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## April 24, 1964: Socorro, New Mexico

Before the mid-1960's, there was little written about physical evidence from UFOs. Part of the reason was that the Air Force, with its restrictive categories, placed everyone who had seen a landed UFO in the crackpot file, because they would not believe that an extraterrestrial spacecraft would land on earth. Project Bluebook officers were willing to waste tax money chasing high-flying discs but refused to even look at early cases that involved landings. For this reason, many of the early physical evidence cases were rejected before there were any investigations of them and the evidence was lost before it was recovered.

This changed in 1964 with the Socorro, New Mexico, landing. It could be that too much of the case made the papers before the Air Force had a chance to ridicule it or it could be that a police officer made the report, but regardless, the evidence was still visible days and even months later. Whatever the reason, the Air Force didn't ridicule the case, Hynek didn't call it swamp gas, and other physical evidence reports and landing cases began to receive serious treatment by the Air Force...