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'Explosive' British Case Discussed

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Cr: Larry Bryant

UFO Researchers Meet in Lincoln

By John Barrette
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Lincoln — Researchers who investigate unidentified flying objects hope the federal Freedom of Information Act is the key that unlocks the door to government knowledge about various UFO cases, particularly one in England.

Larry Fawcett of Coventry, Conn., and Larry Bryant of Alexandria, Va., both with Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), said the federal law will help uncover the facts in what Fawcett termed an "explosive" 1980 case in Britain involving U.S. Air Force personnel.

Three-Day Conference

Fawcett, Bryant and a host of UFO enthusiasts were in Lincoln for a three-day conference at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education.

The event is called "Exploring Unexplained Phenomena II," and the second annual gathering focuses on whether the government is covering up UFO information. A conference pamphlet poses the question of whether the

government is involved in a "cosmic Watergate," a massive coverup of information concerning contact with unidentified objects.

The December 1980 case at RAF Woodbridge in England that concerns Fawcett and Bryant involved the landing of some type of craft, according to Fawcett, and perhaps contact between U.S. Air Force personnel and beings from the craft.

Fawcett said a document from the deputy base commander, Lt. Col. Charles I. Halt, was obtained through the Freedom of Information Act and "basically backs up the information that we have from an American airman that was stationed there — an informant that came forward to us."

'Startling'

Fawcett, who unveiled other data on the case during Saturday afternoon's UFO conference session, said the deputy base commander's document was startling even though it didn't confirm any contact with aliens.

"After receiving the document we realized the event was very explosive and it was a startling document," Fawcett

said in an interview. He said the case is explosive because some say there was a craft landing, beings were in contact with military personnel and repairs for the craft were made by the military personnel.

"The document verifies the fact that something did land there," he said. "The military document talked, of course, not about small aliens or beings, if you will. Of course, the military would never come up front and say there were little green men walking around."

Bryant supplied what he identified as a copy of the Air Force document signed by Halt, which said military personnel reported seeing "a strange glowing object." It was described as metallic in appearance, triangular in shape and about three meters across the base by two meters high.

The document also said that when military personnel approached, the craft maneuvered through forest trees and disappeared. It said a later check revealed three depressions more than an inch deep and seven inches in diameter on the ground where the object had been seen.

Documents Sought

Fawcett said CAUS continues to search for other documents in an attempt to verify the organization's findings from interviews both in America and England.

"We're in the appeals process right now to obtain photographs," he said.

Bryant said he intends to mount another Freedom of Information action aimed at obtaining messages and memoranda on the incident from the U.S. military attache in England to the State Department in Washington.

Fawcett followed J. Allen Hynek on the Saturday program at the conference. Hynek, with a UFO research center in Evanston, Ill., is an astronomer and lifelong UFO researcher who spent years with the government's Project Bluebook.

Hynek outlined other UFO cases during a slide presentation, saying that many good cases develop in sparsely populated areas along lonely stretches of road at night.

"I'm sure that at the halftime of the game this afternoon you'll not see a UFO," Hynek said, referring to the Nebraska-Kansas football game in Lincoln.

Hynek has criticized Project Bluebook as public relations rather than the scientific project he believes it should have been.