

SPECIAL REPORT 3

OPERATION BLUE FLY: STILL CLASSIFIED

BY

Clifford E. Stone

November 18, 1990

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GENERAL DISCUSSION

In 1977 and 1978 many UFO researchers quired the U.S. Government for what ever information they might have on a Project Moon Dust. I also asked for this information.

Most of the documentation that was released under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act dealt with alleged fallen space debri. However, one document released by the Office of Air Force Intelligence raised more questions than that agency was willing to answer. To the best of my knowledge this has been the only document released under FOIA making any reference to Operation Blue Fly.

This document was once classified Secret (portions of this document are still classified). The document in question is dated November 13, 1961 and the subject of the letter was "AFCIN Intelligence Team Personnel." The document was authored by a Colonel Betz of Air Force Intelligence.

According to this once classified document, Project Moon Dust was a specialized aspect of the U.S. Air Force's over-all material exploitation program to locate, recover and deliver descended foreign space vehicles. It is important to note at this point in this report that no reference is made to include UFO's as foreign space vehicles as part of Project Moon Dust. Therefore, one could conclude that we are talking about Soviet space craft and not UFO's. We shall see later in this report that this was not always the case.

Operation Blue Fly, according to this document, was established to facilitate expeditious delivery to FTD (Foreign Technology Division) of Moon Dust and other items of great technical intelligence interest. This did include items such as debri of UFO's. Air Force Continental Intelligence Command (AFCIN) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) dated February 12, 1961 for Blue Fly Operations makes it clear that objects or debri believed to be from objects of unknown orgin (UFO's) were to be included in Blue Fly operations as these items were considered to be of great technical intelligence interest to the U.S. Air Force Intelligence Command. This SOP is still classified. However, the U.S. Air Force can prove me wrong about the UFO issue. All the Air Force has to do is release this SOP uncensored. Right?

The Air Force Intelligence document further states that

these, "projects all involve a potential for employment of qualified field intelligence personnel on a quick reaction basis to recover or perform field exploitation of unidentified flying objects, or known Soviet/Bloc aerospace vehicles, weapons systems, and/or residual components of such equipment."

I must point out that this document seems to play up objects of "Soviet/Bloc" origin. However, I would suggest that the reader of this report look very closely at the quote above from the Air Force document. If one was to forget for a minute about the mentioning of Soviet/Bloc aerospace vehicles, we can see from the document that it is suggesting that UFO's are not only real objects but they also seem to have weapons systems.

Wanting to know more about what Operation Blue Fly was all about, I decided to write to several U.S. Government Agencies. I wrote those agencies on December 25, 1989. The following is an outline of the responses and actions taken by those agencies I quired.

OUTLINE OF RESPONSE ACTION TAKEN

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense: As of the date of this report no response has been received from this agency.

Defense Intelligence Agency: This agency released many Moon Dust documents in 1977, 1978 and 1987 to me in response to my FOIA requests. However, when my request was connected to Operation Blue Fly their response was, "Upon, review, it has been determined that all substantive portions of the information pertaining to Project "Moondust" are properly classified and are not releasable. The properly classified portions withheld are exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 (b) (1), Freedom of Information Act. Subsection (b) (1) applies to information properly classified under the criteria provided by Executive Order 12356. There are no reasonably segregable portions of this exempt material."

In short, the DIA was stating that the release of the information I was requesting would cause damage to the national security of the United States. Remember my request for information was directly related to UFO's. Does this mean that UFO's are a threat to our national security?

Department of States: This agency has uncovered several thousand documents responsive to my request for Moondust and Blue Fly material. However, these documents are still under security review for releasability and as of the date of this report none of these documents have been released.

Central Intelligence Agency: As of the dates of this report, the CIA has not responded to my request.

Air Force Intelligence Service: This agency stated in their response, "We have completed a thorough search of our records and found none responsive to your request." The date of this response was January 17, 1990. Keep this response in mind as you read the responses of the Department of the Air Force. I believe you too will find that there appears to be something wrong in these responses.

Department of the Air Force: The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force responded, "We do not have any records responsive to your request." This response was dated January 11, 1990. However the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force strangely reversed that response in a letter dated May 3, 1990. That response states, "We have two records responsive to your request. However, they are exempt from disclosure because the information contained in them is currently and properly classified."

"The authority for this exemption is in the United States Code, Title 5, Section 552 (b) (1) and Air Force Regulation 12-30, paragraph 10a." (Note: This allows for information to be classified and exempt from release in the interest of national security.)

Also, the letter states that, "The denial authority for this decision is Brigadier General Billy J. Bingham, Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence."

Furthermore, this letter stated that I could appeal this decision through the Air Force Intelligence Service.

Here we have the Air Force and the Air Force Intelligence Service denying any knowledge of the project and operation I was asking for information on, only to have the Air Force at a later date to admit to the existence of at least two documents responsive to my request and that it was the Air Force Intelligence Service that was denying me their release.

What I believe happened is that there was knowledge of my involvement of UFO's in the military and the possibility of my being involved in at least two Blue Fly Operations while assigned to Europe. This resulted in the Air Force and Air Force Intelligence Service to reverse their response and admit to the existence of two of these documents. To be sure there are more. At least 232 such documents are presently classified Top Secret, compartmented under the Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) Program and placed on the Special Access Program. This effectively keeps the public and most members of Congress ignorant of what the U.S. Government really knows about UFO's.

THE APPEAL ACTION

I decided to appeal the Air Force's denial of the release of the information knowing full well that they would never allow its release. What followed, I found to be quiet interesting.

I forwarded my appeal request to the Air Force on May 18, 1990. I based my appeal on the basis of the only known document to surface making any reference to Blue Fly was 29 years old and surely information that old could not have any intelligence value worthy of classification. That is, of course, unless the U.S. Government was trying to hide something. I believe this to be the case and I shall explain this believe in the conclusion of this report.

The first response I recieved from the Air Force concerning my appeal was from the Office of the Judge Advocate General, General Litigation Branch dated July 2, 1990. The office branch that responded to my appeal action fell under the Defense Investigative Service. I found this strange and could not help but wonder what interest the Defense Investigative Service might have in the processing or out come of my appeal action.

The letter from the Office of the Judge Advocate General stated, "The classified nature of the subject matter of your FOIA request requires that a separate classification review be conducted in conjunction with the processing of your appeal. Such reviews are accomplished by another office within Headquarters Air Force and we have forwarded your appeal for this additional review." Also, this letter led me to believe it would take several months before my appeal action would be completed. This was not the case.

The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force denied my appeal under a letter dated July 25, 1990 stating, "The information responsive to your request that is being withheld is currently properly classified pursuant to Executive Order and is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (1), and Air Force Regulation 12-30, paragraph 10a. Release of the information could cause identifiable damage to the national security. Thus, a significant and legitimate governmental purpose is served by its withholding, and discretionary release is not appropriate."

A point of interest to me in this case is why did the General Litigation Division and the Defense Investigative Service take an interest in the out come of my appeal? I have made such appeals under FOIA before but this was the first time the General Litigation Division, under the Defense Investigative Service took an active interest in such an appeal action.

Conclusion

Project Moon Dust and Operation Blue Fly were programs set up by the United States Air Force for the recovery, field exploitation and delivery of Soviet/Bloc space vehicles and objects of unknown origin.

If the Air Force recovered Soviet/Bloc space craft or space craft of any other nation they must under International agreement return them, the craft and/or debris, to the country from which the craft originated. There could exist a real need for the classification of information dealing with this area. However, I seriously doubt that security could or would be damaged by the release of information that is 20 to 30 years old or older.

However, if the the Air Force was to have recovered an Alien space craft from another solar system 20, 30 or even 40 years ago, then for reasons known only to those having access to that information, there may be cause for classifying this information and keeping it from the public. I believe this to be the case and I further believe that the U.S. Government is trying to conceal what it knows about the Alien space crafts our government have recovered. I feel this is the reason for the classification of information concerning Operation Blue Fly.

We may never know the truth. The information the U.S. Government maintains on Operation Blue Fly remains, still classified in the interest of national security.

Clifford E. Stone
November 18, 1990

SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340



U-1,023/RTS-1

4 January 1990

Mr. Clifford E. Stone
1421 E. Tilden
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

Dear Mr. Stone:

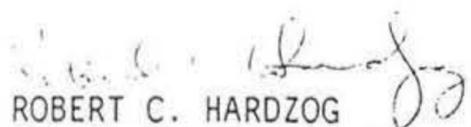
This responds to your request under the Freedom of Information Act dated 25 December 1989. Therein you requested information pertaining to Project "Bluefly" and Project "Moondust". A search of DIA's systems of records located no information pertaining to Project "Bluefly".

Upon review, it has been determined that all substantive portions of the information pertaining to Project "Moondust" are properly classified and are not releasable. The properly classified portions withheld are exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(1), Freedom of Information Act. Subsection (b)(1) applies to information properly classified under the criteria provided by Executive Order 12356. There are no reasonably segregable portions of this exempt material.

You are advised that a requester may appeal, within 60 days, an initial decision to withhold a record or part thereof. Should you wish to exercise this right, you may do so by referring to case #0006-90 and addressing your appeal to:

Director
Defense Intelligence Agency
ATTN: RTS-1 (FOIA)
Washington, D.C. 20340-3299

Sincerely,


ROBERT C. HARDZOG
Chief, Freedom of Information and
Privacy Act Staff



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA 22060-5798

17 JAN 1990

Mr Clifford E. Stone
1421 E. Tilden
Roswell, NM 88201

Dear Mr Stone

This is in response to your 25 December 1989 Freedom of Information request addressed to Headquarters Air Force Intelligence Service.

We have completed a thorough search of our records and found none responsive to your request.

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely


JOYCE L. TRUETT
Freedom of Information Act Manager



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

11 JAN 1990

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Clifford E. Stone
1421 E. Tilden
Roswell, NM 88201

Dear Mr. Stone:

We are responding to your December 25, 1989 Freedom of Information Act request.

We do not have any records responsive to your request.

Sincerely,
Carolyn W. Price

CAROLYN W. PRICE
Assistant Freedom of
Information Manager

90-03



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MAY 3 1990

Mr. Clifford E. Stone
1421 E. Tilden
Roswell, NM 88201

Dear Mr. Stone:

We are responding to your December 25, 1989 Freedom of Information Act letter.

We have two records responsive to your request. However, they are exempt from disclosure because the information contained in them is currently and properly classified.

The authority for this exemption is in the United States Code, Title 5, Section 552(b)(1) and Air Force Regulation 12-30, paragraph 10a.

The denial authority for this decision is Brigadier General Billy J. Bingham, Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence.

Should you decide to appeal this decision, you must write to the Secretary of the Air Force within 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. You should include in the appeal your reasons for reconsideration and attach a copy of this letter. Mail it to:

Secretary of the Air Force
THRU: SAF/AAIS (FOIA)
Washington, DC 20330-1000

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Carmichael
BARBARA A. CARMICHAEL
Freedom of Information Manager

90-0087



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20324-1000

2 JUL 1990

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: JA CL

SUBJECT: Your Appeal Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

TO: Mr Clifford E. Stone
1421 E. Tilden
Roswell, NM 88201-7955

1. Your FOIA appeal has been received by this office. The classified nature of the subject matter of your FOIA request requires that a separate classification review be conducted in conjunction with the processing of your appeal. Such reviews are accomplished by another office within Headquarters Air Force and we have forwarded your appeal for this additional review.
2. It is the policy of our office to process FOIA appeals in the order in which they are received. Because of the requirement of conducting a classification review in your case, it will necessarily take more time to complete the appeal review process. Also, you should be aware that the office conducting this classification review has a considerable backlog of cases.
3. Once your appeal has been returned to us after its classification review, it will be completed as soon as possible. After our review, it will be sent to the Secretary of the Air Force where final action will be taken and direct notification from that office will be made to you. Thank you for your patience, and rest assured our review of your appeal will be careful and complete.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Heinz", is written over the typed name of John H. Heinz.

JOHN H. HEINZ, Major, USAF
Chief, FOIA/PA Branch
General Litigation Division
Office of the Judge Advocate General



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330-1000

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

25 JUL 1990

Mr. Clifford E. Stone
1421 E. Tilden
Roswell, NM 88201-0920

Dear Mr. Stone:

This is in response to your letter of 18 May 1990, appealing, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the decision of the Deputy Chief of Staff Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force, denying your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for information concerning projects or operations known as "Moon Dust" and "Blue Fly."

The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force has considered your appeal, and I have determined it should be denied.

The information responsive to your request that is being withheld is currently properly classified pursuant to Executive Order and is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1), and Air Force Regulation 12-30, paragraph 10a. Release of the information could cause identifiable damage to the national security. Thus, a significant and legitimate governmental purpose is served by its withholding, and discretionary release is not appropriate.

This letter constitutes final Air Force action on your appeal. The Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, provides for judicial review of this determination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William A. Davidson".

WILLIAM A. DAVIDSON
Col. USAF
Acting Deputy Administrative Assistant