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### Thurmond Disputes Book on 'Alien Spaceship'

From: [RSchatte@aol.com](mailto:RSchatte@aol.com)  
Date: Thu, 5 Jun 1997 11:46:16 -0400 (EDT)  
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Subject: Thurmond Disputes Book on 'Alien Spaceship'

June 5, 1997

Thurmond Disputes Book on Purported Alien Spaceship

By WILLIAM J. BROAD

A new book contending that the nation's military and industrial power largely derive from a crashed alien spaceship is being disparaged by Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who wrote the book's foreword.

The book, "The Day After Roswell," published by Pocket Books, says the government found an alien craft that had crashed in the desert near Roswell, N.M., in July 1947 and set up a program to glean its secrets, including things like lasers, computer chips and fiber optics.

The government clandestinely fed the alien technology to the military and industry, the book says, while engaging in a wide conspiracy to keep the existence of the aliens from the American public.

The book might be dismissed as part of a genre making similar wild claims except for the author's military background, his claimed role in the endeavor and Thurmond's praise of the author in the foreword.

The author, Philip J. Corso, who wrote the book with William J. Birnes, retired from the Army in 1963. The book says he retired as a colonel. The Army said its best records showed that he retired as a lieutenant colonel. In that rank, he served on the National Security Council under President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Corso contends that, while at the Pentagon, he personally spearheaded an Army project that secretly planted the alien technologies throughout the economy and military, mainly to build up U.S. strength to fight an inevitable war against alien invaders.

In the foreword, Thurmond says Corso worked for him as an aide after leaving the Army and praises him as a person of integrity who served his country well.

"He has many interesting stories to share with individuals interested in military history, espionage and the workings of our government," Thurmond wrote. But he made no mention of the book's central thesis of inadvertent aid to the United States by space aliens.

In a statement, Thurmond said that he agreed to provide the foreword on the understanding that the book was autobiographical and that he regretted that it appeared to bolster claims of a government conspiracy and cover-up.

"I know of no such 'cover-up,' " the senator said, "and do not believe one existed."

Liz Hartman, director of publicity for Pocket Books, said in an interview that the confusion appeared to center on Thurmond's office and staff rather than Corso's revelations. "We absolutely stand by the book," she said. "It's a memoir."

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