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Update: NSA's Plan Backfires

From: Blair Cummins <ufoblair@hotmail.com>
Date: Thu, 10 Aug 2000 22:50:19 -0700 (PDT)
Fwd Date: Fri, 11 Aug 2000 21:18:06 -0400
Subject: UpDate: NSA's Plan Backfires

Greetings list -

Source: The Seattle Times

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/news/nation-world/html98/ufos10_20000810.html

Agency's plan backfires as Web site boosts UFO queries
by Laura Sullivan
The Baltimore Sun

Two years ago, the National Security Agency (NSA) began posting previously classified documents on its Web site to deflect the growing number of requests each year for information about flying saucers and space aliens. But the plan backfired.

Rather than relieving suspicions that the agency is hiding information about unidentified flying objects, the result has been more people than ever demanding to see UFO documents. A record 36,000 people perused the UFO page last month.

What has piqued UFO believers' interest is not so much what the documents on the Web site say - often little or nothing between the blacked-out, censored sections - but their extraordinary volume: thousands of pages of unofficial reports and antiquated radio interceptions from abroad.

Among the postings from the files of the nation's most-secret spy agency is a National Enquirer article with the headline, "Take UFOs Seriously or Be Prepared for Sneak Invasion By Space Aliens."

All of this is fueling speculation among believers who wonder why, for something that doesn't exist, the NSA has collected a ton of records. The NSA staff, burdened with hundreds of written requests under the Freedom of Information Act, is not amused.

The agency hasn't kept exact numbers about UFO requests. But Pamela Phillips, chief of FOIA/Privacy Act Services, said the increase in letters asking about UFOs has been "significant," forcing the office to hire several additional staff members.

Best regards,

- Blair Cummins
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