

United States Senate

December 14, 1992

Mr. Clifford Stone
Director
Operation Blue Fly Research Project
1421 East Tilden
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

Dear Cliff:

Enclosed is the most recent communication that I have received from the Department of the Air Force regarding my inquiry on your behalf. It is self-explanatory and transmitted for your information. I regret that we are still unable to obtain the documents which you are seeking but the Air Force denies that the projects to which you refer exist.

If I may be of service in any other way, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office.

Thank you for this opportunity to be of service to you and kindest regards.

Sincerely,


Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator

JB/res
Enclosure

PLEASE REPLY TO:

625 SILVER AVE., SW, SUITE 130
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102
(505) 766-3636

148 LORETTO TOWNE CENTRE
505 SOUTH MAIN STREET
LAS CRUCES, NM 88001
(505) 523-6561

114 EAST 4TH STREET, SUITE 103
ROSWELL, NM 88201
(505) 622-7113

119 E. MARCY, SUITE 101
SANTA FE, NM 87501
(505) 988-8647



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-3102

Dear Senator Bingaman:

This is in response to your letter to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs in behalf of Mr. Clifford E. Stone concerning his desire for information on the July 2, 1947, incident at Roswell, New Mexico.

There is no agency, nor has there ever been, at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, which would deal with UFOs or have any information about the incident at Roswell. In addition, there is no Project Moon Dust or Operation Blue Fly. Those missions have never existed.

We have checked with the Air Force Historical Agency at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, for any information they might have on the Roswell incident. They found a short paragraph in the 1947 history of the base there which termed the object a radar tracking balloon. We have no further information.

From 1948 through 1969, the Air Force investigated UFOs through Project Blue Book. That program was discontinued based on an evaluation of a report prepared by the University of Colorado entitled, "Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects." The conclusions of Project Blue Book are: no UFO reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our national security; there has been no evidence submitted to, or discovered by, the Air Force that sightings categorized as "unidentified" represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present-day scientific knowledge; and there has been no evidence indicating that sightings categorized as "unidentified" are extraterrestrial vehicles. Should Mr. Stone be interested in reviewing the Blue Book files, they are maintained at the National Archives in Washington, DC, telephone number (202) 523-3340.

We appreciate your interest in this matter and trust this information is helpful.

Sincerely,
SIGNED

JOHN E. MADISON, JR., Lt Col, USAF
Congressional Inquiry Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

Clifford E. Stone
Director
Operation Blue Fly Research Project
1421 East Tilden
Roswell, New Mexico 88201-7955

Phone: (505) 625-0920

December 27, 1992

Dear Senator Bingaman,

Thank you for your most recent letter of December 14, 1992.

I regret that the U.S. Air Force chose to lie to you on two counts. these are, and I quote, "There is no agency, nor has there ever been, at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, which would deal with UFO's or have any information about the incident at Roswell." and "In addition, there is no Project Moon Dust or Operation Blue Fly. These missions have never existed."

Inclosures 1 and 2 are your letter to me and the Air Force's letter to you on my behalf.

Inclosures 3 and 4 are formerly classified reports from 1987 and 1989 showing that an Air Force unit at Fort Belvoir, Virginia was interested in UFO sitings in the USSR. I would say that's a mighty big "OOPS" on the comment that, "there is no agency, nor has there ever been, at Fort Belvoir, Virginia which would deal with UFO's."

Inclosures 5 thru 15 are exsample of State Department documents showing that Project Moon Dust did (does?) in fact, exist and that a U.S. Air Force "agency" located at Fort Belvoir, Virginia was heavily involved with this project. Also, I am inclosing a copy of my book. See Chapter 6 for the evidence of the existence of Operation Blue Fly and this same Air Force unit's involvement with this operation. I would again have to say that this too is a mighty big "OOPS" on the comment that, "Those missions have never existed."

Inclosures 16 thru 23 are documents from the U.S. Air Force showing that they believe that Project Moon Dust and Operation Blue Fly are so highly classified that they may neither confirm nor deny their existence or nonexistence. They took this stance even when confronted with the evidence of the existence of these missions.

Now that we know that Project Moon Dust and Operation Blue Fly did (does?) in fact exist and that apparently there does exist a U.S. Air Force unit located at Fort Belvoir,

Virginia that has some interest in UFO's for what ever the reason for that interest might be, the questions remain the same.

Once again Senator, I am requesting you demand the truth (please note the "truth") to the following questions:

1. What really crashed here in the Roswell, New Mexico area in July, 1947? It was not a weather balloon.

2. What did the U.S. Air Force recover in Kecksburg, PA. on December 9, 1965? It was not a meteor.

3. Why are Project Moon Dust and Operation Blue Fly so highly classified that the U.S. Air Force would lie to a United States Senator about their very existence? Do they involve illegal activities of some kind? Have we violated international law? What are we trying to cover up Senator???

Once again, the answers to the questions I have posed can only be answered by the U.S. Air Force unit located at Fort Belvoir, Virginia (which the Air Force says doesn't exist) concerning Project Moon Dust and Operation Blue Fly (which the Air Force states have never existed).

I trust Senator you will enlighten the Air Force with the inclosed documents and again inquirer on my behalf.

I appreciate the Air Force's offer to permit me to view their former public relations program known as Project Blue Book. However, what I know about this scam in our history would probably be embarrassing to them.

As always, I appreciate your most kind assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Clifford E. Stone

23 enclosures



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

APR 14 1993

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator
114 East 4th Street, Suite 103
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

Dear Senator Bingaman:

This is in reply to your inquiry in behalf of Mr. Clifford E. Stone on the accuracy of information we previously provided to your office. Upon further review of the case (which was aided by the several attachments to Mr. Stone's letter), we wish to amend the statements contained in the previous response to your inquiry.

In 1953, during the Korean War, the Air Defense Command organized intelligence teams to deploy, recover, or exploit at the scene downed enemy personnel, equipment, and aircraft. The unit with responsibility for maintaining these teams was located at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. As the occasion never arose to use these air defense teams, the mission was assigned to Headquarters, United States Air Force in 1957 and expanded to include the following peace-time functions: a) Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), to investigate reliably reported UFOs within the United States; b) Project MOON DUST, to recover objects and debris from space vehicles that had survived re-entry from space to earth; c) Operation BLUE FLY, to expeditiously retrieve downed Soviet Bloc equipment.

These teams were eventually disbanded because of a lack of activity; Project MOON DUST and Operation BLUE FLY missions were similarly discontinued. The Air Force has no information that any UFOs were ever confirmed downed in the United States. Although space objects and debris were occasionally reported and recovered by United States citizens, and subsequently turned over to Air Force personnel for analysis, such events did not require the assistance of an intelligence team. The unit at Fort Belvoir continued to receive reports relating to UFOs or Project MOON DUST/Operation BLUE FLY, which it would then forward to the appropriate authority.

Beginning in the late 1940s, the Air Force investigated UFO reports under a succession of programs, the last of which was known as Project Blue Book. In 1969, the Secretary of the Air Force, Robert C. Seamans, Jr., terminated the program after determining it did not merit the continued expenditure of resources. In announcing this decision, he noted the program concluded that no evidence had been uncovered that UFOs

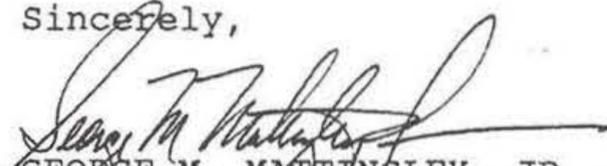
constituted a threat to national security, or that they represented technological advancements beyond the scope of contemporary scientific knowledge, or that they were, in fact, extraterrestrial vehicles. Subsequently, all Project Blue Book records have been retired to the National Archives (Attachments 1 and 2). The Air Force refers inquiries on Project Blue Book and current UFO sightings to the National Archives or private organizations such as the Center For UFO Studies, 2457 West Peterson, Chicago, Illinois, 60659.

Since the Air Force discontinued its investigative interest in UFOs in 1969, reports of UFO sightings are now recorded and forwarded only if there is a prior interest in the source of the UFO sighting. For example, Enclosures 3 and 4 of Mr. Stone's letter pertain to debriefings of two Soviet sources who were being interviewed for possible military information of interest. Their recounts of UFO sightings, even though they had occurred many years earlier, were included in the report for historical interest and were incidental to the main purpose of the report.

The Air Force does maintain an interest in space objects that survive re-entry. When referred to the Air Force, such objects are forwarded to the Foreign Aerospace Science and Technology Center at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, for analysis. If the object or debris is determined to be of foreign origin, the launching country is notified by the State Department in accordance with the Treaty governing such matters.

We regret that the information in our previous letter was not more accurate and sincerely apologize for any confusion it may have caused. We trust this information is helpful.

Sincerely,



GEORGE M. MATTINGLEY, JR., Colonel, USAF
Chief, Congressional Inquiry Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

Attachments

Clifford E. Stone, Director
1421 East Tilden
Roswell, New Mexico 88201-7955
Phone: (505) 625-0920

April 22, 1993

Dear Senator Bingaman,

Thank you for forwarding the undated response (inclosure 1) the U.S. Air Force sent you concerning my letter of January 4, 1993. However, I still find their answers to be evasive of the issues I raise and once again untruthful. Please permit me to illustrate.

1. "The unit with responsibility for maintaining these teams was located at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. As the occasion never arose to use these air defense teams, the mission was assigned to Headquarters, United States Air Force in 1957 and expanded to include the following peace-time functions: a) Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), to investigate reliably reported UFOs within the United States; b) Project MOON DUST, to recover objects and debris from space vehicles that survived re-entry from space to earth; c) Operation BLUE FLY, to expeditiously retrieve downed Soviet Bloc equipment."

REBUTTAL: "This unit" was created as a result of Air Defense Regulation 24-4, dated January 3, 1953 and was known as the 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron. "This unit" was given the responsibility, "to investigate reliably reported UFOs within the United States" under Air Force Regulation 200-2 dated August 26, 1953. Therefore, this requirement existed long before 1957. It existed as of August 26, 1953.

Today (as of October 1, 1992) this unit is known as Detachment 4, 696th Air Intelligence Group.

Also, the definitions or functions given for both Project MOON DUST and Operation BLUE FLY are wrong and give the impression that we are talking about our space vehicles and debris. The actual functions of these two missions are:

Project MOON DUST: to locate, recover, and deliver descended FOREIGN SPACE VEHICLES (See ICGL #4, dated April 25, 1961).

Operation BLUE FLY: to facilitate expeditious delivery to the Foreign Technology Division (FTD) of MOON DUST or other items of great technical intelligence interest. This included UFOs (See AFCIN SOP dated February

12, 1960).

The point I am trying to make is that MOON DUST and BLUE FLY deals with only two items of interest. These are: a) Soviet Bloc Space Vehicles, and b) objects of unknown origin (See Department of State Airgram, entitled, "Guidance for Dealing with Space Objects Which Have Returned to Earth, dated July 26, 1973).

2. "These teams were eventually disbanded because of a lack of activity; Project MOON DUST and Operation BLUE FLY missions were similarly discontinued. The Air Force has no information that any UFOs were ever confirmed downed in the United States. Although space objects and debris were occasionally reported and recovered by United States citizens, and subsequently turned over to Air Force personnel for analysis, such events did not require the assistance of an intelligence team. The unit at Fort Belvoir continued to receive reports relating to UFOs or Project MOON DUST/Operation BLUE FLY, which it would then forward to the appropriate authority."

REBUTTAL: So, these teams were disbanded because of a lack of activity and Project MOON DUST and Operation BLUE FLY were similarly discontinued. Really???

In a letter from the Air Force to a Mr. Robert Todd dated July 1, 1987 the U.S. Air Force admitted to the existence of Project MOON DUST, stating it had been replaced, "by another name which is not releaseable" and "FTD's duties are listed in a classified passage in a classified regulation that is being withheld because it is currently and properly classified" (See inclosure 2).

The statement that, "Although space objects and debris were occasionally reported and recovered by United States citizens, and subsequently turned over to Air Force personnel for analysis, such events did not require the assistance of an intelligence team." is a half-truth. In fact, I have hundreds of State Department documents which clearly indicate we have recovered objects requiring the use of these teams in foreign countries. Many of these objects were considered of "unknown" origin. Also, none of these objects of "unknown" origin, for which I have State Department documents on, were clearly identified as U.S. object or returned to any other lunch state. To be sure, in several of these cases the U.S. was directed to down play their knowledge of the existence of these events (See Chapter 6 of my book, UFOs: LET THE EVIDENCE SPEAK FOR ITSELF).

A document found on Microfilm #31,641 from the U.S. Air Force Historical Center, Maxwell AFB, AL indicates that both MOON DUST and BLUE FLY were quite active during the Cuban Missile Crisis (See inclosure 3).

A three (3) man team was sent to Acme, PA to investigate and pick-up an object that started a fire there on December 9, 1965. This team was, in fact a Operation BLUE FLY Team (Source: Project Blue File on Kecksburg, PA. UFO sighting of December 9, 1965).

In June 1991 the U.S. Air Force responded that they could neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of records responsive to my request for information on MOON DUST, BLUE FLY, AFCIN SOP, and ICGL #4. They took this stance even when confronted with the evidence of the existence of records (See inclosure 4). Why, if the Air Force is not trying to hide something???

3. "Enclosures 3 and 4 of Mr. Stone's letter pertain to debriefings of two Soviet sources who were being interviewed for possible military information of interest. Their recounts of UFO sightings, even though they had occurred many years earlier, were included in the report for historical interest and were incidental to the main purpose of the report."

REBUTTAL: Inclosures 3 and 4 were once classified Air Force Intelligence Reports. Inclosure 3 was IIR 1 517 0002 88, dated November 25, 1987, entitled UFO siting in Shadrinsk. This report deals with UFO sightings which took place in 1974. Inclosure 4 was IIR 1 517 0619 90, dated December 7, 1989, entitled Soviet Aircrew Sightings of Unexplained Phenomena. This report deals with UFO sightings which occurred in 1984 and later.

What was the main purpose of these reports?? They deal directly with UFO sightings and make no reference to Soviet missiles, or MIGs, or tanks. So, what was the main purpose of these reports to which UFOs were incidental???

Senator, if the response at inclosure one is, in fact, true and correct; then I ask that the United States Air Force make available to your office for transmittal to me the following documents/items:

1. The new name given to Project MOON DUST and a copy of the regulation dealing with the FTD'S DUTIES within this project as referred to in the document at inclosure 2.
2. All Air Force documents dealing with Project MOON DUST and Operation BLUE FLY. This is to include the 12 documents forwarded to the Air Force from the Department of State on or about March 12, 1991 and all other documents that have been denied under my FOIA request since December 25, 1989.
3. A copy of AFCIN SOP, dated February 1960 and a copy of ICGL #4, dated April 25, 1961 and any current or up-dated changes to these documents.

4. A copy of the Operation BLUE FLY Report concerning the Acme, PA. incident of December 9, 1965.

If a full accounting of Project MOON DUST and Operation BLUE FLY cannot be provided to your office by the United States Air Force, then Senator I would suggest that the United States Air Force is attempting to hide something. After all, these missions, according to the letter sent to your office on my behalf, no longer have any useful purpose. If this is truly the case, surely no useful purpose can be given to keep this information classified.

If the U.S. Air Force cannot provide the documentation I have requested above, keeping in mind that it was denied as early as December 2, 1992 due to it being classified, I am willing to accept a full and honest explanation as to why it cannot be released. However, I remain firm in my belief that U.S. Air Force must be open, truthful, and honest with your office even if they feel they cannot be fully responsive to my request. I feel that this is the only way in which elected representatives can serve the best interest of the people.

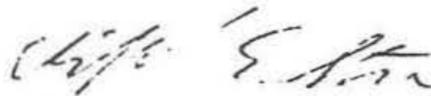
The Air Force is trying very hard to hold something back about these missions. While it may not be the recovery of space craft from some other world, it could very well be a violation of international law. Therefore, Congress must be made aware of all the facts and not just what the various agencies wish them to know.

Senator, I have taken great pains to remove this from a UFO issue and place in a more down to earth issue. In short, Project MOON DUST and Operation BLUE FLY did/does exist. Now the U.S. Air Force would have us to believe that there was nothing to these two missions, while, at the same time maintaining the any information on these two missions are highly classified and not releaseable. Why??

I hope to hear from your office soon in reponse to this letter and hopefully the Air Force will be much more responsive this time around.

As always, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to you and your staff for your interest and concern in this matter on my behalf.

Sincerely


Clifford E. Stone

INTERVIEW - MR. CORNETT with 2nd Lt. Joseph E. Thompson, AFMDC,
Foreign Technology, 7 January 1963

Project BLUE FLY - Project first originated in 1961 as part of
the Foreign Technology Division project activities
to "exploit" when possible enemy materials.

(1) BLUE FLY - Exploit Soviet Hardware when it comes more or
less permanently into US or allied hands.

(3) MOON DUST - Exploit big booster or missile and satellite
equipment which falls from the air hence the
name applied (e.g., the piece of Soviet equipment
which fell into Wisconsin).

During the Cuban crisis, two BLUE FLY teams came into existence at
AFMDC. The first for immediate reaction is composed of military only.
They have blanket orders prepared and will participate in any invasion
or go to selected points to review equipment falling into US hands.
The second team is military and civilian. It is largely a concept and
this team will more than likely be used in so called cool spots where
security is assured. During the Cuban crisis, the number 1 team had
an aircraft on standby alert, had equipment issued and were waiting
for a message to move into action. By this date, the second team has
been picked and is available on a 48-hour call. AFMDC's participation
in the BLUE FLY operation is in part limited by its geographical location.
Most AFSC Center/Divisions and the Foreign Technology Division have
similar capabilities. In effect the three operations or projects
mentioned above are actually compiled into one team.

FINANCING THE OPERATION - Supply items are procured through normal
supply channels because of the so called special items of equipment
needed (i.e., special cameras, recording equipment, etc.) are difficult
(but not impossible) to justify at AFMDC. In the Cuban crisis no effort
was spared in supplying the BLUE FLY team with normal supply items (e.g.,
[B-4(?)]) bags and 45 calibre automatics).

TDY funds for the operation are justified through normal Finance
funds. The only problem is the difficulty in budgeting for an
anticipated operation. This coming fiscal year will be the first
attempt at financing and justifying a budget for anticipated use.
\$41000 will be requested in travel funds. The big problem as explained
by Lt Thompson is in the split responsibility: orders come from FTD
but the

[NOTE: The remainder of the undated document is
unintelligible.] [Circa 7 January 1963?]

Incl 3a



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

05 JUN 1991

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

Dear Mr. Stone:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act request of December 25, 1989. We can neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of records responsive to your request regarding "Projects or Operations known as BLUE FLY, MOON DUST, AFCIN SOP, and ICGL#4," as any other response could reveal classified information concerning military plans, weapons, or operations under section 1.3(a)(1) of Executive Order 12356, "National Security Information." Therefore, pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552(b)(1), and Air Force Regulation 12-30, paragraph 10a, your request is denied.

The denial authority is James R. Clapper, Jr., Major General, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence.

You may appeal this decision by writing to the Secretary of the Air Force within 60 days of the date of this letter. Include in the appeal your reasons for reconsideration and attach a copy of this letter. Address your appeal as follows:

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

Sincerely,


CAROLYN W. PRICE
Freedom of Information Manager

91-0359

Encl 4



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. Robert Todd
~~_____~~
~~_____~~

JUL 1 1987

Dear Mr Todd

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act request of 17 Apr 86. The nickname "Project Moondust" no longer exists officially. It has been replaced by another name which is not releaseable. FTD's duties are listed in a classified passage in a classified regulation that is being withheld because it is currently and properly classified, and the authority for withholding is 5 U.S.C 552 b(1) and AFR 12-30, para 10a.

Should you decide to appeal this decision, you must write to the the Secretary of the Air Force within 45 days of the date of this letter. Include in the appeal your reason for reconsideration and attach a copy of this letter. Address your letter as follows:

Secretary of the Air Force
THRU: SAF/AADADF
Washington, DC 20330-1000

Sincerely

PHILLIP E. THOMPSON, Colonel, USAF
Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff
Intelligence

CONFIDENTIAL

87-230

RECEIVED 6 JUL 1987

Incl 2



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
BOLLING AFB, D.C. 20332-6098

December 21, 1994

AFHSO/HOS
170 Luke Ave Suite 400
Bolling AFB DC 20332-5113

Mr. C. E. Stone
1421 East Tilden
Roswell, NM 88201-7955

Dear Mr. Stone

This responds to your recent FOIA/Congressional request. After a thorough search of our historical materials, we are enclosing two of the three documents related to Operation Blue Fly/Project Moon Dust which could be found among those holdings. Both have recently been declassified as a result of another FOIA. The third is still under FOIA review, and further information will be provided once the process is completed.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheldon A. Goldberg".

SHELDON A. GOLDBERG
Historian, Reference Branch
AF History Support Office

Attachments

1. TWX, FTD/AFSC to AFMOC, TD-AWFA 2A 16-11-191, 16 Nov 62. This message is notification to proceed in setting up BLUE FLY.
2. Letter, FTD to AMD, et al "(U) Project BLUE FLY," 22 Oct 62.
3. Letter, AFSC to to all divisions/centers, subject: "AFSC Support to FTD for Activities Project," which is cited in letter mentioned above, dated 14 August 1961.

The 14 Aug 61 letter is apparently the first notification to this Center that the project was pending. It has been in existence for many years as a concept. A document on the concept will be forwarded by Lt. Thompson/

[REDACTED]

HISTORY OF AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER

1 JULY 1954 - 31 DECEMBER 1954



AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

[REDACTED]

Copy No. _____

T55-211

EXCERPT
DECLASSIFIED BY
AFHRA/ISR NOV 94

[REDACTED]

(Uncl) "Blue Fly":¹⁴

This project remained in a "stand-by" status during this reporting period and was not activated. (Uncl)

A problem arose as to the priority classification assigned to "Blue Fly" project by the 18th Air Force. The liaison officer, Major Harold M. Bergeson, and the ATIC Project Monitor met and resolved this and other problems of minor importance. As a further result of this conference,

-
13. Project 40001, Collection of ATI Information - Specific Requests.
 14. Project 40020, Collection of ATI Information - Foreign Equipment and Materiel.
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hq 62d Troop Carrier Wing (Heavy) put into effect an operations plan which provides for complete support of "Blue Fly" within twelve hours after receipt of an alert notice by that headquarters. [REDACTED]

In order to insure constant availability of qualified personnel for "Blue Fly," four ATIC officers were assigned duty as assistant project monitors. This assignment takes priority over other Operations Section projects when "Blue Fly" is alerted for travel. [REDACTED]