

images of political or religious leaders, such as Saddam Hussein standing on a balcony, telling his troops to lay down their arms. The article stated that the project is headed by U.S. Army scientist Dr. Gary Wood at the Army Research laboratory in Adelphi, Maryland, and could be perfected within 10 years.

This brings to mind UPN's recent telecast of the August 9th Mexico City video. The video shows a daylight disk that moves across the viewing area and then out of view behind a building. (I don't get UPN in my area, so I haven't viewed this video yet) There has been some discussion as to whether or not the UFO was the result of a holographic projection.

A question was asked as to whether or not two laser beams could project a false image of a UFO onto a uniform distribution of smog. Another question concerned whether or not it was possible to actually project a holographic image that would appear to be 3-D, and could be viewed from various angles. The major problem that was raised concerning holographs was that a projected image, being a light source, cannot be darker than the area that it is projected onto.

I admit that I'm not knowledgeable in this field, but how do the Army scientists plan to solve this problem, and be able to project a believable image of virtual troops and equipment onto a battlefield, and appear to be solid enough to be perceived as real by enemy forces, from any angle. Could there be a method of modulating several projected and converging laser beams, such as to give the appearance of a solid object, maybe in a manner similar to the three electron guns in a color television picture tube?

Another question that I have is whether or not this technology has already been perfected by the Army, possibly with the help of another familiar agency?

A personal friend of mine related a UFO sighting that he and his wife had in 1991. They were traveling to Birmingham from Huntsville on Interstate 65 about 10:30 at night, when they came upon a huge cigar-shaped object in the sky above the highway. The object extended from beyond the tree level on either side of the highway, was motionless, and made no noise. The couple pulled over to the side of the road to better observe the object. Another car on the opposite side of the freeway had also pulled over to observe this same object.

The object had yellow-orange lights along the side, and an eerie green light projecting from domes on the top and bottom. After several minutes the object disappeared. My friend described it "as though someone had simply flipped a switch." (I would like to know if anyone here in Alabama has had a similar experience.) The other car continued on its way after the object's disappearance.

My friend and I have discussed the possibility as to whether or not the object could have been a projected image of some sort, and if so, where was it being projected from. His encounter was in the Blount Springs area, about 30 miles north of Birmingham, which is scarcely populated. He suggested that maybe this could be connected to an unusual project that he had witnessed years earlier at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville.

Before I present my friend's story as observed at this Army site, I would like to give a little background information, in order to show the importance of this installation.

At the start of WW II, the Chemical Warfare Service only had one chemical manufacturing installation, at the Edgewood Arsenal in Maryland. Because of a possible U.S. involvement in the war, the Chief of the Chemical Warfare Service asked the War Department to fund a second location to supplement Edgewood's production, and to also provide a site that would be located far enough inland from the seacoast, in order to provide sufficient military protection. This site would require adequate rail, water, and highway transportation. The site would also need sufficient fuel and electrical power, along with enough raw materials for construction.

The War Department selected Huntsville, Alabama on 3 July 1941 as the location for this new installation. This site was far enough inland, and the nearby mountain ranges would provide additional protection. A tract of over 30,000 acres, located just to the

southwest of Huntsville along the Tennessee River, was available at a very reasonable price. Labor conditions, and the climate and living conditions of the area were considered to be excellent. An adequate supply of electrical power was also available from the Tennessee Valley Authority.

On 24 July 1941 the War Department announced that the name of this new installation would be the Huntsville Arsenal. Groundbreaking was held on 4 August and the new arsenal's first production facility was activated in March 1942. Various chemical agents were produced at the arsenal during the war, including mustard and tear gas.

On 6 March the Huntsville Chemical Warfare Depot was established on 7,700 acres on the extreme southern section of the arsenal, to store the various chemicals and munitions. The name was later changed to the Gulf Chemical Warfare depot, in order to avoid confusion with the Huntsville Arsenal.

The Chief of Ordnance later recognized that it would be economically feasible to also locate a loading and assembly plant next to the arsenal, so on 25 October 1941 construction was started on a 4,000 acre tract of land that bordered the east of the Huntsville Arsenal, and the Redstone Ordnance Plant was activated on 5 February 1942. A year later on 26 February 1943, the name was changed to the Redstone Arsenal. This plant produced over 45 million units of ammunition for the war effort.

After the war ended, both arsenals ceased production, and focused on salvaging ammunition returned from overseas. In February 1947 Redstone Arsenal was put on standby status. The Huntsville Arsenal was placed on surplus status, but on 9 November 1948 was placed on standby status as a possible site for the newly created Department of the Air force. When the Air Force decided against using the site, the Huntsville Arsenal was put up for sale.

Meanwhile, the Chief of Ordnance had decided to use Redstone Arsenal as the center for research and development for a newly emerging military technology - rocketry. The Huntsville Arsenal was reactivated as the site of the Ordnance Rocket Center, and it's facilities and staff were placed under the control of Redstone Arsenal.

As a related economy measure, on 28 October 1949 the Ordnance Research and Development Division Sub-Office (rocket development) was also moved from Fort Bliss, Texas to Redstone, and was renamed the Ordnance Guided Missile Center on 15 April 1950. Among the personnel that were transferred were Dr. Wernher von Braun and his team of German scientists and technicians.

Von Braun had been the technical director of the Peenemuende Rocket Center on the Baltic Sea. He and other German scientists were brought to the U.S. in 1945, as part of Project Paperclip, to aid in military research and development.

With the addition of the new missile group, the Army found that it needed more land, so on 15 April 1950 the Huntsville Arsenal officially ceased to exist and the entire complex was consolidated to Redstone Arsenal. Redstone also continued to produce chemical artillery ammunition until 1956.

When the Army Ballistic Missile Agency was established on 1 February 1956, the Department of the Army selected Redstone as the site for this new agency. Personnel and equipment were transferred from Redstone's Guided Missile Development Division, along with von Braun and his scientists. The ABMA was initially responsible for the REDSTONE and PERSHING missile programs, along with the Army satellite program. Redstone soon became the main center for research and development, storage, maintenance, and repair for the Army's entire family of Army Ordnance missile systems.

On 31 March 1958 the Army Ordnance Missile Command was established at Redstone. The AOMC had jurisdiction over ABMA, the Redstone Arsenal, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena, California, and the White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico.

As you can see, this was (and still is) quite an important military installation. Now is a good time to go get that cup of

