



MUFON

ARIZONA CHAPTER

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The Truth is Out There . . .



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MEETING DATE: Monday, August 15, 1994 ♦ MEETING TIME: 7:30 Sharp
LOCATION: 8227 E. Orange Blossom, Scottsdale, AZ (Clubhouse)
PROGRAM: THE "ROSWELL" MOVIE (Broadcast on Showtime)

FROM THE ASST. STATE DIRECTOR'S DESK

And now for something new . . . a message from your Assistant State Director! Ray's job has required that he travel, so I'm stepping in to pinch hit for this month's "Director's Message."

Interest in UFOs seems to be at an all-time high. Every time you turn around there is something in the paper, on television, or on the radio. Maybe, just maybe, we are close to getting answers to our many questions. But we must all *work together* to get to the bottom line!

I see the three largest UFO groups in the world, Fund for UFO Studies, MUFON, and CUFOS, are all working together and sharing information. We can all do our part on the local scene by sharing information and ideas. If you are aware of an interesting person you would like to hear at one of our meetings, let Ray or me know . . . or if you come across a UFO-related video you'd like to share with the group, please let us know about that, too, and we'll arrange to show it at a meeting.

One interesting report came in a few days ago concerning a UFO "landing" in our own east valley. It is being investigated as this is being written, and perhaps a report can be made at the next meeting.

Don't forget that August 13-21 is National UFO Information Week! I had hoped our Phoenix group could have had some sort of display at one of the malls, but logistics and time constraints didn't permit this happening. Maybe next year! Instead, why not share some of your UFO knowledge with a friend who doesn't know much about the UFO situation. Lend them one of the many good books or videos on the subject. Get the word out to the general public!

As always, Ray and I welcome your input and suggestions. *Please contribute!!*

Tom Taylor, Asst. State Director

AREA 51 NOTICE

[Reprinted from Direct Mail Piece]

The Bureau of Land Management's Las Vegas District wishes to notify you of our intent to prepare a land use plan (LUP) amendment and environmental assessment (EA) to consider a proposed withdrawal by the U.S. Air Force for approximately 3,972 acres of public land in Lincoln County, Nevada. This amendment and integrated environmental assessment will analyze the impacts of this proposal.

The Caliente Management Framework Plan (MFP), approved in 1982, and the Nellis Air Force Range Resource Plan (RP), approved in 1991, would be amended by a single plan amendment, should the withdrawal be allowed. Issues identified for analysis in the LUP amendment/EA would include: oil and gas leasing, locatable minerals, recreational off-highway vehicle use, and access. The amendment would remove the 3,972 acres under current management within the Caliente MFP and include the 3,972 acres under the management objectives and direction of the Nellis Air Force Range RP.

A 30 day scoping period to identify any issues or concerns pertaining to the proposed plan amendment is offered to the public between July 27, 1994 and August 26, 1994. Written comments should be mailed or delivered to the address shown below and must be received by close of business on Friday, August 26, 1994: Gary Ryan, Acting District Manager; Bureau of Land Management; Las Vegas District Office; P.O. Box 26569; 4765 W. Vegas Drive; Las Vegas, NV 89126. All comments previously received by the BLM on the proposed withdrawal will be considered in the preparation of the proposed plan amendment/EA.

Gary Ryan
Acting District Manager
Las Vegas District Office
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MEDIA WATCH
by Tom Taylor

In the interest of keeping the UFO topic before the public, the following is a list of programs on the subject recently aired via television, radio and newspaper in recent weeks. We will attempt to list programs ahead of time whenever possible; unfortunately, we are not notified of the majority of programs until it is too late to publish them in the Newsletter in time for members to view, hear or read them. In the case of TV and radio programs, ask at MUFON meetings to see if anyone is aware of someone who may have taped them to share.

Seems Area 51 on Dreamland has been big in the news lately. An article appeared in a Reno, Nevada newspaper -- front page, no less -- and is included in this month's issue of our Newsletter.

The "Larry King Live" program originating from Area 51 has been well advertised for October 1; consult local TV listings for the exact time. Not to be outdone, the Monteil Williams Show is taping on the 26th and will be shown before Larry King, in an attempt to "scoop" Larry's program! You may remember last January Monteil made a promise to investigate Area 51. Well, better late than never.

But late is what it may be. According to Sean Morton, who appeared on Art Bell's "Dreamland" radio talk show this past Sunday evening, nine saucers kept at Area 51 were moved around the first of the year to Pax (sp?) River, Maryland. Also according to Mr. Morton, the U.S. has five bases on the moon . . . three on the back side and two on the face; some sort of shuttle is purportedly run to these bases from Area 51.

Linda Moulton Howe gives a report at the beginning of each "Dreamland" program. The same Sunday that the new movie "Roswell" was aired on Showtime Cable, Linda spoke for the whole three hours of the program. I missed the program, but perhaps someone out there taped it and can either lend it to me or make a report on it.

This past Sunday Linda reported that someone came forward concerning the power outage on the east coast in about 1965. The man was apparently an eyewitness to two UFOs sapping power from power lines. Linda played the interview with this man during the program, and the man sounded credible.

Tuesdays, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., Local Public Access Cable [Dimension Channel 22 in some areas] - UFO-AZ/UFO TALKS. Ted Loman, Jim Nichols and Rick Keefe co-host this continuing series featuring interesting guests and topics related to all aspects of the UFO experience.

Fridays, 8 p.m., FOX Channel 15 - "X Files." Another "fictional" program often dealing with the subject of UFOs.

Fridays on FOX (may have switched channel numbers by then!) - September 5 - "Sightings" returns! Many of us are quite excited about the return of this program.

Sundays, 7-10 p.m., KFYZ (910 AM) - DREAMLAND. This radio program is aimed at the subject of UFOs and is heard at the above time in the metro Phoenix area. It may differ in other areas, so check local listings.

Showtime (Cable) TV - "Roswell," the new made-for-cable movie about the 1947 Roswell crash and its aftermath, is now in repeat viewing on Showtime.

Monteil Williams Show - The program having Area 51 as its subject is taping on August 26th. No details as to when the program will be aired.

Omni Magazine continues with its six-part article "Cosmic Conspiracy" concerning UFOs. The August issue features Richard Hoagland and the Monuments on Mars. I understand that the September issue will contain a copy of the "Roswell Declaration" for readers to mail in. [I understand that thousands of "Roswell Declaration" petitions have been mailed in to MUFON headquarters, including those signed by our own Arizona group sent in a few months ago.]

October 1 - Larry King Live (TNT) - This broadcast of Larry King Live will originate from Area 51. It is reported that Bob Dean will also be interviewed on this broadcast, as well as Glen Campbell, who heads the Secrecy Oversight Council in Rachel, Nevada (site of the "Little A'Le Inn"). [See article below.]

Tom Taylor
Asst. State Director

**Larry King Plans Special
on Shadowy Nevada "Base"**

On October 1 Larry King will do a live, on-location special, with phone calls, of course, from Rachel, Nev., "in the shadow of the U.S. government's supersecret air base known as 'Area 51'" on TNT. It's called *The UFO Cover Up: Live From Area 51*.

Area 51, TNT explains, "also known as Groom Lake, is an enormous military installation hidden deep in the hostile Nevada desert -- so secret the Pentagon won't confirm its existence."

Among Larry's guests will be Glen Campbell, who heads the Secrecy Oversight Council in Rachel.

**HYPNOTIC REGRESSION
A VALID AND VALUABLE TOOL**

I am writing in response to Dimitri Ossipov's well-founded concerns about the use of hypnotic regression to gain information in UFO/abductee related cases. The first three points Mr. Ossipov questions are the very points that come up over and over again for all of us in the field of hypnotherapy. They are the same things I wondered before I started my studies in this field. The fourth point pertains specifically to abductee regressions.

At the July MUFON meeting Ray Maurer, our fearless leader, answered this query most eloquently. I agreed at that time with all he said. This letter is for those of you who weren't at the meeting. I am speaking strictly for myself in the following answers.

1. Could a person be hypnotized against his or her will?

No. Someone could be hypnotized without knowing it, if they were highly suggestible and all the circumstances were just right. However, if someone did not wish to be hypnotized in an overt situation, it would not be possible for the hypnotherapist to affect this. Hypnosis is achieved through the willingness of the subject. Subject participation is necessary. Without this participation, the desired hypnogogic state would not be achieved.

2. Could the subject be influenced to do what he/she is "ordered to?"

A qualified yes. In a therapeutic session, change is often effected by suggestion, which could be loosely interpreted to be an "order." However, in a UFO/abductee related hypnotic regression, no real suggestions should be made as to things the subject should be doing other than general suggestions such as "now look around," or "tell me what you are experiencing now." These are information-gathering sessions, and a time for the subject to re-experience an event on a conscious level, if indeed there was an event. The subject's experience is his/her own and should in no way be influenced or shaped by the hypnotherapist. As for post-hypnotic suggestions, such as we see in stage shows, that is done with the implied consent of the subject. When someone volunteers to go on stage with a hypnotist, they know there is a good chance they will be "made" to cluck like a chicken or bark like a dog after they leave the stage and return to their seat. The only reason this suggestion by the hypnotist works is because the volunteer subject has volunteered in the first place to have a little fun. In the subject's mind, he/she has already agreed to participate. No one can be made through hypnosis to do something they find offensive, repulsive or just "not like them." It's just not possible.

3. Can the whole episode of abduction be induced by leading questions or suggestions?

Probably not. Certainly, an abduction experience could be influenced, embellished and misdirected if the hypnotherapist were to ask leading questions such as "What color is the alien?" when the subject has said that they see a figure that looks humanish. In a valid session no leading can take place. The hypnotherapist is very careful not to put words in the subject's mouth, or ideas in his/her head. I believe, though, that even if this were done, it would not last very long as a "memory." The subject would start to doubt these influenced memories and ultimately ignore or reject them.

4. Dealing with abductees, are there other methods (I hope) used rather than those described above?

Most emphatically YES. The three above-suggested "methods" are all forms of coercion. A valid session,

conducted by a qualified hypnotherapist, contains not even the slightest attempt at any of the above. Rather, after placing the subject in a hypnogogic (or theta brainwave) state, the hypnotherapist gently guides the subject back to a specific starting point. The subject is asked to explore it for themselves. A good hypnotherapist acts as a guide to the process, not the content, of the session.

I would like to add for clarification the following points of information:

In a hypnotic session the subject is not asleep. They may be lying down for comfort's sake, and their eyes will be closed. They are, however, conscious and very alert. They hear everything going on around them in the room, and beyond, as usual. They are not, however, distracted by these sounds due to their highly focused mental state.

At no time does the subject give his/her "will" over to the hypnotherapist. During a session, the subject always retains control over him/herself. If an emergency were to come up, the subject would immediately be able to respond.

Finally, the subject upon "waking" will recall his/her session. It did not "happen to them" while they were asleep or unconscious. Rather, the session was something they experienced, actively and consciously participating.

I sincerely hope this helps shed some light on one of the most misunderstood therapeutic practices available to us today. Hypnotherapy is one of the finest tools I have found to assist people with their own personal growth. I have been in the holistic health field for over 25 years, and I consider hypnotherapy to be a wonderful adjunct to any other healing modality and a marvelous tool in its own right.

Cheri Woods, CHT
Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist
[NOTE: Ms. Woods will be relocating to California after August 12, 1994; mail sent to the Scottsdale address will be forwarded to her there.]
10105 E. Via Linda, #103-375
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
392-6764

USED AND OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS

Used and out-of-print UFO books are obtainable from two of our local members, Ginger and Leonard Redman. The Redmans can be reached at (602) 437-0219. If you are looking for something, give them a call. They do have a wide selection and can probably come up with that hard-to-find book you've been looking for. They did have some copies of the new book "The Truth About the Roswell Incident." They might have a few copies left.

SURE, THERE IS A COVER-UP!

Since the advent of flying saucers and later of CE3s and CE4s, bureaucrats are at a loss. They simply don't know how to handle the whole thing. How could our Air Force admit in the middle of the Cold War that something is flying around, and despite SAC and a radar system, nothing can be done about it?

Think about economic consequences. Just follow this scenario: ET asks us what we use as a monetary standard. "Gold? We pave our highways with it! But we don't have tomatoes on our planet. Let's trade: a ton of gold for a ton of tomatoes." Imagine what this will do to Wall Street and Federal Reserve! Fort Knox will become a tomato farm.

How will our self-assured scientists feel when they will be told that they were often on a wrong track and should open up a little?

Our social and religious foundations will shake when we learn that what we were taught was not always right or true; that cooperation is better than competition; and that some people worship a god who is not. So the official line is: wrap it up into the veil of secrecy and keep it there. After all, Uncle Sam knows better what is good for us . . . we are not mature enough to know much.

This is not only an official trend. Every day we see on TV some "expert" who tells us what to do. There is a good doctor who forbids us to eat or drink anything we like. There is an "expert" who tells us how to raise children, and is smart enough not to have any. There is an anti-tobacco campaign to prevent smokers like me from killing themselves. After any important event there is an array of "experts" who comment and explain to us what is going on because apparently, we don't get it. In other words . . . we are dumb and need some "Big Brother" to guide us.

But slowly and surely, things change. The subject of UFOs is beginning to be taken seriously in the press and the media. There are no more "little green men, ha ha!" on TV. Many books on UFOs are best sellers. The general public is better informed. And sooner or later our officials will face the decision of what must be done.

I believe that we are mature enough to handle UFO contact as we handled other difficult situations and survived. The best service official institutions can do is to disclose the truth and let us prepare ourselves to face our future.

Dimitri "Jim" Ossipov

COULD IT HAPPEN HERE?

Semipalatinsk is a city of 200,000 residents in Kazakhstan. This Central-Asian country was part of the USSR until 1991.

In the 1950s Soviet military exploded a nuclear device at a nearby installation without telling anyone. Then they sat back and watched what happened. The result was spectacular: the lake and an irrigation system were polluted. All vegetation was poisoned. Cattle and animals died by the thousands. In the

following years hundreds of deaths from "unknown causes" were reported -- babies were born with physical and mental defects. All of this was duly recorded and statistics were kept. All in the name of Science!!

Well, what do you expect from "commies?" They don't care! It will never happen here! This is a democracy! Really?

There are persistent reports that in the 1950s our own scientists conducted all kinds of experiments on unaware people. We know that Persian Gulf veterans suffer side effects from some pill they had to swallow. We know how some Roswell residents, the Sheriff included, were threatened by the military in 1947. True, in these times officials (especially wearing uniforms) were better obeyed than today. There was less talk about civil rights. Again, all this in the name of Science and National Defense!

All this makes me wonder. I never believed in the Philadelphia Experiment in 1942 . . . now I don't know. I never believed that some people could have an "unfortunate accident" or disappear, or be driven nuts just because they were deemed "unreliable." Now I'm not so sure. I never took seriously the tales of conspiracies in J. Vallee's books. Now -- maybe I should take another look. For me, "Men in Black" were a caricature of bumbling bureaucrats. What if they were for real?

Disturbing . . . that is the word. The only way is to dig for facts and then draw consequences [conclusions].

Dimitri "Jim" Ossipov

CALENDAR

August: World Update Conference in Tucson featuring Bob Dean.

September 9-11: Third annual Midwest Conference of UFO Research. Hotel Radisson, Springfield, MO. For further info. call (417) 882-6847.

October 14-16: Second Gulf Breeze UFO Conference, Grand Hotel, Pensacola, FL. For further information call (904) 432-8888.

November 27 - December 4: Fourth International UFO Congress Convention, Peppermill Oasis Resort, Mesquite, Nevada (north of Las Vegas). For further information contact Bob Brown, 4266 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94611 (510) 428-0202.

Q. Why do some people think they've been abducted by aliens from space?

A. Normally, being calm and rational types, we greet tales of alien abduction with hoots, sneers and guffaws, then quickly return to our previous work on behalf of the Zorgon Empire.

But lately, the alien thing has gotten out of hand. Getting abducted by little gray men with large eyeballs is to the '90s what disco dancing in white suits was to the '70s. The alien-abduction stores recently got a big boost with the publication of a book by a well-known Pulitzer Prize-winning Harvard psychiatrist, John Mack, who says he believes that these stories, however, far-fetched, are actually true.

Maybe so. How can you disprove it? The aliens are doing it secretly, remember, so the absence of footprints, photographs or direct alien confessions merely corroborates the scenario of a covert UFO operation.

There are probably many factors at work here. Some stories are probably hoaxes. Some are probably the result of madness. A few may be artifacts of therapy, the misapplication of hypnosis or the implantation of false memories by pseudo-scientific investigators (psychiatrists, for example).

There's another explanation that we find particularly intriguing: the theory that some abduction fantasies are a function of a sleeping disorder called *sleep paralysis*. It so happens that a key *Why* staffer has this very disorder, and, indeed, the symptoms match up with some of the symptoms of alien abduction.

The aliens usually strike at night while people are in bed; so, too, does sleep paralysis. The abductees report that their first sensation is apprehension, the sense that someone is in the room; that is precisely what happens with sleep paralysis.

Sleep paralysis is a screw-up of the brain's normal awake-asleep mechanism. Normally, people lose muscle tone only when they are asleep. But if you have sleep paralysis, this loss of muscle tone can kick in too early, before your brain is asleep, or persist after you've awakened. It's creepy! In fact, it's a lot like being zapped with a suspended-animation ray from the Mother Ship. You have to shake yourself out of it; no easy task. All the while you tend to have auditory hallucinations or dreamlike thoughts, usually with menacing overtones. In Whitley Streiber's book *Communion*, he describes waking up, being unable to move, seeing strange beings; then, incredibly, going back to sleep. Sounds just like sleep paralysis.

Our *Why* staffer never has imagined himself abducted. But he has felt, during these sleep-paralysis attacks, that they were being done to him by someone else, some Other. It's all the more frustrating then to realize, when the attack goes away, that it is just one's own self that is doing this, that the Other is just one's own brain.

OK, so maybe that's not as interesting an explanation for alien abduction as the one that says aliens are really here and are trying to beam us aboard their spacecraft so they can do unseemly alien things to us. But you have to admit it's almost as weird.

Joel Achenback
The Washington Post
Reprinted in The Arizona Republic
[undated]

APOLOGIES TO MR. KUSZELEWICZ

We did it again!!! We published incorrect information (which we copied from another publication). This time it was an incorrect telephone number for Tom Kuszelewicz, Tucson Area Section Director. His correct telephone number is (602) 398-2573 (instead of 2073), and this number has now corrected in the Newsletter Masthead as well. It's hard to keep up with everyone's current address and telephone number; we appreciate your patience.

OUTA LIMITS UFO ENIGMA MUSEUM

[The following are excerpts from the quarterly newsletter received for the Outa Limits UFO Enigma Museum in Roswell.]

In January the museum expanded in size to 4,400 square feet. We also now have a screening room where visitors can view the video of the day showing at four times daily in addition to new exhibits and UFO history.

The museum receives numerous pieces of mail each month from people wanting brochures and catalogues. While we are very grateful for these inquiries, being on a very limited budget, we simply cannot afford to accommodate all the inquiries. So to make it easier for everyone, we have acquired an 800 number for people to call to order catalogues. These catalogues will be updated as new materials are added. The number is 1-800-368-UFOS. Thank you.

For die-hard skeptics who can't let go of the weather balloon fiasco in July 1947, be it a Rawin Sonde or Project Mogul, I strongly suggest Karl Phlock's new book, Roswell in Perspective. Karl entered the Roswell Incident research about two years ago. Karl pretty much ignores much of Frank Joyce's testimony, such as many have done. But in the July 1994 No. 315 issue of the MUFON Journal, Karl uses the testimony of Frank Joyce to build a defense against Kevin Randle's philosophy. Karl wants his wheat, but not the whole loaf of bread. Are we ready for the truth??

For people searching for the truth, I suggest The Truth About The UFO Crash at Roswell by Randle and Schmitt. These guys have been extensively researching the Roswell Incident for six years.

John A. Price
Outa Limits Newsletter Editor

Tracker of UFOs a 'typical housewife'

By EDDIE NORTH-HAGER
Staff Writer

In between a talk about nose implants and cattle mutilations, Doris Barley had to answer the phone in her mobile home.

"I'm sorry, that was the Avon lady," said Barley, who last week was named the Yuma County director of the Mutual UFO Network. "See, I'm a typical housewife. I buy Avon and I clip coupons."

Maybe she used to be typical — a year and a half ago. But since she became involved with MUFON, her life has changed.

"A lot of people think I have 'wacko' stamped across my forehead," she said with a laugh.

She believes that some humans are abducted by beings from outer space and have tracking devices put into their noses. She also thinks that many cattle mutilations are the work of aliens.

"There are UFOs, I know that. I know there are abductions," said Barley, who is retired after 19 years with the U.S. Border Patrol. "This is a hobby, an interest. It doesn't consume me. It is something I believe in."

MUFON is an international not-for-profit scientific organization. The 25-year-old group is based in Texas and has volunteers worldwide. Barley runs the county chapter out of her home and is the only member in the Yuma area.

A friend from back East titillated her with UFO material and got her hooked. Barley couldn't get enough and enrolled in MUFON as a newspaper clipper.

After she investigated a UFO sighting in August, she passed an exam and moved up to a field investigator. After documenting a sighting and an abduction, she was asked to become the section director.

"One of my jobs is to try to figure out if they are telling the truth or if it is a hoax," Barley said.

She has a shelf of materials ready and documents the sighting or visitation. Aftercare can include hypnotherapy for abduc-



The Sun/Eddie North-Hager

Doris Barley displays recent articles about UFOs

tion and there are even forms for how pets respond to the event, she said.

The interest is high in Yuma, Barley said. The first meeting of the Yuma chapter is scheduled for Aug. 14 during National UFO Week at the Desert Lakes Golf Course Clubhouse, and she hopes to lure 30 people. From there, she wants to start a school to investigate UFOs. The fee to join MUFON is \$25.

"If we can get enough dedicated people to do the background work, I think that will help solve the phenomena," she said.

Barley said her first personal experience with a UFO happened on August 28.

The Yuma Police Department called her at 4 a.m. to tell her of a stationary UFO spotted by two officers, she said.

She and her husband, Ralph, watched the star-like object for an hour while it flashed red, white and blue before disappearing.

The police department reported it as a UFO sighting, and Barley was interviewed by television reporters and her number was placed on the screen.

The next two weeks were

awful, she said.

"People are eager to talk when they find someone who believes them," Barley said.

She left the phone off the hook at night to sleep and talked to callers during the day. A few days later the police changed the nighting from a UFO to a star, saying it looked odd because of moisture in the upper atmosphere.

Barley believes differently. But the sighting isn't what convinced her that aliens exist and visit the earth.

She said she has devoured as much reading material as possible on the subject and still wants more.

"Once you start reading this type of information, you keep reading."

Barley's husband has been behind her the entire time and doesn't think his wife is crazy. But he isn't quite convinced space life is for real.

"I have an alarm business to keep me busy," said Ralph, also retired from the Border Patrol. "I don't get into it too much."

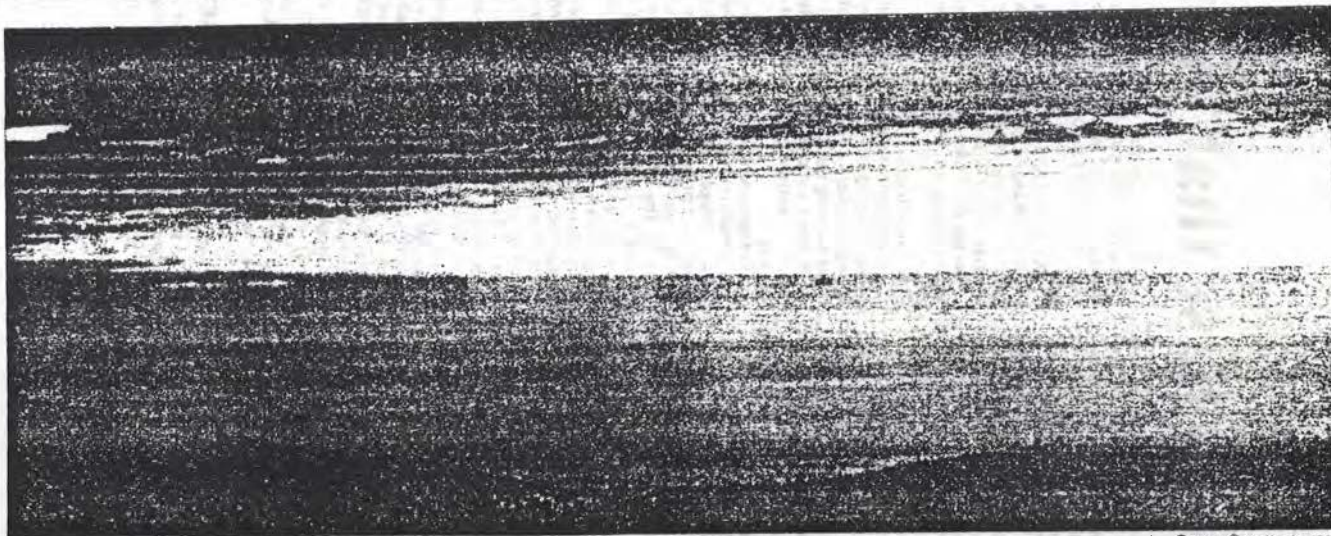
He explains away the UFO sighting by saying "it could have been anything."

But he didn't say what.

SPECIAL REPORT

"When you have a base that 'doesn't exist,' the government can do what it wants."

Battle for Dreamland



Joe Gosen/Gazette-Journal

MYSTERIOUS SITE: The Air Force base at Groom Lake, above, could be mistaken for a mirage. But gadfly Glen Campbell, below,

says the base is real and is conducting a crusade against the military's efforts to keep it shrouded in secrecy.

Air Force, gadfly joust over secrecy

By Mike Sion
GAZETTE-JOURNAL

RACHEL — From Freedom Ridge, where the Great Basin and Mojave deserts meet and the prickly Joshua tree reigns, the naked eyelooking west takes in an Air Force base so top-secret the military won't acknowledge it's there.

It could be mistaken for a mirage: a haze of buildings and hangars behind the white swath of a dry lake bed in south-central Nevada.

Welcome to Dreamland. That's the name aviation aficionados and UFO buffs give this northeast section of the 3.5 million-acre Nellis Air Force Complex gunnery and bombing range. It's also called Area 51 (from an old military map) and Groom Lake (after the dead body of water).

To those with no interest in Cold War history or in "black budget" military projects censored from Pentagon ledgers, the base — a jumble of structures set against the Groom Range 12 miles from Freedom Ridge — appears utterly unimpressive.



But it's where the Air Force's state-of-the-art craft have been tested, from the U-2 spy plane in the '50s through the Stealth bomber and fighter of the '80s. Rumor has it the next generation of spy plane/bombers, dubbed "Aurora," is now based there. The delta-shaped, liquid methane-fueled craft reportedly can fly at eight times the speed of sound or approximately 5,000 mph.

Officially, the plane doesn't exist. The Air

See **WELCOME** on page 11A

MORE ON 10A, 11A

■ **Base authority:** Man is on crusade to unlock Area 51 secrets. **10A**

■ **Black mailbox:** A UFO landmark. **10A**

■ **International interest:** German TV crew visits site. **10A**

■ **The locals:** Their take on Area 51 and UFOs. **11A**

Welcome to Dreamland, the top-secret base that 'doesn't exist'

From page 1A

Force has no aircraft with the capabilities attributed to Aurora, says a Pentagon spokesman who asked not to be identified.

But the Air Force apparently deems Dreamland's privacy so important that it wants to close off nearly 4,000 acres of public land near the base until the year 2001.

That would effectively prevent spectators from stealing even distant glimpses of Groom Lake from two nearby mountain ridges, including Freedom Ridge.

But nothing stirs a storm of controversy and draws media attention like a military installation shrouded in mystery.

And in what's become a boomerang on the Air Force's efforts to keep the area covert, the little base that's not officially there has become a rallying point for people who oppose the proposed land grab, or who want the Air Force to come clean about Dreamland's purpose in this post-Cold War age.

Also auguring ill for Dreamland's secret status are impending citizen-action lawsuits on behalf of current and former workers at the base. The workers allegedly suffered from illegal and unregulated open-air burning of toxic materials, reportedly used for anti-radar coating of the Stealth aircraft.

If the suits are filed, they could shed light on the base's goings-on, says plaintiff counsel Jonathan Turley, a George Washington University law professor and head of the pro-bono Environmental Crimes Project in Washington, D.C.

Shadows of the black budget

And fomenting the entire issue of bringing Dreamland to daylight is a one-man citizen's army named Glenn Campbell, a 34-



ANOTHER SIGN This is one of many warnings in the south-central Nevada desert aimed at keeping the curious away from Groom Lake.

year-old ex-computer programmer who sees the not-so-secret base as an outmoded embodiment of Cold War secrecy and military autonomy.

"When you have a base that 'doesn't exist,' the government can do whatever it wants there," says Campbell, now a resident of tiny Rachel.

"The Air Force can pursue its national security agenda while ignoring all others, like the environment or worker rights."

Not to mention massive, unchecked spending of taxpayers' money, he says.

The black budget, begun during development of the atomic bomb during World War II, swelled to a reported \$36 billion by the end of the 1980s — about a tenth of the total military budget.

From his trailer, Campbell publishes the Groom Lake Desert Rat

newsletter and is unofficial guide to Freedom Ridge for a recent onslaught of news media.

He also has written the "Area 51 Viewer's Guide," a how-to manual on observing Dreamland and the nighttime flights of military craft and (for True Believers) UFOs.

Campbell was originally drawn to Rachel in fall 1992 by tales of the Nevada's night sky ripping open with fiery circuses of UFOs.

He didn't find any. But his curiosity shifted to why the Air Force refused to admit the Groom Lake base existed when plain eyesight told Campbell otherwise. His viewer's guide noted the best vantage points: Freedom Ridge and White Sides Mountain.

Military wants bigger buffer

On Sept. 30, 1993, the Air Force sent a letter to Secretary of the In-

terior Bruce Babbitt, seeking control of 3,972 acres of public land next to Dreamland. The letter said the extra land was needed for "the safe and secure operation of the Nellis Range Complex."

A series of public hearings were held. The area remains open while the Bureau of Land Management reviews a contractor's environmental assessment of the Air Force's plan, which wouldn't affect current grazing rights of a nearby rancher.

A decision by Babbitt whether to close the land is at least six months away, says Jackie Giraton, realty specialist with the BLM's Las Vegas office. And because the Air Force must submit an amendment to its current land-use plan, there will be another period of public comment.

The Air Force says it has had to postpone or reschedule flights when people entered the area it seeks to withdraw from public use.

"People in that land would be in danger, and compromise the secure operation of what's going on in the range, if we're indeed running anything classified out there," says Air Force Major George Sillia, chief of public affairs at Nellis Air Force Base.

Land on the complex is used for a bombing range, he says.

Broadening a buffer zone around the base would protect the "technological edge of U.S. military capabilities," a Pentagon spokesman said.

A new response

But for Campbell, the application to close the land was the break he had been waiting for.

It gave him a news angle with which to beckon media to Freedom Ridge — and sharpen his campaign to shred the veil of secrecy at Groom Lake.

Indeed given the sudden avalanche of publicity, the Air Force has worked up a new response to inquiries about Dreamland's existence.

"We have facilities throughout the Nellis Range Complex," Sillia says. "There are facilities near the dry lake bed of Groom Lake."

But the Air Force won't disclose what's going on at those "facilities."

Nevertheless, security is tight.

Access to the secret installation along a dirt road is inhibited by orange markers every 50 feet and signs warning the area is a restricted military zone and that "deadly force" is authorized against trespassers.

Photographing or even sketching structures or aircraft in the area is illegal, according to the signs. And private guards in camouflage driving white Cherokees monitor the area and have summoned Lincoln County Sheriff's deputies when media appear to flout the law.

In March, a New York Times Magazine photographer handed over film after a deputy threatened to get a search warrant. In April, a deputy confiscated equipment from an ABC-TV "World News Tonight" team.

But by now, reporters from even the Weekly World News — the fringiest of supermarket tabloids — and Fox's "Encounters" pseudo-news show have trekked to the area.

Campbell accepts his status as unofficial Freedom Ridge escort.

"I've become a spokesman just like the Air Force has its spokesman," he says.

Soviet craft and 'Hangar 18'

To the uninitiated, the view of Dreamland from Freedom Ridge is hardly remarkable.

■ **Photographing or even sketching structures or aircraft in the area is illegal, according to the signs.**

Only an experienced viewer such as Campbell, using binoculars or a telescope, can pick out the airstrip, said to be the longest on earth at 5,000 yards.

Or the three white roofs to the north, said to house the "Red Hat Squadron" (Soviet aircraft).

Or the four or five Boeing 737s on a tarmac, said to ferry base workers daily from Las Vegas.

Or "Hangar 18" at the south end of the installation, where believers say extraterrestrials are kept, and which has been dubbed after a B-movie alleging a government coverup of a captured space alien.

"No one knows what's in Hangar 18," Campbell says.

"It could be the Aurora and its mother ship," he says, referring to the carrying plane said to be used to launch the Aurora in flight.

Campbell believes the Air Force will eventually prevail in closing the public land around Dreamland, but that opponents of military secrecy will win a moral victory.

"In the best case, I want the BLM to say, 'This application isn't sufficient. You have to give us the real reason,'" Campbell says.

"We're generating so much publicity now, they'll get the land but lose the secret base."

Visit to border like a trip back to Cold War

By Mike Sion
GAZETTE JOURNAL

RACHEL — At 10 a.m. on a Friday morning, Glenn Campbell, wearing his desert camouflage suit and cap akin to those of Operation Desert Storm, motors his gray Blazer through the outback off Highway 375.

He's leading a German television crew in their Jeep up the long dirt road, beading west toward the Groom Range.

The Germans are lured by the vast, eerie Nevada landscape and the human-interest story of Campbell. Most of all, they're attracted by a U.S. Air Force still wrapped in secrecy after the fall of the Iron Curtain.

"In Germany, we are of course much closer to relics of the Cold War than you here in the States," correspondent Claus Kleber says.

About six miles from the border of the restricted zone, a white Jeep Cherokee is parked next to a Joshua tree. Two men in camouflage uniforms sit inside.

About two miles from the border, signs on both sides of the road warn there is a restricted military installation to the west.

The signs inform it is unlawful to make any photograph, film, sketch, picture, drawing or graphic representation of the area or equipment at or flying over the installation. Penalties range up to \$1,000 and a year imprisonment.

Campbell points out two nearby ridges outside the restricted zone that provide viewing points to the officially non-existent base.

A pointy one, its side a wash of erosion, is White Sides Mountain. The other, flat-topped, is what Campbell has dubbed Freedom Ridge.

The vehicles take a narrow and kidney-jarring ride toward the ridge. His radio scanner, set to the 142.200 frequency favored by the security guards, picks up, "9-2-9 radio check ... 9-2-9, I read you, over and out."

The trucks wend through a canyon, navigating past a boulder seemingly left over from what Campbell terms an "illegal roadblock" of rocks rolled into the path, but later moved off by Campbell and others.



Joe Gannon/Gazette Journal

SURVEILLANCE: A military helicopter passes over an area near Freedom Ridge, from which Groom Lake base can be viewed.

He parks in the canyon so the Germans can shoot footage. Soon, a black Cobra helicopter appears from the direction of the restricted zone, buzzing over the ridges. But it leaves after a second pass.

The road grows stonier and less obliging until the Jeep reaches an apparent border sign saying it's unlawful to enter without the proper federal authorization, and that all personnel and their property are subject to search.

Campbell does what he always does to this sign: With a black marker, he crosses out the warning and re-traces lettering he has previously scrawled: "misplaced sign," "border is ahead 300 yards."

"This is evidence that the Air Force sometimes takes more than it's legally entitled to," Campbell says of the sign.

He adds a smiley face to it for effect.

Campbell drives a quarter-mile farther to the true border, marked by orange marker posts topped with silver-oid optical sensors and more signs warning that entrance to the area requires "permission of the Installation Commander." Little red letters on the sign announce, "Use of deadly force authorized."

Surveying this specimen of the Cold War era, the German correspondent smiles.

"This is a joke compared to the

Berlin Wall," he says.

"It's a psychological barrier," Campbell says. "You can walk a few feet in and not get caught."

The real question, he says, is "who is the Installation Commander?" He has never been able to contact any such being in correspondence to Nellis Air Force base.

A white Cherokee is on top of an opposite ridge, almost hidden behind some Joshua trees. Campbell backs up his Blazer, then grinds up a winding trail to Freedom Ridge.

At the top, afternoon wind whistling, the Germans aim their camera first at the endless wilderness to the east, then at Campbell setting up his spotter's scope, and then — testing the law — at the forbidden base.

There's no discernible movement from the security truck on the opposite ridge.

On nearby rocks are black-marked mementos from previous visitors to Freedom Ridge, including "Agent X," "The Nose" and "What base?"

Campbell signs the registry: "Elvis Presley."

Driving back, Campbell and the Germans pass another Cherokee with two "cammo dudes" — the sentries of secrecy — near the black mailbox.

They stare expressionlessly as they pass: human props in what may now be an empty drama.

No close encounters for UFO searchers

■ **Gathering point:** Aliens aren't spotted from remote Nevada highway.

By Mike Sion
GAZETTE JOURNAL

RACHEL — It's 8:30 p.m., and Glenn Campbell has led two visitors to the "black mailbox" 29 miles south of Rachel on desolate Highway 375.

It's just a big post box labeled "Steve Medlin, Box 80," to serve a nearby rancher. But it's one of the few landmarks on this lonely stretch of highway, and has served as a gathering point for UFO watchers who believe the best displays are on Wednesday nights.

This is a Thursday, and all is quiet in the hush of deserted Tikaboo Valley. A heavy, windless silence, still as a moonscape.

The senses come alive, straining for any sound or source of light.

Nothing's about, except shadowy figures of cows nibbling at the brushy ground, an odd jack rabbit darting across the two-lane road, and solitary stands of Joshua trees, spiny trunks topped by foliage resembling pineapple leaves.

But as the purple sunset melts over the outline of northern mountains and darkness gathers, bright pinpoints of light begin blinking intermittently in the sky.

It's 8:45 p.m., and the planes from the Air Force's nearby Nellis Range Complex provide a distant roar. The Air Force uses 3.5 million acres in this outback for practice bombing runs, favoring the flats of the ancient dry lake beds.

The patterns are spaced about a minute apart, cutting

dramatic jumping patterns in the sky.

Soon three, then four, patterns race across the sky, choreographed dogfights.

Campbell half-smiles. "There's your UFOs. These are classic conditions."

Suddenly, a bright, big light approaches, just above the ground.

Headlights of a car approach on Highway 375.

"Another classic UFO," Campbell says.

He's the last person to expect to encounter alien spacecraft out here in Dreamland.

"I'm able to explain everything I've seen," he says.

Venus is glowing brightly, a white orb in the northwest sky.

"The most common UFO there is is Venus," Campbell says.

It can seem to move to the naked eye. "Even now, see, it's pulsing, going back and forth."

To the south, a faint haze builds over the mountains: light pollution from Las Vegas' casinos, 100 miles away.

Campbell has a brough-t-a scanner to listen to radio chatter from the air traffic and from any private curity patrols, exploring the perimeters of the military restricted zone a dozen miles to the west, where the Groom Rangelooms.

He and his visitors get back in the four-wheel drive and head 11 miles west on a dirt road until they're two miles from the border of the restricted zone, as defined by the outline of the ridges.

The mountain range is periodically illuminated by flashes from a lightning storm. Above, strobes of light jump now and again.

Heading back to the highway, Campbell's scanner picks up pilot chatter. It's the eternal voice of a pilot, resembling a West Virginia drawl:

"Bombs away 70 seconds," the voice says.

And 70 seconds later: "Splash."

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