

Copyright c 1989  
by W. Todd Zechel  
P.O. Box 2095  
Madison, WI 53701  
Associated Investigative  
Researchers

#### THE MJ12/AQUARIUS HOAX

In one sense, it was all like some bungling, not-ready-for-prime-time magic act, filled with inept hocus-pocus and plenty of movement and smoke as a distraction. Ah, but watch the hands, especially of Bill Moore—they're not quite quicker than the eye...

A prime example of this was the "Project Aquarius" portion of the hoax. In 1987, William "Bill" Moore released "Aquarius" 'documents' in conjunction with his public release of the "MJ12" 'briefing paper,' attributing the "Aquarius" papers ("Executive Briefing") to Lee M. Graham, Monrovia, Ca. According to Moore,

Graham had obtained the "Aquarius" material from a "source," and Moore and cohorts could not vouch for the authenticity of it, but it appeared to be legitimate. On April 30, 1987, Moore, in a drawn-in box superimposed on a purported "Aquarius" cover sheet, stated: "This is a retyped copy of an original obtained by L.M. Graham." (Emphasis partially added.)

As far back as 1985, Graham had indicated his "source" for the "Aquarius" material was a government operative or agent. This not only lended mystique to the leaked "Executive Briefing" but credibility as well, at least in UFOlogical circles. It wasn't until June 1987, upon the occasion of Moore's press conference in Burbank, Ca., whereupon he unleashed the bogus documents, that Graham revealed his "source" was Bill Moore himself!

So here we have Moore attributing the "Aquarius" papers to Graham in two separate issues of his FOCUS newsletter, and inferring that Graham received the 'documents' from an unknown but presumably bona fide intelligence source, all the while it was Moore himself who had provided the material to Graham!

But where did Moore get the "Aquarius" 'documents?' On Jan. 10, 1983, a meeting took place in Albuquerque, N.M., between Moore, Ron Lakis, a TV producer, attorney Peter Gersten and Richard Doty, M/Sgt. USAF, at the time assigned to AFOSI Dist. 17 at Kirtland AFB, N.M. Gersten's notes on the conference reflect the following:

"Doty discussed document on Project Aquarius and MJ-12 (the

Aquarius cable). Moore told Peter not to mention Project Aquarius because Moore was given the info in confidence by Doty. Moore wants to work with Peter now." (Emphasis added)

Prior to the meeting, Doty had written to Gersten bemoaning his financial condition, complaining about the cost of a recent divorce. After the conference attended by Moore and Lakis, Doty arranged to meet with Gersten alone, at which point Doty offered to sell information and documents to Gersten. Sensing he was either being entrapped or drawn into something illegal, Gersten declined.

Moore has related that he first met Doty in September 1980, when Doty called an Albuquerque radio station on which Moore had just been interviewed. They arranged, according to Moore's account, to meet at a nearby restaurant. Doty evidently provided Moore with an AFOSI report stamped "SECRET" which reported alleged UFO sightings at Kirtland between Aug. 8 and Sept. 3, 1980. In this form, the 'document' was shown on a TV documentary entitled "The UFO Experience," produced by Ron Lakis. The 'document' contained several blacked-out portions, as though it had been censored for FOIA release, but, on the surface, had not been declassified or otherwise officially cleared.

In mid-November 1982, UFOlogists Barry Greenwood and Larry Fawcett saw the 'document' on TV, caught it in freeze-frame and extracted enough information to pose an FOIA request for it to AFOSI. On Dec. 9, 1982, the report, now marked "For Official Use Only," the lowest grade of document control, was released from Kirtland, along with three other documents of similar nature.

One of the Kirtland documents referred to alleged UFO photos taken by Paul Bennewitz, a civilian who claimed to have observed UFOs taking off from and landing in restricted areas of Kirtland and Sandia. A report, signed by Doty, stated that an Air Force civilian employee, Jerry Miller, was asked to consult with Doty on Bennewitz's UFO sightings. Doty described Miller as "one of the most knowledgeable and impartial investigators of Aerial Objects (sic) in the southwest." In reality, Miller had been a member of the 4602nd Intelligence Squadron while he was an active duty Air Force officer. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, the 4602nd had been given the task of doing the legwork for Project Blue Book, since Blue Book had neither the budget nor the staff to conduct on-the-site investigations of UFO incidents. Miller had seen limited action as a UFO case interrogator.

Miller quickly concluded Bennewitz was a "paranoid schizophrenic," and thought Doty was equally dubious of Bennewitz's claims. Bennewitz, who has been frequently hospitalized for mental disorders, coined the term "Extraterrestrial Biological Entities"—or "EBEs"—which has been used throughout the bogus MJ12 and Aquarius 'documents.' Bennewitz also claimed the "EBEs" and the U.S. government were in super-secret communications, jointly manning vast underground bases in northern New Mexico.

After meeting with Doty, Moore also began to circulate a purported message, also marked "SECRET," which seemingly purported to be a reply to Doty's report about his conference with Bennewitz and Miller. Dated Nov. 17, 1980, the message makes the

first mention of "MJ12" and "Project Aquarius. But the message, which Moore claims he "retyped," is a crude hoax, containing a number of ridiculous gaffes in message format and preparation. Among other things, the message is stamped "SECRET," yet refers to "TOP SECRET" matters, an obvious security breach, and one that would cause the document to be stamped "TOP SECRET" rather than the lower classification. The 'document' also contains the caveat "FOR AFOSI ONLY," yet is info addressed to an Air Force Intelligence Group, another bizarre and contradictory security lapse. The message format has the Z-signal "ZNY" which is used to indicate a retransmittal, which the message is not. It has the letters "BT"—which stands for 'break'—following ZNY, but the BT should be placed between the addresses of the message (from---to-----info-----) and the text. All in all there are a number of obvious and rather stupid errors in the format, indicating that whomever hoaxed it was not familiar with message format, like a communications clerk would be, but an AFOSI agent, who only fills out complaint forms, would not be.

So, again, the chief candidate for the culprit has to be Richard Doty, the man Moore himself said was providing the "Aquarius info." Doty appears to have combined Bennewitz's wild ravings and Moore's own speculations about a super-secret control group (MJ12) and fed them back to Moore, first as a crudely concocted message, then later in more refined "Executive Briefing" papers.

## FALCON AROUND

At the January 1983 meeting in Albuquerque, Doty also revealed he had some 'hot' information about a purported UFO landing incident at Ellsworth AFB, S.D., claiming (quoting from Gersten's notes): "(The case) was...investigated by OSI, FBI, classified but parts of it are still going on today. Nuclear weapons involved."

The purported Ellsworth case first came to the attention of UFOlogy after the National Enquirer received an anonymous letter in February 1978 from Rapid City, S.D., where the base is located. The anonymous note came with an official-looking incident report which described a shoot-out with alien-type creatures that supposedly occurred on Nov. 16, 1977. Bob Pratt, one of the Enquirer's most diligent reporters, conducted an extensive investigation at the base and found the charges to be groundless. The Ellsworth incident was a complete hoax. Let the record show that Richard Doty was stationed at Ellsworth from 1976 to 1978, where he was a "Law Enforcement Flight Chief" and then a "Law Enforcement Instructor."

Although Pratt has pointed to the purported Ellsworth case as a classic example of a hoax, he feels he erred in giving a copy of the phony incident report to a UFOlogist, since the report then began being widely circulated among UFOlogists, but without Pratt's disclaimer or the full story of his investigation being known. As usual, the incident found a wide and growing circle of believers.

TV documentary producer Linda Howe may have been one of the UFOlogists to receive the phony Ellsworth document, and evidently had expressed interest in the 'case' to Peter Gersten. Gersten arranged for Howe to meet with Doty at Kirtland. On April 9, 1983, Howe flew to Albuquerque and eventually met with AFOSI Special Agent Richard Doty at AFOSI Hqs. After taking some supposed security precautions (moving their chairs to the center of the room to avoid laser intercept), Howe describes the meeting thusly:

"During the conversation, Agent Doty handed me some typed pages which were titled simply 'Briefing Paper for the President of the United States' about the subject of unidentified flying vehicles. There was no designation of a specific president nor do I remember a specific date. Agent Doty said he had been asked by his superiors to show the briefing paper, that I could ask questions, but could not take notes. The content described a series of crashed UFO discs at Aztec and Roswell, New Mexico; Kingman, Arizona; and a crash in Mexico. Extraterrestrial bodies from the downed crafts (sic) were retrieved and taken to laboratories for examination. The paper also described information from direct contact with the 'Grays' about their extraterrestrial intervention and manipulation of the human race's biological, sociological and religious evolution. The paper outlined the government's efforts since the 1940s to ascertain the origin, nature and motives of the E.T.'s through Project Sign, Grudge, Gleam, Pounce, Blue Book and others and concluded with a list of some current projects: Sigma (Communication with E.T.'s,) Snowbird

(E.T. craft technology and efforts to fly one), Aquarius (overall research and contact program re: E.T.'s)—and one 'closed' project with a name similar to Garnet which involved the E.T. connection with human evolution."

"Agent Doty said I was being shown the briefing paper because the government intended to release to me several thousand feet of color and black and white film taken between 1947 and 1964 showing crashed UFO discs and extraterrestrial bodies as historic footage to be included in the HBO documentary, supported with official government confirmation. The term 'Ebe' was also used to describe the 'Grays,' a government acronym for 'extraterrestrial biological entity/s.'..." (Emphasis added.)

#### DID ANYBODY BRING A SHOVEL?

As early as 1981, Bill Moore was slicing up the same phony baloney, telling his buddy Tracy Torme (son of Mel) that "if the world knew the results of the U.S. UFO projects, there would be a very bad reaction from very devout Christians in particular." Torme, in turn, passed on Moore's 'revelations' to members of the Canadian U.F.O. Research Network (CUFORN) in 1982. CUFORN packaged the collected Moore rantings in a report entitled "Information For Those With A 'Need To Know' Clearance Only." (Apparently, those with the "Need To Know" would know whether they had the "need to know;" and those that didn't would know they didn't have the need to know, and would therefore not read the CUFORN report.)

According to CUFORN, Torme had learned from Moore (who in turn was getting the info from his favorite source, Doty) that "there are some...dead, preserved humanoids from crash-retrievals in secure places in a section of Kirtland Air Force Base known as Manzano Advanced Weapons Storage Area. There are also two or three retrieved UFOs at Manzano. One crashed in the early 1970's, one in 1947 at Roswell, New Mexico and one in another area which is either Kingman, Arizona or Aztec, New Mexico." (If this sounds familiar, go back to p.7, re: Doty/Howe.)

Moore also had a slightly twisted version about how the the crudely-hoaxed "Aquarius" message got into circulation. CUFORN's account: "Bill Moore told us that when he left his briefcase unlocked for a minute or so in San Francisco International Airport in early 1983, a copy of the stolen teletype mentioning Aquarius was taken from the briefcase. Peter Gersten, the attorney representing Citizen's Against UFO Secrecy, must have taken it from the case, because only a few days later, Gersten appeared on ABC-TV's 'Good Morning, America' show and showed the teletype on camera in a brief interview, according to Bill Moore..."

Meanwhile, the "retyped" (by Moore) 'Aquarius' message was being frantically zeroxed throughout UFOlogy. Why Moore chose to spin a yarn about Gersten stealing the teletype from his briefcase is typical of the way he's tried to promulgate mystique over and over during this sorry affair. In similar fashion, he gave 'documents' to Lee Graham, then turned around and acted as though Graham had been given the material by

some super-secret "deep-throat" intelligence source. Evidently, by circulating the bogus messages and 'briefing papers' and then obfuscating the source of the material, Moore hoped to establish a validity for the 'leaked' papers that a straightforward release accompanied by full disclosure would never accomplish.

Moore has also attempted to create mystique by assigning his pet "sources" codenames. Richard Doty, before his retirement and reported fall from grace, was NCOIC of the Kirtland base investigations detachment, then the NCOIC of AFOSI Det. 1406. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is much like the detective branch of a police department, and is not an intelligence agency or branch, although it does perform counterintelligence functions with respect to Air Force personnel. Doty, given the codename "Falcon" by Moore, finished his career as an assistant in administration and logistics at Lindsey AFB, W. Germany, then came back to Kirtland to serve as a food service specialist. Sources at Kirtland have confirmed Doty was forced to leave AFOSI because of "financial irregularities" he was involved in.

Probably the most honest statements Doty has ever made were contained in letters to Barry Greenwood and Larry Bryant. Regarding showing Linda Howe a purported "presidential briefing paper" about crashed saucers, alien bodies and government projects pertaining to contacts with extraterrestrials, Doty stated: "First of all, I was not in a position to obtain any presidential briefing documents...I know of no secret Government

investigation of UFOs. I have never heard of MJ-12 or any secret Government agency that investigates UFOs."

Other than those disclaimers, Doty's statements are consistent only in their falsity and being contradictory. For example, in his letter to Greenwood Doty states: "After I received permission from my supervisor, I agreed to meet with Ms. Howe...The meeting lasted approximately one hours (sic) and was monitored by my supervisor." In his letter to Bryant, written only two days after his letter to Greenwood, Doty says: "The meeting lasted approximately one hour and was monitored by two of my supervisors." Like most things with Doty, the numbers grow in time, embellishments upon embellishments, lies upon lies. More recently, for example, Doty wrote to Patrick Huyghe, a writer, and Robert Hastings, a Ufologist who recently published a fact-finding report on the MJ-12 affair, telling them in separate letters, "At present, my job deals with investigations and I do work for a Government agency. However, I do not have anything to do with UFO research or investigations...I presently no longer reside in New Mexico, but I do have a forwarding service in New Mexico. If you should respond to this letter please allow approximately one month for my reply." In point of fact, Doty is currently employed as a highway patrolman for the New Mexico State Police and he resides on Kingman St. in Grants, New Mexico, where he has a listed phone number under the name "Rick" Doty. But, of course, like his pal Bill Moore Doty finds it necessary to embellish and distort the facts in order to attempt to convey an aura

of mystery and mystique that otherwise would not be present if he plain told the truth.

#### MOORE FALCON AROUND

The effort to publish "Falcon" Doty's MJ-12 and Aquarius ravings began in January 1982. At Moore's request, Enquirer reporter Bob Pratt flew to Phoenix to, in Pratt's words, "... talk to me about something he couldn't discuss on the phone." The something turned out to be "Project Aquarius, MJ-12 and a number of other things." Eventually, Pratt found out Moore's source for the material was "Richard Doty, the AFOSI agent."

After considering the matter, Pratt says, "We couldn't see any way we could prove Bill's claims in a non-fiction book, so we agreed we write a novel and pass these 'facts' as fiction. For some reason, Bill wanted me to write the book. His contribution would be the raw information." The plot centers around a heroic AFOSI agent who is initially skeptical, but becomes a believer after investigating the 'Ellsworth incident'—the case Pratt had found to be a hoax but which Doty continued to promote as legitimate to various people, eventually admitting he had forged the incident report, yet insisting the alien shoot-out had actually occurred.

The two writers didn't come up with a final draft of the fictional book until the fall of 1983, at which time Pratt received a copy of the draft from Moore with the name "Ronald L. Davis" on the title page as the third partner, obviously to mask Doty's identity with the publishers to whom Moore's agent

presented the finished product. However, to clarify there's no doubt Ron Davis was Rick Doty, Pratt adds: "I have never met or talked with Richard Doty or corresponded with him. I don't know if he exists. I have only Bill's word for it that he was involved in our manuscript!" (Emphasis added.)

Evidently, however, Moore and Doty weren't willing to put all their egg-shaped objects in one basket. As noted earlier, Linda Howe met with Doty in April 1983. To pick up the story again, after she departed Kirtland and returned to Denver she went to visit friend and fellow cattle mutilations buff Tom Adams for a few days. Upon her return to Denver from seeing Adams, Howe received a strange phone call from Doty. "Why did you tell Bill Moore that you and I had spent the night together?" Doty demanded to know, inferring that Howe had told Moore that she and Doty had engaged in sexual activity. Howe was stunned and caught off guard; she knew who Moore was via his authorship of "The Roswell Incident," but had never met with or spoken to him. She immediately set out to locate Moore and then phoned him to find out why Moore had told such a fib to Doty. Moore denied telling Doty any such thing, but the gambit had resulted in Moore and Howe establishing communications.

Moore called her several times thereafter and in August 1983 came to Denver to meet with her. Moore asked Howe if she was working with MJ-12 (which is what Doty had led her to believe) and inferred that he was working for the government as well. He told Howe that Project Aquarius had been changed to Project Bluestand, apparently because all the publicity—most of it

generated by Moore—had compromised the codename.

In his phone calls prior to the visit, Moore had suggested the two of them could share information and do something big—like a book/movie combination (not mentioning, of course, that at the same time he was writing a fictional novel about the same material with Bob Pratt!). In Denver, Moore repeated his plans for a bombshell combo, attempting to convince Howe that the two of them could reap huge rewards. Howe, however, took the position, as she had with Doty, that since she'd been chosen to act as a conduit to provide government information to the public, she considered it her patriotic duty and she would decline any payments for her efforts, only reimbursement of expenses. Moore was chagrined and said something like, "I intend to make a lot of money from this."

Prior to meeting Doty, Howe was already working on a documentary for HBO, "UFOs: The E.T. Factor," and she conferred with Doty in April and May about the thousands of feet of film depicting aliens and crashed discs he had promised to provide. At one point, Doty suggested she might be allowed to film an interview with a captured alien known as "EBE-3". HBO, meanwhile, evidently not even sniffing much less smelling a rat, insisted Howe obtain a signed release to show Doty's films from the Secretaries of State and Defense, plus the Joint Chiefs of Staff, or at least have the evidence examined by this distinguished panel in HBO's presence. Howe wrote letters on May 10 and May 14, 1983, to Doty at AFOSI at Kirtland, asking Doty for clarification of

of the government's intention and for permission to interview EBE-1's companion, reputed to be a now-retired Colonel. Doty, evidently not someone who sees moderation as a virtue, piled it on, telling Howe she would soon be able to interview the colonel, who, as a captain, had spent three years with EBE-1, the first captured alien. Unfortunately, Doty said, it would be three months before Howe could screen the 68,000 feet of film, and she would have to sign three security oaths and undergo a security check.

By now Doty had piled the B.S. so high it toppled over on him. In June he called Howe to report he'd been taken off the project. Howe claims she was approached in late 1984 by another man while at Washington National Airport, someone who reportedly showed her government identification, but she is uncharacteristically vague and guarded about it, and refuses to disclose further details other than to say the man told her "political conditions" were preventing the release of the material Doty had described.

Somewhere in the middle of all this, Moore approached UFOlogist Brad Sparks, a researcher whose knowledge of the intelligence community was mostly gleaned from books, but also a man with a keen mind and a remarkable memory, as well as a demonstrated ability to wade through information and sort out the facts. Moore asked Sparks which of the reputed crashed saucer cases he thought had validity. Sparks responded that he felt only two of the cases showed some promise: the Roswell incident of 1947, which Moore had written about, and one that

reportedly occurred in Dec. 1950 near the Texas/Mexico border.

To put Moore's relationship with Sparks in perspective, I quote from The Roswell Incident, which he co-authored (p.131): "In December 1977, under leadership of Brad Sparks, CAUS's technical consultant and director of research, the CAUS group completely assumed management of the pending GSW suit, and through discovery procedure and actual at-the-table negotiations succeeded in obtaining a court order from the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., which supposedly forced the CIA to do a file search for all its components for material relating to UFOs." In the book, on the same page, Moore describes me as "W.T. Zechel...a one-time radio-telegraph operator with the Army Security Agency."

As the man who filed the suit with Peter Gersten as the attorney, and as the person who attended a Status Call hearing on the suit in July 1978 and proceeded to hammer out an agreement with the U.S. Attorney and the CIA's attorney in which it was stipulated the CIA would search its files and account for all UFO-related documents, I can tell you what Moore says is patently false and meant to puff up Sparks and denigrate me. Sparks had worked with Gersten for several months on a discovery motion, but the CIA had totally ignored it, and, until I started threatening them with exposure of misdeeds at the status meeting, was set to have the suit dismissed under Summary Judgement. Furthermore, there was never any take-over of the suit by CAUS, nor did Sparks ever assume control, except to whatever degree he consorted with Gersten behind my back.

For the record, I will state that in mid-1979 Sparks requested that I resign as CAUS director, accusing me of fiscal mismanagement. I was happy to oblige, having grown tired of pumping what little money I had into the CAUS and of Sparks' petty jealousy, which all too often manifested itself in behind-the-back sniping. I also thought giving Sparks a chance to be captain of the ship would give him a taste of what it was like lead the charge and pay for it at the same time. It should be noted that Sparks failed to produce even one issue of the newsletter, to my knowledge, and CAUS's subsequent legal efforts were all dismissed under Summary Judgement.

After conferring with Sparks, Moore, according to his pal Jerome Clark's account in Fate magazine, was at a motel in up-state New York when "at precisely 5:00 P.M. someone knocked on the door and a man appeared with bundle under his arm. He said to Moore that he had 17 minutes to do whatever he wanted with what he was about to be given. He could copy it but he couldn't keep it. Moore had a camera and did his best. The document purported to be a briefing paper telling newly-elected President Jimmy Carter about MJ-12, Project Aquarius, the little gray men and the rest." (Emphasis added.)

In the same article, Clark reports: "In December 1984 television producer Jaime Shandera received roll of 35mm film in an unmarked envelope. When developed, it was found to contain what purports to be a briefing paper prepared for President-elect Eisenhower detailing recoveries of crashed UFOs and humanoid bodies and describing formation of ultrasecret 'Majestic 12'

group to deal with issue." (Emphasis added.)

When I asked Clark if it didn't seem curious that Moore had claimed to have photographed a 'presidential briefing paper' about essentially the same subjects as the ones contained in the photographs received by Shandara, Clark passed it off by stating, "Oh, that was a different briefing paper." Well, ok, so Moore and company then have two different briefing papers, right? And he chose to make public the "Eisenhower" paper, not the "Carter" paper, which seemingly would have contained up-dated information. HMMMMM!

Perhaps even more revealingly, Clark writes in his 1988 Fate article, "UFO Crashes," that "the sources (Moore's) spoke of two UFO crashes, the 1947 one at Roswell, another along the Texas-Mexico border in December 1950. A humanoid was found alive in 1949 and housed at Los Alamos between 1949 and 1953, when he died of unknown causes. An air force captain, now a retired colonel, had been his constant companion during those years and much was learned from EBE-1..." (Emphasis added.)

This is exactly the same drivel Doty was peddling to Linda Howe in April, May and June 1983—with one notable refinement: now instead of there being four crashed saucer cases, as Doty's original 'briefing paper' had described, the "sources" were promoting only two, and they just happened to be the same two Brad Sparks had indicated to Moore might have merit. Gee, what a remarkable coincidence!

And what happened to the 'Jimmy Carter Briefing Paper' on MJ-12, Aquarius and the whole shee-bang?.....well, in the great David Letterman tradition, let's try a "Top Five List" of excuses why Bill Moore can't produce the Carter Paper:

#5. The damn Photomat mixed up my photos with someone else's and I ended up with pictures of predatory birds.

#4. Peter Gersten stole them out of my briefcase while I was blinking my eyes.

#3. I gave the original negatives of the briefing paper to Lee Graham, but he thinks he got them from a real intelligence source and won't give them back to me.

#2. EBE-3, during one of his frequent visits, spilled strawberry ice cream all over the negatives and ruined them.

And the number one excuse why Bill Moore can't produce the Carter briefing paper is.....

#1. The negatives are being stored in the Manzano Advanced Weapons Storage Area at Kirtland and it's too much trouble crawling over all those dead aliens and downed discs to fish them out.

#### INTRODUCING OUR NEW, IMPROVED BRIEFING PAPER

In 1983, Bill Moore was a busy man. First there was the novel he was writing with Bob Pratt and Rick Doty about the MJ-12/Aquarius matters and the heroic AFOSI agent who was trying to make them public; then there was the non-fiction blockbuster dynamic duo he tried to form with Linda Howe, with Doty being the not-so-secret middleman in this bizarre menage-a-trois;

and meanwhile he had also teamed up with Stan Friedman to write an up-date of the Roswell story, apparently incorporating the MJ-12/Aquarius material and the rest of Doty's ravings. Moore, obviously, likes to hedge his bets.

By mid-1984, the novel had fizzled, evidently due to lack of interest from publishers. Having failed to sell Doty's 'revelations' as fiction, Moore decided to concentrate his efforts on selling them as fact. In December 1984, lo and behold, Jaime Shandera receives a package in the mail containing a new and improved 'briefing paper.' Billed as a briefing paper prepared for "President-elect Eisenhower," the 'document' contains a rather lengthy description of the Roswell incident—which just happens to verify Moore's contentions and misrepresentations of the facts—but only a sparse paragraph describing a second incident in December 1950. According to the new, improved model:

"On 06 December 1950, a second object, probably of similar origin, impacted the earth at high speed in the El Indio-Guerrero area of the Texas - Mexican boder (sic) after following a long trajectory through the atmosphere. By the time a search team arrived, what remained of the object had been almost totally incinerated. Such material as could be recovered was transported to the A.E.C. facility at Sandia, New Mexico, for study."

Now where did this come from, Doty or Moore? Well, in 1978 I signed a book deal with Jerome Clark to write "Under Intelligence Control," and had written a chapter about crashed saucers which I submitted to Clark. In it, I set up my presentation of the crashed saucer case I had been investigating by describing

my investigation of the Roswell incident, which I conducted in 1977 at the behest of Stan Friedman while I was employed as a technical consultant for Scotia-American Productions. Everything I had uncovered pointed to the recovered debris at Roswell being a balloon, just as the Air Force had contended. So I used Roswell as an example of how crashed saucer tales had been promulgated and compared it to the case I was developing, which was much more substantial and promising.

In June 1979, I flew to Hollywood, Ca., for a two-week stay in an attempt to sell the movie rights for the yet-to-be-written "Under Intelligence Control," as I had been advised by our literary agent to do. Once in movieland, I quickly discovered there was little interest in movie rights to an unpublished book by relatively unknown authors. Prior to the trip I had been frantically trying to raise funds to continue research and handle my living expenses. In January 1979 I had asked our agent if I could speak with the publisher and attempt to negotiate a better advance, based upon promising developments in the crashed saucer investigation, but she refused. In February I started cranking out chapters for the book, even though the original agreement had called for Clark to write the book and me to do the research. A month or two later I asked Clark to send these chapters into the publisher so we could get the second stage of our advance, but he refused, saying he wanted to wait until the entire book was finished before doing anything.

Meanwhile, I was determined not to publish my crashed saucer case until it had been thoroughly researched, substantiated

and the matter taken into court under the Freedom of Information Act and proven. An agent in Hollywood suggested that he might be able to arrange a movie development deal which would provide the funding for such a venture, but first I would have to separate the case legally from the book. Having grown dissatisfied with Clark's efforts, and those of our new partner, Brad Sparks, I contacted them and offered to buy my way out of the deal, stating I would repay my share of the advance and turn over all the material related to the book, including my research materials, and let them have total control of it and all income from it if they would just exclude the crashed saucer case. My attorney also wanted me to be given a legal release by them so that I was free to pursue efforts to obtain funding for the crashed saucer investigation.

Although Clark seemed initially receptive to the deal, Sparks apparently suspected there was some goldmine just ahead and recommended to Clark a course of foot-dragging, evidently <sup>on</sup> hoping I'd cut them in my non-existent 'lucrative' deal in order to get rid of them. If there had been any substantial offers, I would have been glad to share some of it with them just to end the agony, but 50% of nothing is still nothing.

Eventually, Clark and Sparks went ahead without me, without informing me of the fact, of course. But the book they wrote together was rejected as "tedious and unreadable" by the publisher. Reportedly, they then turned around and attempted to market their book to other publishers as "UFO Wars," but it too was rejected. What I didn't learn until years later was that Clark

had either given or sold my crashed saucer manuscript to Bill Moore, apparently as an act of 'revenge!'

So Moore learned that I had knocked his Roswell caper, which he and co-writer Charles Berlitz reportedly received over \$500,000 in advance for, mostly in foreign rights. In fact the one and only time I met Bill Moore, at a screening in Hollywood in 1980, the first words out of his mouth to me were: "I'll bet you've heard you can't make money from UFOs. Well, I proved that wrong!"

In 1982, I wrote a presentation manuscript on the crashed saucer case at the behest of Tim Scott, a Hollywood-based editor of a TV guide. Scott in turn sent the manuscript to an editor in Harper & Row's west coast office in San Francisco. A few days later I received a rejection slip stating that Harper & Row did not fund research. I was miffed, but could live with it. A couple of weeks later I learned that Stan Friedman had contacted Peter Gersten to complain I was circulating a "hoax" letter purportedly written by Gersten. The letter in question was one Gersten had written me acknowledging that I was responsible for the FOIA suit against the CIA and expressing his willingness to file a crashed saucer suit in my behalf. I had included the letter in my presentation to Harper & Row, and only there, so I knew Friedman must have gotten a copy of my manuscript. Evidently, Friedman had been misled by Sparks or by Moore regarding my key role in the suit, and therefore thought a letter citing such a role was a , hoax.

Friedman's reaction to my jumping him about possessing a proprietary manuscript of a competing writer was to throw accusations of misdeeds at me, as though that justified he and Moore expropriating my manuscript. He taunted me about the Roswell case, saying I had "blown it" when he offered it to me in 1977. I said, as I said then, thanks but no thanks. I hold firmly to the conviction.

In any case, I then contacted Harper & Row's legal department, threatening to sue if the manuscript was not returned by Moore and Friedman. A protracted wrangle, marked by the typical childish and desultory comments and accusations by Moore and Friedman, ensued. My major crime, obviously, had been to point out the misrepresentations and fallacies of the Roswell case, and if I was demonstrably wrong, why be so over-reactive, accusatory and why mount personal attacks, character assassinations and smear campaigns rather than address the central issues? Friedman decries Klass, but readily uses Klassian tactics whenever something he's promoting is called into question. When Klass attacks something he and Moore are attempting to establish as fact, it's dirty pool and threats of legal action are thrown around like such much hot air. But it's alright for Friedman to call Barry Greenwood "stupid, lazy and inept" for daring to question the MJ-12 release.

The point is that Moore, in rather dishonest fashion, obtained copies of two separate manuscripts I had written about the crashed saucer case which reportedly occurred in Dec. 1950,

near the Texas-Mexico border. The first manuscript, the one Moore obtained from Clark, gave the location of the incident as near Laredo, Texas. The second manuscript, the one obtained from a Harper & Row editor (ostensibly for the purpose of review), gave the date of the incident as happening between Dec. 5 and Dec. 8, 1950, and the location as near Del Rio, Texas.

The 'briefing paper' Moore circulated sort of halves all the differences, stating the date as "06 December 1950," and locating the crash at "the El Indio - Guerrero (sic) area of the Texas - Mexican (sic) border (sic)"—almost precisely half-way between Laredo and Del Rio. No witnesses that I know of support the El Indio location given in the 'briefing paper,' but, on the contrary, several eye-witness accounts have verified the Del Rio site. Moore, however, would not have known that, since I myself did not know these facts until a couple of years after I left Hollywood.

And what about the matter of the saucer being "almost totally incinerated," as the 'briefing paper' contends? Well, this would be incredible news to a number of eye-witnesses who saw the saucer on the ground and helped recover it, and to those who studied the recovered craft for the government. I submit to you that this clearly shows Bill Moore's hand (I said it wasn't quicker than the eye) in creating the documents. What I'm saying is that he clearly knew, based upon my manuscripts and Brad Sparks' input, that he had to acknowledge the 1950 case in the 'briefing paper,' but with all the bitterness, acrimony, jealousy

and hate he feels toward me (for exposing the Roswell caper in my manuscript), he just had to burn that sucker up!

#### SPREADING THE WORD

In 1985, Moore began verbally leaking the contents of the 'briefing papers,' and in some cases provided 'censored' copies containing blacked-out portions to selected UFOlogists such as Lee Graham. For the most part, the UFOlogical community sopped it up like reformed sinners at a revival meeting. UFOlogy was abuzz with rumors about captured aliens, downed discs and ultra-secret projects in which the U.S. government was communicating with aliens on a regular basis. Terms like "EBE's" and "Grays" and "Highs" became part of the UFOlogical jargon, and the Moore/Doty 'revelations' worked their way into the hearts and minds of even some of the more conservative UFOlogists. The campaign, in one sense, was reminiscent of the CIA's 1954 "Operation Success," in which the Guatemalan government of Jacobo Arbenz had been induced to surrender control nearly without a shot being fired; clandestine psychological warfare convinced the Arbenz forces that they were about to be overwhelmed and they threw in the towel rather than suffer a bloodbath. In reality, the 'imminent' overthrow was as fictitious as Doty's evidence.

Moore's version of "Operation Success" went on for almost 2½ years, providing ample time for someone to plant a bogus document at the National Archives, the now-famous "Cutler memo," and concoct a purported directive signed by President Truman

instructing Secretary of Defense Forrestal that "hereafter this matter shall be referred to only as Operation Majestic Twelve."

Meanwhile, Doty was in his glory. According to Clark's Fate article, "Falcon" Doty had reached the high-water mark of his yarn-spinning: "What is being covered up, he (Doty) says, is visitation by nine different extraterrestrial races. He says nothing about seven of them and only briefly mentions another, this one made up of aliens five feet tall, slender, with hair and slanting eyes. Mostly he talks about the little gray-skinned people (sic) who come from the third planet surrounding Zeta Reticuli. They have been here for 25,000 years and influenced the direction of human evolution. They also played a large role in the shaping of our religious beliefs."

Clark, apparently happy to do for Bill Moore what David Atlee Phillips did for "Operation Success," further toodles: "He talks about Majestic-12 and Project Aquarius. He says he doesn't know who the current members of MJ-12 are. He does say, however, that John Poindexter, Harold Brown and James Scheslinger are among those in the know. He talks about how four groups, each consisting of 200 persons, conduct secret UFO investigations in four assigned areas of the United States. He mentions the Roswell and Texas-Mexico crash(sic). He says the bodies of the occupants, when autopsied, proved to be remarkably uncomplicated, with relatively few internal organs." (Emphasis added.)

But the 'new' and improved "Falcon" was much like the new, improved 'briefing paper:' there were echos from the past like the pseudo-religious garbage Tracy Torme laid on CUFORN in 1982. Doty, however, had made one notable improvement: now instead of talking about four crashed saucer cases, he had evidently toed the party line and was talking only about Roswell and Texas-Mexico—coincidentally the same two cases mentioned in the new, improved 'briefing paper.'

Also noteworthy is the fact neither the 'briefing papers' nor Doty's rambling 'revelations' provide any sort of scientific detail that one would expect to be present in ultra-secret government reports about such matters. Doty's most detailed description of the aliens states that "the bodies of the occupants...proved to be remarkably uncomplicated, with relatively few internal organs." Well, give him credit: at least he didn't try to construct some detailed poppycock posed in pseudo-medical terms that would have been transparently obvious. Conveniently, the 'briefing paper' reports that the Roswell saucer's propulsion system was apparently blown up in the crash, thereby relieving Moore of the necessity of explaining how the 'craft' was propelled and not forcing him to stretch the limits of his imagination. Not so remarkably, the 'briefing papers' are themselves as limited in details as Doty's description of the "occupants," devoting a long paragraph to describe the Kenneth Arnold sighting and the aftermath, hardly "top secret" matters even in 1947. Except for confirmation of Moore's own contentions about the Roswell incident, the 'documents' are

conveniently missing any sort of scientific data that could be compared to known facts. Moreover, large portions of the "Eisenhower" 'briefing paper' were blacked-out, reportedly by Moore and his cohorts. To date, to my knowledge none of the censored portions have been revealed, nor have explanations of why these arbitrary censorships took place been forthcoming. Instead, the debate over the validity of the material centers around nit-picking issues defined by Friedman, et al.

### THREE "PAPERS" : NO WAITING

After circulating the 'documents' and Doty's UFO fantasies for over two years, Moore, having not encountered any substantial resistance, evidently felt safe to begin releasing the material to the public in April and June 1987. A press conference was held in Burbank in June, but the release didn't become frontpage news nor did the TV networks treat it as anything other than a quirky sidelight. But later in June, Stan Friedman appeared with the documents on ABC-TV's "Nightline," in conjunction with publicizing a MUFON meeting being held concurrently in Washington, DC. Still, the world did not tremble in fear or awe.

In September 1987, Robert "Bob" Collins, an Air Force captain assigned to the Sandia Plasma Lab in Albuquerque, phoned Linda Howe to discuss a 'briefing paper.' Howe recognized the 'paper' as very similar to the one shown to her by Doty in April 1983, as Collins read from it. It was definitely not the same 'briefing paper' Moore had released to the public

two months earlier. Howe asked Collins where he had gotten the 'paper,' thinking he would say Richard Doty. Collins, however, acknowledged he had in fact obtained it from "Bill Moore," whom he was meeting regularly—and being categorized by Moore as a "source." Moore had given Collins the codename "Condor," and it was he who appeared on nationwide TV last October as "Condor," introduced as a "government scientist," talking about aliens having a secret underground base in Nevada. Collins has since resigned from the Air Force and reportedly lives with a girlfriend in Richmond, Indiana. Neither Collins nor Moore have explained how an air force officer working in a mundane physics lab would have access to what presumably is one of the nation's best-kept "secrets." Perhaps it is mere coincidence Collins' 'revelations' very similar to the ravings of Paul Bennewitz, the mentally disturbed person who originated most of the "secret underground alien bases" stories.

In any event, Moore apparently possesses three separate 'briefing papers': the "Eisenhower" paper; the "Carter" paper he photographed in a New York motel; and the one "Condor" quoted from over the phone to Howe, which appears to be Doty's. Isn't it curious only one of these 'papers' have been released?

But, then, these things do take time, don't they? I mean it did take over two years to 'check out' the first released 'documents'—and then add this disclaimer: "This information is being shared with the UFO community, and through them, ultimately, with the public at large, in anticipation that the

resulting controversy will prove useful in further verifying the authenticity of its contents..." (Emphasis added.)

Controversy reared its ugly head in September 1987, when Barry Greenwood and Larry Fawcett of CAUS published the results of a lengthy and extensive investigation of the material Moore released. The report, JUST CAUSE #13, poked gaping holes in everything Moore was putting out. But instead of being greeted with cheers and congratulations, they were stoned with brickbats and scorned as heretics. None of the vilifications, however, successfully dealt with any of the major issues and doubts about the validity of the 'documents' they raised.

In point of fact, Greenwood and Fawcett are about the only UFOlogical leaders who have acted responsibly, objectively and decisively throughout this whole sordid mess. Most of the rest have aided and abetted the hoax through various forms of credulity, gullibility, religiosity and plain failure to observe the obvious and see the truth.

In the end, UFOlogy can say it was hood-winked, or that it was government disinformation. But you know, children have always been a lousy audience for a magic act because they watch what's really going on, not the attempts to distract them from seeing the sleeve or coat something is pulled out from. Conversely, UFOlogy has a propensity to watch the smoke and fire and all the twirling around and the obfuscations. And then they're awed and angered when someone comes up after it's all over and explains to them how easily the trick was done.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Sept. 1980: Doty calls Albuquerque radio station at which Moore had just been interviewed; they arrange to meet, and thereafter meet together over "100 times."

Around the same time, Doty is meeting with Paul Bennewitz, tabbed as a "paranoid schizophrenic" by Jerry Miller. Bennewitz contends UFOs are flying in and out of the Manzano Weapons Area, talks about aliens being "Extraterrestrial Biological Entities--EBEs"--and says the "EBEs" and the U.S. government are in secret communications and jointly man underground bases. Later, Bennewitz's own family has him committed to a mental hospital.

1981: Doty apparently combines Bennewitz's wild stories with Moore's own speculations and feeds them back to Moore as "super-secret" information being leaked to him. Moore relates Doty's wild stories to Tracy Torme, who in 1982 relates them to a group of Canadian UFOlogists.

Jan. 1982: Moore contacts Bob Pratt, National Enquirer reporter, wanting to discuss something he can't reveal over the phone. Pratt flies out to meet Moore in Phoenix; they discuss the MJ-12/-Aquarius stories Doty is laying on Moore and decide to write a fictional novel about a "heroic" AFOSI agent who becomes a believer after investigating the 'Ellsworth incident.'

Nov. 1982: Barry Greenwood and Larry Fawcett watch tape of "The UFO Experience" TV documentary produced by Ron Lakis, obtain details of AFOSI report marked "SECRET" shown on program--a document apparently given to Moore by Doty--and submit FOIA request.

Dec. 1982: The report, now marked "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY," is released from Kirtland along with three other "documents." It describes Doty meeting with Bennewitz regarding Bennewitz's purported photos of UFOs taking off and landing at Kirtland.

Jan. 1983: Ron Lakis, William Moore, Richard Doty and Peter Gersten meet in Albuquerque. Doty promotes 'Ellsworth incident,' MJ-12, Aquarius and similar bogus info. Moore asks Gersten not to mention Project Aquarius because "(he) was given the info in confidence by Doty." Doty meets alone with Gersten and reportedly offers to sell him documents and information. Gersten declines the offer.

April 1983: TV producer Linda Howe meets with Doty at Kirtland. Doty says his superiors have asked him to show Howe a "Presidential Briefing Paper" about crashed discs (four incidents), MJ-12, Aquarius and other projects related to government communications with "EBEs." He says the government will provide her with 68,000 feet of film depicting these matters.

## CHRONOLOGY contd.

April 1983: Doty calls Howe and asks, "Why did you tell Bill Moore that you and I spent the night together?" Howe contacts Moore to find out he told fib to Doty. Moore denies it, but thereafter begins to call Howe offering to work together to put out book and TV based on Doty's info.

April/May 1983: Howe and Doty confer by phone. Doty says Howe will soon be able to interview retired Colonel who as a captain spent three years as companion to "EBE-1," reputedly the first captured alien. Doty also says Howe will have to wait three months to screen 68,000 feet of film he promised and must undergo three security oaths and security check (this is after telling her about all these purported ultra-secret matters).

Howe writes two letters to Doty at Kirtland requesting clarification of the government's intentions and supplies info about personnel involved in HBO program.

June 1983: Doty calls Howe to say he's been "taken off the project," and that someone else will be in touch with her. Howe is left holding the bag with HBO.

August 1983: Moore visits Howe in Denver, asks if she is working with MJ-12 and infers he works for or with the government as well. Moore says the two of them should team up to do something big, not mentioning that at the same time he's working on a fictional novel with Bob Pratt about the same material. Howe says she only wants expenses reimbursed; Moore says he plans to "make a great deal of money" from the project.

Around the same time, Moore confers with Brad Sparks, asks which crashed saucer cases he thinks are valid. Sparks says only two: Roswell and 1950 Texas-Mexico.

Month unknown 1983: In a motel in upstate New York Moore is visited by a man at 5:00 P.M. who hands him a bundle and says he has 17 minutes to do whatever he wants with it; he can copy it but can't keep it. As Fate reports, "Moore had a camera and did his best." The bundle was a 'briefing paper' for "newly-elected President Jimmy Carter about MJ-12, Project Aquarius, the little gray men and all the rest."

(It is uncertain when this incident purportedly happened; Clark's account in Fate does not indicate a time-frame for the photographing of the 'Carter' paper by Moore, and if one assumes Moore had a hand in forging the 'documents,' then it makes sense there would be deliberate vagueness about the alleged date--since in all likelihood the incident itself is as phony as the 'paper.')

June/July 1984: The book deal with Bob Pratt fizzles out, and the novel is shelved. Instead, Moore redoubles his efforts to sell Doty's stories as fact rather than fiction.

## CRONOLOGY contd.

Dec. 1984: Film & TV producer Jaime Shandera, who had quit his job to devote full time to work with Moore, according to Fate, receives a package in the mail containing a 'briefing paper' for "President-elect Eisenhower." The 'paper' details recoveries of two crashed UFOs and the formation of the "ultrasecret 'Majestic 12' group to deal with the issue."

1985: Moore begins to circulate stories that he is a conduit for ultrasecret UFO material to be released to the public. He gives censored (blacked-out) documents to selective people like Lee Graham. Rumors about EBES, supersecret UFO projects, contacts with extraterrestrials and an impending release of this information by the government have UFOlogy buzzing with expectation.

May 1986: Lee Graham submits an FOIA request to the Defense Investigative Service (DIS), apparently attempting to validate the 'briefing papers' given to him by Moore. Graham tells the DIS that "...the source of the document...had indicated to me that he had been approached by AFOSI for that very purpose, i.e., to disseminate information to the Public (sic) in order to convince them that the UFO phenomena was real and of extraterrestrial origin." Graham also claimed that the source--who turned out to be Bill Moore--had shown him an identification card "just like" the ones shown to him by DIS agents. Moore later claimed he had simply showed Graham his MUFON membership card as a joke.

April 1987: Moore partially releases the 'briefing papers' in conjunction with the publication of his FOCUS newsletter, indicating the "Aquarius" documents had been provided by Lee Graham, who reportedly got them from an intelligence source. The source was Moore.

June 1987: Stan Friedman appears on ABC-TV's "Nightline" with the documents.

September 1987: CAUS officials Barry Greenwood and Larry Fawcett rip gaping holes in the 'briefing papers' in JUST CAUSE #13.

Sept./Oct. 1987: Jerome Clark provides platform for Moore and Friedman to fire back in the International UFO Reporter, which he edits ("MJ-12: The Evidence So Far")

Nov. 1988: "UFO Cover-up--Live" is aired and is a ratings disaster. Ass. prod. Brubaker had contacted Moore and Friedman after hearing them on an L.A. radio show, then approached a syndicator with the idea of a cover-up show. "Falcon" and "Condor" appear in blacked-out interviews. The public turns it off.