

UNITED STATES

# UFO's 'monitored by CIA since 1949'

**PHOENEX, Sunday (AAP-NYT).** — Documents obtained in a lawsuit against the Central Intelligence Agency show that the agency has secretly monitored reports of unidentified flying objects since 1949, an Arizona-based UFO group said on Friday.

The CIA has repeatedly said it investigated and closed its books on UFOs during 1952, but Ground Saucer Watch, a US research organisation of about 500 scientists, engineers and others who seek to scientifically prove or disprove the existence of UFOs, say 1,000 pages of documents obtained under a freedom-of-information suit, show "the Government has been lying to us all these years".

Mr William Spaulding, head of the group and an aerospace engineer with Airesearch, one of the largest producers of specialised aerospace components, said the documents showed US Em-

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bassies were used to help gather information on UFO sightings and the information "seems to be directed to the CIA the White House and the national Security agency".

A CIA memo of August 1, 1952, recommends continued agency surveillance of "flying saucers", saying, "It is strongly urged, however, that no indication of CIA interest or concern reach the Press or public, in view of their probably alarmist tendencies to accept such interest as 'confirmatory' of the soundness of 'unpublished facts' in the hands of the US Government".

Among the documents are several detailed reports of Air Force attempts to either intercept or destroy UFOs.

Two F-4 Phantom jet fighter-bombers are said to have pursued a large UFO in Iran in 1967. The UFO seemed to send out smaller craft, one of which "headed straight toward the F-4 at a very fast rate of speed", the report said.

"The pilot attempted to fire an AIM-9 missile at the object but at that instant his weapons-control panel went off and he lost all communications". The pilot eluded the craft, then watched as it "returned to the primary object for a perfect rejoin", the report continued.

A document dated November, 1975, directs against acknowledging any pattern in sightings.

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**"Unless there is evidence which links sightings or unless media queries link sightings, queries can best be handled individually at the source and as questions arise", it said. "Response should be direct, forthright and emphasise that the action taken was in response to an isolated or specific incident".**

**Mr Spaulding said the document showed there were links and patterns in the sightings. From that evidence, he believed UFOs visited earth on surveillance mission. He had sworn statements from retired Air Force colonels that at least two UFOs had crash-landed and had been recovered by the Air Force.**

**One crash, was in Mexico, in 1948 and the other was near Kingman, Arizona, in 1953. The retired officers said they had seen dead aliens who were in both cases about 122 centimetres tall with silverish complexions and wearing silver outfits that "seemed fused to the body from the heat".**

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