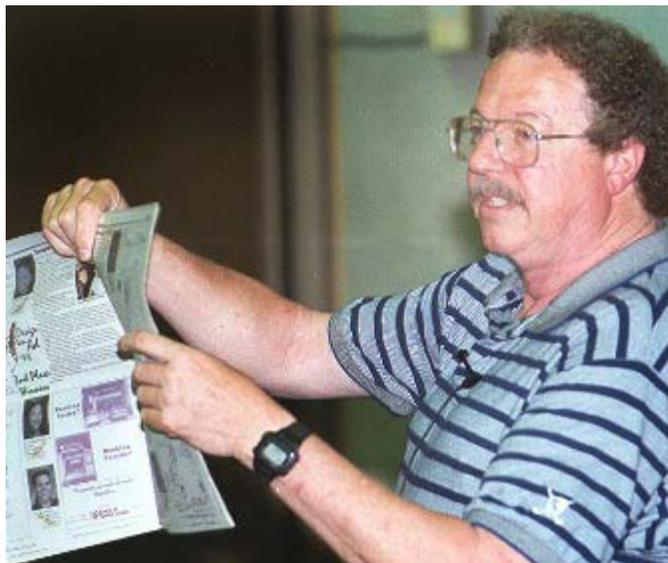


Symbols, Markings

Or Much Ado About Nothing?



Photo© Debbie Stock

By Ronald S. Regehr

The Internet is abuzz with all manner of stories related to the latest efforts of some to discern, once and for all, whether or not the (in)famous photographs of the "Roswell Debris" taken on that fateful July 8, 1947 afternoon by James Bond Johnson do or do not include strange images reminiscent of those reported by both Maj. Jesse Marcel and his son, Jesse Marcel, Jr.

What started it all? And what is the current status of the investigation? That is the subject of this article.

My involvement began innocently enough when I received a call from Photojournalist Debbie Stock. She said J. Bond Johnson recently contacted her and stated he found anomalous marks on objects seen in an 11x14" copy of one of the black and white pictures he took as photographer for the Fort Worth Star Telegram in July 1947. According to Johnson, these marks vindicated Gen. Roger Ramey of any wrong-doing. Ramey has long been accused of swapping junk for the actual debris transported from Roswell Army Air Field to Ft. Worth Air Field by Maj. Marcel.

The three of us reside in Southern California and met locally for lunch, proceeding to discuss events surrounding Bond's involvement with Roswell, UFOs and the photos of alleged UFO debris. A cursory examination of one photograph referred to as "Marcel Right" (indicating Maj. Marcel is looking to his right) showed several items of interest: what can be described as an "I" beam, a "chrome" strip, a pile of

baseball-sized black chunks of something, Maj. Marcel's scuffed "boondockers" and most significantly, what appeared to be raised marks on one of the pieces of debris.

Bond stated he wasn't interested in becoming embroiled in controversy but hoped someone would analyze the pictures, letting the resulting data stand or fall on its merits. He asked Debbie and me if we would analyze the Roswell photos and revisit an issue the Air Force called "Case Closed" in 1997.

We then went to a local STAPLES office supply store to obtain preliminary copies from Bond's "master". When we asked for their finest reproductions, the clerk told us those would be from their digital laser color-copy machine. We ordered the copies and enlargements (approximately 5X) of the area containing the "marks". I then went home and wrote a press release under my private firm name, Research/Investigations. The press release was picked up by AP and media calls came in.

The following Monday, I ordered two 16 x 20 copies of each of the four negatives from the University of Texas, Arlington repository providing a set for Stock and one for myself. My request for copy negatives from the original 4X5" black and white negatives is pending. (An Air Force rep previously asked for the original negatives but was denied access to them and was provided a set of copy negatives.)

In addition, I spoke with Don Berliner of the Fund for UFO Research and asked him to find out if an associate, Dr. Bruce Maccabee would perform image enhancements. Equipped with the finest resources, the government consultant might, at best, be able to validate or repudiate observed marks in the photographs.

Will the analysis of these photographs be "the answer" to the Roswell mystery? Or will they prove to be just more salt in the otherwise pungent brew known as the Roswell Incident?

What have we discovered to date? [Part Two](#)

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