

JUST

CAUSE



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EDITORIAL

We are very cramped for space in this issue. As such we are combining CAUS Bulletin with Just Cause again so we may reproduce important documentation related to the MJ-12 controversy. Yes, we did say that we would be scaling down discussion of this but reactions to our recent issues have been boisterous.

The following documents are included here:

- 1) Pages 2-4. A letter sent by Richard Doty, the Air Force OSI agent we had mentioned in the September 87 Just Cause as a suspect in circulating MJ-12 information. Here he denies relating sensitive information on UFOs.
- 2) Page 5. A "Notarized Declaration" by Linda Howe affirming the accuracy of her letter reproduced in the December 87 CAUS Bulletin.
- 3) Page 6. A May 14, 1983, letter from Howe to Richard Doty discussing her expectations of being shown government UFO materials. It is clear that Doty led her to believe that she would receive UFO information from government files for a documentary film that she was producing. CAUS also has two other similar letters, kindly provided by Linda, on her dealings with Doty and HBO.
- 4) Page 7. CAUS Director Peter Gersten's version of his two meetings with Doty in January 1983, gleaned from telephone notes by this editor. These notes, based on discussions with Gersten shortly after his return from New Mexico, again clearly show Doty initiating conversation on what might be regarded as highly-unusual UFO matters. Note references to Roswell and the fact that the so-called "Aquarius cable" information was given to Bill Moore in confidence by Doty. (Remember, these notes were made by this editor in 1983.)
- 5) Page 8. Just in case there are those of you out there who are thoroughly sick and tired of our MJ-12 reports, we have found what we believe to be heretofore unknown articles on the World War II phenomenon known as "Foo-fighters." This editor was quite surprised at the amount of early publicity the subject apparently received.

March 3, 1988

Mr. Barry Greenwood, Editor
JUST CAUSE
P.O. Box 176
Stoneham, Mass 02180

Dear Mr. Greenwood:

In September 1987, your publication printed a letter from Ms. Linda Howe regarding my alleged association with her. This letter is my response to Ms. Howe's letter. I request you publish my letter in one of your JUST CAUSE publications.

In early 1983, I was contacted, telephonically, by Ms. Linda Moulton Howe. She asked me if I would consent to an interview regarding the 1980 Kirtland incident. She also inferred that she had additional information to contribute regarding the incident. After I received permission from my supervisor, I agreed to meet with Ms. Howe. I met with Ms. Howe in April 1983. The meeting was held in the offices of the Air Force Office of Special Investigation (AFOSI) District 17, Kirtland AFB, NM. I did identify myself to Ms. Howe as a special agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigation. The meeting lasted approximately one hour and was monitored by my supervisor. During the meeting, Ms. Howe asked me questions regarding the 1980 incident. I answered her questions and made some comments about my own personal feelings regarding UFOs. After this answer and question period, Ms. Howe asked me if she could discuss another matter. She explained that she was working on a script for a documentary about the UFO phenomenon for Home Box Office (HBO). Ms. Howe stated she had gathered a large amount of material concerning the subject and wanted to ask me questions about this information. I agreed, and she began to ask questions about Extraterrestrial Beings, Project Sign, Grudge, Gleam, Pounce, Blue Book and a number of other subjects relating to UFOs. I don't recall my exact response to each of her questions, but I will say I never provided her with any information concerning a secret Government program about UFOs. Most of the questions Ms. Howe asked me I could not answer. I did not have a thorough historical knowledge of UFOs to answer those questions.

She mentioned in her letter to JUST CAUSE that I showed her a "Briefing Paper for the President of the United States" about the subject of unidentified flying vehicles. I can tell you, without a doubt, that I never showed her any such document. First of all, I was not in a position to obtain any presidential briefing documents. Secondly, I would not allow a person without a security clearance to see any such document. Lastly, she mentioned a document to me that was a "so-called" Project Aquarius briefing paper for the President of the United States. However, she brought up the subject, not me.

After this meeting with Ms. Howe, I had several other contacts with her in the form of telephone conversations or short meetings over a period of 18 months. I do not recall mentioning any Government plans to release documents or film to Ms. Howe for her documentary. I would not have been in a position to authorize or even discuss such a release. Since the meeting, in April 1983, was not of an official nature, I did not prepare an official report of the meeting. I did a simple "Memo for Record", which was filed in my filing cabinet for one year then destroyed. The other meetings I had with Ms. Howe was of a non official nature. I was interested in her research regarding UFOs and wanted to learn more about the subject. To the best of my knowledge, Ms. Howe was never under investigation by AFOSI. None of the information I gathered or obtained from Ms. Howe was ever placed in an official report. To reiterate, the only official meeting I had with Ms. Howe was in April 1983. I have not had further contact with her since August 1984.

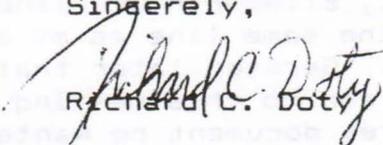
Ms. Howe also mentioned in her letter a meeting I had with Mr. Peter Gersten, a New York attorney, in 1983. I did have a meeting with Mr. Gersten in January 1983. I met with Mr. Gersten, William Moore, a writer of UFO material and a man from a television station in California (I have forgotten his name). The meeting took place at an Albuquerque restaurant. During the meeting, Mr. Gersten asked me questions about a number of UFO issues; 1980 Kirtland incident, Ellsworth UFO landing, etc. I answered his questions along the same line as my answers were to Ms. Howe. I did meet with Mr. Gersten later that evening outside an Albuquerque Motel. I agreed to this meeting only when Mr. Gersten informed me he had a secret document he wanted to show me. Mr. Gersten showed me an alleged U. S. Air Force document purporting to be a message sent from Kirtland AFB, NM to Washington DC regarding the subject of Mr. Paul Bennewitz, an Albuquerque resident who had claimed to be in contact with extraterrestrials. Mr. Gersten asked me to examine the document and comment on it. I carefully examined the document and determined, in my opinion, it was a fake. I also told him that Mr. Paul Bennewitz was not under Air Force investigation, at least not to my knowledge. That was the last contact I had with Mr. Gersten except for a few telephone calls. This meeting with Mr. Gersten was not documented. I considered it an unofficial contact not in the line of duty and not worthy of any further effort on my part.

I will say that all the information regarding the 1980 incident at Kirtland AFB was documented in the reports released under FOIA. There are no other reports to the best of my knowledge, at least not generated by AFOSI. I never prepared any classified reports regarding the incident. That incident was blown out of proportion by the press. Most of the follow-up information released by the press was pure fabrication. One legitimate researcher from Seattle, WA. (and I forget his name) conducted a very thorough investigation of the incident and found that considering all the evidence available and statements made by the witnesses, the conclusion could be made that the aircraft sighted over Coyote Canyon was a UH-1N helicopter assigned to the 1550th

Aircrew Training and Test Wing, Kirtland AFB, NM. If you care to check flight records of the 1550th you will find that a helicopter was flying over Coyote Canyon at the approximate time the incident was reported. During my assignment with AFOSI, I never investigated any other UFO sightings. To the best of my knowledge, AFOSI was not in the business of investigating UFO sightings. My nine years with AFOSI were spent conducting criminal, fraud, counterintelligence (including anti-terrorist) and counterespionage operations/investigations. I know of no special agents within AFOSI who investigate UFOs as a full time job. Finally, I know of no secret Government investigation of UFOs. I have never heard of MJ-12 or any secret Government agency that investigates UFOs. I am aware of Project Blue Book, which was an Air Force project that investigated UFOs from 1952 until 1969. To the best of my knowledge, the Air Force does not have any current program which investigates UFOs.

I am no longer employed by the Air Force Office of Special Investigation. I do not wish to have my privacy disrupted, which has been the case this past year. Please refrain from further contact with me. I have nothing further to discuss.

Sincerely,


RICHARD C. DOTY

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NOTARIZED DECLARATION OF
Linda Moulton Howe

To Whom It May Concern:

1. I, Linda Moulton Howe, an independent film producer-writer-director-editor residing at 3208 East Fremont Drive, Littleton, Colorado 80122, hereby declare:

a) That my letter of October 17, 1987 to JUST CAUSE Editor Barry J. Greenwood and JUST CAUSE Publisher Larry Fawcett truthfully and accurately described my meeting with AFOSI Special Agent Richard C. Doty at the AFOSI office at Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 9, 1983;

b) That Special Agent Doty showed me several pages entitled "Briefing Paper for the President of the United States of America" on the subject of unidentified flying vehicles.

2. I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing statements are true.

SIGNED: Linda Moulton Howe
Linda Moulton Howe

DATE OF SIGNATURE: April 26, 1988

NOTARIZATION

The above-identified person, Linda Moulton Howe, appeared before me on this 26th day of April, 1988, to affirm this declaration and to affix her signature thereto, by my witness,

SIGNED: Francis M. Conroy

DATE OF SIGNATURE: 4-26-88

A notary public in the county/city of Arapahoe - Littleton

My commission expires: My Commission Expires: 4-14-90
2401 E. Arapahoe Blvd SEAL:
Littleton, Colorado 80122

Film &
Video
PRODUCTION

WRITER
DIRECTOR
PRODUCER
EDITOR

May 14, 1983

APCSI Dist. 17/ B.I.D.
Kirtland AFB
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87117
ATTN: S. A. Richard Doty

Dear Mr. Doty:

Thanks very much for communicating my May 10 letter to government officials for their consideration. Am very sorry to hear there is a delay in going forward immediately with the meeting proposal, but am gratified to hear there is official affirmation that I will be contacted some time soon to meet with Tom and see materials.

1) I am scheduled to meet with the Director of Documentary Programming for Home Box Office, New York, on Wednesday, May 18 at 10 AM. For that meeting I would greatly appreciate receiving an official letter affirming the government's intention to release film and materials to me for the hour documentary I am trying to do for HBO about the UFO phenomenon -- specifically, the extraterrestrial factor. Originally I had hoped to be in production by June or July '83 and very much need some guidance about when I might be able to proceed.

The letter can be sent to the following address, hopefully to arrive Tuesday, May 17, in New York before the 10 AM Wednesday meeting:

Linda Moulton Howe
c/o Jean Aboumader
Director, Documentary Programming
Home Box Office
1271 Avenue of the Americas
New York City, New York 10020
(212) 434-1344

cc: Linda M. Howe, letterhead address

There is nothing I want more to do than to work with the government in making this documentary about the Holloman and other related events.

2) To that end could special permission be given for me -- working with a government official and a trusted crew of two other people -- to film with the Colonel this month so that valuable first hand historic perspective can be recorded before the Colonel dies? I understand age has weakened him. To do this my crew of two and I are willing to sign secrecy oaths effecting us on the filmed material until broadcast. Crew members: 1) Susan Markovitz, Production Assistant, 320 Krameria Street, Denver, Colorado 80220 (303) 355-2707; 2) Mark O'Kane, Photographer, 1954 South Logan, Denver, Colorado 80210 (303) 778-7431; 3) Linda Moulton Howe, Producer-Director-Writer-Editor-Audio.

The day of filming I would turn all audio tapes and film over to the government official for processing and safe keeping until we go forward with the entire film.

Greatly appreciate your kind patience and help,

Linda Moulton Howe

*Date of Birth
Place
Service #
Military Service?*

NOTES ON PETER GERSTEN'S MEETING WITH SA RICHARD DOTY, 1/83
(phone con with Gersten after his
trip to New Mexico.)

1st meeting - Lakis, Moore and Peter
2nd meeting - Peter alone

Doty wouldn't talk about anything classified. He said he was assigned to investigate UFOs, among other things, for the last 5-6 years. Doty was briefed on UFOs with briefing papers, the same type used to brief presidents on UFOs. He was given a lie detector test once a year and also put under hypnosis for security reasons.

Doty was at Ellsworth. The Ellsworth case was "it," investigated by OSI, FBI, classified but parts of it are still going on today. Nuclear weapons involved. OSI didn't know about security police report on Ellsworth (we have it). Farmer and Deputy Sheriff involved. AF debriefed them and told them not to talk. Enquirer investigation was amateurish, according to Doty. OSI was heavy into UFOs (used hypnosis in one UFO case).

Doty gave the impression that the AF knows why UFOs were seen in certain places but wouldn't talk about reasons (classified). Doty said "beyond a shadow of a doubt they're extraterrestrial." Benevolent. Cattle mutes were classified; some had to do with aliens.

A spectacular close encounter occurred in 1966, right out of the ending to the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Three UFO crashes were known to Doty: Roswell, one in the 50s and one in the 60s; bodies recovered. Moore was "right on" with Roswell. NSA was attempting to communicate with UFOs.

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.

Document retyped-Kirtland. Jamming document- not UFOs.

Doty said Cash/Landrum object was government. The vehicle used had previously been mentioned in Aviation Week (no reference given). Doty didn't know Peter was C/L attorney when he talked about it.

Doty said govt. has people in UFO groups feeding misinformation and gathering data. He wasn't worried about pressure or influence from UFO groups. Groups need a former agency man to help.

Doty said aliens were from 50 light years away.

He said you just can't get important documents out of files. Some are protected so that exposure to air for more than five seconds causes them to disintegrate.

Moore contacted by his contact said he (contact) was called on carpet for Todd's request to Ellsworth. (Later mentioned to Peter. This presumably refers to Doty. BG)

Doty told of a UFO sighting over Pease AFB, NH. No specifics.

(Notes taken during phone con with Peter Gersten shortly after his return from New Mexico and meetings with Doty. Peter spoke to principals except Valdez; Bennewitz only on phone.)

Barry Greenwood

Foo-Fighter

If it was not a hoax or an optical illusion, it was certainly the most puzzling secret weapon that Allied fighters have yet encountered. Last week U.S. night fighter pilots based in France told a strange story of balls of fire which for more than a month have been following their planes at night over Germany.* No one seemed to know what, if anything, the fireballs were supposed to accomplish. Pilots, guessing that it was a new psychological weapon, named it the "foo-fighter."

Their descriptions of the apparition varied, but they agreed that the mysterious flares stuck close to their planes and appeared to follow them at high speed for miles. One pilot said that a foo-fighter, appearing as red balls off his wing tips, stuck with him until he dove at 360 miles an hour; then the balls zoomed up into the sky.

Skeptical scientists, baffled by the whole affair, were inclined to dismiss the fireballs as an illusion, perhaps an afterimage of light which remained in the pilots' eyes after they had been dazzled by flak bursts.



The Bettmann Archive
ST. ELMO'S FIRE
Could that be it?

But front-line correspondents and arm-chair experts had a Buck Rogers field day. They solemnly guessed: 1) that the balls of fire were radio-controlled (an obvious absurdity, since they could not be synchronized with a plane's movements by remote control); 2) that they were created by "electrical induction of some sort"; 3) that they were attracted to a plane by magnetism.

Time 1/15/45



The Silver Sphere Puzzle

A massive assault by the United States Army Air Forces based in Britain and Italy last week brought the air war in Europe to a new peak of size and technique. At a season when bad weather ordinarily reduces air activity, the Eighth and Fifteenth Air Forces surpassed all previous records and in a single day sent a total of 2,100 heavy bombers and 1,150 fighters against the Reich.

From Britain, 1,600 heavies, escorted by 800 fighters, flew east in five waves stretching over 300 miles. They were manned by 16,800 American airmen; they carried 4,000 tons of explosives and incendiaries. Once over Germany, in cloudy weather that grounded the Luftwaffe and required the Americans to use electronic bombing devices, the Fortresses attacked rail yards at Frankfurt and Giessen; the Liberators bombed rail yards at Hanau. From the south, the Fifteenth's heavy bombers hit the Moosierbaum oil refinery near Vienna.

But though German defense was limited to anti-aircraft fire, the Luftwaffe

was still ready for battle, still ingenious in defense. Dispatches heavily censored by Supreme Headquarters revealed that American pilots have recently encountered a new phenomenon over Germany: silver-colored spheres resembling huge, glittering Christmas-tree ornaments. Sometimes translucent, floating singly or in clusters, the balls are presumably a new form of aerial interference. Recalling the Allied and German use of tinfoil strips dropped by attacking planes to confuse Radar instruments on the ground, Hanson Baldwin, military analyst of The New York Times, made this educated guess on the new German weapon:

"The new 'silver spheres' might represent . . . the reverse of this idea. Such spheres, drifting about in the sky, might interfere with and confuse the radar in the attacking planes, thus making 'blind' bombing impossible, or far more inaccurate than it normally is."

Newsweek 12/25/44

The correspondents further guessed that foo-fighters were intended: 1) to dazzle pilots; 2) to serve as aiming points for anti-aircraft gunners; 3) to interfere with a plane's radar; 4) to cut a plane's ignition, thus stop its engine in midair.

Some scientists suggested another possibility: that the fireballs were nothing more than St. Elmo's Fire, a reddish, brush-like discharge of atmospheric electricity which has often been seen near the tips of church steeples, ships' masts and yardarms. It often appears at a plane's wing tips.

* Last month pilots reported that they had seen mysterious floating silvery balls, apparently another "secret weapon," in daylight flights over Germany.

Foo-Fighters

Lt. Donald Meiers of Chicago was flying a Beaufighter on an intruder mission over Germany. He was braced to meet Nazi planes or anti-aircraft. Suddenly an eerie light split the darkness around his plane. Looking up from his instrument panel, the horrified lieutenant saw two red balls of fire cruising alongside his wingtips. Thinking he had run into a secret anti-aircraft weapon, Meiers tensed and waited for a German on the ground to push a button and blow him up. But the balls merely kept pace with him for a while and then disappeared.

That was more than a month ago, one of the first times Allied fighters encountered what they now call "foo-fighters."* In addition to the wingtip balls, pilots have reported two other types. One is a group of three similar balls which fly in front of their planes, the other a group of about fifteen which appear some distance away and flicker on and off. Apparently controlled by radio, the foo-fighters keep

* The name comes from the "Smokey Stover" comic strip.

formation with the planes, even when they dive, climb, or take violent evasive action. "But they don't explode or attack us," Meiers said last week. "They just seem to follow us like will-o'-the-wisps."

Probably related to the silvery balls seen by daylight pilots (NEWSWEEK, Dec. 25, 1944), the foo-fighters so far apparently baffle intelligence officers. Possibly they are the results of a new anti-radar device which the Germans have developed. On the other hand, they may be the exhaust trails of a smaller model of the radio-controlled Messerschmitt-163, a rocket-propelled flying wing.

Day bombers have met the Me163, which has an explosive charge in the nose and is apparently designed to crash into Allied planes. When one pilot closely inspected the foo-fighters tagging him, however, he detected nothing but the spheres.

Newsweek 1/15/45