

Editorial
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Special Guests to the UK.UFO.NW - UFO - IRC channel.

The uk.ufo.nw has had a very pleasant few weeks recently with various guests attending our weekly irc meetings. The most recent have been:

John Velez
Michael Lindemann
Matthew Williams
Stanton T. Friedman

All have spent at least a couple of hours answering visitors questions live online. The number of people on channel during the meetings has been phenomenal. We would like to thank the guests for giving up their free time to be with us. We would also like to thank everyone who attended the meetings for doing so.

It won't stop here though. We have more guests lined up for the future. Dan Sherman (see e-zine issues 80 & 81) will be with us later this year. Watch this space for more news.

The log of the Matthew Williams and Stanton T. Friedman meetings will be sent out as special issues to subscribers shortly. Both make a worthy read.

Full information on how to join us at our weekly irc meetings can be found at the foot of the e-zine.

United Kingdom News
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[UK 1]*****

Source: Sightings on the Radio
From: Skywatch
Submitted by: Stig Agermose
Date: 23rd September 1997

New UFO Explosions Over Scotland!

At 2:30pm Tuesday 23rd September 1997, news reports came in saying UFO's and bright lights were seen from Scotland to Tyne Tees on the previous night from 23:30-03:30 22nd & 23 Sept.

The lights were witnesses by the residents up & down the East Coast, Scotland & Tyne Tees areas.

These reports stated that many people had called local news and TV stations having seen bright objects of various sizes and shapes emitting bright lights and travelling at erratic speeds for a period of time not yet established. The lights were observed shooting across each other and then witnesses heard several loud explosions followed by bright flashes and a crackling noise which in turn prompted the immediate response of the nearby Rescue Services. The Life Boat and helicopters were out searching the areas for any sign of wreckage which at this time was thought to be a plane or other aircraft. Many of the people that telephoned the Rescue Services said that they thought that there had been a mid-air collision.

Today a MOD person from RAF Kinloss Craig Lindsey said that the military are checking the area and have mounted an investigation into the reports.

News is coming in all the time and I will be speaking to my source tonight to get the latest, and hopefully some eye witness accounts to report in the next few days will be available.

[UK 2]*****

Date: 9th June 1997
Author: Matthew Williams

Proof Positive of Military Cover-Up of UFOs

By: Matthew Williams

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Matthew Williams is a former civil servant who worked for HM Customs & Excise Criminal Investigations department who since his own UFO sighting, back in 1990, now investigates the UFO enigma full time. He has managed to get the MOD to unwittingly admit that they knew the whereabouts of UFO files which were listed missing - (which they secretly had hidden) - whilst at the same time they were spinning a web of untruths to public, press and MPs. He has also looked into the governments investigations of UFOs and had uncovered the amazing details of how one department, implicated in UFO investigations, operates from a super secret facility in Corsham, Wilts which is housed underground in 35 miles of nuclear proof tunnels. Matthew has become a whistle blower on the existence of this base and a number of other secret bases. Matthew believes in direct action to expose bases and has been involved in some actions against bases in the UK.

The following information may to the uninitiated seem complex or trivial so it must be clearly pointed out that the reasons for providing this information are simple. The MOD says that there is no cover-up over UFO information and also they state that there have been no secret departments investigating UFOs. This we manage to disprove along with uncovering a policy of downplaying the UFO subject. The story gets even more interesting when you learn that after we found out these facts in a MOD file the MOD removed the incriminating file from public view. This file implicated Provost & Security Services (based at RAF Rudloe Manor), which is a department that I have been researching for some years, as having investigating the UFO subject - a point which they deny.

I have supplied snippets from the original government documents which show the points we are making. If anyone wishes to get hold of copies of the originals they can do so by visiting the Public Records Office in Kew, London where the files can be booked out and photocopied.

File no AIR 2/16918 provides the best evidence to show that in the 1960s there were no fewer than seven secret government departments within the Ministry Of Defence that were investigating UFOs. Former UFO public office investigator Nick Pope claimed that in his experience there were no other departments investigating UFOs. We have a problem with this statement in light of these new files which show otherwise. Could it be that Nick Pope in his low ranking position of Executive Officer (an entry level grade) was not aware of these departments, or is he covering them up? When questioned, Nick Pope assured me that he did not know of these departments when he was working in the MOD and had no dealings with them.

When researching UFO files you encounter the thirty-year rule problem. This means that any information which is released through official channels is subject to a thirty year filing rule (sometimes longer). This means that by the time the files reach our hands and we learn things the departments which dealt with the information have probably closed down or had their names changed and so we cannot find out their current status or records, or even to make complaints. The departments clearly named many times in this file have no other documentation or references within the Public Records Office. Consequently we suspect that this file was probably not meant to reach the Public Records Office. Are we going a bit far in stating this? Perhaps not when you learn that after researchers exposed the file it was then removed from view at the Public Records Office and only returned after questions being raised in the House Of Commons by the Rt. Hon. Ieuan Wyn Jones, MP for Anglesey North.

The confirmed departments involved in UFO investigation that we know of in the 1960's are:

- * AMOC (Air Ministries Operations Centre)
- * AIS (Air Information Service)
- * AI(Tech)4a (Air Intelligence Technical 4a)
- * AI(Tech)5b (Air Intelligence Technical 5b)
- * AI1 (Air Intelligence 1)
- * DSTI (Department of Scientific and Technical Intelligence)
- * DDI-Tech (Department of Defence Intelligence Technical)

* Public departments investigating UFOs who were in fact simply letter writers that fronted these other departments are DS8 & Air Staff 2 & S6.

* CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) has also conducted investigations of the UFO phenomenon, and has recently finished an investigation a near miss of a UFO and a jetliner coming which was making its final approach to Manchester airport.

* Extra departments rumoured to be investigating UFOs include D155 and DI64.

The files which were used for the basis of these investigations are as follows: AIR 2/16918, AIR 16/1199, AIR 2/17318, AIR 20/7390, AIR 20/9320, AIR 20/9321, AIR 20/9322, AIR 20/9994, AIR 2/17318, AIR 2/17526, AIR 2/17527, AIR 2/17982, AIR 2/17983, PREM 11/855.

We know from statements made to us by serving officers and also former serving officers and officials, inside the MOD, that many files exist which have never been released to the public. We also hear from Lord Peter Hill Norton, Commander of the Fleet (MODs highest position possible), that in his opinion there is a cover-up and UFOs are of defence significance. He states that films and evidence of UFOs are being withheld by the MOD.

A MOD ruling from 1967 meant that all UFO reports would be preserved in the Public Records Office for viewing by the public, because of renewed interest in the subject of UFOs. However if the seven secret MOD departments were investigating UFOs back then, where are the departments files relating to this? No files are available or due to be released for these departments. It is as if they didn't exist and efforts to find out if these departments moved on to have new names have proved fruitless as this information is deemed sensitive and cannot be given out to the public.

We know that documents exist which have not been released to the UK public because these documents have been copied to the US government and have been released to US citizens under the American Freedom of Information Act. This release circumvented UK secrecy laws. Some of these documents show that UFO incidents have taken place on UK soil, involving American airbases. We also know that some of these bases have had overflights of UFOs, which subsequently interfered and rendered some of the nuclear weapons stored on the base inoperable, e.g. the 1980 Woodbridge / Bentwaters incidents. The mere fact that these weapons were stored in this US airbase on British soil is still a top-secret. (Proof of the nuclear aspect is available in a new book LEFT AT EAST GATE published by Michael '0 Mara books.) I have just secured my own evidence of the Nuclear aspect at Bentwaters by secretly visiting the site with a team of UFO investigators, including Richard Conway and two original witnesses. We visited the nuclear bunkers and will be releasing this proof soon.

Readers should note that the proposals for a UK Freedom of Information act are clear in there being no responsibility for the MOD to take part. (Although it is my understanding that some MOD departments feel that they may be included so are preparing anyhow). I feel this is an unacceptable situation and would only support a total government and military-wide Freedom of Information act.

When looking at the files which follow, remember that whenever the MOD have been questioned on the subject of UFOs they have given a statement that UFOs are of "No Defence Significance". Clearly the files show that UFOs were of defence significance otherwise they would not be investigating them at such a high level.

SO WHAT FILES ARE WE TALKING ABOUT ANYHOW.....

1. "Project Bluebook" was the USAF public project to investigate UFOs using air force resources. Its leader, Dr J Allen Hynek left the project in disgust saying that it was keeping the best and most unexplained records away from the Bluebook files. Subsequently he stated that the conclusions of the report, which were that most sightings could be explained and that no evidence of extraterrestrial life could be determined, was at the very best a cover-up of the highest order. (There were secret level investigations going on behind Project Bluebook which we now know of as project Sign and Grudge.)

In this letter the MOD were writing to Project Bluebook and state that UFO investigations were carried out as part of the MODs Air

Force Technical Intelligence Dept. Obviously the MOD, whilst writing to another Military unit, were prepared to admit to their investigations at a high level which is a point they would not admit publicly. This then shows that investigations went on at a high level than those of Airstaff 2a, the former office of Nick Pope.

MOD admit to a policy of playing down the subject of UFOs. In doing this they avoid public or political pressure to mount a large scale - probably public - investigation on UFOs. It is not the military's right to make decisions that will affect politics. The military are supposed to be under the control of government and not acting in such a way as to dictate government policy.

2. Nick Pope was asked directly about Provost and Security Service and RAF Rudloe Manors involvement in UFO investigations. He denied any knowledge of these facts although he was in office at a time when Kerry Philpott (Nick Popes successor) alleges that they sent reports to him. Work that out!

Here we see a file letter showing that Provost & Security Service were investigating UFOs and that the files were classified as CONFIDENTIAL (a little hard to see on this photocopy). We also see that the MOD sent out officers to interview witnesses which may give rise to certain cases of "Men In Black" or "Men from the Ministry" visitations that have been reported by witnesses over the years. The MOD have denied that they ever sent out officers to visit witnesses. Nick Pope in his book OPEN SKIES CLOSED MINDS very firmly states the opinion that no MOD officers went out to visit witnesses and believes that these "MIBs" were just oddball characters - "Walter Mitty characters" who "dressed up" to scare witnesses and were nothing to do with the MOD.

In fact this file gives the name of the officer who went out to interview the witness and page 2 of the report (which is not included in this file) goes even further into the fact that officers visited her on a few occasions. The witness, Mrs Ann Henson has now been visited by UFO researchers who confirmed that she was "advised" by the MOD to not talk about her sighting to press or public and not to discuss the MOD investigation. She kept to this silence for 30 years until she was contacted by researchers. My question is how many other witnesses have been "advised" not to talk by the MOD in this fashion?

Provost and Security Service is the department which has been rumoured for many years as being involved in UFO investigations and was first exposed in such a role in Timothy Goods book Above Top Secret. I featured my investigations into Rudloe Manor Alien Encounters a few editions ago and now it is clear the importance of this and other departments in the whole UFO investigations network. Provost & Security Services are based at RAF Rudloe Manor. Another interesting feature about RAF Rudloe Manor is that most of its facilities are housed underground in a labyrinth of 35 miles of tunnels. I have never heard any rumours of aliens down there, though - just a lot of intelligence work and war time control operations.

3. MOD have made statements that no UFO reports were classified secret yet in this Intelligence report, from one of the Secret UFO investigation units, we see the word SECRET clearly used.

The report describes an object which was moving at speeds EXCEEDING 1400mph. No explanation could be found for the sighting. The speed was faster than any aircraft of the day. Officers who were experienced in radar made the statement that the reported contacts were not those of any conventional aircraft.

We read that the MOD were unhappy to see reports of UFOs getting to the press and deny that the sighting was not backed up with radar evidence. This is clearly disinformation being fed to the British Public - proof again of a cover-up.

The tone of this statement shows us that these secret investigators would pass on recommendations to civil servants in the publicly known UFO reporting departments (Nick Popes office) enabling them to make statements fit for public consumption. In this way the secret units could operate their investigations without being hindered because the names of these departments were hidden from view by the "front of shop" Whitehall MOD office writing replies to people.

OTHER FACTS

Some of the other documents available in UFO files include radar tracking of objects by the military. One incident which occurred in West Freugh which was forwarded to secret department DDI Tech was that of a set of five objects, which were measured to be as big as ships, which proceeded from 50,000ft to 70,000ft. A second radar was switched on and confirmed the objects at this height. The considered expert opinion of the military was that these objects were indeed unidentified and of an unknown type and origin. The radar operators were able to rule out the possibility of radar interference or that they may have misidentified charged clouds etc. This makes the incident very worthy of note.

Other incidents include similar radar tracks of objects which travelled at speeds in excess of 4000 MPH. These speeds are faster than any known aircraft can achieve today, let alone back then in the 1960's!

THE MISSING FILE

In and around March 1995 the file which contained so many of these revelations about departments in the MOD investigating UFOs went missing after Nick Redfern was filmed for a documentary called Out Of This World. The official explanation for the missing file was that it has been misfiled. We suspected otherwise but it took the intervention of MP Ieuan Wyn Jones asking a question in the House Of Commons to bring the file back. The file was returned two days after the question being tabled. Still the excuse that we were given was that it had indeed been misfiled - this was after one year of looking for it and one major file search (known as a census).

In a visit to the Public Records Office in 1996, myself and Richard Conway and Chris Fowler were told by Vivian Bales that the file was probably with the MOD as they often recalled sensitive files which they may have released information in by mistake. It was her opinion that this is possibly what had happened. We did not prompt her for this explanation and she gave it to us as an unofficial comment. It seems she may have been telling the truth as we shall see.

I didn't buy the official missing file story so went on my own search for who might have had the file at the MOD. I used contacts I have in government to give me a lead about where inside the MOD where I might find an answer. I was given the details of a small department which is housed inside the Metropole Building in Northumberland Avenue. This is the Central Records Management Unit and after speaking to the staff there I was put onto the Deputy Departmental Records Officer, Mr I D Goode. Mr Goode checked his records and confirmed that he had records on the file being inside the MOD and sent to a department in November of 1996. He could not tell us which department because he said this was against the rules, but confirmed to me that by his records someone at the MOD had the file. I asked him to be very sure of what he was saying and he re-confirmed the details to me verbally and then by letter.

This proved that an MP and members of the public were being lied to about the whereabouts of this file. Both the MOD and Public Records Office had assured us that they had carried out proper checks on the whereabouts of this file. If they had then surely they would have found out that it was booked to MOD. The fact that we were not told which department was dealing with the file was proof that there was some collusion behind the scenes.

The final part of the saga is that an official clamp-down has come into force, and now we are told by Kerry Philpott of the MOD official UFO cover-up department that Mr I D Goode was in fact wrong and had made a clerical error and the records he had should have read Nov 95. This letter should not have come from Kerry Philpott anyway - it should have come from I D Goode who had made the statement to me in his previous letter. Why does it always happen when someone asks about UFOs or writes to government officials that a clamp down on details happens and you get a reply from Kerry Philpott? Why is it also that government denies that many other departments investigate UFOs and then send their watered-down conclusions through Kerry Philpott and Airstaff 2a for dissemination to the public. Well I think the answer to that question is obvious from the above.

One thing is now clear, we have the ammunition to fight the government over the files of these seven secret departments who files do not appear in the Public Records Office. It has even been hinted to me by one insider that if any files for these departments did exist that they would not become public because most of these files are Defence Intelligence orientated and these types of files

rarely get released, if at all! My source also tells me that these files would most certainly be screened for department names which were not to be public and our departments would probably come into that category. So a fight, it will probably have to be!

SUMMARY

What we have here is clear evidence of the Ministry of Defence being involved in playing down and covering up UFO sightings. UFO reports were classified as secret and details probably were not meant to be released to the public. Procedures were in place for the secret departments to lie to the public about conclusions of their investigations through the front of the Whitehall civil servant departments. We also know that the enormity of the sightings that were being reported back then show that UFOs were of extreme defence significance. Lastly we now know that the MOD were sending out officers to interview witnesses and these said same officers were trying to silence witnesses. It all fits together nicely.

What we now need to know is where did those departments go and where do they operate from today. We also need to know where all of the investigations files from the many years of UFO research these departments have carried out. We are preparing to find these departments and to ask for the files. We will bring you further updates of any information we gather. Readers will be very interested to read about even more of the revelations in a new book by author Nick Redfern which will be released in September. It is called "A Covert Agenda" and will be published by Simon & Schuster.

[UK 3]*****

Source: Daily Mail newspaper
Date: Thursday to October 1997

Scientists step back 385 million years

A set of ancient footprints discovered in Ireland may be the oldest in the world, scientists said yesterday.

They were made by a 3ft long salamander like amphibian known as tetrapod, which was one of the first creatures to emerge from the sea.

The creature lived around 385 million years ago - long before the first dinosaurs or mammals..

The fossilised trail, leading 60ft out of the sea on Valentia Island off County Kerry, is said to be so valuable that round - the - clock guards may be needed.

[UK 4]*****

Source: Daily Mail newspaper
Date: Thursday to October 1997

(see e-zine issue {73}for original story - available from:)
(<http://www.holodeck.demon.co.uk/>)

A starless night and the ghost bomber roams the skies

By Chris Brooke

For years, the mystery of the ghost bomber has been part of the folklore of the district.

On starless nights, sightings of the fuzzy image of a World War II Halifax airplane would frequently be reported in the skies above the remote East Yorkshire village of Wetwang.

With no other explanation to hand, locals speculated that the area might be haunted by some tragic pilot who perished in an act of wartime heroism.

The legend of the ghost bomber spread, until an aviation buff in the neighbouring village of Fridaythorpe admitted: "Er, sorry - but it's probably all my fault."

Richard Triners hobby is sketching. His favourite subjects are old aeroplanes...and occasionally, to give him inspiration, he projects a picture of an old bomber, on the night sky.

The 52 - year - old former RAF personnel officer began his night time projections when he moved to the area seven years ago.

It was at the time that the first sightings of a mystery four engined wartime bomber in RAF colours were reported.

He carried on, unaware of the stir he was creating five miles away in Wetwang.

"All the local papers carried stories but for some reason I didn't see them," a sheepish Mr Triner said yesterday.

"Then a friend told me about the latest spate, which started three weeks ago.

"That's when I was playing around with the image of a Halifax bomber to inspire me to sketch it.

"I thought then that I'd have to tell people it's me, but I hope everyone can see the funny side."

Mr Triner, who cares full time for his disabled wife Susan, added: "it might seem an eccentric thing to do but it's harmless and I'm very sorry if I've upset anyone.

"I use a 100 - watt projector and need very dark nights, usually in the early morning. I can't always get the image in full focus, some times it works, some times it doesn't.

"A ghostly appearance could be explained by the fact that the image often gets blurred.

"It can look spooky and with clouds rushing past the image it looks like it's moving. Over the years it might have looked like the Battle of Britain out there."

Not all the locals, however, are convinced by Mr Triners explanation for the dozens of appearances of the Wetwang bomber over the years.

He projects images of the Halifax only at night and when conditions are cloudy to give the best chance of a perfect image - and many people claim they have seen the ghost airplane during the day.

World News
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[W 1]*****

Source: Teletext - World News
Date: Thursday 25th September 1997

TWA Flight 800

USA: Investigators believe that bundled wires may have caused the explosion that brought down TWA Flight 800 last year, killing 230 people.

[W 2]*****

Source: Teletext - Factfile
Date: Thursday 25th September 1997

Lego UFOs

Danish toy giant Lego is pinning it's hopes of a Christmas jackpot on it's new range of high-tech UFO toys.

[W 3]*****

From: "Brian Straight" <briansxx@iquest.net>
Source: Sunday Times newspaper
Date: Sunday 21st September 1997

Pilotless Stealth Fighter

IN THE week that the future of America's F-117 stealth fighter is uncertain, following an unexplained crash at a Baltimore airshow, an American military contractor has revealed its plan for a next-generation, pilotless stealth fighter capable of flying at

hypersonic speeds.

The Uninhabited Combat Air Vehicle (UCAV) has a wingspan of about 27ft, and each fighter will cost about \$12m (7.7m). The American air force hopes the first UCAVs could begin service in about 2005.

The UCAV's tail-less design and futuristic rounded surface will allow it to avoid enemy radar, and an onboard computer will constantly randomise its flight path to confuse enemy tracking systems.

Northrop Grumman, the Californian defence contractor that also built the B-2 Spirit stealth bomber, is developing the first UCAV, which will use the same radar-deflecting material as the B-2.

Greg Zwernemann, manager of advanced uninhabited concepts, says the UCAV will be used for dangerous missions such as deep strikes into enemy territory and attacking heavily guarded enemy bases.

-[continued in part 2]-

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