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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Project 1947 - 5001st Composite Wing

From: jan@cyberzone.net (Jan Aldrich)
Date: Mon, 06 Jan 1997 08:45:55 -0800
Fwd Date: Tue, 07 Jan 1997 01:29:17 -0500
Subject: Re: Project 1947 - 5001st Composite Wing

> Date: Sun, 05 Jan 1997 00:24:41 -0500
> From: Gary <galevy@pipeline.com>
> To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
> Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: Project 1947 - 5001st Composite Wing

> > Date: Fri, 3 Jan 1997 19:24:16 -0800
> > From: Jan Aldrich <jan@CYBERZONE.NET>
> > Subject: 5001st Composite Wing
> > To: PROJECT-1947@LISTSERV.AOL.COM

> [snip]

> > "Project Pinball

> > "With Site F-9 going into operation in December, Project Pinball was
> > established for the purpose of analysis of unidentified activity as
> > reported by this Site. The Intelligence Section was charge with the
> > successful accomplishment of this project which consists of preparing
> > daily track studies, graphic presentation, and reporting periodically to
> > the Commanding Officer."

> [snip]

> Is Project Pinball the project in which Wendell Stevens participated in
> Alaska and has described as collecting optical and instrumentation data
> obtained by bomber crews on UFOs?

> Gary Alevy

Hi Gary,

Wendell Stevens' creditability is not great with me. The material that I have indicates that Project Pinball concerned unresolved radar tracks. The institutional memory of this project in the Alaskan Command and Pacific Air Force (PACAF) is gone. So we can only rely on records.

Records in several unit histories and from FOIA do not show anything about optical tracking from bombers. The records indicate that this was an Air Defense and Intelligence operation. Possibly, there is more to it then that.

There were some of indications from other commands radar was showing all types of unknown. In Japan in 1952 we had just established an air defense radar network. They also were coming up with a lot of unknown tracks. Some of these involved operator inexperience, some involved aircraft deviating from flight plans, and some were just unknown. They instituted tighter controls and number of unknown tracks went down, but those that remained seemed very interesting for people like us.

The Soviets were constantly testing our defenses by flying around and

close to and penetrating our radar coverage. They were probably, as we did with "Wild Wessel" flights, employing electronic countermeasures to confuse our radar net and to give false returns. Their Special Forces would also establish a short presence here or there, especially in the Aleutian Chain. The 5004th Air Intelligence Service Squadron (AISS) had a special program to try to detect these insertions of small parties and activities off Alaska which involved one or two 5004th AISS members living in small settlements, and with Indian and Eskimo communities.

Records of Project Pinball probably exist in the Alaskan Air Command and the 5004th AISS files.

Jan Aldrich
Project 1947

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