

[UFOs](#) | [Paranormal](#) | [Area 51](#)
[People](#) | [Places](#) | [Random](#)
[Top 100](#) | [What's New](#)
[Catalog](#) | [New Books](#)

Search... for keyword(s)

in Page Titles

Our Bookstore
is **OPEN**

[Mothership](#) -> [Area 51](#) -> [People](#) -> Here

This page has been FROZEN as of Jan. 26, 2000. It is not currently maintained, so some links may not work and some information may be out of date. [More Info](#)

On this page: [Profile](#) | [Criticism](#) | [Personal Facts](#)

Bob Lazar

Claims to have worked with alien craft at "Area S-4" in Nevada

Analysis by Glenn Campbell

This page is no longer actively maintained (after 1996). You may find useful information here, but expired links will not be repaired, and new information will not be added. See our standard [Lazar Links Page](#) for newest links, latest theories and responses from the Lazar camp.



Lazar offers an interesting, intelligent, unverifiable story surrounded by lies....

Bob Lazar claims to have worked with alien spacecraft at a secret U.S. Government facility at Papoose Lake, about 80 miles north of Las Vegas. Lazar initially made his claims on a local Las Vegas television station in Nov. 1989. He says he worked at a facility called "Area S-4" at Papoose Dry Lake, south of the known government air base at Area 51, in late 1988 and early 1989. There he says he saw nine flying saucers housed in hangars built into a hillside. Lazar says he had hands-on experience with one of the craft and he can describe its propulsion system in detail. Lazar says he read briefing papers about the alien presence but that he saw no aliens himself (aside from a fleeting glimpse of a small figure through a window at the facility).

The core story is, almost by definition, unverifiable, since no one can go to Papoose Lake to check it out. The only thing we can investigate are the claims that surround it. If Lazar does not tell the truth about the things we can verify, how can we trust the things we can't verify?

Lazar has lied about his educational credentials and his position at Los Alamos. He claims that his records have vanished and that the government has turned him into a "non-person", but there are no specific records that can't be accounted for. Only his educational records are missing, which plainly never existed to begin with. All evidence indicates that Lazar worked at Los Alamos as a repair technician, not as a senior scientist as he claimed. There is also no evidence that Lazar has ever visited Area 51, which unlike the S-4 claim, can at least be checked out "off the record" through former Area 51 workers. Lazar says he travelled to "S-4" by way of Area 51 on daily 737 flights that hundreds of other workers take. Although he says that Area 51 was only a transfer point for him, he has been unable describe the arrivals area or what you see when you first get off the plane.

The simplest theory to explain the Lazar story is that it is completely false and that he concocted it initially to fool John Lear, who had been telling extravagant aliens-at-Area-51 stories for a couple of years before Lazar arrived. Lazar could

have simply fed back to Lear a more rational version of what Lear wanted to hear. Other more complex theories say that Lazar is recounting a real flying saucer experience that actually took place elsewhere or in different circumstances, or that he is a dupe or willing participant in some complicated U.S. Government or foreign government plan. (For example, it could have been attempt by the Soviets to probe or disrupt activities at Area 51. Is so, this would not have been the most convoluted deception of the Cold War.) Motivation for the fraud remains murky, as Lazar and his primary supporter Gene Huff have ignored or sabotaged many opportunities for financial gain from the story. (Although movie options and the saucer model kit have made the story profitable for him, Lazar seems disinterested in pursuing deals.) Thanks to Huff's aggressive attacks on anyone who questions the story, it is hard to find many Lazar supporters left in the UFO community, even among those who want desperately to believe.

All lies and mismanagement aside, Lazar's is a fascinating tale, compelling even as fiction. Its restraint and long-term internal consistency remain impressive. Lazar's straightforward explanations of his experiences, his healthy skepticism of other UFO claims and his early willingness to submit to hypnosis and a polygraph test remain intriguing. (The test was inconclusive, and the professional hypnotist believes Lazar's emotional responses to his recalled S-4 experiences were not faked.) Ultimately, Lazar's claims have prompted the world to ask, "What is out there at Area 51?"

Profile

Note: These links are not actively maintained. See [Lazar Links Page](#) for new additions.

1. [Official Lazar Web Site](#)
2. Campbell's [Lazar Theory #1: Fraud for Bigelow Funding](#), and responses by Lazar camp.
3. Mahood's [Bob Lazar Corner](#), including the flaws in the story
 - [Mahood's Lazar Timeline](#)
 - [Interview with a co-worker](#), who knew Lazar at Los Alamos.
4. **Contact.** *Note: Lazar has shown little interest in responding to UFO researchers and enthusiasts. Most mail is not answered.*
 - **Mail:** c/o Tri-Dot Productions, 1324 S. Eastern, Las Vegas, NV 89104
5. **Searches**
 - [Altavista Newsgroup Search for "Lazar"](#)
 - [Lycos search for Lazar.](#)
6. **Major Works**
 - *The Lazar Tape*, a video tape by Lazar and Gene Huff in which he discusses his alleged experiences at Papoose Lake and the propulsion systems of flying saucers. [[Ordering Information.](#)]
7. **Transcripts**
 - An account of his appearance on [UFOs: The Best Evidence](#), the original 1989 Las Vegas TV news reports by George Knapp. (45k)
 - [Interview](#) on the Billy Goodman radio program, Nov. 21, 1989. (59k)
 - [Interview](#) on the Billy Goodman radio program, Dec. 20, 1989. (78K)
 - [Transcript for Lazar interview](#) on *On the Record*. Interviewed by George Knapp, KLAS-TV/Las Vegas, 12/9/89
 - Lazar at the "Ultimate UFO Seminar," Rachel, NV, May 1, 1993
 - [Full Transcript of Appearance](#)(120k)
 - Transcript of [interview prior to main appearance](#), from *MUFON UFO Journal*
 - ["The Word of Bob."](#) A compendium of quotes and transcripts from Lazar regarding technical aspects of saucer operation, assembled by [Tom Mahood](#). Sources include Knapp's *On the Record*, *The Lazar Tape* and several other sources not given above.(37k)
8. **References**
 - **Articles**
 - [Lazar's Jet-Car Story](#), reported in *Los Alamos Monitor*, June 27, 1982 (8k)
 - [Lazar's Pyrotechnic Extravaganza](#), reported in *Wired Magazine*, Dec. 1994 (14k+pix)
 - ["Lazar as a Fictional Character"](#), article by Glenn Campbell in *MUFON UFO Journal*, Feb. 1994.

Analysis of the Lazar story. (21k)

- "[MJ-12 Scientist Goes Public](#): A former Department of Naval Intelligence Scientist discusses our government's most highly classified subject", by [Mark Hines](#).

9. Exchanges

- [Hular](#)
- [Gene Huff Responds](#) to "Lazar As Fiction".
- Contentious [newsgroup exchange](#) between Lear, Huff and Mahood regarding Zeta Reticuli Corp and other topics. (1/25/96-2/6/96)

10. Photos

- [Lazar*](#) (Gif at Rutger's FTP, 235k)
- [Lazar in jet car](#). (72K)
- [Lazar on motorcycle at Desert Blast](#). (77K)]
- [Lazar at Desert Blast '94](#).

11. Synopses and Investigations

- [Gene Huff's Lazar Synopsis](#), Mar. 12, 1995 (55k)
- [The Lazar Timeline*](#), a chronical of his life assembled from public records. (27k) by [Tom Mahood](#).
- [Tom Mahood's Lazar Corner](#).
- [An Attempt to Locate Lazar's MIT and Cal-Tech professors](#) (22k) by Glenn Campbell
- Gene Huff provides text of offers from Dept. of Defense's [Small Business Innovative Research Project](#) in support of Lazar. 7/21/95

12. Internet Resources.

- [S-4 web page](#) *The "official" web page of Tri Dot Productions (owned by Lazar).*
 - Mentioned in "[What's New](#)" for 11/08/96.
 - [Immediately threatened with lawsuit](#) for "What's New" mention.
- [Frequently Asked Questions About Bob Lazar*](#), by Dave Schmitz
- IUFOG Lazar Page*
- [UFO Guide on Lazar*](#). Compiled by Nick Humphries.
- [Brother Bob](#): A rather "different" view of Lazar from Density4.
- [KLAS-TV, Channel 8*](#). *Las Vegas station that first publicized Lazar's claims.*

13. Researchers: *These people have looked into the Lazar story and conducted original research.*

- [George Knapp](#). *Believes Lazar*
- [Stanton Friedman](#). *Says Lazar is a fraud*
- Jacques Vallee *Doubts Lazar*
- [Bob Oechsler](#)
- [Glenn Campbell](#)
- [Tom Mahood](#)

14. Associates *These people are associates of Lazar or knew him prior to his public S-4 claims.*

- [John Lear](#). *Met Lazar prior to S-4 claims.*
- [Gene Huff](#). *Co-producer of Lazar Tape.*
- Jim Goodall. *Met Lazar at Lear's house prior to claims.*
- Jim Tagliani. *Worked with Lazar at Fairchild Electronics.*
- John Andrews. *Designed plastic model based on Lazar's description.*
- Dennis Mariani(?). *Alleged co-worker of Lazar at S-4.*
- [Edward Teller](#). *Lazar suggests that Teller may have helped get him the S-4 job.*

Criticism

Lazar's story does demonstrate a good understanding of the Nellis Range and how it operates, but this information could have been obtained from Jim Tagliani and other workers doing routine classified work on the range. There is an unconfirmed report that Lazar worked briefly for a contractor, [Arcada Associates](#), operating mock anti-aircraft sites (Smoky Sams) on the range, and this would have given him a basic understanding of range operations and where to locate his fictional "S-4" installation. Lazar could have known that, because of the heavy secrecy here, his claims could

never be disproven. (Reminiscent of the bogus Howard Hughes biography that surfaced when Hughes was in seclusion.) "Area S-4" could have been a corruption of "Site 4," a secret but fairly routine radar testing installation located between Groom Lake and the Tonopah Test Range. (It seems doubtful there would be both a "Site 4" and an "S-4" on the range, and Site 4 definitely exists.)

Furthermore, the time-frame of Lazar's alleged UFO experience seems unrealistically compressed. He is supposed to have gained all his experience in only a few visits to the site between November 1988 and April 1989. Those familiar with classified government programs say such a rapid exposure to a top secret project is highly unlikely.

Response

Believers say that although some of Lazar's claims may be false, it does not mean they all are. They are impressed by the internal consistency of the story itself and his relatively good performance on a polygraph test (although still inconclusive). Although Lazar's rapid involvement in the program might seem irregular, normal security might have been bypassed in this case due to a recommendation by [Edward Teller](#), a prominent figure in secret government projects.

Unresolved Questions

If Lazar is a fraud, what was the original motivation? Did he do it for money or for some other purpose? Did he come up with the story on his own or with the help of others? Are there any pieces of truth in the story, or is it entirely fabricated?

The public still does not have any information on what, if anything, is going on at Papoose Lake. Although satellite photos show no obvious installations, no one without a security clearance has ever been allowed to visit. Anecdotes from former workers are equally divided about whether there are or are not any hidden installations there.

Other Lazar Claims

- Although Lazar cannot describe even the arrival area at the Groom Lake base, he claims to have heard the Aurora there. (A theorized high speed reconnaissance aircraft.)

Personal Facts

Lazar is in his late-30s (He says he was born 1959.) and lives in Las Vegas. He says he makes his living through several small businesses including a photo studio and a company that repairs radiation monitors. Lazar has also earned income from movie options (for movies of his story that were never made), his video tape and a Testors plastic flying saucer model based on his account. (It is one of the best selling plastic models of all time and it could be worth a lot to Lazar if he received a per-item royalty.) Lazar has routinely turned down paid speaking engagements but has been paid for television interviews.

In the mid-1980s, prior to coming to Las Vegas, Lazar worked at Los Alamos National Laboratories, although some of the details of his employment are still unclear. (There is nothing to indicate a senior position as he claims.) He claims to have earned master's degrees at MIT and Cal-Tech, but these claims are unproven to say the least, and the professors he says he took classes with at these schools never existed there.

Lazar grew up on Long Island, NY, and graduated from High School in Westbury, NY, in 1976. He is known to have worked at Fairchild Electronics in the Los Angeles area in the early 1980s and then at Los Alamos. Also in Los Alamos, Lazar owned a one-hour photo shop.

Educational credentials aside, Lazar is certainly a highly capable technician in the area of explosives and propulsion

systems. As hobbies, he owns a high-speed jet car and builds his own elaborate fireworks, which are displayed in an annual invitation-only fireworks show called Desert Blast.

In 1990, Lazar plead guilty to a pandering charge relating to the operation of an illegal brothel in Las Vegas. It was claimed in the formal charges that Lazar was a partner in the brothel and that he had installed a hidden video system in one apartment to photograph the business in the adjoining one. (This at least suggests that he is capable of exploiting others.) Around 1986, Lazar filed from bankruptcy protection in Las Vegas Federal Bankruptcy Court. The records for both cases are available to the public and yield extensive details about Lazar's background. As part of his sentencing on the pandering charge, a probation report was prepared. In this report, enforced by perjury laws, Lazar did not repeat his MIT and Cal-Tech claims.

In interviews, Lazar comes across as a reluctant witness who would rather avoid the limelight and who wishes the story would go away. He seems highly rational and does not expand his claims beyond those originally reported. In most regards, Lazar seems passive and disinterested in his own story and seems content to let Gene Huff handle most public interface. Lazar seems to have nothing to sell, and has never actively promoted his story. (Through his Tri-Dot company, he sells a video and poster, but he has never promoted them in his interviews.) He says he regards mosts UFO buffs as "nuts" and wants nothing to do with them (Gene Huff and John Lear aside).

Lazar offers few personal relationships to triangulate from. Lazar's father, although identified in Lazar's bankruptcy papers, has never spoken publically about his claims, Only one Lazar friend, Jim Tagliani, claims publically to have worked with Lazar prior to his arrival in Las Vegas. (They both worked at Fairchild Electronics in Southern California.) When queried about whether or not he believes Lazar, Tagliani just seems to shrug his shoulders. The three most active supporters of Lazar are Gene Huff, John Lear and George Knapp, the newsman who first publicized Lazar's claims. Each has already invested his reputation in the story. John Andrews, the designer of the saucer model, and stealth aircraft historian Jim Goodall both believe Lazar but have never actively defended him. Former astronaut Edgar Mitchell has visited Lazar; he says he thinks Lazar's experience was real but that he is misinterpreting some of the technical details. (Mitchell supports the theories of Hal Puthoff which conflict with the propulsion system Lazar describes.) Most others who are close to Lazar seem to respond as Tagliani does, apart from Gene Huff, who is an active supporter.

Former co-workers at Los Alamos confirm that Lazar worked for a contractor there but seem highly skeptical of his later S-4 claims. They assert that he never held any high-level position at Los Alamos.

Reader Comments

Regarding "Bob Lazar" - Latest First

We Are Taxpayers Lets Get 5,000 People and Storm The Gate

Screw The Government, lets pick a day well in advance and storm the front gate of area 51. we are taxpayers and United states citizens and have a right to no what the hell is going on in there.

-- ANineInchNail 7/24/00 (#84)

hybrids

i have been doing home research on hybrids. And i cant seem to find out exactly what a hyrbid is. if anybody can tell me exatcly what a hyrbid is e mail me at lordadam2000@excite.com

-- lordadam2000 (lordadam2000@yahoo.com) 10/30/99 (#83)

It works?

I found that A gravity can works with other el. ...

-- DAC (alfa_10000@yahoo.com) 10/27/99 (#82)

lazworld.com

Have you been to Lazworld.com today. I think time travel is possible, and wonder if anyone has experieced it.

[View 77 Other Comments](#)

Note: Only the [Webmaster](#) can add links to this page.

This page has been [frozen](#). New comments are not allowed.

[Mothership](#) -> [Area 51](#) -> [People](#) -> [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](#)

[134,432 visits](#) to this page since 10/1/96. [178 outside pages](#) link to this one.

Send corrections to webmaster@ufomind.com

This page: <http://www.ufomind.com/area51/people/lazar/> (8/17/0 13:59)
We encourage you to link to this page from your own. No permission required.

Counter started 5/18/96

Created: 1995

Last Modified: 1/6/97 gc, 10/13/97 gc