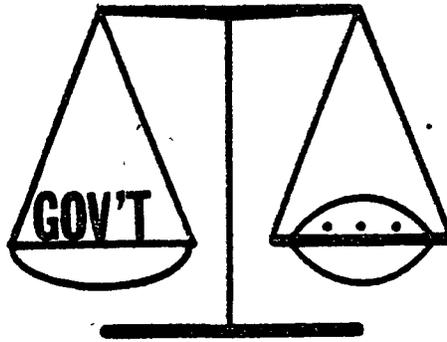


# JUST CAUSE



SEPTEMBER 1978  
(Late News Thru November)

VOL. 1 - NO. 6

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY (CAUS)

JUST CAUSE Staff

Editor: W. Todd Zechel

Assistant Editor: Brad C. Sparks

Associate Editor: Larry Bryant

Legal Advisor: Peter A. Gersten

Mailing Address: CAUS, P.O. Box 4743, Arlington, VA 22204 (new address)

Office: CAUS, Attn: Peter Gersten, 191 E. 161st St., Bronx, NY 10451

Telephones: 703-920-0593 (Arlington) 212-992-9600 (ask for Gersten, NY)

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Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., et al., v. CIA, et al., Civil Action 78-859 (D.D.C.)  
PAYDAY NEAR ON FOIA LAWSUIT- (Washington, D.C.) On or about December 17, 1978, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is scheduled to release the results of its comprehensive search of files for UFO-related documents made in accordance with a stipulation submitted in September (1978) by Peter Gersten, attorney for Ground Saucer Watch (GSW).

The stipulation, submitted at the request of the CIA through U.S. Attorney William Briggs, specified which components of the Agency the plaintiff, GSW, wanted searched in line with the amended complaint Gersten filed in behalf the Phoenix-based research group in August. (Following a July 7th Status Call conference, GSW was granted permission by the Court to seek all CIA UFO documents in an amended complaint.) By mid-September, the stipulation was made an official court order by U.S. District Judge John Pratt and the CIA was given 90 days to search the stipulated components, make determinations of releasability, and index whatever documents it intended to withhold.

Prior to the stipulation, the CIA, in a letter to CAUS Director W. Todd Zechel, indicated it had already located "1,000 additional pages" of UFO materials. Subsequently, U.S. Attorney Briggs, representing the CIA, indicated to Peter Gersten that the Agency had found a "substantial" number of documents in addition to the 1,000 pages previously mentioned--perhaps as many as 10,000.

On November 24, 1978, U.S. Attorney Briggs informed Gersten that the CIA expected to comply with the 90-day stipulation and would produce by December 17th the documents considered releaseable, along with an affidavit detailing the documents being withheld, including a list of exemptions claimed for each item being denied. According to Gersten, "Once again, the U.S. Attorney indicated that the documents are believed to be substantial in number, but refused--because of the short period of time--to indicate the exact amount."

Gersten also disclosed that on November 22 he received three documents from the Defense Intelligence Agency which had been forwarded to the Department of Defense from the CIA, pursuant to the FOIA suit. Of the three DIA documents, two had not been previously released and contained Intelligence Reports (IRs) of civilian UFO sightings in Iran during June and July of 1978. The third document was the previously-released "Iranian Report" of September 1976. All three reports were originated by the U.S. Defense Attache's Office (USDAO) in Tehran.

(In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, only the originating agency is empowered to declassify and/or release documents. Thus, whatever documents the CIA locates in its files that were originated by other agencies must be forwarded to the pertinent agency for review and release.)

However, although the DIA documents revealed two UFO incidents most researchers were unaware of, the most significant disclosure was contained in IR 6 846 0392 78. Page two of the report makes reference to an evaluation performed on the now-famous Iranian incident of September 1976, referring to an analysis conducted by a DIA component coded as "DB-3B2." (This component as subsequently identified as the "Directorate of Intelligence Research-Western Division" by Louis Foster, FOIA Officer of the DIA.) At this point, it is not clear as to whether the evaluation was complete and/or that any conclusions were arrived at. Foster stated he would release the evaluation document to CAUS, along with two other DIA IRs, originated in 1974 from a country not specified in the conversation.

Currently, a small amount of confusion exists as to how many of the documents the CIA has located were originated by Department of Defense components. Gersten received a letter from Charles Hinkle, Director of Freedom of Information and Security Review, DOD, stating that his office had received a number of documents from the CIA to be returned to the originator for clearance. Curiously, however, Hinkle's letter identifies the originating agencies as the Defense Intelligence Agency and the U.S. Army--no mention was made of the Air Force, which seemingly would have transmitted a large number of UFO-related messages to the CIA. Gersten queried the U.S. Attorney about the matter, but only managed

to determine that the CIA forwarded "at least 100 documents" to the Department of Defense. If this figure is accurate, and Gersten's estimate--based on comments made by the U.S. Attorney--that the CIA has located in excess of 5,000 documents is equally correct, then it would seem the Agency's information channels provided it with a large amount of purportedly uninvited UFO data.

Obviously, at this point it is extremely difficult to determine how much information the CIA will release. Speculation about the forthcoming event consists mostly of expressions of distrust of the CIA, with many informed observers suspecting the really significant material will either be withheld or "not found." Former CIA employees, in particular those who worked in the Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI) or the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC), cling to the position that the Agency had no interest or involvement with UFOs beyond the Robertson Panel (January 1953). It should be noted, however, that these individuals do not enjoy a reputation for being candid or forthright about events they've been directly involved in. Therefore, it is difficult to attach much credibility to their comments.

Comment: The GSW FOIA lawsuit is probably one of the most important events in the history of UFOlogy, yet it receives very little attention in the UFOlogical press and has gathered little support other than expressions of sympathy. In the meantime, accusations of multiple crashed saucer recoveries and other unsubstantiated claims are made in a circus sideshow atmosphere, seemingly designed only to draw attention. Publicity seems more important than results to these people; allegations are prolific but evidence is scarce. When offered an opportunity to take part in an effort to bring their claims into court, as part of an FOIA suit, they hastily back away. But they don't shy away from publicity or from making more allegations.

CAUS wishes to thank and commend GSW Director William "Bill" Spaulding for his support, both financially and morally, of the suit. Ground Saucer Watch, although one of the smallest and least commercial of the major groups, has financed this tremendous effort out of its own treasury, virtually without assistance.

Unfortunately, the most difficult part of the lawsuit may lie just ahead. If the CIA decides to withhold or expurgate a large number of documents, it will be up to GSW and Peter Gersten to force these documents to be released through litigation, defeating the CIA's claimed exemptions by presenting arguments to the court. It won't be easy--not many plaintiffs have ever prevailed against

the CIA. In fact, the onus would be on Gersten to establish precedents.

Quite frankly, ultimate victory in the suit may depend upon the support the effort receives from the UFOlogical community. Rumors and allegations are, as usual, in excess; funds and encouragement are in short supply. If that is reversed, then perhaps all UFO evidence can be made available for study and the subject would soon be awarded the recognition it deserves.

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AIR FORCE, NSA AND FBI: EGG-ON-THE-FACE OVER CUBAN INCIDENT - ROBERT TODD: A

FRIGHTENED UFOLOGIST - As reported in JUST CAUSE past issues (~~#4&#5~~), an incident reported to have occurred in the skies over Cuba in March 1967, involving the "zapping" of a Cuban MIG-21 by a UFO, caused the Air Force and National Security Agency (NSA) to make threats against FOIA requester Robert Todd when he attempted to obtain government records of the incident.

NSA, an agency that typically says only "no comment" when queried about almost anything, reacted to Todd's threat to write to the Cuban government about the incident (as had been suggested to him by the CIA) by sending two FBI agents to his home in Ardmore, Pa., on July 28, 1978. The agents indicated to Todd that a half-page statement describing the incident which had been provided to him by a former NSA "security analyst" (actually, the NSA employee was a voice intercept operator and the statement was provided to Todd by Stan Friedman, who had been in contact with the source; Todd did not and does not know the source) was classified "above SECRET," and that such information, if transmitted to a foreign government, would be a serious violation of espionage laws. Having been read his "Miranda Rights" at the beginning of the interrogation, Todd was admittedly frightened by the agents' visit and remains disturbed about it even now.

However, Todd was not intimidated. Subsequent to the FBI visit, he wrote to both the Air Force and NSA, asking them to declare which portions of the "security analyst's" statement were classified, indicating that if such identification was made he would not disseminate or transmit the classified portions. NSA responded to Todd's July 31st letter on August 8th, stating, "This agency has located no record indicating that the incident related in the attachment to your 14 July 1978 letter in fact occurred. However, information contained in the attachment related to the alleged manner in which information about this incident was obtained and handled is classified since, as you assert, its origin is a former U.S. intelligence analyst. Any disclosure of such information by a United States intelligence analyst was presumably an unauthorized disclosure in violation of the law."

"Since you have been informed that such information is classified, I call your attention to the provisions of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 798, prohibiting the knowing unauthorized disclosure of classified information about or derived by communications intelligence activities of the United States Government. You are, of course, free to describe the incident in question to anyone (including the Cuban government) as long as you do not disclose classified information about U.S. Government activities or the manner in which information about the incident was allegedly obtained."

Signed by Daniel Silver, General Counsel, the NSA letter amounted to a lot of doubletalk and a refusal to flatly state that the "security analyst's" statement was classified or identify which portions should not be disseminated. And the Air Force didn't fare much better, almost matching NSA's doublespeak.

Responding to Todd's August 7th request for his FOIA case file (all documents generated as a result of his request), on September 14th, Col. James Johnson, Executive Officer of the USAF's Office of the Judge Advocate General, stated: "You have requested confirmation of the classification of the 'statement' attached to your letter of 14 July 1978 addressed to Mr. Nelson. You are advised that the Air Force can neither confirm nor deny the authenticity of this statement, nor the existence of any records concerning the incident described therein. However, if authentic I am advised the statement would be classified SECRET in its entirety."

Col. Johnson went on to state that the Air Force could release to Todd only the letters he had sent and received, excluding the "security analyst's" statement; all of which Todd obviously already possessed. As for the rest of the records, Johnson stated: "The following documents are also responsive to your request, but are exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (1) and (b) (5). They are classified, in whole or in part, in the interest of the national defense. They contain discussion which, if disclosed, would reveal Air Force intelligence gathering interests and practices. Further, they are pre-decisional in nature, and contain opinions and recommendations. Since they were prepared in reasonable anticipation of a civil action or proceeding, they are also not subject to the access provisions of the Privacy Act."

"a. Memorandum for Record on USAFSS/DAD (\*Air Force Security Service/ Directorate of Administration) letter of March 24, 1978.

b. HQ USAFSS/CS letter, 5 May 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL (Air Force Judge Advocate General, Litigation Division\*).

(\*)=Acronym translations by CAUS Staff

- c. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 22 May 1978 to HQ USAF/SPIB (\*Air Force Security Police, Classification and Safeguarding Branch).
- d. HQ USAF/SPIB letter of 25 May 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL.
- e. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 19 June 1978 to the following Air Force offices:
  - (1) Intelligence (IN)
  - (2) Security Police (SP)
  - (3) Judge Advocate General(JA)
  - (4) Information (SAF/OI)
  - (5) Assistant Vice Chief of Staff (CVA)
  - (6) General Counsel (SAF/GC)
  - (7) Administrative Assistant to the Secretary (SAF/AA)
- f. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 23 June 1978 to HQ USAF/IN (Air Force Intelligence\*)
- g. HQ AFIS/INS (Air Force Intelligence Service, no translation available for "INS" \*)  
letter of 28 June 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL.
- h. HQ USAF/JACL Memorandum of 29 June 1978.
- i. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 21 July 1978 to HQ USAF/IN.
- j. HQ AFIS/INS letter of 1 August 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL."

Comment: The reactions, actions and statements made by the National Security Agency and the Air Force in this matter, when viewed collectively, give every indication of confirming the authenticity of the source's description of the incident. Informed observers and former intelligence employees can see no reason for the government's behavior other than an attempt to suppress information about an amazing UFO incident.

The former voice operator's statement, while arguably disclosing a small amount of sensitive information about NSA and AFSS, certainly doesn't warrant more than a pro forma attempt to plug a leak. However, NSA and AFSS chose to act like Nixon's "plumbers," sending memos and agents in a near-panic attempt to determine the source of the information.

Having tracked down and spoken with the NSA source for the Cuban story, the CAUS Director can vouch for the intercept operator's sincerity and apparent honesty. Both the source and Robert Todd have been shaken by the government's conduct, but neither are intimidated to the point of foregoing their efforts to determine and disseminate the truth. CAUS vows to support them in whatever manner is necessary.

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LEGAL PURSUIT FUND OFF TO MODEST START - In response to the plea issued in the last issue of JUST CAUSE for the establishment of a special fund of at least \$5,000, by which we can retain the services of CAUS Legal Consultant Peter Gersten, we are pleased to announce the receipt of \$200 from a long-time polemicist in the struggle against UFO secrecy. He prefers anonymity

at the present time.

CAUS hopes to build a special "defense" fund which would give us the latitude to file Freedom of Information lawsuits whenever we found it necessary--and that happens almost daily--and to defend or otherwise assist anyone who encounters difficulties as the result of disclosing information related to UFOs. Mr. Gersten has donated many, many hours of his valuable time to UFOlogy and it would be totally unreasonable to expect him to take part in forthcoming legal actions without compensation. Furthermore, his obligations to his employer would prevent him from devoting needed time to the litigation unless a retainer fee was paid.

Our anonymous benefactor said it best in his accompanying note: "This fund to finance the use of the U.S. Freedom of Information Act in prying the lid off the 'crashed saucer' story and other important evidence is something that should have been established by responsible researchers a long time ago. Let's hope my token amount will be more than matched in weeks to come by legions of donors prepared to cease mouthing the status quo and to start coughing up the dough."

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1959 "PSYCHIC" INCIDENT ADDED TO UFO FOLKLORE: CAUS FINDS DISCREPANCIES -

"Old UFO incidents never die--it's impossible to kill them." No, this isn't a statement made by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, or even UFO explainer Philip Klass, but it does seem to be true. Once an incident becomes widely reported--and widely accepted, usually without thorough investigation--it seems nearly impossible to ever explain or identify the sighting (or incident) as anything other than another "bona fide" case. Typically, whenever someone does come forward with negative information about a famous case, he's either ignored or scorned. And this applies to UFO advocates as well as UFO debunkers.

One such famous case is the July 6, 1959, so-called "Psychic Incident" which took place at a CIA building in downtown Washington, D.C. In most reports, the building is identified as "CIA Headquarters." In reality, there was nothing glamorous about the place, nor was it a "Headquarters." Located at 5th and K Sts., N.W., it was known as the "Stewart Building," with an automobile dealership on the ground floor and the CIA occupying the ~~four~~ floors above. It was a shabby and dreary building right in the middle of a high-crime area--personnel from the place often got mugged during their late-night excursions for takeout food. All in all, an unlikely site for a UFO

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CAUS Staff: W. Todd Zechel, Director - Former intelligence employee; held TOP SECRET+ security clearance with the National Security Agency/Army Security Agency  
 Brad C. Sparks, Director of Research - Physics major with UC-Berkely; long-time student of the U.S. intelligence community; considered an expert on intelligence involvement with UFOs - Larry W. Bryant, Administrator - One of the founding fathers of the anti-UFO secrecy movement: long-time editor with government publications.

sighting, and an even unlikelier spot for an attempt to contact extraterrestrials through psychic means.

But that's what reportedly occurred on July 6, 1959. And according to a report filed by Major Robert Friend, USAF, Commanding Officer of Project Blue Book, contact was made, a UFO appeared upon request and was viewed through the window by CIA personnel, and the sighting was later confirmed by radar.

Friend's version of the incident appears in "UFOs: Past, Present, and Future," a movie produced by Allan Sandler and also the title of a book written by Robert Emenegger, who wrote the script for the movie. Both the book's and movie's versions of the incident were based on a document provided by Dr. David Jacobs, author of "The UFO Controversy in America," who happened across Friend's hand-written memo on the incident in the files of Dr. Hynek. Subsequently, Jacobs interviewed Friend about the memo and was sworn to secrecy as to the names of the individuals listed as participants in the report--CIA and Navy personnel.

Because neither Jacobs nor Emenegger/Sandler attempted to talk with any of the participants and publicized the incident without ever verifying the details, CAUS Director Todd Zechel made it a priority mission to conduct an investigation. It took nearly two years to determine the names, and, so far, Zechel has interviewed only one of the participants, Arthur Lundahl. This is Zechel's reconstruction of what occurred, based on his investigation:

In 1954, Mrs. Guy Swan of Elliot, Maine, began claiming she was in contact with extraterrestrial beings who were orbiting Earth in an artificial satellite. Mrs. Swan claimed she communicated with these beings through a "sound-on-sound" device; when they wished to speak with her she would hear an audible whistling noise, at which time "they" would begin speaking to her and she would speak back, each hearing the other by means of the invisible device. No telepathic or psychic method was involved.

Soon, Mrs. Swan spread the good news to her neighbors, retired Navy Admiral Knowles and his wife. Both were impressed and requested Mrs. Swan to ask questions of her alien friends. Of course, the "aliens" would never contact Mrs. Swan when anyone else was present, but she would write down their answers to the Knowles' questions. Admiral Knowles then decided to write to the Office of Naval Intelligence and ask them to check out some of her information, some of which seemed to entail technology beyond her knowledge and comprehension. (According to the Navy Intelligence Command's Inspector General Office, the Navy received Knowles' letter and asked the FBI to investigate. Sometime in 1954, apparently, the FBI

interviewed Mrs. Swan. CAUS has requested the records from the FBI.)

In any case, Knowles' letter apparently remained in ONI files until July of 1959, when USN Commander Julius M. Larsen happened across it. Larsen was an ONI liaison officer to the CIA's Photographic Interpretation Center at 5th and K Sts. He was also a pilot and needed some flying time to keep his pilot's status, so he and a Lt. Commander flew to Elliot, Maine. They spent the evening talking with Mrs. Swan about her extraterrestrial contacts, slept in the Knowles' home and returned the following day.

Larsen, like Knowles, was impressed with Mrs. Swan. But he was confused. Mrs. Swan had experimented with automatic writing prior to 1954, but nothing much had come of it. However, she demonstrated automatic writing--a procedure that called for placing oneself in a psychic trance--to Cmdr. Larsen. He assumed this was the means by which she communicated with her "alien" friends: a false assumption that was furthered by the reams of messages she had written down and were strewn throughout her home.

Thus, on July 6, 1959, after he had signed in at the guarded entrance of the Photo Interpretation Center, Larsen headed straight for the office of the Center's Director, Arthur Lundahl, knowing that Lundahl was deeply interested in UFOs and psychic phenomena. Larsen walked in, sat down and subsequently went into a trance. Present were Lundahl and his assistant, Lt. Cmdr. Robert Neasham, who formerly worked at the Naval Photographic Interpretation Center (NavPIC) when Lundahl directed that center. In fact, Neasham, along with civilian employee Harry Woo, spent countless hours analyzing the Newhouse/Tremonton UFO film and testified about his conclusions before the Robertson/CIA Panel in January 1953. Neasham and Woo had concluded the objects on the film were extraterrestrial spacecraft and both became very upset when the Panel rejected their conclusions and opted for the infamous "seagull" explanation.

Larsen, in the meantime, was writing the answers to questions he was asking: performing a curious sort of rite in which he would voice the questions and receive the answers telepathically through automatic writing. Lundahl glanced at the paper Larsen was writing on and could not discern anything intelligible: what in Larsen's mind were declarations made by superior alien beings appeared to Lundahl to be nothing more than childish scrawls. Neasham, on the other hand, was more impressed. As Cmdr. Larsen continued with his question-and-answer session, Neasham asked, "Can we see proof?" Larsen, switching from writing to speaking, suddenly, said, "Go to the window, we'll fly by for you." At this point, both Lundahl and Neasham quickly covered the short distance

to the room's only window and searched the sky for the promised appearance. Neasham, more eager to see something than Lundahl, noticed there were strange cloud formations, isolated, turbulent fluffs that formed and dissolved before their eyes. Perhaps Neasham thought the promised spaceship lurked behind one the many clouds swirling around in the sky, but Lundahl says, "At no time did I see a spaceship or a UFO. And, to the best of my knowledge, neither did Bob (Neasham)."

In spite of the fact nothing of any consequence occurred, other than Neasham suspecting a UFO lurking behind the clouds, both Lundahl and his assistant decided to report the trance session to Project Blue Book. It's possible Neasham influenced Lundahl in this regard by telling him he had phoned the Washington National Airport radar section and they had informed him that radar returns from that sector of the city were "blocked out" during the time of the sighting. Whether Neasham ever made such a call or was told such a thing is open to question; Neasham, it seems, is prone to embellishment, if not fabrication.

Lundahl had suggested to Neasham that he phone Blue Book and invite the commanding officer, Major Friend, to drop in on them the next time he was Washington and they'd tell him about their experience. Neasham, however, got carried away as usual and more or less ordered Friend to come immediately to Washington for an important briefing.

Friend arrived on July 9th, prepared to be given a "TOP SECRET" briefing by CIA personnel on UFOs. Instead, he was taken to Lundahl's office by Neasham and the two chatted about the Tremonton and Great Falls UFO films, which Lundahl had supervised the analysis of. Subsequently, Neasham briefed Friend about the July 6th incident, telling him a UFO was seen out the window and confirmed by radar. Friend, needless to say, was impressed and amazed. Being basically in awe of the CIA, it never dawned on him he might be receiving erroneous information. Later, Larsen came to the building and in Friend's presence attempted to re-contact Mrs. Swan's alien friends. Nothing much happened except that Cmdr. Larsen scrawled the same incomprehensible doodles on paper. A request for another fly-by went unanswered in the cloudless sky.

Friend returned to Wright-Patterson and filed a report with his superiors, whereupon he was told to drop interest in the matter--his superior would take care of it. It might have died a deserved death right there had it not been for Jacobs finding Friend's hand-written memo in Hynek's files and any number of opportunistic writers who've latched onto to it since.

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JUST CAUSE will be publishing at least two issues in December, including reports on the CIA documents, KGB interests in UFOs worldwide, DIA reports of UFO sightings, Air Force UFO sightings, Navy reports, crashed saucer update, etc., etc. etc.

Comment: The reason it took nearly two years to get to the bottom of this case was because those persons who participated in the event or had knowledge of it all felt the need to protect the names of the key individuals. Lt. Col. (USAF-Ret.) Robert Friend believed he was under a caveat not to disclose the names and, moreover, wouldn't and didn't speak about the incident until the Secretary of the Air Force's office had cleared it. (This came about as result of Emenegger/Sandler getting permission to use the case in their film.) Even after Jacobs discovered the memo in Dr. Hynek's files (seemingly, Hynek "borrowed" the memo from Project Blue Book files while serving as Scientific Consultant), Friend felt obligated to protect the sources and swore Jacobs to secrecy about the names.

I was able to ascertain Lundahl's name from Col. Friend, however, through a series of interviews. At first, Lundahl denied any involvement in the incident, but did say it hadn't happened as had been reported. Lundahl also felt obliged to protect Cmdr. Larsen, knowing this was not an official experiment of any sort and that Larsen considered it a personal experience. In addition, Lundahl's eventual admissions rather impugned his top assistant for many years, Bob Neasham. Therefore, Lundahl was understandably reluctant to discuss the event in any detail.

Be that as it may, it seems to me that the writers and producers who reported the incident should have at least talked with one of the main witnesses to make sure it had happened as described in Friend's memo. Had they done so, and had they subjected this case to the kind of scrutiny all UFO incidents need to be under, it would have never made its way into UFO folklore and I would have been saved the expense and anguish of investigating it. WTZ

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FT. RILEY LANDING: HOAX OR DELUSION? - Another case headed for the UFO folklore collection is one being currently promoted on radio shows across the country by former soldier stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, Aaron David Kaback, who claims to have guarded a "flying saucer" that had landed at the base.

Kaback originally wrote to CAUS on June 29, 1978, stating: "This is probably the hardest letter that I have ever written But (sic) I swear to God every word of it is true." He then went on to describe how he had been on guard duty sometime in November of 1965, standing sentry at the motor pool, when the Duty Officer came along at about 2 AM and ordered him into his jeep. The O.D. drove Kaback to a remote area on the base, where they met three other enlisted men who had also been pulled off their regular posts. The four men were taken to the rear of five-ton truck parked there in the field. According to Kaback: "...we drove for about 10 minutes and came to an area where there were three officers standing in the

back of a 5 ton (sic) truck, ...we were given a full clip of M-14 ammo, and told that 'our balls' would be shot off if we gave out any information on the object we were to guard."

"After about a ten minute hike we came to an area where a large oval object was resting, an army chopper was flying above the object and shining a powerful light on it, lighting up quite an area, (sic) at times the chopper would fly a short distance away and light up the area away from the object. The object I guarded was approx (sic) 35 to 48 feet in diameter (sic) had a fin on the end and an exhaust port, or some kind of hole below the fin, (sic) it also had a row of squares all around its rim...the object was completely dead and never moved during the 2½ hours that we guarded it. I can only tell you that this was no known object of the U.S. Army. I had read little about UFOs until after that happened, (sic) since that date I have read many books on the subject and know that the object I guarded that morning in Fort Riley was truly something from out of this world!"

A follow-up telephone call to Kaback revealed he had previously been in contact with UFOlogist Len Stringfield and that Stringfield had requested a tape-recorded version of the incident for presentation at his forthcoming speech at the MUFON Symposium (July 29th, Dayton, Ohio). Kaback related that he had been handed the clip of ammo and told to guard the "saucer" by a two-star General believed to be "Gen. Seaman, the commanding general of Fort Riley." CAUS requested proof that Kaback had been in the Army and the subject promised to mail his separation papers. The subject also disclosed he had contacted a "publicity group," which had referred him to "Eugene Marvin," a Las Vegas resident who had previously produced a TV show about UFOs (apparently a local show). Because the subject kept insisting he only "wanted someone to check out the incident," and that he absolutely wanted no personal publicity or reward, CAUS suggested to him it seemed curious he kept contacting people about the incident even after Stringfield had promised to investigate it. The subject could not resolve the inconsistency.

A more serious inconsistency arose when Kaback's separation papers arrived in the mail. Kaback had claimed the incident occurred sometime in November 1965, yet his DD214 revealed he had been given a hardship discharge on July 16, 1965, after being inducted on April 24, 1964. Since he had served for only one year and two months, CAUS found it strange he would confuse the date of the incident. The subject's only reply was, "I just forgot."

In the first follow-up conversation CAUS had with the subject, he expressed total familiarity with UFO literature, remarking on such cases as Ray Fowler's "Fritz Werner" crashed saucer case and the reported diary entry wherein "Werner" writes something to the effect "went on a special mission today that I can't talk about" on the day he claims to have participated in the recovery of a crashed saucer. Kaback says he thinks he wrote a letter to his wife shortly after the guard-duty incident and will look for it.

Sure enough, Kaback later produces an alleged copy of the letter he wrote to his now-divorced wife, mimicing "Werner's" letter completely. Although the letter seemed authentic, in that it chats about Kaback's difficulty in getting home for Christmas (the letter is dated Dec. 11, 1964--the incident allegedly took place on Dec. 10), the closeness to the diary entry in wording ("got put on a special guard duty I can't talk about") makes it highly suspect.

Another serious inconsistency popped in the first conversation with the subject. He claimed to have received a series of threatening phone calls in which someone simply said, "Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ mouth shut!" That was it; no explanation of what the threat was related to. Kaback expressed extreme fear of danger based on the calls, even to the point of the feeling his life was threatened. Yet, while claiming to be "scared sh\_\_less," Kaback's voice and manner belied any sort of fear; he in fact sounded quite calm and the so-called threats had no effect on his efforts to speak about the incident.

Much later, when more and more inconsistencies reared their ugly heads, Kaback was questioned about the threatening phone calls. At this point, he said they were probably intended for his brother. Asked why he now thought the calls were meant for his brother, Kaback said, "Oh, he got into a fight with some guys at a bar; they were probably calling him." Needless to say, CAUS concluded the phone calls were contrived out of the subject's imagination.

The straw that broke the saucer's back occurred when CAUS spoke with Gen. (U.S. Army-Ret.) Johnathon O. Seaman, former commanding general (1964-65) of Fort Riley, Kansas. Seaman, now retired and living in Beaufort, S.C., was phoned by CAUS Director Todd Zechel, who told the General he had been assigned to guard a "flying saucer" at Fort Riley on December 10, 1964. Now, Zechel said, one of his fellow guards had talked and he (Zechel) was being contacted by people in the news media; he wanted to know if the incident was still classified or if he was free to talk about it. Seaman was clearly taken aback by the call--but not in sense of having something to hide. Rather, he seemed to think the call was being made from some nearby mental hospital and could

barely suppress a chuckle throughout the conversation. He had no recollection whatsoever of any "flying saucer" incident or anything like it, but said, "If you think it happened and you want to talk about it, go ahead."

Subsequently, CAUS played the tape of Seaman's conversation to Kaback, who had emphatically stated he was sure the two-star General who handed him the ammo, told him to guard the "saucer," and threatened to "shoot his balls off" if he told anyone about it, was General Seaman. After hearing the tape, Kaback said, "He's lying." But when CAUS said it was totally clear the General wasn't lying and that everyone who had heard the tape expressed the same opinion, Kaback admitted it did seem the General was telling the truth. When asked to resolve this total inconsistency, Kaback could only say, "Well, all I know is it happened."

CAUS related its findings to UFOlogist Lea Stringfield, stating it had concluded the case was either a hoax or a delusion, Stringfield, however, disagreed with CAUS's conclusions and went ahead with his MUFON Symposium presentation which featured a tape-recording of Kaback relating his story. In mid-October, CAUS discovered Kaback had approached a radio station newsletter service with his story and it was now being circulated around the country, with instructions to call "Dave" (Kaback's middle name) at his home number. At the time, CAUS had agreed to cooperate with radio station WPGC, Cheverly, Md., which was producing a two-week series on UFOs entitled, quite uncreatively, "Project UFO." WPGC, which has a wide listening audience in the Washington, D.C.-metro area, recorded Kaback and aired his story before CAUS could add its disclaimer. CAUS was even more chagrined to learn Kaback had been interviewed by radio stations across the country--"450" according to Kaback, who seemed to be reveling in the publicity. In fact, Kaback's gleeful manner when contacted by CAUS Director Todd Zechel in the midst of this publicity blitz seemed to confirm CAUS's conclusion that the subject was suffering from a powerful delusion.

Although Kaback still expressed a desire for anonymity, CAUS feels it can no longer grant the subject this protection. After all, he gave his home phone number to any number of radio stations. If anyone in the government was interested in tracking him down, it would take only a few seconds. Therefore, CAUS feels he has compromised his own confidentiality and only wants anonymity to avoid being held responsible for a bogus story.

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Comment: UFOlogists who report unsubstantiated claims and/or apologize continuously for inconsistencies in a witness's story are doing everyone a disfavor, including themselves. Promotions of weak or phony cases through major publicity campaigns only serve to offset painstakingly detailed investigations conducted CAUS, CUFOS, MUFON and others. It is difficult enough to separate the wheat from the chaff without having the chaff being called wheat. w/TZ

UFOS IN PERSPECTIVE: COMMENTARY BY CAUS DIRECTOR W. TODD ZECHEL - During the waning years of its UFO project, the Air Force contended it could readily identify 90% (or thereabouts) of all sightings and explain the rest after some difficulty or if more information was available. Most UFO believers scoffed and rejected these claims, often pointing to the seemingly reckless manner in which Blue Book assigned identifications, sometimes appearing to have tossed a coin to decide which one to use.

In recent years, in particular since the closure of Blue Book, UFO debunkers have made similar assertions. Unfortunately, the debunkers' methods of identification have often seemed as hit-and-miss as the Air Force's, even to the point of publishing entire books devoted to attributing UFOs to theoretical phenomena such as electrical plasma--a theory which has now fallen into the dung-heap of tried and failed catch-all explanations. (The plasma theory contended that high-voltage power lines created huge plasma clouds which sometimes escaped into the atmosphere and survived long enough to be seen and reported as UFOs.)

More recently, Time magazine revived the old glowing bug theory in its science section, proving once again that there's no fool like an old fool. And Time has been wrong enough, often enough, about UFOs and a multitude of other matters--China, Viet Nam and Nixon, to name a few--to be safely classified as an old fool, even though Henry Luce has bitten the dust. No, Henry will never fire another correspondent for reporting the truth instead of what the old man wanted to hear, but Time marches on in his tradition.

What's wrong with all these calculated guesses--calling them theories or hypotheses would be an overstatement--is that they fail to account for how and why plasmas, or bugs, or strange ice masses, or other undiscovered, unobserved natural phenomena; hover over Air Force missile bases and sites; play chicken with Iranian fighters; bother foreign governments enough to cause officials to scurry to the U.S. embassy in search of help; and the CIA felt strongly enough to use covert agents to collect information on them, engage in psychological warfare against them and keep everything secret it learned about them. (If, by some major miracle, Time's bug theory turns out to be correct, then the CIA and Air Force are going to have to explain why they wasted millions on something they could have hired the Orkin Man to handle.)

This is not to say 90% of all sightings can't be identified. Al Hendry, Chief Investigator for the Center For UFO Studies (CUFOS), has assembled a large body of objective evidence that indicates the vast majority of civilian UFO reports can be identified or explained. Hendry's studies have conclusively established that most reports are spurious--that they are based on emotional reactions to mundane phenomena such as stars, planets and ad planes. Nor are military sightings automatically classified as unidentified; he has positively identified several, including an impressive-sounding report by Navy personnel.

What makes Hendry's work so significant is that he did not decide beforehand that UFOs were or were not spaceships and set out to prove or disprove either position. This is what is known as objectivity. Debunkers, on the other hand, start from the position that UFOs--extraterrestrial spaceships--cannot exist, their thinking locked into the fortyish notion of Flash Gordon-like flying saucers traveling from some distant planet to Earth. Being familiar with man's current state of space technology, debunkers make rudimentary calculations on the travel-time involved and decide it just can't be done;

therefore, UFOs as anything that won't be ultimately identified as something terrestrial cannot exist. This has become known, for some peculiar reason, as the "scientific" position on UFOs.

Because UFOlogy has dared question the "scientific" position, its members have been branded as heretics. This is a reversal of the days when the church suppressed scientific discoveries and scientists were called heretics. Times have changed, though. Back in the good old days they liked to poke hot things up your most personal orifices in order to get you to see the error of your ways. The modern method of punishment for a heretic is to use non-physical tortures like smear campaigns. Lies have replaced the hot poker, but the pain's still the same.

So, while the military tracks UFOs on radar, chases them in jets and helicopters, only to be evaded and out-maneuvered, and whirring/objects hover defiantly over weapon storage areas at SAC nuclear missile bases, and in the meantime (October-November 1975) enough cattle to feed Exeter for a year are being mutilated in fields across the country (if this is being done by a Satanic cult, it has to be one that's larger than the American Legion, more clever than the Moonies and more dedicated than the People's Temple), Time magazine revives someone's old bug theory, the leading UFO debunker revives the Air Force's discarded flap-follows-publicity slogan, and the Air Force runs off a few thousand more copies of its famous "no UFO ever investigated gave any indication of being an extraterrestrial vehicle" release.

And how would a UFO do that, pray tell? Drape a banner over the side that reads, "This is an extraterrestrial vehicle"? Perhaps someone should point out to the Air Force that in order to know what something isn't, one first has to know what something is. In other words, if they don't know what an extraterrestrial vehicle looks like, how do they know what they're seeing isn't one?

Whoever said "Military Intelligence is a contradiction in terms" hit the nail squarely on the head. For the small sum of only \$20 Billion a year they can't accurately predict what our friends are going to do, much less our enemies (case in point: Iran). To be sure, they've got a string of successes going--from Pearl Harbor to Saigon, from Watergate to Koreagate, and from Cuba to Chile. Those who suspect the Watergate operation was deliberately bungled haven't been paying attention. If a former President of the United States can bang his head on three separate occasions on the same helicopter door, it stands to reason almost anything can be botched. (After Ford cracked his head on the helicopter door for the third time, the Secret Service forbid newsmen from filming future chopper boardings.)

What has this got to do with so-called "government cover-up?" Well, for one thing, the general view of most UFO believers is that a bunch of devious men sit around in a room and plot the suppression of UFO evidence. Out at Wright-Patterson, meanwhile, so the story goes, they've got so many recovered crashed saucers that they've had to build additional hangars. And the alien cemetery is overflowing with 4½ foot graves. (Why saucers have to end up at Wright-Patterson has never been fully explained.) After so many accidents, one begins to suspect the "aliens" have as many problems as we do. That hardly makes them worth knowing.

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Amazing Government UFO Reports Obtained By CAUS Under the FOIA Are Available To JUST CAUSE Subscribers - Complete Set, Including Latest CIA, NSA, DIA et al For \$100 - Send For List of Document Sets and Prices For Separate Items...

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

14 December 1978

Peter A. Gersten, Esquire  
Rothblatt, Rothblatt, Seijas & Peskin  
191 East 161st Street  
Bronx, New York 10451

Dear Mr. Gersten:

Re: Ground Saucer Watch, Inc. v. CIA, et al.,  
Civil Action Number 78-859

This letter covers the release of CIA documents responsive to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request at issue in the above-designated litigation. A total of 397 CIA documents were retrieved to date in the process of responding to this FOIA request. You will find that a total of 340 documents of approximately 900 pages have been released and are enclosed. ~~57 documents were withheld in their entirety pursuant to exemptions under the FOIA.~~ There may be a few duplicate documents, although most have been removed.

To date, a total of 196 documents were retrieved from CIA files which were originated by other U.S. Government agencies. These documents have been referred to the originating agencies for response to you. The breakdown by agency for these documents is as follows:

a. Air Force	76
b. National Archives	1
c. DIA	19
d. Army	30
e. Navy	11
<del>NSA</del>	<del>18</del>
g. State Department	41

I shall forward copies of the letters of transmittal regarding these referred documents in the near future.

The fee for reproduction of the Agency originated released documents is 10 cents a page. Please forward by return mail to CIA a check or money order in the amount of \$90.00 made payable to the order of the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully,

*George H. Owens*

George Owens  
Information & Privacy Coordinator

NSA REFERRED DOCUMENTS

1. By classified letter, dated 8 November 1978,  
CIA referred 15 documents 15

Document dated 26 January 1958

Document dated 26 January 1958

Document dated 2 March 1958

Document dated 20 March 1958

Document dated 26 March 1958

Document dated 18 Sept. 1958

Document dated 22 October 1958

Document dated 27 January 1959

Document dated 23 October 1959

Document dated 14 April 1967

Document dated 23 August 1967

Document dated 12 February 1968

Document dated 29 August 1968

Document dated 5 January 1973

Document dated 8 February 1978

2. By classified letter dated 30 November 1978,  
CIA referred 1 document 1

Document dated 27 January 1966

3. By classified letter dated 30 November 1978,  
CIA referred 2 documents 2

Document dated 1971

Document dated 1971

TOTAL REFERRED DOCUMENTS

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