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Location: [Mothership](#) -> [What's New](#) -> [1996](#) -> **What's New at Ufomind - August 1996**

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 Due to resource limitations, this section of our website is no longer maintained, so some links may not work and some information may be out of date.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](#)

August 1996

*Latest items first. Links followed by * reside on an external server and are beyond our control.*

- **8/31, 9am: P.R. Firm Proposes Tikaboo March.** In [this letter to the Research Center](#), a Los Angeles public relations firm has proposed a "huge event" for May 27, 1997. Our director [replies](#) with his usual negative energy.

Being in the business, you know that fads can pass, and the "Area 51" phenomenon has persisted on hot air for too long now. Unless you can produce some bona fide aliens or can demonstrate clear, achievable goals, I think that by May you'll be on the downside of the interest curve and will get little more than sarcasm from the press. The recent failure of a Rave party in Rachel, even when it had significant publicity, ought to be taken as an omen.

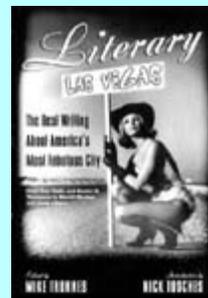
- **8/29, 6pm: New Catalog Addition - [Literary Las Vegas: The Best Writing About America's Most Fabulous City](#)**

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- **8/29, 1pm: Lawsuit Appeal Filed.** "[Appeal Expected on Groom Lake](#)", an article in yesterday's Las Vegas Review-Journal, indicates that the appeal of the Area 51 hazardous waste lawsuit was probably filed yesterday in San Francisco.

Former workers at the Air Force Groom Lake base today will appeal the dismissal of a federal lawsuit claiming they were made ill and injured by environmental crimes at the installation.

- **8/29, 10am: Note from Col. Carpenter.** The Commander of the 99th Range Group sent us this email just now. (Reprinted with notice.)



Glenn...

I want to personally thank you for the "heads up" on the practice bomb you observed. As you probably know, we scrambled a team of experts to the location, and they confirmed it was indeed a practice bomb... an inert MK-82.

As you can imagine, we take great care in these matters. Off-range releases of any type ordnance is considered a serious matter, even if required because of an aircraft emergency. The particulars of this incident will be hard to track... the practice bomb has been there for a long time! But we will do our best to follow up.

As for the final disposition... our team, which included explosive ordnance disposal experts, my Tonopah commander, Public Affairs and a BLM representative - all agreed: it's safe! That was #1! Despite the obvious impact of the practice bomb, our goal will be to develop the right plan to remove it with minimum additional impact to the area.

Again... a personal "thanks" for the notification and the directions.

By the way... our folks enjoyed the hospitality afforded them in Rachel. Please pass that on. Next time I pass by, I'll stop and thank them personally.

Col Jerry Carpenter

- **8/28, 11pm:** Article in today's Las Vegas Sun: "[Feds Want Taxes From Counties](#)". The Federal government has sued to obtain taxes previously collected by three Nevada counties against private contractors on military bases. Although the suit does not involve Lincoln County, the outcome could affect whether local property taxes can theoretically be collected from Groom Lake contractors.

Note on Accessing Las Vegas Sun: Since Sun articles are available for free on [their server](#)*, we try to link directly to their copy. If our link to a Sun article does not work, you may need to [register with them](#)* to obtain a user name and password.

- **8/28, 10pm: UFO Recovery Team Spotted in Rachel.** An elite Air Force UFO Recovery Team was seen in Rachel today, enroute to a crash site in the Worthington Mountains. Times have changed since the good ol' days when a team just went in, grabbed the hardware, "disappeared" the witnesses, and got out. Today's recovery team was a Big Production, complete with an ordnance crew, a Lt. Colonel, BLM rangers and even a Public Relations officer, most of whom lunched at the Little A'Le'Inn before the operation. All they were missing was a chaplain.

"Oh, you're here to get the bomb," said an observer.

Bomb? What bomb? Everyone on the recovery team tried not to say the "B" word. In the politically correct 90's, you can call it a "device" or "ordnance," never anything that sounds like it might kill someone in a discriminatory manner. The team was looking for the Unidentified Fallen Object we described at the end of our [Leviathan Cave page](#) and that we dutifully reported to the Air Force a few days ago. We recognize the sensitivity of the "B" word, especially on public land, because people tend to overreact to it - just like the "N" word - nuclear - which also gets people agitated by the mere mention. We regard this "B" incident as no big deal. Every once in a while you lose one. (Happens to us all the time.)

Still, the team could have been more discreet. Had it been our operation, we would have sent **just one guy**. That's all it would have taken to reconnoiter. He would collect enough data to make an assessment, and then we would send the full team by an unobtrusive route. **Under no circumstances** would we send our Elite UFO Recovery Team to the Little A'Le'Inn first, as this only invites speculation. *What is the New World Order up to, and why won't they tell us?* The PR guy should have recognized that there was no need to stop in America's UFO Capital, especially when we had provided such explicit instructions.

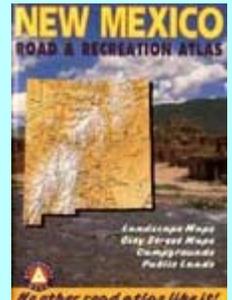
Sometimes we get so frustrated teaching PR to the AF that we could just **scream**. But they're making progress; they just need some time. They're going through an awkward phase right now, heavy on the Clearasil, but someday they'll catch on and we'll be proud.

- **8/28, 5pm:** Further redesign of our [Area 51 Main Page](#) is now under way.
- **8/28, 4pm:** Another party has joined the E.T. Highway bandwagon with an "[Area 51](#)" tour*. This one combines a visit to Rachel with a variety of other attractions including the Nevada Test Site.
- **8/28, 8am: Rachel article in Esquire.** The feud between Glenn Campbell and the Little A'Le'Inn is reported in

the Sept. issue of *Esquire*, now on the newstand. We'll eventually add an annotated version to this server.

- **8/28, 7am: Nuclear Weapons at Nellis.** [Nuclear Weapon Nations and Arsenals](#)* (128k) from the [High Energy Weapons Archive](#)* says that [Nellis AFB](#), presumably [Nellis Area II](#), has 200 nuclear warheads. The source of this data is not made clear, however.
- **8/27, 11pm: New Product:** [New Mexico Road & Recreation Atlas](#)

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- **8/27, 6pm:** Here is a [follow-up article on the Rachel rave party](#) from the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

"The sheriff's department was a little overzealous. Fine if they're on standby in case anything happens, but they made their presence overbearing," [said organizer Don Suttle]. Lincoln County Sheriff Dahl Bradfield was unavailable for comment.

Indeed, the cops seemed to outnumber ravers most of the night. Reliable witnesses counted 7 sheriff's deputies, 2 BLM rangers and 2 state policemen. Even Sheriff Dahl put in an appearance, being himself "phat and trancy" and predisposed to rave. The cops spent the night busting marginal speeders and munching theoretical donuts at the Rachel Sheriff's Substation, a small shack manned only for Rave parties and UFO events. Because or in spite of this overwhelming show of force, violence, sex and drugs no where near met the dire predictions of Pat Travis, Chuckie Clark or Undersheriff-waiting-to-be-Sheriff Gary Davis. This would have been the night to rob a bank in Pioche, since close to half the police force was in Rachel preventing more serious crime.

- **8/27, 5pm: What if you had a rave party and no one came?** Following a disappointing turnout for its "Abduction" rave party in Rachel on 8/24, Zzyzx Productions sent [this press release](#) to Las Vegas news media.

LAS VEGAS - Thousands of knife wielding gang members descended upon Rachel, Nevada Saturday night causing untold damages to private property. Busload after busload of gang members arrived from Los Angeles, San Diego, Las Vegas and Phoenix intent on destroying the town and beating the townsfolk senseless...

Here is yet another tragic illustration of the dangers of sarcasm. Don't try this at home! Sarcasm should be left to competent professionals who understand the consequences.

- **8/27, 7am:** The Research Center's hike to **Leviathan Cave** this past weekend achieved its goal, with eight Interceptors reaching the mountaintop cavern. There are many ways you can go wrong on the strenuous hike to the cave, and we've done them all. Our experience is contained in our new [Leviathan Cave page](#).

Leviathan Cave is an impressive series of tunnels and chambers on the top of the Worthington Mountain Range, north of Rachel, Nevada. The opening is a huge sinkhole on the northwestern flank of Meeker Peak at an elevation of about 7800 feet. The remote location and difficult four hour hike keep most visitors away. Entering the cave involves a vertical drop of about 15 feet requiring ropes or freehold climbing, but the rest of the cave is fairly level. This is a "living" limestone cave with stalagmites, stalagmites and many other formations. It is said to be about 1/5 mile at its longest, but many side passages make this cave quite complex. [GC 8/96]

- **8/24, 9am:** Advance stories on today's "**Abduction**" rave party in Rachel appear in [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) and [Las Vegas Sun](#)* (Associated Press) [[Local Copy](#)]. In the Sun...

Pat Travis, who runs the A'Le'Inn restaurant and motel with her husband, is a firm believer in the existence of alien life and is a recognized community spokeswoman. Nevertheless, she felt slighted by Suttle's failure

to involve her and was vexed by stories she heard about "Rave" parties, as techno music celebrations are frequently called.

"I'm scared," she said. "I'm going to have two guards outside my door, and I'm not renting any of my (motel) rooms out that night."

Since when is Pat Travis a "recognized community spokeswoman"? Most of the community has become supportive of the Rave party - as soon as they learned Pat opposes it.

[Oct. 25 update: The motel seemed well used last night.]

- **8/21, 7pm: Once you've been to the Moon it's hard to come down.** Through the grapevine we heard that former astronaut **Buzz Aldrin** would be signing copies of his new novel at the Science Fiction Bookstore in Las Vegas....

Not knowing much about him - apart from his walking on the Moon - we dropped by the shopping plaza at about 3pm yesterday. There he was, a **Famous Person**, sitting at a card table in the back of the small store surrounded by Star Trek merchandise and the people who buy it. We decided not to stand in line but instead simply lurked, just behind that Famous Person, bathing in his aura. We knew Buzz Aldrin was Famous because we had seen his face on television, and he also acted Famous, which we sensed in his aura as well.

At the Research Center we are always concerned about evaluating personalities. Whenever we meet someone new, we ask ourselves how much we can trust them and what sort of things we can talk to them about without it coming back to bite us. Aside from the battery of psychological tests we could run on any willing subject, we find that the best way to figure out a personality is to **listen to what they say**. One should listen to the words but, more importantly, to how they are said. How does this person respond to the circumstances now surrounding him? What does he choose *not* to talk about, and how does he regard his own role on this planet? With a few random frustrations thrown at the subject, he will eventually reveal himself through his own words.

Mr. Aldrin suffered no lack of words, mostly expressing frustration with the current national space program and its "lack of foresight." His book, he said, described future space exploration as it could realistically be accomplished with technology drawn from today's science. We gathered that the novel was about travel to some distant star or planet. We looked at the cover of the book in one of the boxes stacked beside Aldrin. There were two names on it. His was first, and the second we didn't recognize. We wondered, then, who had really written the book.

We wandered away from the table and examined the Klingon masks and "Beam Me Up" T-Shirts that lined the walls, but then a commotion of some kind drew us back. There was an exchange taking place between the astronaut and a man in front of the table. Although the conversation was cordial on the surface, our radar detected tension, with everyone else backing off. It seemed that the man had committed a terrible faux pas: He had brought Aldrin a picture to autograph. It was a photo of an astronaut stepping down onto the surface of the Moon from the ladder on the Lunar Module. Aldrin had refused to sign it, and he went on for about ten minutes explaining why.

The gist of the monologue was, he wouldn't sign it because he wasn't being paid to sign it. If you bought a book, he would sign the book for free, and the book would be worth \$200 in a couple of years, he said. Aldrin explained, with Ferengi logic, that if he signed the man's photo, then the man would profit but Aldrin would not. "If I'm going to fly First Class occasionally, then I have to start thinking about money," said Aldrin. At that point, we felt that we had collected sufficient data to conclude the experiment and leave the store. We did not buy Aldrin's book, and we do not remember the title, but you can probably find it at your local bookstore.

Something else happened to us, too. As we were walking through the parking lot back to the car, we

experienced a revelation. A glorious epiphany! We saw the world differently now than when we had arrived. We realized, at that moment, that **we didn't need to see another Star Trek episode, of any variety, ever again.**

Free at last!

- **8/21, 11pm: Aldrin on Area 51.** By coincidence, when going through our backlogged email just now, we came across [this report](#) on Aldrin's appearance on the "Politically Incorrect" talk show on 8/1. Aldrin: "I certainly hope that the government can keep a secret at Area 51, because they're protecting us against individual terrorists, they're developing countermeasures out there, and they're developing the security of this nation."
- **8/20, 8pm: "Abduction" Party Defender Speaks.** In [an email message](#), a supporter of the upcoming [Rave party](#), going by the name of "Sarcasm", takes us to task for our own sarcastic approach to the event. Out of respect for Sarcasm's intelligence, we reprint his comments here without alteration:

At first it was nice to see your interest in OUR party.... As we continued reading, our vision in seeing someone looking at this subject as WE do was gone. Not just have YOU made FALSE statements in your page(s), but you also misinterpreted the whole idea of this event, as we were just about to MIRROR your page and your interest, BUT we realized you have the wrong idea about the whole thing.

This is a party.... a FUN time for everyone to have..... it is also a celebration of our first amendment right! Hope to see you there! But you WON'T see US from OUTSIDE the property as you THINK you will!!!!

Sarcasm also directs us to [a web page on the party](#) [[original location](#)*]. The page includes a lot of language we don't understand...

t r a n c e + t e k n o
t r i p h o p + c o s m i c h o u s e
s p a c e f u n k

...as well as this synopsis:

The government has been withholding information pertaining to the secret base located at Area 51 on Groom Lake (it's a dry lake) from the people of the world. We want to know what is really going on there, and this is your chance to help find out ... while busting some phat trancey grooves on top of the speaker stacks. Abduction will have petitions ready for you to sign indicating that you want the government to tell us what is really going on. In essence, this is a political rally ... and an alien invocation at the same time. :) There will be multiple stages of sound totalling 150,000 watts pumping out the booming bass, plus concessions, lasers, and a medical tent.

You know what cracks us up the most about this event? Suddenly, we find that the term "young people" no longer applies to us! Having passed the 30 mark some time ago, we at the Research Center are no longer "**cool cats**". We've become "the Establishment" and haven't the faintest clue what motivates those phat trancey groovesters.

- **8/20, 4pm:** Word has reached us that the County Commissioners have granted a permit for the Abduction party.
- **8/20, 11am: E.T. discussions at Los Alamos in 1950.** While browsing at the research library at Los Alamos, we came across an article: ["Where Is Everybody?" -- An Account of Fermi's Question](#). It seems that Teller and cronies were discussing extraterrestrials in 1950, with Teller being skeptical. Linked to our [Los Alamos page](#).

Fermi's famous question, now central to debates about the prevalence of extraterrestrial civilizations, arose during a luncheon conversation with Emil Konopinski, Edward Teller, and Herbert York in the summer of 1950. Fermi's companions on that day have provided accounts of the incident.

- **8/20, 9am: New Product:** [X-Files Video: Deep Throat](#)



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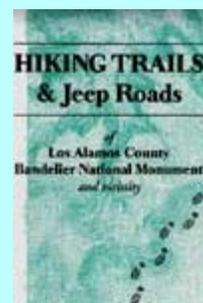
- **8/20, 8am:** The report on our investigation of [Technical Area 33 at Los Alamos](#) is now pretty much complete, lacking only photos. This is the site where an internet document claims that alien artifacts are stored underground. (The photos should be added within a week.)

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- **8/19: New Area 51 photo-gallery:** Dave Croyle has started an [Area 51 page](#) with photos and a [trip report](#).

- **8/19: New Product:** [Los Alamos Hiking Trails Map](#)

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- **8/19: Gossip from Rachel.** The upcoming ["Abduction" party](#) scheduled for this Saturday, Aug. 24, is causing some conflict in town -- as every event seems to do nowadays.

The **Little A'Le'Inn** has come out in vocal opposition to this party/concert/political rally and promises to fight it in tomorrow's County Commissioner's meeting, where a permit must be issued. This means that the rest of Rachel, previously neutral, now tends to support the event, and many townsfolk have signed a petition to counter the Inn. At least the organizers have tried to consult with residents, unlike Fox or the State of Nevada at the previous extravaganza. Denizens of the Inn, frequently found in a less than sober state themselves, say the party will attract drugs, which seems to us like the pot calling the kettle black.

The Inn, as always, is a fascinating study in paranoia and emotional reactivity, not polluted by any hint of intelligence. The **Research Center** opposed the E.T. Highway unveiling, so now the Inn in opposing the Abduction Party, thinking that we are somehow involved. Fact is, we've been cool to the party from the beginning, and it appears to be unravelling on its own anyway. The "political rally" portion of the event, sponsored by an alleged UFO group no one has heard of, seems highly dubious and certainly won't accomplish anything. The organizers arrived in town within days of the ID4 release, and their insistence on putting together a major event in little more than a month could be the plan's undoing. Latest word now is that there won't be any live bands at the \$25 open-air party, just recorded, lyric-free "Techno" music (in our mind, as boring as listening to bagpipes for six hours). Nonetheless, interest among the Grunge element of Las Vegas seems to be building, and some people might actually make the 2-1/2 hour drive to show up. The organizers are claiming that **MTV, American Journal, Current Affair** and **NBC** have expressed interest in covering the event, and at least one Las Vegas radio station, **The Edge**, is promoting it. The **Groom Lake Interceptors**, of course, will be there, too, not paying twenty-five bucks by any means, but sitting up on top of the Research Center Storage Barn making sardonic observations. (We'll be recovering from the [Leviathan hike](#), also taking place that day.)

In other news, **Ray the Hayloader**, the same Inn resident who assaulted **Our Director** at the E.T. Highway unveiling, was arrested about a week ago for violating an order to stay away from the Quik Pick convenience store in Upper Rachel. After repeatedly threatening the proprietor for no discernable reason, Ray was warned by police to stay away, but he couldn't resist one last dig. According to witnesses, he rode by the store on a motorcycle and yelled "Pussies!" at the folks out front. That landed him in jail for three days. Things are quiet for the moment, but we wonder when tensions between Lower and Upper Rachel might erupt into **bloody civil war**. If this happens, Upper Rachel may be woefully underarmed, but Lower Rachel will be too drunk or stoned to shoot straight.

If you are wondering about the setting of these conflicts, see our [Aerial Photo of both Lower and Upper Rachel](#)

(56k), linked to our [Rachel page](#).

- **8/18:** [A USENET post](#) on alt.alien.visitors discusses missing Groom Data on a USGS mapping project.

I am a cartographer at the USGS Mid-Continent Mapping Center, and formerly I worked at the Rocky Mountain Mapping Center. While I was at Rocky I was involved in a mapping project in and around the Nellis Bombing Range. I compiled the Groom Lake Quads (it's on more than one 1:24,000 quad map. The photos that I compiled the map from had been screened by the Air Force before we received them. The AF had scraped the emulsion off (not satisfied with just inking over) the photos for certain areas in that vicinity. That partially explains the blank spots on the maps, another explanation is that there aren't many mappable features out in that region anyway. What was funny is that there would be miles of dirt road, then it would change to paved road, then you'd hit the scraped off emulsion. There were several areas scraped off but the areas that I saw were less than about 300 acres each. Not much of a base can fit in an area that size.

- **8/17: Conflict with *Skeptical Inquirer* ?** Someone claiming to represent the *Skeptical Inquirer* asks if we have permission to reprint their E.T. Highway article, provoking a [testy response from the Research Center director](#), which we have appended to the article.

I encourage your magazine to report on Area 51 -- beyond a superficial review of other people's work -- because this social circus certainly deserves criticism. However, I *do* resent the *Skeptical Inquirer* recycling my openly available work and then asserting intellectual property rights over the results.

- **8/16:** Newer version of [Rachel Rave Press Release](#) added to [Rachel Rave page](#).
- **8/16: Los Alamos TA-33 Maps.** In response to claims of underground facilities at Technical Area 33 of Los Alamos National Laboratories [See below], here are [some detailed maps of the site](#). Results of our field investigation of TA-33 and other Los Alamos areas will be published here in a few days.
- **8/11:** Magazine article: "[Travels on the Extraterrestrial Highway](#)" in *Skeptical Inquirer*.*

The State of Nevada appears to have pulled off another minor miracle, transforming a barren stretch of desert road into a major tourist destination. In this column (Spring 1992, 250) you were among the first to read of the tall tales surrounding the supposedly mysterious "Area 51," where UFOs galore could allegedly be seen by anyone who took the trouble to drive out near the tiny hamlet of Rachel along barren State Highway 375....

- **8/11: [Underground Facilities at Los Alamos](#)*** are discussed in this interesting document from Robert Collins. Alien craft are supposedly kept at "Tech Area 33." (Approx. GPS for Area 33 is 35°46.5'N, 106°14.2'W.)

This underground complex is part of a greater complex called "Dulce" (this was the code name). The "Dulce Complex" or Area "E" is composed of sixty buildings: some are underground, some are revetments, and some are bunkers. Badges with a color security system is in effect. All this according to a key government source who had been there in circa 1978/79. His words to me: "You should have seen what I have seen." The underground part of the facility is estimated to be over a 100++ ft down in this mountain ridge area close to the national forest. This area also lies just outside the main lab complex at Los Alamos.

- **8/11: Jonathan Turley**, the lawyer representing the widows and former workers in the Area 51 hazardous waste lawsuit, is also the lawyer for a grand jury in a similar case at Rocky Flats. Vernon Brechin sends us [this 8/2 article from the Denver Post](#) along with his commentary, added to our [Waste Lawsuit page](#).
- **8/9: [New Photo Portfolio of Basecamp Airfield, Warm Springs and US-6](#)**, added to our expanded [Basecamp page](#).
- **8/9: [Nellis Air Force Base Radio Frequencies](#)** added to [Nellis page](#).
- **8/8:** News article: "[Feds investigating burning of hazardous waste at Area 51](#)" in *Las Vegas Sun*. Article reveals

that "Area 51 contractors in the 1980s were Reynolds Electric & Engineering Co., EG&G Inc., Wackenhut and Applied Physics Laboratory of Johns Hopkins University."

Federal agents are investigating allegations that hazardous wastes burned in open pits at a secret military base in Southern Nevada, lending credence to former workers' claims that they became ill from inhaling toxic smoke.

- **8/8: New Page:** [Basecamp Airfield](#), a "secret" auxiliary airfield in plain sight near the western end of Highway 375.

Basecamp Airfield is an auxiliary airstrip and support facilities adjacent to Route US-6 about 10 miles northeast of Warm Springs. This is a "secret" facility in plain sight: Signs on the fence say only the "U.S. Government" owns the facility, and personnel there will not divulge any further information. Circumstantial evidence indicates this facility is operated by a government contractor on behalf the Air Force Flight Test Center, probably in support of testing programs at Area 51. Basecamp is in line with the runway at Groom Lake, making it a possible emergency field for aborted take-offs of test aircraft from there.

- **8/8:** News article: ["U.S. Investigation into Air Force Base Winds Down"](#) in *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

A 20-month-long criminal investigation into allegations of environmental crimes near the Air Force's classified Groom Lake base is winding down.

- **8/8:** Our [Independence Day Curmudgeon's Page](#) has triggered further venting from readers, including this from Sami11@aol.com....

Any one who would knock a great movie like Independence Day and then make a page on the Internet just to show people how horrible it is must be really sick. I saw ID4 and I thought it was fantastic. I'd like to remind you of one little thing. It's a MOVIE!!! It's not supposed to be real. Would you rather they make it realistic? Well, if they did, the movie would take up all of 2 minutes. The alien mothership blows up Earth and the ending credits start. THAT would be realistic. I don't know about you, but I'd much rather watch the movie they made, as unrealistic as it may be, than something that says the human race is wiped out of existence, wouldn't you? I really can't stand it when people nit-pick over the littlest things in movies. What you are is a freaking idiot who has nothing better to do than knock down the greatest movie of the year.

- **8/7: Biplane could be Military.** In response to our [7/24 What's New entry](#) about a biplane seen near Rachel, an aviation journalists writes that it could indeed have been a military aircraft....

Northrop had an Antonov An-2 biplane they used for various work, apparently including some related to stealth. This is a large 60-ft.-span, 1,000 hp. single engine STOL utility aircraft, first flew in 1947. Apparently there are a number of An-2 biplanes in the U.S., and they may be used by military to simulate opposing forces. Northrop's An-2 apparently was used as a target for the radars of F-5 fighters. They no longer have it, and it may be used by the National Test Pilot School at Mojave as a demonstrator of bad handling characteristics!

- **8/6: Life on Mars?** [NASA Press Release](#)* announces the discovery of what may be 3 billion year-old fossilized microbes in a meteorite of Martian origin unearthed in Antarctica.
- **8/6: IUFOG** (Internet UFO Group) has revealed its own ["What's New" page](#)*.
- **8/5: Papoose Lake Primer*** introduced by Tom Mahood, including maps, photos and lore of the area.

Why should anyone care about Papoose Lake? Aliens, of course!! According to some, it's where our beloved government has stashed all the extraterrestrial debris that has rained down upon our planet in the last 50 years or so, the result of intergalactic student drivers. There are even some folks who'll take the story further and suggest that ET and his buddies themselves have taken up residence there (talk about a lousy

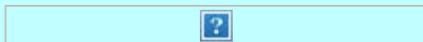
neighborhood!). Are these people nuts?! Are they just misled? Or are they right? (or some very strange combination of all three!) ...

- **8/4: Interesting UFO Site.** While websurfing, we came across [UFO Folklore!](#)*, an interesting and well-designed site, highly recommended.
- **8/3: [Area 51 Main Page](#)** has been redesigned.

Area 51, also known as Groom Lake, is a secret military facility about 90 miles north of Las Vegas. The number refers to a 6-by-10-mile block of land, at the center of which is a large air base the government will not discuss. The site was selected in the mid-1950s for testing of the U-2 spyplane, due to its remoteness, proximity to existing facilities and presence of a dry lake bed for landings. Groom Lake is America's traditional testing ground for "black budget" aircraft before they are publicly acknowledged. The facility and surrounding areas are also associated -- with varying levels of credibility -- with UFO and conspiracy stories. In 1989, Bob Lazar claimed on a Las Vegas television station that he had worked with alien spacecraft at Papoose Lake, south of Area 51. Since then, "Area 51" has become a popular symbol for the alleged U.S. Government UFO cover-up. [GC 8/96]

- **8/3: New Desert Rat article: [A Profile in Courage](#).** We perform lexical analysis on a newspaper essay by Maj. Gen. Marvin Esmond, the highest ranking officer at Nellis Air Force Base. We count the patriotic words and find courage, courage, courage -- as well as dedication, honor and sacrifice.
- **8/2: [New portfolio of photos from the E.T. Highway unveiling](#)** on April 18. 35 photos, fully annotated, follow the freedom fighters as they plan and carry out their counterinsurgency operations. Linked from the [E.T. Highway page](#).
- **8/2:** Expanded [Nellis Air Force Base page](#) and a new page on [Nellis Area II](#).

Nellis Air Force Base Area II, once known as Lake Mead Base, is a separate facility about a mile northeast of the main Nellis air base on the northern outskirts of Las Vegas. Area II is munitions storage facility for both conventional bombs and "non-conventional" munitions which reportedly include 200 nuclear warheads. Area II is dominated by a high-security triple-fenced compound encompassing several dozen earthen bunkers. Because the fence is well-lit at night, it can be easily seen from Interstate 15 and by passenger jets approaching Las Vegas. A lower security area outside this compound includes support buildings and a federal minimum security prison. Conventional weapons used in military exercises are stored in a separate area from the nuclear compound and are transported to the main Nellis air base via a secured roadway. During the years of nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site, Lake Mead Base was a storage and transfer area for atomic devices to be detonated at the Test Site. [GC 8/96]



- **8/1:** A [Rave Party/Political Rally](#) is planned for August 24. We express skepticism about their [press release](#), which suffers from many errors.

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- **8/1:** [Memorandum of Understanding](#) for joint Air Force/DOE on Pahute Mesa added to [Area 51 Law](#).

[What's New for July 1996](#)

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