



## Aliens On Earth.com

Resources for those who are stranded here



Our Bookstore is **OPEN**

*Over 5000 new & used titles, competitively priced!*

Topics: [UFOs](#) - [Paranormal](#) - [Area 51](#) - [Ghosts](#) - [Fortean](#) - [Conspiracy](#) - [History](#) - [Biography](#) - [Psychology](#) - [Religion](#) - [Crime](#) - [Health](#) - [Geography](#) - [Maps](#) - [Science](#) - [Money](#) - [Language](#) - [Recreation](#) - [Technology](#) - [Fiction](#) - [Other](#) - [New](#)

Search... for keyword(s)

in Page Titles

Location: [Mothership](#) -> [Area 51](#) -> [List](#) -> [1997](#) -> [Aug](#) -> **Underground hangars at Edwards; who runs A51 [3 msgs]**

**NOTICE:** The page below has been permanently FROZEN as of January 2000. Due to resource limitations, this section of our website is no longer maintained, so some links may not work and some information may be out of date. We have retained this page for archive reference only, and we cannot vouch for its accuracy. Broken links will not be repaired, and minor errors will not be corrected. You are responsible for independently verifying any information you may find here. [More Info](#)

For more recent information about Area 51, see the new [Area 51 Research Center](#) maintained by Don Emory.

# Underground hangars at Edwards; who runs A51 [3 msgs]

From: [campbell@ufomind.com](mailto:campbell@ufomind.com) (Glenn Campbell, Las Vegas)  
Date: Mon, 4 Aug 1997 18:14:33 -0800

Re: <http://www.ufomind.com/area51/list/1997/jul/a22-002.shtml>  
Re: <http://www.ufomind.com/area51/list/1997/aug/a01-006.shtml>

Date: Tue, 29 Jul 1997 20:28:12 -0700 (PDT)  
From: "Dr. X" <[mndcrime@peak.org](mailto:mndcrime@peak.org)>  
To: [campbell@ufomind.com](mailto:campbell@ufomind.com)  
Subject: EAFB 5 years ago.

A friend sent this my direction, and I thought I might add a few data points for you.

>From Glenn Campbell:

>

>Within the past week, I had a chance encounter with a former TTR  
>worker. Through my own contacts, I know that he is genuine and has  
>worked both at Tonopah Test Range and Edwards AFB in a middle  
>management position. His contact with me was purely coincidental. As

>

>1) The "Aurora" exists and has been operational for about five years.  
>He didn't use the name "Aurora", I did. He called it only "that other  
>plane" and by body language indicated that we were talking about the  
>same thing. He said it was built by Lockheed Skunkworks. He said he  
>knows it exists, because he watched it flight tested at Edwards  
>(apparently about five years ago).

I worked at or near Edwards from 1992-1993. My job there is not relevant to this, but it involved BMDO research. Not wanting to commute and disliking Lancaster/Palmdale, I lived in a small town north of the base. I was and always have been an AVID (rabid?) aviation buff. The fact that my little apartment was on the flight path for Edwards approach was a dream come true.

I was always on the lookout for new planes, or maybe even the legendary "Aurora".

During my time there I had the privilege to watch the B-2 flight testing

(primarily P-6, airframe #6). I watched the C-17 fly everyday as part of its flight testing. The X-31 played on occasion. And, of course, I lived for those NASA SR-71 flights.

I became quite adept at identifying even the exotic flight test aircraft by sight AND sound.

On only two occasions did I see something I could not identify:

1. While driving home late one night from work, I noticed an aircraft was flying low near the highway. I decided to pull over to check it out because I didn't recognize its light configuration. Standing on the side of the road, I watched as it circled me in a tight arc. It was quiet, sounding much like an F-117a, but its silhouette looked larger. It had 2 rear lights- red on the right, white on the left, and a standard red strobe towards the front. I do not know what it was.

2. Another late night drive down the hill overlooking the lakebed, I saw a flash of light near the flightline. A bright light streaked towards the sky, zagging erratically like a missile trying to track. I thought it unusual that they were live-firing missiles at Edwards, but you never know. After a few seconds, the object was at about 8-10 thousand feet. It suddenly leveled off and joined several other aircraft in a holding pattern. They all orbited around the base once or twice and flew off in formation. The circling aircraft looked like helicopters (lights), but I have NO idea what the initial aircraft was.

>I said, "Edwards? How can you fly anything secret at Edwards?"

This is quite true. I think the only way would be to fly at night.

>He said, "There is so much coming and going out of there that no one notices." This implies that the plane looks and sounds similar to an ordinary aircraft on takeoff and landing.

If it flew in daylight and made noise, I saw it. EVERYTHING. At any noise I would run outside with my camera. At lunch I ate in my car, watching the spiral dogfight and flighttest contrails like some aviation drive-in movie.

Never once did I see or hear something in the daylight that I could not identify. Nothing as exciting as the Aurora. At night the sonic booms and low rubmles (usually B-1s) were very rare. EXTREMELY rare in fact.

>2) There is an underground hangar at Edwards North Base. He said that on the surface it "looks abandoned", but there is a ramp down into a modern, active hangar below ground. He said he had been inside this

I have seen a ramp near North Base. I think it was used for mating the X-1 to the bottom of a B-29. The X-1 would be towed down the ramp and the B-29 would straddle the "pit" and they would attach the two.

The risk of having a "black hole" near the north end of the base comes when you have to taxi past Ames-Dryden. NASA and the Air Force have a tenuous relationship at best when it comes to public photos. NASA allows people to take outdoor fotos, as long as you "don't point your camera in the direction of the flightline." The Air Force strictly forbids all photography on base. But wait, NASA IS on base. Now you see the problem. So, craft landing and/or taxing past NASA (ie towards North Base) are at the mercy of adept photographers. Of course, Dryden is closed to the public after dark, so that is still a possibility.

I don't know if I have helped shed any light on the Edwards of five years ago. I believe that nothing too classified flew openly there during my stay. Most of the classified stuff at our labs happened inside black hole buildings. I don't know what they did, and it wasn't something you talked about.

I do believe that the progression of secret aircraft testing goes:

1. Benchtop testing inside high security facility. (anywhere)
2. Flight testing and initial integration at Groom-type facility.
3. Flight testing at Edwards, space testing at Kirtland. Including full-scale integration and operation.

These steps all happen at decreasing levels of security. I would consider Edwards flight testing security nonexistent, but their internal lab security probably rivals Dreamland. The constant traffic to Area 51 and the massive infrastructure at Plant 42 make an EAFB-Nellis link

inevitable.

---

From: [withheld - aviation industry source]  
Date: Thu, 31 Jul 1997 00:45:01 -0400 (EDT)  
To: campbell@ufomind.com  
Subject: Re: AREA 51: Underground hangars at Groom & Edwards + Aurora

>2) There is an underground hangar at Edwards North Base. He said that  
>on the surface it "looks abandoned", but there is a ramp down into a  
>modern, active hangar below ground. He said he had been inside this  
>hangar, and seemed to indicate that it was a regular part of his job.

A reliable Edwards source says the underground hangar is an old rumor and most likely not true. All that's at North Base now is the Red Hat squadron, in their usual fenced-off hangar. No one else is there and there's no activity, he says. Of course, he could be a government disinformation agent, like you.

---

From: [withheld - another aviation industry source]  
Date: Sun, 3 Aug 1997 01:22:56 -0400 (EDT)  
To: campbell@ufomind.com  
Subject: Re: Who Runs Area 51

The Groom Lake facility, commonly referred to in official circles as DET 3, is most definitely run by the Air Force Flight Test Center (which is in turn operated by Air Force Materiel Command). The DET 3 commander reports directly to the commander of AFFTC.

I have never "followed the money," so I don't know how the budgeting works for the facility.

Incidentally, the JANET Beechcraft 1900s run constantly out of Edwards North Base. This is the secure compound used by the 413th Flight Test Squadron (formerly 6513th TS) "Red Hats" who used to test Soviet aircraft.

---

Index: [Edwards North Base](#)  
Index: [Det 3, AFFTC](#)

[Mothership](#) -> [Area 51](#) -> [List](#) -> [1997](#) -> [Aug](#) -> [Here](#)

[Our Design and Original Text Copyrighted](#) © 1994-99 [Area 51 Research Center](#)

PO Box 30303, Las Vegas, NV 89173 Glenn Campbell, Webmaster & Moderator

This site is supported by the [Ufomind Bookstore](#)  
*Please visit our business if you appreciate our free web services.* [New Items](#)

Send corrections to [webmaster@ufomind.com](mailto:webmaster@ufomind.com)

This page: <http://www.aliensonearth.com/area51/list/1997/aug/a05-004.shtml> (12/10/00 2:06)  
We encourage you to link to this page from your own. No permission required.

Created: Aug 5, 1997