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The Case for the Secret Exploration of Space...

From: **Jakes Louw** <LOUWJE@telkom.co.za>
Date: Thu, 22 Jan 1998 09:05:31 +0200
Fwd Date: Thu, 22 Jan 1998 17:19:34 -0500
Subject: The Case for the Secret Exploration of Space...

Please note the attached mail, which is sent in its entire original format.

I can vouch that this is a serious request for research information.

Please send any response or comments back to the originator, Mr. Jan Lamprecht, at:

pbs@iafrica.com

Thank you

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Cc: JANL@cna.co.za
Subject: USAF: The Case for the Secret Exploration of Space...

All,
This is the following text which I posted on several scientific and military newsgroups. Feel free to spread it around. Maybe we'll pick up some useful responses? Comments?
Jan

I am doing some serious research into an idea and I would very much like to communicate with anyone who can provide me with information, assistance or pointers to further research. I have been digging deeply into the work of astronomers and scientists - from historical times to the present.

Like everyone else I have always taken it for granted that NASA is knocking up one first after another. But gradually over several months some new thoughts have been dawning upon me and I wish to conduct serious research into the following concept:

Is NASA really at the cutting edge of space exploration?

Silly question? Perhaps. But hear me out.

BackGround: Top Secret Military Drones...

A friend of mine in National Intelligence in Pretoria told me some years ago that a lot of Air Force work around the world was being conducted on pilotless drones. He told me it was the "hot-button" of major airforces around the world. He hinted at the existence of pilotless, stealth bombers (which can drop nuclear bombs) and other planes. He told me that most of these planes are tested at night in various places. He told me that they regularly fly over Pretoria.

I made contact with an engineer in the USA. His work brings him into contact with many new US aircraft projects. When I wrote about drone research on Internet a year ago, this gentleman came forward and confidentially gave me a few quiet pointers. He confirmed what my friend in National Intelligence had been telling me.

In many places around the world people think they are seeing UFOs when in fact they are witnessing airforce experiments. Example: Triangular shaped craft flying around. Recently I think such an incident took place near Phoenix. Much was made of it in UFO circles.

About 18 months ago, people in Pretoria saw a large bright light floating over Pretoria. They called the Police. Some 120 police in patrol cars began chasing this "UFO" across Pretoria at break-neck speed and out into the country-side. Video footage was shot of this incident. The Police radioed for a Police helicopter to assist in the chase. The Police helicopter chased the "UFO" in the early hours of the morning. Later the Pilot of the helicopter stated on National TV that he'd seen a "UFO" and he even filed a report with one of the International UFO societies. But during this incident the Police control room radioed the South African Air Force base nearby to immediately scramble a jet to intercept the UFO. The South African Air Force refused the request. Didn't they care that 120 Policemen were racing at breakneck speeds through Pretoria assisted by a helicopter? Didn't they care that something foreign was in our air space? Or did the SAAF know something which was too secret to tell the Police? Some months later I had a braai (barbque) with my Intelligence friend. What did he think of this "UFO". He laughed and told me (as he had done before), that many strange things fly above Pretoria at night. He said it was very possibly a misidentification of an "air force experiment." This was when he told me some more about drones and elaborated some more on what he knew about airforces around the world. His work had brought him into contact with people in Europe and America and sometimes he went on missions there. He knew quite a bit of what was going in this field.

Later I mentioned this at a company I was doing consulting for, when a guy there, Brian (whom I have known for many years), told me how he had witnessed such a drone one day in 1972. He told me that he was stationed at an Infantry base near Pretoria which bordered on Swartkops AFB. There were rumours in the camp of a small airforce plane. But most of the guys thought it was just a joke. They stood guard in the various towers around the base. Brian confirmed what my buddy had told me. That when nightfall came, and as soon as it was properly dark, the little plane would take off. One night he had the good fortune to see it. He saw a hanger door open and a tiny 12 ft long plane came trundling out. He heard a slight whine, and the little plane with a bullet-shaped nose and short stubby wings raced down the runway and took off steeply into the dark night sky with no lights on. As it became airborne a secondary engine seemed to kick in. The engine was very quiet and it made more of a buzzing noise. Once it was high enough you wouldn't hear it any more. The plane dissappeared into the night sky. Two hours later he suddenly heard the buzzing noise again and the little plane ducked down out of the dark night sky and landed swiftly. No long winded process. It just dived down, landed neatly - the hanger doors opened and within seconds the little plane dissappeared from sight. It was all so fast and slick that to most of the soldiers in the infantry base, right next to the runway - that most of them considered it only a "rumour."

A similar thing happens at Groom Lake. My Intelligence friend suggested I look more closely. Forget the UFO stories he told me. I did research, stumbled upon various articles and revelations by a former director of the Skunkworks. A year later I became convinced that his analysis was spot-on. Lockheed Skunkworks is busy with a new type of drone. I discovered for example that at Groom Lake one finds a SMALL HANGER - and someone with a sense of humour has painted the number "18" on it. (In UFO literature much is made of Hanger 18 where

UFO's are supposedly stored). Someone at the Skunkworks has a sense of humour. Nice touch. And at night, a light is seen looping the loop over Groom Lake and doing all manner of manoeuvres deep into the night. It takes off, like it's protegee at Swartkops - some time after dusk. When people became too curious about this "American UFO" the USAF had to engage in a land-grab to keep the curious at bay. Critics always say "But what could possibly exist in such a small hanger? How can that possibly be a secret?" Well, small aircraft are HOT SECRETS.

I asked my American Engineer informant what's the rationale behind the light on the plane? His reply: "If you need accurate performance statistics on a stealth aircraft then radar is no good - a light is better." My friend the spy, tells me that there's also the issue of "responsibility." If you see a light at night which looks like the proverbial "UFO" then you don't think: There goes the USAF/SAAF or the Russians or whoever. His hints suggested that these lights may have their uses in fooling other people in other countries. He hinted that there is more to be gained from other people thinking they're being visited by UFOs than them realising the they're being spied on by an earthly power. Perhaps even, the troops might not want to report such a sighting for the sake of being made fun of. So when all is said, it would seem that there is much to be gained from this kind of spying. Other possibilities exist too which I've not had a chance to dig into - such a "close-up" spying on bases which one normally can't get near. Has anyone ever bothered trying to fire an anti-aircraft missile at a UFO? Would anyone dare?

The land with the most "UFO's" seems to be the USA. Either Aliens have organised regular tourist trips to the "land of the free" or perhaps the "UFO's" are actually American in origin to begin with?

Bottom Line: There's a lot of hot computer and aeronautical technology out there in military circles. And they've been at these things for decades. The Skunkworks D21 drone was classified for 25 years after it had been shelved. Such is the secrecy which surrounds the existence of drones.

USAF Space Plane...

Recently the Skunkworks won the contract for the next generation space shuttle. In Popular Science they mentioned the radical design. A single-stage, lifting-body, space plane, flown completely from start to finish by a computer. It is cheap compared to the current shuttle and it is a radical departure from the norm.

Popular Science mentioned that experienced aeronautical engineers commented on the suspicious nature of the Skunkworks bid. It's well-known that Skunkworks has developed the most radically advanced aircraft created this century. The SR71 Blackbird; U-2 spyplane; F117a Stealth bomber. These engineers commented that NASA is generally conservative and likes to use proven technology. Engines must have been functioning for at least 8 years before NASA will touch it for their manned program. So how does the Skunkworks get away with this? These engineers suggest that Skunkworks must have developed and flown a Space Plane for the USAF - and this thing must have been flying for at least 8 - 10 years already.

But where is it? We've never heard of it. Have you? I've never come across a single rumour or ounce of evidence to support this idea. Unless someone is keeping it a damned good secret - which I think is entirely possible.

Clementine...

I was surprised when the Clementine satellite was launched and it was sent off to map every square inch of the Moon. Then it set off for? (Was it Venus?). What really surprised me was that Clementine was supposed to be the first project funded by the Department of Defence to leave Earth orbit. I'm curious. Since when does the Moon (or Venus? Is it Venus?) have anything to do with US National Security? Why would they want to map ever square inch of the Moon? The obsession with mapping the Earth completely for military purposes has been an ongoing project for some time. This data is stored in computer for the navigation of missiles, drones, cruise missiles and military aircraft. Is the Solar system being mapped for military purposes? Or has it already been mapped?

ION Engines...

I remember reading a lot about the wonders of Ion engines back in the 1970's. They are low-impulse engines. i.e. they don't have much "kick." But they have an incredible top-speed. They're ideal for solar system exploration to the Outer planets. Why wait 10 years for a Voyager when a constantly accelerating ION engine could send a probe

racing across the solar system at many times the speed of a conventional rocket.

There is also another development worth noting - which I've never heard anyone speak of. I saw an interview of a scientist who stated that the next engine which we need to develop is a nuclear rocket engine. It makes me think of the nuclear submarine. This was the concept of a single Captain in the US Navy who decided to try sticking a nuclear reactor in a submarine. He found it could be done and hey presto he invented the nuclear submarine. How easy would it be to produce a nuclear rocket engine with today's nuclear technology? I've never heard of any work being done on it. Or has there been work on it which we know nothing of?

But back to ION Engines. I vaguely remembered the ION engine, but strangely no one writes about it any more. My buddy the spy had told me this about drones: "You won't see anything about it in books and magazines. The real stuff is all hush hush." I thought I was dreaming about ion engines. Then I stumbled upon a book I'd had in the 1970's. There it clearly stated, in 1972, that in the 1960's NASA had had a working ION engine. It ran for 40 hours on a test bed - 30+ years ago. It was supposed to be the next generation space probe engine. But it's not.

Have Ion engines been classified and moved out of NASA's area? Why didn't NASA ever make use of an idea so promising? Scientists were saying what a hot idea this was and then.... poof.... the idea disappears from public view. Or is NASA not allowed to use it? Is it perhaps the preserve of the USAF?

USAF Space Exploration....

So I began wondering. Is it possible that the USAF has gone beyond mere space planes - and has it already been scouting out the solar system - AHEAD of NASA? I have noted some discrepancies in the history of astronomy and I was digging into these issues. Then I began wondering about this possibility...

So I decided to pose my Engineer informant the question. His response: "Plenty." Of course he refuses to tell me more. Perhaps I'm being had. But I'm wondering and seriously posing the question. However, he promised me he'd point me in the right direction. He suggested I contact the Federation of American Scientists - and he gave me a contact name. I noted that they had a project which spoke of curbing excessive Govt Secrecy. Currently I'm waiting for a reply from them.

But my question is this: Can anyone provide me with any further thoughts, suggestions and contacts in this regard? No one seems to have ever really dug into this problem (not that I know of). Is it possible that the USAF has taken a greater interest in space exploration than we may ever have thought? The exact rationale behind it may be interesting. Could it be PERHAPS, as a suggestion, that all these stories of UFOs have really been taken seriously all along, and that the solar system was to be scouted ANYWAY? (Regardless of whether anything was found or not).

If you can help, then please reply by e-mail as I do not always get a chance to monitor this NewsGroup. Thank you, Jan.

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