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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Roswell Reward [was: Symbols Discovered on

From: Bob Young <[YoungBob2@aol.com](mailto:YoungBob2@aol.com)>  
Date: Fri, 25 Sep 1998 11:59:43 EDT  
Fwd Date: Fri, 25 Sep 1998 15:18:53 -0400  
Subject: Roswell Reward [was: Symbols Discovered on

>From: Robert Todd <[RTodd12191@aol.com](mailto:RTodd12191@aol.com)>  
>Date: Wed, 23 Sep 1998 15:29:43 EDT.  
>Fwd Date: Thu, 24 Sep 1998 10:47:12 - 0400  
>Subject: Re: Symbols Discovered on Roswell Crash Photo

><snip

>let's do away with the speculation and rely on the testimony  
>of one of David Rudiak's favorite witnesses, none other than  
>Major Jesse Marcel. Let's refer back to Bob Pratt's interview  
>of Marcel on December 8, 1979, where Marcel explains how  
>the press release got out:

>"In the meantime, we had an eager-beaver public relations  
>officer -- he found out about it-- he calls the AP [Associated  
>Press] about it. Then that's when it really hit the fan -- I  
>don't mind using that expression."

>Just because Walter Haut is still alive, and Major Marcel and  
>Colonel Blanchard are dead, doesn't mean Haut necessarily told  
>the truth about the circumstances surrounding the press release.  
>His claim that Blanchard ordered the release might very well be  
>self-serving, in that he could have made the release without  
>authorization (which he may not have needed anyway) from Colonel  
>Blanchard, and invented the claim that Blanchard ordered the  
>release so as not to look like a hotdog or a fool. Let's get  
>Haut's permission to examine the complete contents of his  
>military personnel file to see if it contains any reprimands

><snip

>It might turn out that Haut made the release before he got word  
>of the identification of the debris at Fort Worth. Haut jumped the  
>gun. Had he waited, the news release might never have been  
>released at all, or, if it was released, its contents might have been  
>drastically different.

>This is a reasonable, rational explanation for the release,  
>based on Major Marcel's statements. In fact, this is the only  
>explanation that makes any sense at all. What is curious is  
>how this explanation virtually has been ignored for almost  
>twenty years, in favor of the contrived nonsense scenarios that  
>seem to grow in complexity and sensationalism.

There were at least four and perhaps six rewards in early July  
1947 for evidence that "flying discs" or "saucers" were real.  
Stanton Friedman and Charles Moore were kind enough to forward  
clippings to me on this subject in 1995:

1) The World Inventors' Exposition at Los Angeles offered \$1,000 for the delivery of a "flying saucer" to Pan-Pacific Auditorium by 6:30 P.M., July 11. (Los Angeles Evening Herald Express)

2) In Spokane, Washington, the Athletic Round Table offered \$1,000 to anyone who brought a disc to its headquarters. (Express)

3) One E. J. Culligan of Northbrook, Ill, also proffered \$1,000 for anyone capturing or presenting the "true explanation of the phenomena" (Express).

4) The above may represent the \$3,000 offered by a mid-western newspaper (David Jacobs, A History of the UFO Controversy in America), or the \$3,000 mid-west "rewards" and their \_claimants\_ discussed by The United Press (Murray Schumach, The New York Times, July 9, 1947, p. 1)

5) Documents reproduced in the 1995 Air Force report (McAndrew and Weaver) discuss reward tags attached to New York University balloon flight devices (Project Mogul) and show an example.

In 1947 \$3,000 was a considerable sum, and probably represented the annual earnings of many hard-scrabble New Mexico ranchers.

Karl Pflock has called my attention to an August 12, 1989, personal interview with Norris Proctor, Loretta Proctor's brother-in-law, mentioned in the 1991 UFO Crash at Roswell, by Kevin Randle and Donald Schmitt. Proctor recalled that Mac Brazel was urged to try to claim the rewards being offered for proof that saucers were real.

Thus, Brazel knew of the rewards, and had been urged to collect. This would have been a perfectly reasonable explanation for his collection (on a holiday) of the debris and his trip to the Sheriff, as suggested by Bob Todd (The Cowflop Quarterly, Vol. 1, No. 1, May 5, 1995).

Intrigued by this possibility, in 1994 I wrote to Walter Haut, in care of the International UFO Museum, where he was president. I asked him if any of the fellows at the base, or others, had considered claiming this reward. I assured him that I was not suggesting that this would have been illegal or even wrong, and that I thought it might have even seemed like a good idea at the time. Haut did not reply directly, but I received a letter from Max Littell, secretary of the Museum, who said they don't know of anyone who claimed the reward. He enclosed a nice museum brochure and a list of items available from their gift shop.

Anyone who reads the press coverage of the first few weeks of the saucer flap cannot help but notice that most of it made a joke of the subject. Perhaps with this in mind, Haut saw an opportunity to have a little fun and support the claims of a local rancher, a claim that, if it related to harmless debris of this which Haut thought were actually being mistakenly reported as saucers, would have been true.

The next day, the "eager beaver" had the decidedly uncomfortable experience of knowing that a top AAF general was having a press conference at the Pentagon about - his press release. Walter Haut may have spent the next 50 years trying to forget, or make hay, out of what started out as a harmless public relations stunt for the base.

Bob Young

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