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Corrected Version: AP: FBI Tries To Debunk UFO

From: Stig_Agermose@online.pol.dk (Stig Agermose)
Date: Sat, 14 Mar 1998 00:54:56 +0100
Fwd Date: Sat, 14 Mar 1998 08:16:45 -0500
Subject: Corrected Version: AP: FBI Tries To Debunk UFO

FBI's "Unusual Phenomena" page, alluded to in the news item below, can be found at:

<http://www.fbi.gov/foipa/ufo.htm>

but, apart from the Blue Book section which was put up in June 1997, the linked documents (FBI's Majestic 12, UFO, and cattle mutilation files) were added to FBI's site in the second week of January 1998, contrary to the impression given by Associated Press.

First the FBI page. The links are preceded by black squares, and two zeros must be added to the file sizes. Acrobat Reader is required, but can be downloaded via a link.

UNUSUAL PHENOMENA

=B0Animal/Cattle Mutilation
=B0Majestic 12
=B0Project Blue Book
=B0Roswell
=B0Unidentified Flying Objects

ANIMAL MUTILATION PROJECT - 128 pages

These records contain accounts of animal mutilations which were discovered in various states during the late 1970's. Over the years, several theories have been expounded to explain the mutilations, including UFOs, satanic cults, pranksters, unknown government agencies, or natural predators. The FBI entered the case when 15 mutilations occurred in New Mexican Indian country. The investigation was negative with respect to identifying the individuals responsible.

FBI DOCUMENTS REGARDING THE ANIMAL MUTILATION PROJECT
PDF format - Acrobat =B0Reader required

=B0Part 01 (0790 kb)
=B0Part 02 (1747 kb)
=B0Part 03 (1295 kb)
=B0Part 04 (1358 kb)
=B0Part 05 (1258 kb)

MAJESTIC 12 - 22 pages

This file relates to an FBI inquiry into the possible unauthorized disclosure of classified information when a document marked "Top Secret" was made public. This investigation was closed after it was learned that the document was completely bogus.

FBI DOCUMENTS REGARDING MAJESTIC 12
PDF format - Acrobat Reader required

=B0Part 01 (0608 kb)

PROJECT BLUE BOOK - 12 pages

This small file relates to an Air Force program for the investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects. The Secretary of the Air Force discontinued this program in 1969.

FBI DOCUMENTS REGARDING PROJECT BLUE BOOK
PDF format - Acrobat Reader required

=B0Part 01 (0514 kb)

ROSWELL - 1 page

This one-page teletype dated July 8, 1947, relays information from the United States Air Force that an object purporting to be a flying disc was recovered on that date near Roswell, New Mexico.

FBI DOCUMENTS REGARDING ROSWELL
PDF format - Acrobat Reader required

=B0Part 01 (0051 kb)

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS - 1600 pages

This file contains information dating from 1947 which reports various allegations of sightings of unidentified flying objects.

FBI DOCUMENTS REGARDING UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS
PDF format - Acrobat Reader required

=B0Part 01 (5562 kb)
=B0Part 02 (5181 kb)
=B0Part 03 (5736 kb)
=B0Part 04 (4583 kb)
=B0Part 05 (5225 kb)
=B0Part 06 (5572 kb)
=B0Part 07 (5599 kb)
=B0Part 08 (5599 kb)
=B0Part 09 (5261 kb)
=B0Part 10 (5441 kb)
=B0Part 11 (5816 kb)
=B0Part 12 (5956 kb)
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=B0Electronic Reading Room

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The article below is taken from New Jersey Online. URL:

<http://www.njo.com/news/stories/0313aliens.html>

FBI tries to debunk UFO X-file

By Robert Rudolph
The Associated Press
03/13/98

When it comes to UFOs, the fictional FBI agents on TV's "X-Files" claim "The Truth Is Out There." If so, the real FBI apparently hasn't caught up to it.

Last month, the agency posted a formerly classified document on its official Web site, purporting to expose a secret, top-level governmental squad that uncovered evidence of extraterrestrial life on Earth 50 years ago.

Truth or fiction?

Fiction, insists the FBI, which stamped the word "bogus" on the report and dismissed it as an elaborate hoax.

Truth, insist UFO investigators who hounded the agency to post the document on the Internet with an avalanche of Freedom of Information Act demands for full extraterrestrial disclosure.

In what has amounted to the agency's own real-life version of the "X-Files," the disclosure of the "Majestic 12" -- an operation supposedly consisting of a dozen top Department of Defense and intelligence officials in the late 1940s and early '50s -- has only inflamed the debate over the existence of flying saucers and alien beings.

Ostensibly prepared in 1952 as a briefing paper for President-elect Eisenhower, the 22-page document traces the creation of the secret group, allegedly established by President Truman in 1947 in the wake of the recovery of the wreckage of what appeared to be an alien spaceship near Roswell, N.M. The UFO investigation team was to be "responsible directly and only to the President of the United States."

The report claimed that the badly decomposed bodies of "four small humanlike beings" were recovered from the Roswell area. It also cites other evidence of UFO activity including the 1950 crash of an alien craft along the border of Texas and Mexico and concludes that "it is virtually certain that these craft do not originate in any country on Earth." The recovered aliens are even given a new name: "Extra-terrestrial Biological Entities" or "EBEs."

The document also warns of possible implications for the national security and suggests taking steps to "avoid public panic at all costs."

Which would be the case, FBI officials say, if it were true.

"It's obviously some kind of hoax," said Linda Kloss, the FBI spokeswoman in charge of the unit handling Freedom of Information Act requests. Each page of the "Majestic 12" report features a handwritten scrawl by an FBI analyst that reads "BOGUS"

Don't tell that to Walter Andrus.

Andrus, international director of the Texas-based Mutual UFO Network, says the "Majestic" documents are in a "gray area" as far as credibility.

"They could be a hoax, but it's a beautiful job if they are," he said.

Donald Berliner, chairman of the Fund for UFO Research in Washington, D.C., said the documents "are certainly a matter of debate," but noted that if something like "Majestic 12" existed, the government would have no choice but to brand the papers as fake.

As hoaxes go, "Majestic 12" has proven itself a good and durable one. It's had the bureau repeatedly spinning its wheels in attempts to run it down.

According to the report, the FBI first showed an interest in the matter nearly a decade ago when the agent in charge of the Dallas office sent a "secret" message to the FBI director in Washington, along with a document obtained from the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations. That document was the "Majestic 12" report.

The original source of the document was not disclosed, but the bureau was requested "to discern if the document is still classified."

A month later, the office of the FBI director sent official word back to Dallas in a secret teletype: "The Office of Special Investigations, U.S. Air Force, advised on November 30 that the document was fabricated ... The document is completely bogus."

The teletype further directed, "Dallas is to close (the) captioned investigation."

But hoaxes, especially elaborate ones, don't die so easily. Three years later, the FBI was back on the trail of "Majestic 12." This time, the agent in charge of the Salt Lake City office delivered another copy of the file to FBI headquarters, one found in an office building.

In an effort to check out its validity, the FBI placed a secure telephone call to the Department of Defense with a request for further information.

"Incredibly," the FBI report stated, the DOD response "tended to buttress a portion of the document." What section it supported was not disclosed. The matter was then referred to the bureau's Intelligence Division on Oct. 30, 1991. Since then, the document has been chased by UFO investigators and conspiracy theorists who got wind of its existence.

Still, the "Majestic" file remains tantalizingly incomplete. There is no further followup included and no explanation of how the FBI ultimately determined that the documents were a hoax.

Kloss said she could not shed any additional light on the file, but reports have cited a number of alleged discrepancies, including the type-face used a style not produced until a decade after the documents were reportedly prepared and a signature by President Truman that appears to be too exact a copy of his signature on another document.

Kloss acknowledged that in the past year, the FBI has been besieged with "an inordinate number of requests for UFO and UFO-related materials," including many from Europe.

According to Frank Stranges, a former New Jersey resident who's written numerous books on UFOs and heads the California-based National Investigations Committee on Unidentified Flying Objects, the "Majestic" documents have "thrown the entire UFO community into a tizzy," with groups taking sides on the authenticity of the materials.

As far as he is concerned, however, Stranges said he is convinced the papers, although well-prepared, are "absolutely bogus."

Along with the "Majestic 12" files are a host of other bizarre topics as well, including an FBI investigation of animal mutilations in the late 1970s, the Air Force's "Project Blue Book" relating to the Air Force's own investigation of UFOs, as well as some 1,600 pages dating back to 1947 detailing reports of sightings of unidentified flying objects.

But if the truth is really out there, the answers are not to be found in those files. Steve Berry, an FBI spokesman in Washington, said the type of investigations undertaken on television by Special Agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully in the "X- Files" are not the stuff of reality.

"It makes for a good show," Berry said, "but it's not our job."

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