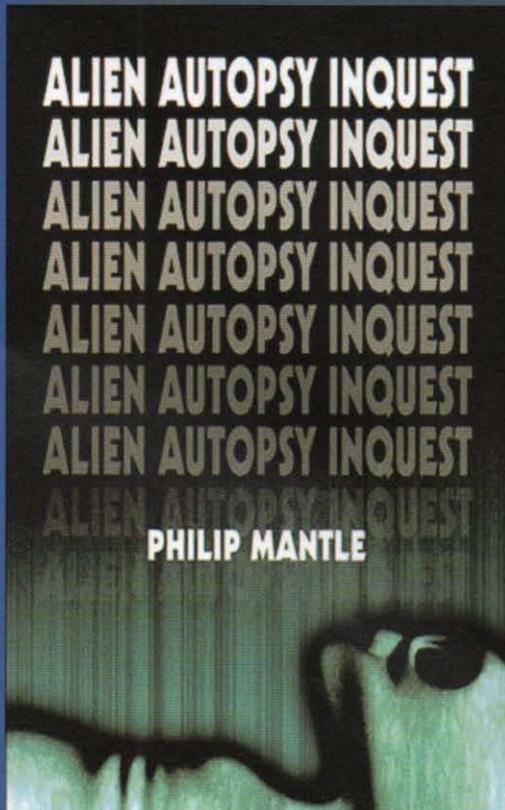
"Philip's work is remarkable, a good honest investigation with all the twists and turns of a thriller. The truth is in here somewhere!"

-Ray Santilli, owner of the *Alien Autopsy Film*

"The Alien Autopsy film is either proof of an extraterrestrial presence on Earth and an associated government cover-up, or the greatest hoax of all time. Philip Mantle's book is a fascinating and comprehensive investigation into the greatest and most controversial mystery of our time."

-Nick Pope, head of the Ministry of Defence's UFO Project, 1991-1994

If you would like to obtain a signed copy of *ALIEN AUTOPSY INQUEST*, I have a limited supply available. The cost for the 284-page (illustrated) soft-back book is £15 plus £1 p&p. Along with your order please provide details of to whom you would like the book signing and any message you would like me to add. And please allow up to 14 days for delivery.



The story of a real UFO Investigation by a real UFO Investigator

Alien Autopsy Inquest is available from the author Philip Mantle.

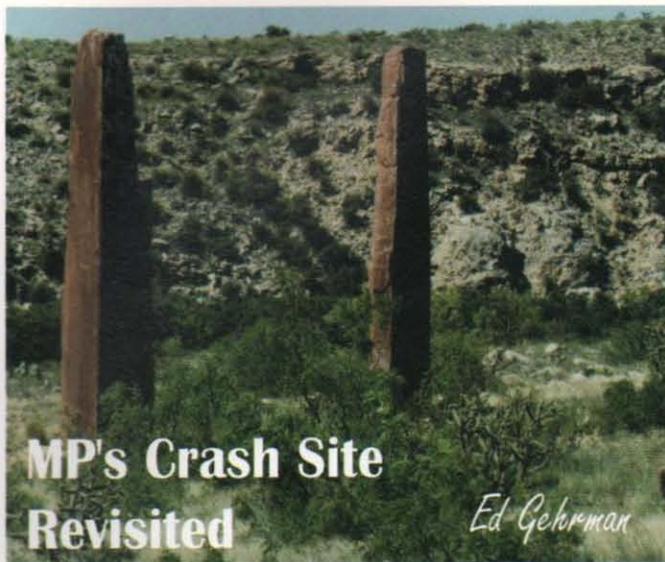
£15.00 plus £1.00 p&p (UK orders only)

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'Check out the readers offer on page 15'



Philip Mantle will be hosting the 'Roswell 60 Conference' 20th - 21st October 2007



The rain had held off and the roads were only damp with a few bog areas in the low spots. I was worried that the storms I'd been driving through for the last two days would continue and my explorations would have to wait, but I seemed to be in luck. I tried to rent a four-wheel drive jeep the day before; it was Balloon Festival time in Albuquerque and 4x4s were in short supply. So I could either cancel my plans or take a chance with my Toyota Corolla. It's a great car, even on ice and snow, but muddy clay roads are often slicker than ice.

My excitement and anticipation overcame my anxiety, so early Wednesday morning, October 25th, I began to retrace the MP's route to the Roswell craft crash site.

I wasn't looking for the Foster ranch site, which has already, supposedly, been located.

I was searching for the site that had been described by the MP in his written testimony and in our private email exchanges.

<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/updates/2000/apr/mo1-002.shtml>

He reported a crashed craft that resembled a manta-ray; it was missing its port side ; he also described injured beings who resembled the six-fingered creature in the Alien Autopsy film.

He said his trip to the site took 2½ to 3 hours and most importantly, he never saw or passed through a town

of any kind. The main part of this journey was on a good road; then his convoy turned to the left and followed a rough dirt road for over an hour.

I have excellent maps of the area and also have been able to view it using aerial photos supplied by a web site known as Treasurer. I also possess a

general understanding of this part of New Mexico since I visit Albuquerque two or three times a year. I lived there in the Sixties and my brother still does.

Several months ago, I decided to look for the MP's site. First I used the Wilmots' and Woodys' testimony to calculate where I thought the craft exploded in midair. This trajectory leads directly to the general area of the Foster ranch and the other purported Roswell crash sites.

So I decided to speculate that the craft exploded directly over the Foster ranch and the debris deposited there was its port side.

Where did the craft crash? It had to be some distance east of the Foster ranch, otherwise Mac would have noticed the retrieval. But it couldn't travel too far without its port side.

I arbitrarily set a five-mile search radius east of the Foster ranch site and began to study aerial photos for possible disruption. It wasn't long before I found a likely candidate that seemed to meet all the relevant criteria. That's why I was travelling along high desert roads in chancy weather.

I knew exactly where I wanted to go, but didn't know if it was possible to get there. My interpretation of the MP's information led me to believe that he travelled north from Roswell on #285 and then on #247 and turned left at a ranch road just before Lon, New Mexico.

That morning, I was travelling from the opposite direction, but I was able to find the road before Lon that I suspected the MP had turned off on from Hwy 247. This mesa is a maze of dirt roads, some going to ranches and some to nowhere at all. Even with excellent maps and photos, I had a hard time sticking with the route I wanted to take. But something pretty amazing happened that I wasn't prepared for.

Two years ago, I was contacted by Paul Hardin, who is a local Socorro historian and also works at the Large Array. We arranged to visit the Socorro crash site where, allegedly, the Alien Autopsy footage was taken. He gave me a brief tour of his lab and the work he was doing. During our long discussion, he mentioned that he was a consultant for and worked with the UNM dig and documentary with Don Schmitt & Tom Cary. He said that a witnesses had come forward and had indicated that the crash site could be identified by twin (two) windmills. Schmitt and Cary had rented a heli-



copter but weren't successful in their search .

That story had always been stored in my memory bank, but wasn't on my mind until I came over a rise and there, at an important junction, were twin windmills.

I couldn't believe it. The road I wanted to take was gated and locked, but



there was an alternative, so after a few more circuitous miles, I arrived at my destination.

By using my maps and my mileage indicator, I was able to locate the exact spot that had shown the disruption on the aerial photos, directly behind the twin windmills, out of sight.

It's a small, desert wetland and sits in a depression, several hundred acres in size. This is public land (BLM) and access is open to all. It's not hard to get to, once you know the way. There is no need to travel across private property, since the site is accessible via county or other public access roads.

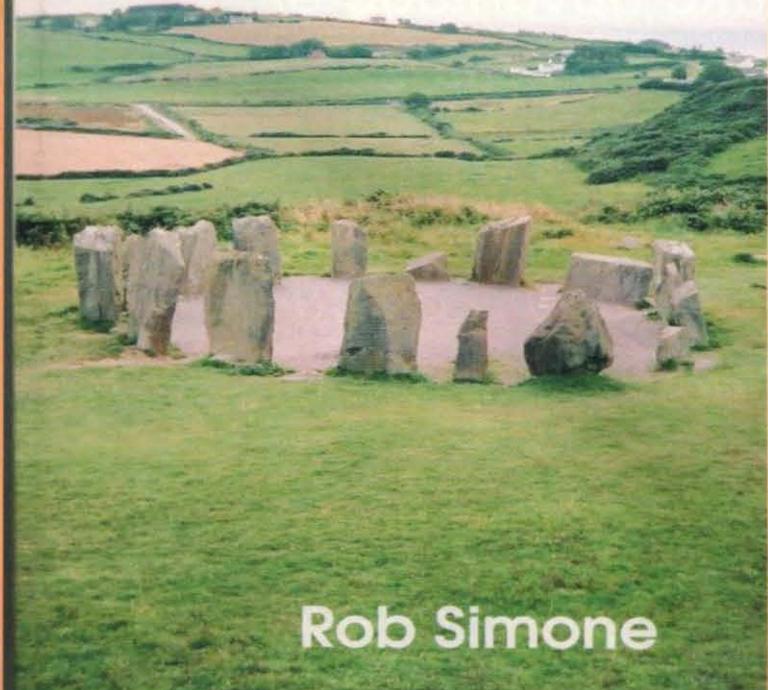
I thought I'd be able to identify the site by the blue, glass-like material (cristobalite) mentioned by LaPaz and others and also found at the Socorro site. My cursory examination was disappointing; no blue material. But I did find something else that I had never seen before on the desert: a mud-like substance covering the entire area. It looked similar to weathered sandstone but had different qualities. Just like the cristobalite at the Socorro crash site, the material seemed to be splashed across the surface of the desert, so many rocks and outcroppings were covered. Also, different types of rocks were covered with the same material and in the same manner.

I spent an hour or so examining the area, then headed home. On the way out, I passed through the Foster ranch and stopped for a few minutes at the ranch house where Mac and Jesse spent the night. It's still in good repair and is probably very much the way it was back then. The Procter ranch was just down the road and it still seems to be a working ranch.

When I returned to my brother's home in Albuquerque, I immediately contacted Wendy Connors and she agreed to accompany me to the site that next Friday. By then I was able to rent a 4X4 and we had a wonderful time. I'll let her tell her own story about our adventure another time.

Ed G.

UFOs Crop Circles and the Mayan Calendar



UFOs, Crop Circles and the Mayan Calendar
by Rob Simone

Rob Simone is an internationally-acclaimed UFO and paranormal researcher. He has visited twenty-seven countries in the last four years, exploring the mysteries of our planet, writing numerous articles for magazines such as FATE and UFO Magazine. He hosts his own radio talk show, which can be heard on 104.4FM London or through his website, www.robsimone.com. UFOs, Crop Circles and the Mayan Calendar features a collection of his articles, along with numerous photographs and diagrams. Covering subjects ranging from UFOs to space anomalies to world-spanning conspiracies, the book is a fascinating insight into his travels and the infinite wonder of not only our small planet, but the vast universe beyond.



THE ROSWELL INCIDENT

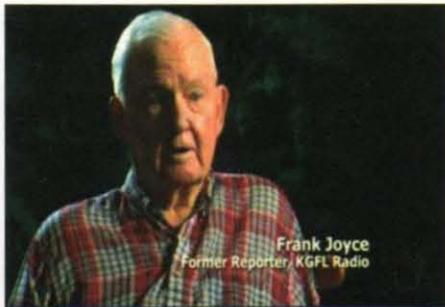
THE TRUE STORY

To wrap our Roswell reporting in this 60th Anniversary issue, Steve Johnson takes a critical view at television's latest offering on the subject, originally-titled, The Roswell Incident 'The True story'...

The Roswell Incident: The True Story

On April 10th, 2007, Channel 5 (UK) broadcast *The Roswell Incident: The True Story*. Alarm bells immediately rung out in the UFO community. Any TV show promising to expose 'the true story' about anything is usually to be taken with a humongous piece of salt. This show was no exception.

We kicked off with the events of the story itself. In 'late June, 1947', New Mexico rancher, 'Mac' Brazel heard an explosion during a thunderstorm. The narrator explained that 'during the commotion', he 'thought he heard an explosion', immediately casting doubt on the man's story. A few days later, Brazel found the debris field and collected up some of the material, driving it the seventy-five miles to the city of Roswell. The rancher took the debris to the



sheriff's office and Sheriff Wilcox suggested that he tell his story to local radio report, Frank Joyce. Brazel thought that the pieces of metal he found were from a 'flying saucer'. Joyce was sceptical and said that Brazel should contact the mili-

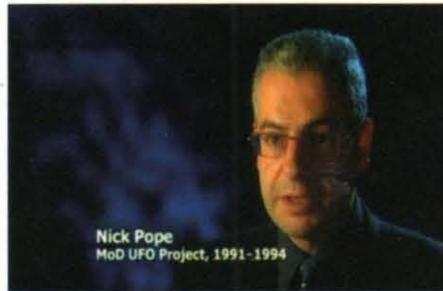
tary before telling everybody that these were pieces of a craft from another planet.

Brazel contacted the Roswell Army Air Field (RAAF), home of the only atomic bomber wing in the world at the time, and two officers were sent out to investigate the debris field. They were base intelligence officer, Major

Jesse Marcel and counterintelligence officer, Captain Sheridan Cavitt. They collected up some of the silver, foil-like debris in several sacks and took it away.

The next day (July 8th), RAAF press officer, Lieutenant Walter Haut, delivered a press release to Frank Joyce. The release was astonishing, relating how the RAAF had come into possession of a 'flying disc'. The news spread quickly and for a while the capture of the flying saucer by the US military was the biggest story in the world.

Former head of the Ministry of



Defence's (MoD's) 'UFO Project' (as he likes to call it these days), Nick Pope, explained that even the famous head of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover, was personally told about the incident. Golly jeppers!

The debris was flown out of Roswell to Wright Field (later Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) in Ohio, where, four hours later, General Roger Ramey would hold a press conference explaining that what was found was nothing more exotic than a weather balloon.

That was the end of it because, back then, the public believed what the authorities told them. Not like today, with all of us conspiracy nuts running around and ruining the fabric of society etc. etc. etc. ...

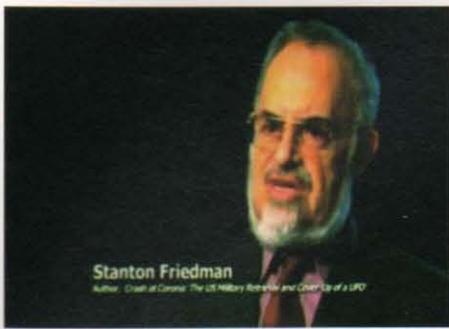
Of course, flying saucers were still big news. Kenneth Arnold's June, 1947, sighting was still in the public memory. Everybody was talking about them! UFO researcher, Don Schmitt, explained how radar operators at Kirtland Air Force Base had tracked a number of 'unknowns' in the days leading up to the incident at Roswell. He suggested that because of the vast number of sightings at the time one should eventually crash.

Author, Toby Smith, told us that during the Fifties, media coverage of UFOs, especially in movies such as *Earth Vs the Flying Saucers* etc., distracted the American public from the real threat that came from the Soviets. In the Sixties and early Seventies, public trust of their government was shattered by the fiasco of the Vietnam War and the scandals of the Nixon White House.

Rumours of top secret projects using extraterrestrial technology began to circulate. In the Forties, many secret programs were based in New Mexico, including the pioneering rocket programs of Von Braun. Dr Michael Shermer, editor of *Skeptic Magazine*, explained that because these projects were so secret, it allowed the public imagination to run amok. That doesn't mean they didn't take place, Michael...

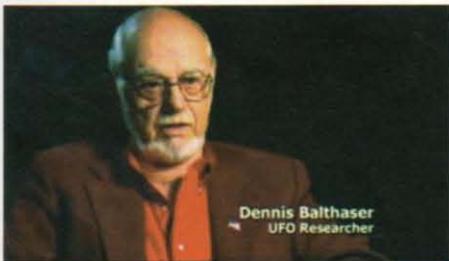
The narrator then told us that in the late Seventies, 'the inevitable happened'. Huh? Ah, Nick Pope explained later that when the story broke in 1978, Steven Spielberg's hit movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* had been in the cinemas for a year. Oh well, there you go then. Let's all forget about it. I suppose the *Lone Gunmen* episode with the jet almost crashing into the World Trade Centre several months before 9/11 means that never took place too?!

Where was I? Oh yeah... Nuclear physicist and UFO expert, Stanton Friedman, interviewed the then-retired Major Marcel, who told him that the debris he recovered from the Foster ranch was not that shown to the press in Ramey's office. He described the strange properties of the foil-like material, that when folded or balled, it would unfold without leaving a crease or wrinkle. It would not cut, it would not burn.



As Friedman pointed out, Marcel was the intelligence officer of the only atomic bombing group in the world. How much more credible can you get? Over the next two years, he found dozens more eyewitnesses and in 1980, his findings were summarized in the book, *The Roswell Incident*, by Charles Berlitz and William Moore. (Play dramatic music) The floodgates were opened for conspiracy theorists all over the world as the book claimed a thirty-year cover-up of what really happened at Roswell.

Dennis Balthaser (called a 'self-styled



UFO investigator' by the narrator) explained that something did crash and that it was covered up. However, no physical evidence remains at the crash site and no official documents have turned up, so eyewitness testimony is crucial.

Since 1978, over a hundred people have come forward stating that the initial press release was the correct one, that an alien flying disc crashed at Roswell. In 1989, retired Roswell undertaker, Glenn Dennis, made the startling claim that not only a disc was recovered, but alien bodies as well.

Dennis' claims revolved around a nurse that he knew at the Roswell air base. She told him one day that she had seen alien bodies being autopsied and drew pictures of them for him. The original drawings no longer exist and no trace of the nurse has ever been found (as the narrator and Nick Pope went to great pains to tell

us). Frank Joyce also claimed that 'Mac' Brazel also mentioned dead aliens: "Little people, not human and they were dead."

Major Marcel never mentioned any dead aliens to his son, Jesse Jr. Dr Marcel thought that if his dad had seen any alien bodies, he would have mentioned it. Heck, even Dennis Balthaser is sceptical of the dead alien scenario. Crikey...

In 1993 a witness would come for-



ward who claimed to have actually seen the crash itself. His name was Jim Ragsdale. He claimed in a signed affidavit, that he and his girlfriend saw the crash and also saw military personnel arrive soon after and begin clearing up the debris and four alien bodies. The narrator omitted the bit about Ragsdale and his lady friend being 'buck naked' at the time (apparently in a rain storm too! Still it's hot in New Mexico, I suppose).

Dennis Balthaser claimed that several other reports of dead aliens were uncovered, albeit from second- or third-hand accounts in some cases. Could all these eyewitnesses to dead aliens be wrong?

We are then told of how the military ransacked the local press offices and threatened local eyewitnesses to keep quiet.

So, how reliable are these eyewitnesses?

Because they kept their mouths shut for over thirty years (they were threatened, remember), then, according to Michael Shermer, that makes them unreliable. His argument was that because they kept quiet until after the world had heard

of 'the Roswell Incident', then it's all just a case of modern myth-making and people hoping to gain some fame and fortune off the back of it.

Nick Pope agrees. I have to say that I was knocked down by a car twenty-nine years ago and I remember it perfectly well. Why shouldn't these other people remember something so dramatic just as clearly?

Shermer dredged up false memory syndrome and recovered memories and claimed that such effects make eyewitness testimony unreliable. What that has to do with the Roswell witnesses, I don't know. Some of them recalled events under hypnosis, some didn't. Does that mean they should all be discounted because some of the witnesses were hypnotised?

Not content with smearing the witnesses enough, the documentary then goes on to suggest that they were so feeble-minded as to be remembering not what happened, but what they read in a book or saw in a movie! Orson Welles' radio adaptation of HG Wells' *The War of the Worlds* was used (again) as a prime example of how public hysteria can ensue from media influence. It must be noted, though, that the much of the supposed 'panic' that was brought about by the radio broadcast was actually an invention of the media itself. Shermer, somehow ignorant of the media hype the broadcast underwent, bolstered the argument for mass hysteria.

Things then went further with Nick Pope suggesting that monetary factors might have gone into some of the eyewitness testimonies. "Roswell is big business... No-one is going to pay to look at where a weather balloon crashed."

Sure, Roswell has become a mecca for UFO enthusiasts the world over, but the documentary failed to mention that it only did so after the witnesses came forward. Maybe they had a business plan, eh? All 100+ of them.

Still piling stones onto the Roswell Incident's twitching corpse, yet another piece of media marketing was used as evidence that the witnesses were deluded or mistaken or canny businesspeople. In 1950, *Variety* writer, Frank Scully, wrote a book entitled, *Behind the Flying Saucers*. It became a bestseller (and even featured in *Time* magazine), but eventually proved to be a hoax.

The book told of the crash of a flying saucer in Aztec, New Mexico, with details that eerily paralleled the Roswell witness testimony. The two men who gave Scully the story, Silas Newton and Leo GeBauer, were later convicted of fraud in a case that was not directly related to their flying saucer crash story, but to oil ventures. They had swindled people of almost half a million dollars by claiming they could find oil (the book claimed Newton was a hotshot geophysicist).

Anyway, the fact that the book was a hoax is by-the-by in this case. The real point is that it was a bestseller and the documentary claimed that the Roswell witnesses latched onto it and, knowingly or otherwise, regurgitated the Aztec crash and moulded it into the Roswell crash. Nick Pope appeared to agree with this theory.

Dr Jesse Marcel Jr. was then brought on because he handled pieces of the debris. Apparently, according to the programme-makers, he only thought it was from an alien spacecraft because his dad told him so. He also did not see the 'remarkable properties' of the metal.

He was impressed with the small, metal I-beams among the debris. They were very lightweight and could not be broken. They also had strange symbols running down the inside, which Major Marcel described as 'alien writing'.

Now, here comes the crunch...

Major Marcel described the I-beams as looking like wood, not metal. Michael Shermer proclaimed that because Jesse Jr. was only eleven years old at the time, his recollections cannot be trusted and, besides, he would have believed anything his father told him. He was a respected

military officer, after all. Hang on! If we can't believe Jesse Jr. because he was too young and we can't believe his dad, who was a well-respected intelligence officer, who can we believe?

Whatever...

Then we moved into the area of 'why are the aliens here?'

According to some researchers, extraterrestrial civilisations were attracted to our little, blue planet when we first detonated an atomic bomb in 1945. (Engage echo machine) They came to save us from ourselves!

Seth Shostak, of the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI), finds it inconceivable that they could make it to Earth just two years after the first atomic bomb was detonated. They can't travel faster than light, you see. Dr Shostak knows this for a fact, you know. Let's accept, though, that they cannot travel faster than light. Maybe they were already here! UFO reports go back millennia. They didn't start in 1947!

To twist the screw of ridicule one more turn, the programme turned to Ray Santilli's alien autopsy film. Need I say more? Nick Pope says the film is a hoax. Duh?

The final segment of the documentary gave us 'the answer'. It was all down to Project Mogul, the top secret balloon programme that was designed to detect atomic explosions anywhere in the world. In June, 1947, a team travelled to the White Sands Testing Range in New Mexico and released several of the extremely long balloon trains. Two were lost and never found.

The train, with its many polyethylene balloons, silver radar targets and various types of electronic equipment, was unlike any other balloon sent aloft. They watched as it drifted through heavy clouds towards Roswell. Many believe that it was this balloon train that came down on the Foster ranch. The silver foil of the radar reflectors was mistaken for the 'memory metal' that could not be folded, cut or burned and the balsa wood rods were taken for the strange

I-beams. No recovery effort was made, because the equipment, though secret, was not out of the ordinary.

Ah ha! If it was all so ordinary, how could it be mistaken for an alien spacecraft? Just because it was a secret project, this does not mean that the materials used would be unidentifiable. Would tin foil and balsa wood fool the intelligence officer of one of the most high profile military bases in the world? According to this programme they would. Even the 'alien writing' is explained away as patterns from toy shop tape used in the construction of the radar targets.

Project Mogul did indeed detect atomic explosions, but American ones. The Soviets did not succeed in their own atomic programme until 1949, after Mogul was disbanded in December, 1948.

So there we have it. It was a balloon train. A balloon train that was not recovered because it was not important enough, yet the entire area was vacuumed clean as soon as Brazel said he'd found it. So secret that even highly-trained military officers mistook it for an alien vehicle, despite it being made of tin foil, balsa wood and Scotch tape.

The US military and espionage agencies actively promoted UFO 'hysteria' as a cover for their top secret research programs, while at the same time rubbishing the phenomenon. The Roswell Incident was just one example of them using the UFO cover story to hide their covert activities. Or so we are told.

The Roswell Incident: The True Story was presented with great expertise and entertainment value (what one would expect from National Geographic, the show's paymaster), but it was really what is known as a hit piece. No real attempt was made to bolster the UFO proponents' cases. They were simply aired so that they could be taken apart by the various 'experts' brought forward. The 'true story' was never in question - it was a Mogul balloon train because we were told it was a Mogul balloon train.

Witnesses were rejected because there was no physical evidence to back up their stories. Can all of the witnesses be simply recalling a hoax book from 1950 or a Spielberg film from 1977? If it was a balloon train, then where is the debris now? Why was it all cleaned up so thoroughly if it was so unremarkable? Remember that while the Mogul programme itself was top secret, the materials used were pretty ordinary. That's why the military didn't even bother

looking for the errant balloons. What of the stories of alien bodies from many witnesses? Can they be dismissed so easily?

While the Mogul explanation satisfies many, it cannot answer all of the questions surrounding the Roswell Incident. The *real* true story of what happened in New Mexico in 1947 may as yet be untold.

Steve Johnson - 2007

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France goes public on 'UFOs'



In late March, 2007, the French government fulfilled its promise of placing the UFO files collected from its space agency, Centre National d'Etude Spatiale (CNES) and the official group formed to study unexplained aerial phenomena, Groupe d'Etudes et d'Information des Phénomènes Aérospatiaux Non Identifiés (GEIPAN), online. Such was the load on the website's servers that it crashed repeatedly, thus denying access to the files so sought after by many UFO researchers.

Promising some 10,000 documents, the website has so far uploaded about 350, which can be viewed as pdf files, thus requiring Adobe Acrobat or a similar program with which to open them. Naturally, they are in the French language, although it is likely that English translations will appear on the web.

Some of the topics covered include the famous COMETA report from 1999, which conjectured that the 'extra-terrestrial hypothesis' was the best explanation for some UFO reports; analyses into the psychological and sociological implications of

UFO sightings; technical reports into field effects reported around UFOs.

The database will include reports dating from 1954 and, according to CNES, future reports will automatically be included.

Photographs and video evidence will also be made available through the website.

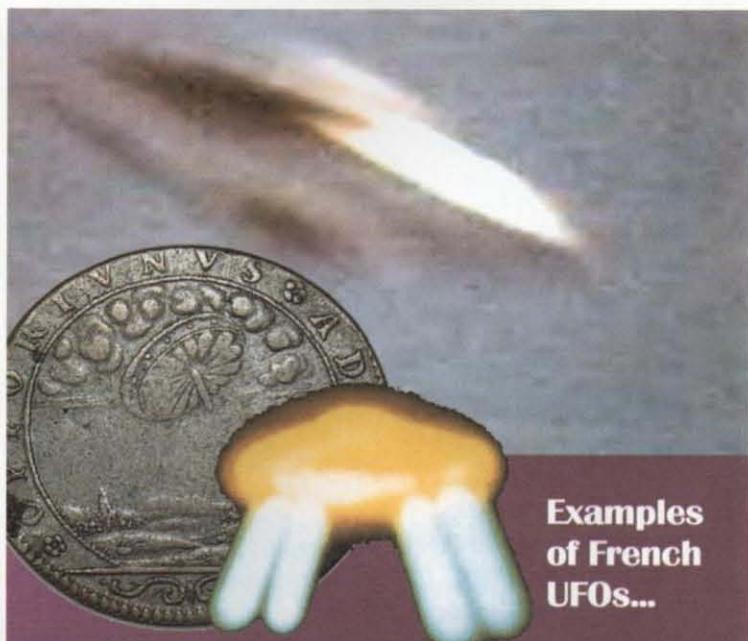
While many governments make UFO documents available to members of the public through the various Freedom of Information Acts in existence around the globe, France is the first to make its entire library of sightings open to pub-

lic scrutiny without having to go through the rigmarole of filling out official request forms.

The CNES/GEIPAN website can be found at:

<http://www.cnes-geipan.fr/geipan/>

SJ



Examples of French UFOs...



In The News

1947 'UFO Plane' Wreckage Found

News agencies in the North-West United States have been reporting a story that has uncanny resonance in this time of Roswell's 60th anniversary.



Jim Greear, a resident of Longview, Washington, has ended a ten-year quest to find the wreckage of a crashed B-25 bomber that went down in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains, near the town of Kelso, in August, 1947. Greear found the wreckage in a creek on his property and handed it to the Seattle Museum of Mysteries, where it is now on display.

The plane crashed when an engine caught fire, killing two of the four crewmen, but the mystery surrounding the incident stems from reports that the bomber was carrying debris from a crashed flying disc, possibly the object that came down off Maury Island, Washington, on June 21st, 1947. Rumours abound that the plane had been shot down by unknown agencies to prevent the UFO debris from reaching its destination in California.

At the time, the local newspaper, The Kelsonian-Tribune, ran the headline: "Flying Disk Investigators Die in Army Bomber Wreck".

UFO Sighting Over Dublin

Report from www.hbccufo.org

Last night (18th April, 2007) I was out skywatching. There has been a huge ball of light at the same time every night (about 9.30pm) moving from an east to west direction which

is probably a satellite or space station. Because of the sun's position at this time it lights up very big and very bright. (Bigger than Venus in the

sky which of course is very big and bright at the moment) as it passed by it made me want to stay and have a good scout around. There were the usual satellites but nothing out of the ordinary. When I decided to go back inside I turned to face towards the west and witnessed a huge chevron shaped bank of misty orange lights (three on each side) moving totally silent in the direction of Dublin airport.

The object was greyish in between the three lights on each side but the whole thing looked as if you smudged a dark pencil line between the two rows of lights. It had no definite outline but a haze of grey like a shadow. This haze was also present over the orange colour of the six lights. It was completely silent.

It moved quite fast and began to

bank to the right as if to head out over the east coast. I lost sight of it over the roof top and ran to the front of the house but could not find it in the night sky. (There are lots of streetlights at the front of the house which create a haze) My whole body was trembling inside and my hands and knees were shaking. (I find it hard to explain the feeling but I'm sure you understand) as I tried to take in what I had just witnessed.

I have witnessed many UFOs before in the night sky over Dublin, but I have never seen anything so big before. I was quite shaken after this but felt compelled to stay and look in the same area. I just had a strange feeling because of its size that there would be more to follow. After about half an hour (and lots of cigs) another two misty orange lights passed on the exact same flight path as the large one. One leading the other and the latter to the right hand side.

They passed by and were out of sight in no more than 2 seconds. When your brain is used to processing seeing normal aircraft in the sky and how they move, these objects really don't register in that way, and seem to have no resistance in the sky at all. It's hard to comprehend because of their speed and also the total silence as they pass.



Bright Light Seen over New South Wales, Australia

Residents all over New South Wales have been baffled by a brilliant light seen traversing the sky in mid-April, 2007. While authorities suggest that what was seen was either a meteor or

man-made space junk burning up in the atmosphere, the regularity of the sightings over several nights seems to suggest that something else was behind what numerous witnesses in several towns were reporting.

www.rense.com hosted a photograph taken over Byron Bay, New South Wales, appearing to show a brilliant object in the sky over the coastal town:

Canadian Sightings Continue to Grow

With many outlets reporting that UFO sightings are in the decline, news has come out of Canada that in 2006, over 730 reports were made, more than two every day.

Chris Rutkowski, director of the Winnipeg-based Ufology Research Institute said:

"...the phenomenon persists, which to me says there is a basic underlying, real phenomenon that extends beyond media and pop culture."

Project Condign Cost £50,000

At the end of March, Liberal Democrat MP, Norman Baker, asked questions in Parliament about the government's recently-released study, titled *Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region*.

He asked: "...how much was spent producing the report Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region; who the author was; what the author's qualifications in this subject were; to whom the report was circulated; what actions were taken on the recommendations of the report; and if he will make a statement."

Minister of State (Armed Forces), Adam Ingram, replied: "It is not possible to provide accurate details as to the cost of producing the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena report as this was one of several tasks that were included within a single contract and detailed costings for

each of these tasks is not available. However, it is estimated that the overall cost was approximately £50,000.

"The author of the report was a contractor and was employed by the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) on a long-term contract. Further details of the author, including the name, are being withheld under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998.

"The report was circulated within the DIS and to other branches of the Ministry of Defence and RAF. As recommended by the report, the DIS ceased to monitor unidentified aerial phenomena sighting reports (and therefore reaped a saving in staff time) as they contained no information of Defence Intelligence interest and no further action was taken." (from *House of Parliament Hansard*



Written Answers for 26 March, 2007)

**"I Saw The Phoenix Lights!"
Former Arizona Governor's**

Amazing Confession

Ten years ago, the then-governor of Arizona, Fife Symington III, held a press conference in Phoenix and declared that his men had caught the person behind the mysterious 'Phoenix Lights'.

Then a guy in an alien suit was led in, much to the merriment of the press corps.



Picture Credit: The Associated Press
Scott Troyanos

"This goes to show that you guys are

entirely too serious," he said at the guffawing mob. Speaking to ABC news recently, he said, "What I was trying to do was have fun and make a spoof, and stop all the public hysteria that was going on at the time."

Now, he has claimed to have seen the huge, triangular or V-shaped object that glided over the desert state on the night of March 13th, 1997. Speaking to CNN, he declared, "I suspect that unless the Defense Department proves otherwise that it was probably some form of alien spacecraft... It just felt otherworldly. In your gut, you could just tell it was otherworldly"

He told the Arizona newspaper, *The Daily Courier*, "I'm a pilot and I know just about every machine that flies. It was bigger than anything that I've ever seen. It remains a great mystery. Other people saw it, responsible people. I don't know why people would ridicule it.

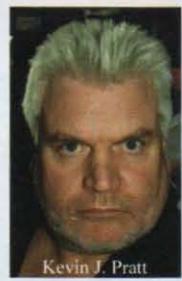
"It was enormous and inexplicable. Who knows where it came from? A lot of people saw it, and I saw it too. It was dramatic. And it couldn't have been flares because it was too symmetrical. It had a geometric outline, a constant shape."

He told the producers of an updated version of the excellent UFO documentary, *Out of the Blue*, to be released in Spring, 2007, that he never believed the Air Force's explanation of a flare drop to the west of the city. In the film, Symington says, "I was never satisfied with the explanation that they were high altitude flares. It didn't look like that. They were too... it was all too symmetrical. It clearly had a shape to it, and a big shape, and it was a constant shape and there's just no way you can control flares that way. There's just no way they were flares."

Later in 1997, Symington was prosecuted and convicted for bank fraud, a conviction that was overturned in 1999. Because of his conviction, he was forced to resign as governor of Arizona. President Clinton pardoned the Republican and he now runs several businesses in Arizona, including a political consulting firm.

SJ

SILENT RUNNING



Sighting of the flying V on the 12.12.1997 at 6.45 pm. moving slowly in an easterly direction sighted over the Bancroft estate Tamworth, Staffordshire.

I was returning home with my children when I noticed three lights in the sky, one red & one blue with a central white strobe, I recognised the combination as aircraft lights; however the craft was totally silent hovering at an altitude of about four to five hundred feet, low in the sky and well below cloud level. Slowly and silently the craft moved toward us, it was quite dark by now and the only thing clearly visible were the three lights suspended in the evening sky.



As the craft moved closer I could just make out a dark V silhouette to which the lights were fixed, this light configuration verified my first thought's of a kind of aircraft, however, when the craft was directly overhead I noticed the unusual design only visible when the bright central strobe light flashed across its single V shaped matt black wings which had the appearance of velvet, I strained to listen out for any give away sound from the massive object approximately the span of a 747 commercial airplane, but it was eerily silent. The craft slowly carried on its flight path toward the east.



The aircraft was definitely man made though unusual in construction, it was far too large to be a hang glider and it did not have anything slung below it that I could see as the underside was periodically lit up by the bright pulsating central strobe. Such lighting is of a standard layout for aircraft commercial or military for the purpose of warning other air traffic in the vicinity.

I am fully acquainted with the local air traffic flight patterns in the area and it gets particularly busy over Tamworth mainly due to commercial airplanes arriving and departing the east midlands airport a few miles to the north of the



Bancroft estate and Birmingham International airport to the south of the estate whilst the military flight path usually lies to and from the west and east bordering Tamworth, the flying V cut directly over the estate toward

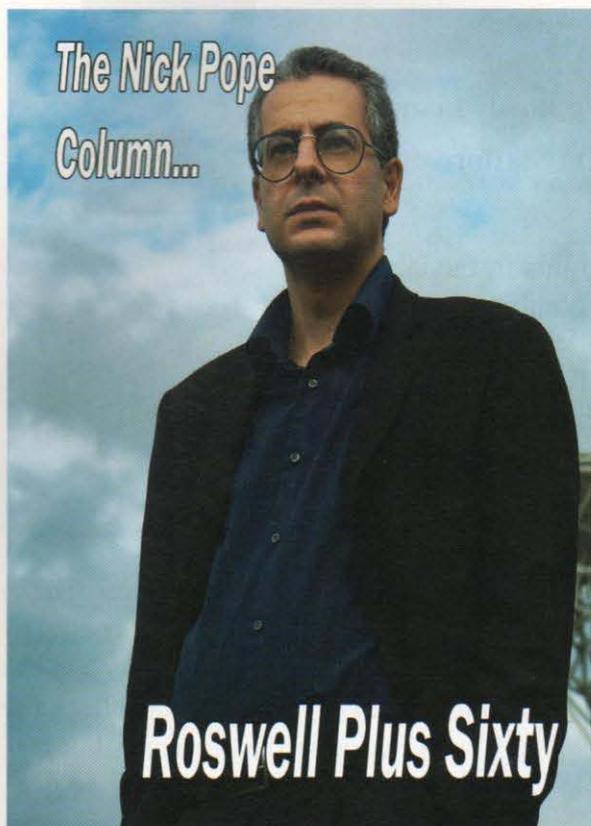


the east, so I assume that this must be yet one more military stealth type airplane with silent running capabilities, which is not really new technology.

Kevin J. Pratt

Addendum:

I don't know if any of your readers will remember a particular episode of Tomorrows World in the 70's - 1980's but I took particular interest in a British invention of a silent motor which was demonstrated in the studio, when the device was switched on there was not a single sound only the vibrating engine gave a visible indication that the engine was running. The device works by using the engines own exhaust noise played back at the same pitch and frequency which effectively cancelled out any noticeable sound audible to the human ear, the device was invented to reduce noise pollution particularly in industry, however, if you pardon the pun; I have not heard of the device since, perhaps the military saw a better purpose for the device. I have since heard of a similar experiment with light waves.



Introduction

I'm not going to give you an overview of the Roswell incident or a detailed analysis of the various theories associated with the case. As my column appears at the end of the magazine and as this issue is a Roswell special, I suspect that even the seasoned ufologists reading this might be a little 'Roswelled out' by now. What I'm going to do instead is to focus on a few aspects of the case not normally considered. Hopefully, this will give even those with a good knowledge of the Roswell incident some food for thought.

How do you Solve a Problem Like Roswell?

Speed is everything. In medicine the so-called "golden hour" is the first 60 minutes of medical treatment, which often determines whether the patient lives or dies. In the world of policing, any SIO (Senior Investigating Officer) will tell you the importance of the first 24 hours in any investigation. Evidence needs to be located. Witnesses and suspects need to be identified and interviewed. After that, to use a cliché, the trail begins to go cold. In ufology, similar principles apply. In my official UFO investigations I knew that the chances of

solving any given UFO sighting diminished as time went by. Witnesses were harder to locate and their recollections would be less detailed. Evidence, too, was harder to come by. Critically, military radar data would only be available for a limited period, because the RAF filmed the radar screen and stored the data on video tapes, which were kept for around a month, and then reused. So, nearly 60 years after the event, is somebody going to come along and magically solve the Roswell case? I very much doubt it.

The Press Release

I've been media trained by the MoD. I've written press releases that highlight good news and I've written news briefs that downplay (I won't use the word "bury") bad news. Indeed, many years ago I wrote a new version of what were known as the "defensive lines to take" in relation to UFOs. Even today when media stories about UFOs include the phrase "an MoD spokesperson said ..." I look at what comes next to see whether or not I wrote it. Forties America was a very different world from the modern world of news management and spin, but it's worth asking why the US Army let it be known that they had recovered what they themselves described as a "flying disc". We know the chain of events that led to this, i.e. the fact that the base's Public Information Officer, Lieutenant Walter Haut, issued the press release, having first obtained authority from the Base Commander, Colonel William Blanchard. But we don't know why it was done. Using modern terminology, we'd have to ask what was the "desired outcome". This is the key, because issuing a proactive press release is very different from responding to a media inquiry. There was no need to issue a press release, but they chose to do so. Arguably, this doesn't make much sense whether the object was an extraterrestrial spacecraft, weather balloon (standard or top secret), missile, balloon bomb or spy plane. I

don't have the answer to all this, but looking at the press release and subsequent weather balloon story in the context of news management is an often overlooked way of approaching the Roswell mystery.

Did Roswell Disappear?

There's a popular misconception about Roswell and ufology. It's often claimed that once the *Roswell Daily Record* ran their "Gen. Ramey Empties Roswell Saucer" story on 9 July 1947 (subsequently picked up by numerous other newspapers) the story of Roswell disappeared from ufology until 1978, when Stanton Friedman was told about Jesse Marcel's involvement. As it happens, this isn't entirely correct. In 1966 Frank Edwards wrote a best-selling UFO book entitled *Flying Saucers - Serious Business*. Chapter 4 is entitled "Pick Up The Pieces" and there, just a few paragraphs in, is the following:

"There are such difficult cases as the rancher near Roswell, New Mexico, who phoned the Sheriff that a blazing disc-shaped object had passed over his house at low altitude and had crashed and burned on a hillside within view of the house. The Sheriff called the military; the military came on the double quick. Newsmen were not permitted in the area. A week later, however, the government released a photograph of a service man holding up a box kite with an aluminium disc about the size of a large pie pan dangling from the bottom of the kite. This, the official report explained, was a device borne aloft on the kite and used to test radar gear by bouncing the signals off the pie pan. And this, we were told, was the sort of thing that had so excited the rancher. We were NOT told, however, how the alleged kite caught fire - nor why the military cordoned off the area while they inspected the wreckage of a burned-out box kite with a non-inflammable pie pan tied to it."

Frank Edwards quotes no sources, names or dates, and the account varies in some respects from the more popular versions of the Roswell incident that are currently in circulation. But Roswell is mentioned, so this 1966 account is an important -

though often forgotten - part of the story.

Flying Saucer Working Party

The June 1951 final report of the Flying Saucer Working Party contains the following quote, at the end of paragraph 8:

"We have been informed, in conversation with a member of the United States investigating team, that the even more sensational report of the discovery of a crashed "flying saucer", full of the remains of very small beings, was ultimately admitted by its author to have been a complete fabrication".

However, the reference to the author confessing the story was a hoax clearly indicates that this is a reference not to the Roswell incident, but to Frank Scully's separate claims about the recovery of a UFO at Aztec, New Mexico, in 1948, as described in his book *Behind The Flying Saucers*.

The Two Roswell Reports

The United States Air Force published two official reports into the Roswell incident, in response to a General Accounting Office inquiry. The first was titled *The Roswell Report: Fact vs. Fiction in the New Mexico Desert*. This was published in 1994 and concluded that the object that crashed in Roswell was a balloon-borne acoustical sensor array, codenamed MOGUL - a top secret programme aimed at detecting Soviet nuclear tests. A follow-up report, *The Roswell Report: Case Closed*, was published in 1997 and focused on allegations that alien bodies were recovered. It concluded that any claims that weren't out and out lies were probably generated by a combination of anthropomorphic test dummies, an aircraft accident and a balloon accident, with witnesses having blurred the dates and mistakenly associated them with the Roswell incident. The MoD wasn't consulted in the course of the GAO/USAF investigation and would have been able to contribute nothing to the debate. I left the UFO project in the summer of 1994 but I'm fairly sure somebody told me that the US authorities passed my successor a copy of both reports, for information,

when they were published.

Alien Autopsy Film Offered to MoD?

I'm reluctant to mention the so-called alien autopsy film in this article, but whatever one's views on the film it's become part of the Roswell story. One of the more intriguing aspects of the alien autopsy saga was the suggestion that the film was offered to the MoD for analysis. There are few references to this point, which seems never to have been followed up. Reference to this was made in *The Times* on March 28, 1995, in what was one of the first articles on the film to appear in a national newspaper. The article was entitled "Film of 'aliens' offered to MoD" and began with the following sentence:

"Film that is claimed to show the bodies of alien beings who died when a "UFO" crashed in the New Mexico desert in 1947 is to be offered to the Ministry of Defence for analysis."

The claim was not attributed and no supporting evidence was offered. The journalist didn't speak to the MoD press office about this (or if he did, he didn't quote them, which would be unusual, even if the response was a simple denial or statement that the Department had no knowledge of the matter). Although I'd left the MoD's UFO project by this time, I'm almost certain that no such offer was made. Had the MoD been given any film, analysis would soon have ascertained the age of the film stock, and probably much more about its true origin. That, I suspect, is precisely why no such offer was ever made!

President Clinton's Roswell Reference

In November, 1995, President Bill Clinton visited Northern Ireland. In advance of the visit, schoolchildren had been encouraged to write to the President, setting out their thoughts on the peace process and on their hopes for the future. During a speech at Belfast City Hall, the President read out a selection of the letters. One was from a 13 year old boy called Ryan Lemon. His letter was about the peace process, but in a

postscript, he asked about Roswell and the President mentioned this when concluding his speech, when he had this to say:

"To all of you who haven't lost your sense of humour, I say thank you. I got a letter from 13 year old Ryan from Belfast. Now, Ryan, if you're out in the crowd tonight, here's the answer to your question. No, as far as I know, an alien spacecraft did not crash in Roswell, New Mexico in 1947. And Ryan, if the United States did recover alien bodies, they didn't tell me about it either, and I want to know".

Whatever one thinks happened at Roswell, a reference to the incident by a serving US President is an important part of the story.

President Bush's Roswell Reference

An Associated Press report of President George W. Bush's 22 January, 2004, visit to Roswell stated that Bush made a quip relating to the Roswell incident during a discussion with locals in the Nuthin' Fancy Cafe. As with the Clinton remark, any comment on Roswell from a serving US President is an important part of the story, however light-hearted the remark. The comment was as follows:

"I understand you had reports this morning of an unfamiliar aircraft. Don't worry, it was just me."

When Presidents make such quips (and my MoD media training tells me this was probably a pre-prepared, scripted remark), it's an interesting example of how the Roswell incident has become part of the popular culture.

Cultural Context

When considering the Roswell incident, we have to place it in the context of rural America in the Forties. Things that to us make no sense (e.g. the fact that with few exceptions, the Roswell incident disappeared from public consciousness for nearly 30 years, once the military said the object was a weather balloon) make perfect sense when the contemporary culture is borne in mind. There were

no ufologists. Only a small percentage of the population owned a television. Many people didn't have a telephone. Trust in the authorities was such that when the military said that the "flying disc" that they had first said crashed at Roswell was in fact a weather balloon, few questioned the party line. Today, we live in a multi-media society. Most Westerners have internet access. Thousands of people are actively involved in ufology. If a story on the scale of Roswell ever broke again, the story would never disappear. We also live in a world of 'spin' and 'dodgy dossiers', where many people regularly question what the powers that be tell them. Again, if the Roswell incident had occurred in 2007, as opposed to 1947, things would have been very different.

Roswell + 60

So just what would happen if something like Roswell happened today? Something crashes in a remote area. The military are notified. They're not sure what they're dealing with. It doesn't look like an aircraft and nothing was detected on radar. Meteorite? Spyplane? Alien spacecraft? Who takes charge? What immediate actions would be taken? What - if anything - would parliament, the media and the public be told? This is a complex and controversial area, and will be the subject of my presentation at the UFO DATA conference in October.

Conclusion

I recognize that this has been a somewhat disjointed article, but I wanted to steer clear of material that has been covered extensively elsewhere and focus instead on a few rather more specialist or obscure points. As I said at the beginning of the article, I hope I've given people some food for thought, and a few extra points to debate in the discussions I'm sure readers will be having with family, friends and work colleagues in the run-up to the 60th anniversary of the Roswell incident.

Nick Pope.

STOP PRESS

Just as the finishing touches were being applied to this issue of UFODATA Magazine, Steve Johnson received a reply in writing from the Ministry of Defence with regards to the F-15 UFO Incident:

DAS(LA)CEU Date: 22 Mar 07
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST- [OMITTED]
Reference:

A. D/DAS/073/27 dated 7 Mar 07.

1. Reference A refers to a tasking from DAS(LA)CEU, which requested that a DFCIT investigation be carried out following a Freedom of Information Request submitted by [Name Omitted - This would be me, Steve Johnson]. He alleged that on 12 Jan 07, 2 F-15s were requested by LATCC(Mil) to investigate an unidentified object that had appeared on radar.

2. Mr [Name Omitted] was consulted by telephone on 7 Mar 07 and confirmed the nature of his request. He also provided a c/s for the F-15's, namely GATOR, and stated that there was an audio recording of the pilots discussing the object, which can be found on the ufodata.co.uk website.

3. Inquiries with the staff at LATCC(Mil) were conducted on 7 Mar 07; however, there were no records relating to any request made by them to investigate the object. It was established that unidentified objects are picked up on radar frequently and LATCC(Mil) personnel usually just advise ac to avoid them.

4. The ac cdr, c/s GATOR 2, 493rd FS, 48th FW, RAF Lakenheath was consulted on 20 Mar 07. He confirmed that he had identified an object on radar and decided to investigate. He was not tasked to do so by any ATC agency. The object was at an approximate height of between 17,000 - 18,000ft and was drifting with the wind. It was between the size of a grapefruit and a soccer ball. The ac cdr opined that it may have fallen off a weather balloon. The ac made 3 passes and then continued with their sortie.

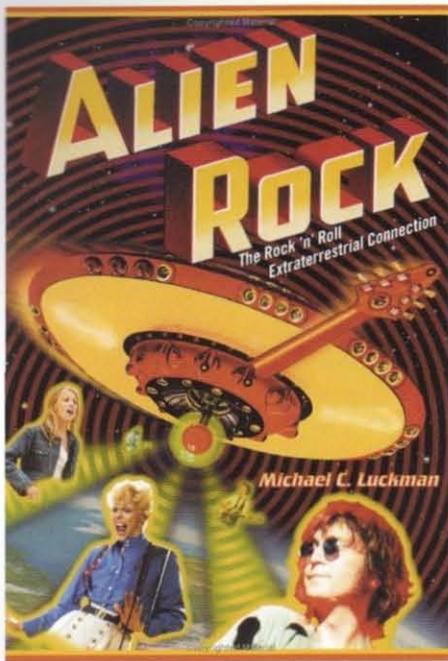
5 Active enquiries into this case have now been completed and the case is closed. However, should further information be forthcoming which materially affects the outcome of this investigation, consideration will be given to re-opening enquiries. Further enquiries concerning the content of this report should be referred to the undersigned on Ext [OMITTED]

(Original signed)
[OMITTED]
Flt Lt
OC DFCIT

Chris Rolfe of UFO Monitors East Kent has also discovered that the frequency of the radio transmission (233.725 MHz) is used by London Military Air Traffic Control and covers the Eastern Sector of UK airspace. That particular frequency is transmitted from the Rothwell transmitter in Lincolnshire, so it is likely that the event took place over Lincolnshire or North Norfolk.

UFODATA

As we said on our very busy forum we would continue to research this particular story, it seems it paid dividends. Official confirmation that this object, whatever it was, was not a bird...



Celebrities' 'Alien Encounters'

There has been a rash of stories recently about various celebrities and their interest in UFOs and extra-terrestrials.

UK popster, Robbie Williams, is well-known for his fascination with all things paranormal, from ghosts to unidentified flying objects. His recent tour was called *Close Encounters* and featured a stage set and introduction based on Steven Spielberg's iconic 1977 movie.

Last year, the singer made public his ambition to start a cult dedicated to extra-terrestrials. He claimed that he dreamed about UFOs every night and expected aliens to arrive before 2012.

In 2005, Michael C Luckman published his book, *Alien Rock: The Rock 'n' Roll Extraterrestrial Connection*. Luckman detailed the

many and varied experiences of some of the world's top rock and pop stars with regard to UFOs and extra-terrestrial visitations: Elvis Presley believed he was from a star in the constellation of Orion; David Bowie saw several UFOs and even edited a UFO-based magazine as a teenager; John Lennon saw a UFO from a penthouse and was so impressed, he subscribed to *The Flying Saucer Review*. According to famous, celebrity psychic, Uri Geller, Lennon had a close encounter of the third kind in which he was given a small, egg-shaped object. Apparently, Geller still has it in his possession.

With a series of concerts, entitled *Signal to Space*, in the pipeline, Luckman has been making more headlines recently. He told *BANG Magazine*:

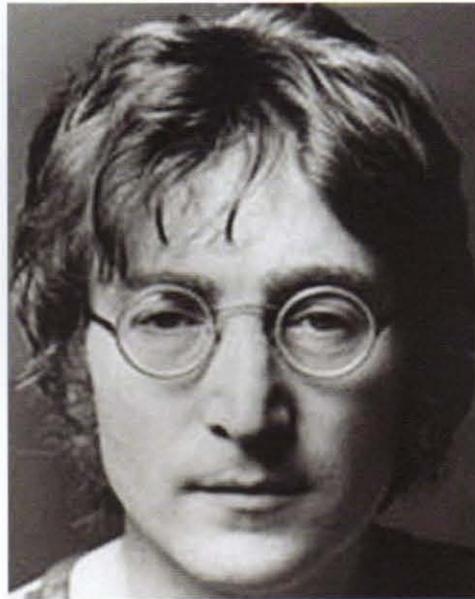
"The idea of the live concerts is to beam live music into outer space, to various targets in our solar system and beyond, in order to establish contact with extraterrestrial civilisations."

He claims that Prince William is a UFO enthusiast and has invited the young heir to the British throne to his concerts.

"I hope that William would be interested in coming. We are planning on having many international royals gathered at the events, which will

each be like Woodstock.

"They are being planned for this coming year in Berlin, Tokyo, New York, China, Russia, Mexico and in London."



Interest in UFOs is seemingly rife in the royal family, with Prince Philip having a keen interest also. Lord Mountbatten was immensely fascinated with the phenomenon and was convinced that 'flying saucers' were extra-terrestrial in origin.

Luckman's latest media appearance has been to tell us about Sir Mick Jagger's UFO sightings over the years and the 'detector' that he had installed at his home in the UK.

Other celebrities to come out of the ufological closet include Dan Aykroyd, Jimi Hendrix, Walter Cronkite, Jackie Gleason and Dennis Weaver, to name but a few.



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