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Interview with Philip Corso shown at Knapp Lecture

From: campbell@ufomind.com (Glenn Campbell, Las Vegas)
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 Subject: Interview with Philip Corso shown at Knapp Lecture

George Knapp was the featured speaker at Las Vegas MUFON last night (3/24/97). He discussed claimed government insider Philip Corso and showed portions of an interview he had with him. The following is my best recollection of Knapp's talk and the video he showed. (It is a mixture of what I heard Corso say on the tape and what Knapp recounted Corso saying. It is a bit sketchy, I know, because this is based only on my memory of Knapp's short talk and the several interview clips shown.)

Knapp said he had been sitting on his Corso material for 5 or 6 years, but since Corso's book was due soon and Corso's claims were now being discussed on the internet, Knapp felt he could talk about it.

Knapp says he was first tipped about Corso by Mark Sauter, who is now a reporter for American Journal & Inside Edition. Sauter had interviewed Corso regarding POWs in the Korean War when he happened to mention UFOs and Corso began to recount some stories.

Apparently, this is the first time interviews with Corso regarding his UFO claims have been shown in public. The interviews showed a frail looking man in his 70s. His speech is somewhat rambling and hard to follow. This is not the Philip Corso I had pictured. (Somehow, I had envisioned a stronger, younger man.) He reminds me of "Jarod 2", whose claims I reported in the Desert Rat. He had a similar style of speech (logical to him perhaps but hard to follow by the rest of us) and a similar unnerving tendency to mix things he had directly experienced with things he read later in the UFO literature. (In the tape, Corso mentions cattle mutilations and talked about Zecharia Sitchin and the Sumerians -- things he does not claim to have had official access to.) It was unclear when the interview took place, but it was apparently when Knapp was working for Altamira several years ago. Knapp says he had arranged for Corso to come to Las Vegas to be interviewed, but he didn't arrive. Corso is apparently under the control of a literary agent.

Knapp said Corso's credentials are "impeccable," although the UFO claims themselves can not be proven. Knapp gave the sequence of events in Corso's career: Among other things, he was an artillery officer in WWII, was trained by British Intelligence and was a battalion commander at White Sands Missile Range. Somewhere around 1960, he worked for "C.E. Jackson" at the White House.<P>

Later, between 1961 and 1963, he worked for General Trudeau (I didn't catch the first name.) in the Foreign Intelligence Division. Trudeau is apparently the only one who could verify this story, and Corso said he had been dead 2-3 years (at the time of the interview).

The Foreign Technology Division had the responsibility of analyzing both "foreign" technology (i.e. Soviet) and "alien" technology, apparently from UFO crashes. Corso's role was the writing of "proposals" for how alien material should be handled -- typically sent to government and contractor labs for analysis. The contractors

didn't know what they were getting and assumed it was "foreign", not "alien." The alien technology, Corso insists, was incorporated into human technology, including things like computer chips and night vision goggles.

An alien "ship" went to Bell Labs and from there to Rockwell.

Night vision technology came somehow from the covering over the alien eye.

While in his position with Trudeau, Corso was privy to information about at least one alien autopsy, which took place at Walter Reed Hospital. Corso has seen the Santilli alien autopsy, and says the alien was very similar.

Corso says the Roswell incident was real.

Corso apparently has never worked at Area 51, and he seemed to have no information about it when he was queried by Knapp.

Corso said on the tape that he didn't think there was a UFO cover-up. There didn't have to be, because the UFO buffs discredited themselves.

Corso left his position with Trudeau when Trudeau retired from the military to work for a defense contractor, and the office was dissolved.

Corso doesn't seem to know the "big picture," only his part of it. He made "proposals" to Trudeau, but it was Trudeau who implemented them.

Complicating Corso's story is his claim of direct alien encounters before he became involved in this program. (Knapp acknowledges that this coincidence is going to be fuel for critics.) Corso apparently had two encounters at White Sands Missile Range in the 1950s, both when he was alone.

In one, he was on some kind of assignment in a remote area of desert "past Trinity site." It wasn't clear to me how the encounter started, but on the tape Corso described standing in the desert as a craft appeared and disappeared repeatedly. He placed a rock and some sagebrush in the place where he thought the craft would reappear, and when the craft again appeared and disappeared, the rock and sagebrush were crushed. At one point, he put his hand on the side of the craft and found that it was cold. This was a great surprise to him, since it was 110 degrees in the desert around him. Corso got scared and tried to drive away. (He seemed to be concerned that the craft might reappear where he happened to be.) As he did, the compass he had started spinning, and the car motor died. When the craft lifted off, it turned on its side and then vanished.

In the other encounter, Corso was exploring a cave or mine, apparently in the White Sands complex. He went there, he said, because that's where animals went to drink, and you could watch them at the mouth of the cave. While inside the cave Corso was approached by an alien. (Knapp showed a video clip in which Corso displayed a drawing of the alien, which appeared to be your standard "gray".) Corso asked, "Friend or Foe," and the alien replied, telepathically, "Neither." The alien had only one request for Corso, that he turn off his radar for 10 minutes. Corso asked why, and the alien replied with something cryptic. (I forget the quote.) It wasn't clear to me what the radar was for or where it was in relation to the cave, but Corso complied with the request.

According to Knapp, the title of Corso's forthcoming book is "The Day After Roswell." It is scheduled to be released in July to coincide with the Roswell 50th Anniversary. Knapp said the publisher was making claims for the book which didn't really match Corso's -- that it was going to reveal all about the Roswell case, for example -- and this was being used as ammunition by critics.

Corso's previous book was on POWs in Korea. He claims some POWs were taken to the Soviet Union. (I'd like to get ahold of this book, at least to see how Corso thinks and how credible his earthly claims are.)

I recall that Daniel Fry made some fantastic claims about White Sands in his 1954 book, White Sands Incident. I wonder how his and Corso's claims compare.

The Ufomind link page for Corso is:
<http://www.ufomind.com/ufo/people/c/corso/>

