JUST CAUSE

Address:

CAUS
P.O.Box 218
Coventry, Ct. 06238

Rates: $15 US, $20 Foreign

Publisher: Lawrence Fawcett

Editor: Barry Greenwood

NUMBER 30

December 1991

DOCUMENT FAKERY

A key concern in the aftermath of the MJ-12 hoax was how it would affect legitimate document research on UFOs. Prior to MJ-12, inside information came in two forms. One was the release of genuine documents from any of many federal agencies holding such materials. The other involved stories of rumors related verbally by people whose credibility depended upon their ability to prove that they were indeed connected government sources. Their information as well had to be plausible, if not verifiable. A radar-tracking incident, for example, is more plausible than, say, the commander of an air base reporting his abduction and sexual assault by aliens. The degree of evidence required to have the later be more plausible is substantially greater than for the former.

Now that is not to say that federal agencies cannot release fake documents, or that outlandish-sounding rumors can't be real. Evidence is the moderating feature here. The fact is that prior to MJ-12, false government UFO documents were not a major concern. Papers released under the Freedom of Information Act were generally accepted as a reasonable description of government attention to UFOs. Hoaxed information was usually clumsy or said outrageous things and did not have a serious impact on the UFO controversy. Some documents released under FOIA have had considerable doubt cast upon them in the light of new information (see our concerns about the 1980 Kirtland AFB incidents in Just Cause, Sept. 1987).

As we had pointed out in CLEAR INTENT(now called THE UFO COVER UP), the government evidence for UFO reality was compelling, intriguing and suggestive, but, unfortunately, it was not proof. In documenting the story of the FOIA releases of UFO files, we had very subdued worries that unscrupulous people would turn this information against the subject, with the net result of padding the perpetrator's pockets with profit. A few years later, the MJ-12 documents appeared and great energy had to be expended to reveal the truth about them. They were good fakes,compared to past hoaxes. The flaws were there however.

After this, the realization came that the nature of government UFO document research had changed forever. It had been damaged by the unbridled support of so-called UFO experts for highly-questionable documents. It would no longer be easy to make a case for serious government interest in UFOs. If we do happen to come across a sensational piece of documentation, MJ-12 will always be brought forth as proof that supporters of UFO

reality are gullible believers who will embrace false information as genuine.

We had developed a policy in dealing with UFO documents (CAUS Bulletin, Dec. 1987), in that they must come from certifiable government sources, endorsed officially in writing. There is simply no way to accept a UFO document without a pedigree, especially a photocopy of one. Photocopies of government documents constitute a vast majority of such printed information. They are easy to concoct and manufacture. False text, for example, can be laid over a legitimate letter with letterhead and signature and be recopied with no one the wiser. They are not acceptable in court as evidence unless a genuine original assuredly exists. Extreme care must be taken when dealing with this sort of evidence on UFOs.

A good example of this appears as Figure One, allegedly a letter from a professor verifying studies on alien bodies at the University of Chicago. When a check was conducted, we found that the professor had never written the letter and had asked the university's legal department to call us in an attempt to seek out the hoaxer. Close examination of the body of the text had revealed lines just below the typed address and just above the signature, evidence that false text had been laid over a genuine signed letter by the professor. The hoax was not all that sophisticated in that the use of white-out would have eliminated the tell-tale lines of the false text. Still, a similar hoax produced today would certainly run wild through UFOlogy until, and only until, it was decisively squashed.

And, unfortunately again, there are continuing attempts to circulate questionable documents and stories of incredible UFO contacts.

THE AQUA BLUE SCRAMBLE (Figure Two) - This alleged government paper was printed in the November 8, 1990 edition of the Gulf Breeze Sentinel as part of the still-continuing controversy over the numerous UFO reports in northwest Florida. Sent to the paper by Vero Beach resident Edward Witkowski, it was said to have been "leaked" on February 28th of that year. The document was subsequently reprinted by several UFO periodicals without questions as to it's authenticity.

The paper is, if it had legs, a walking disaster. First and foremost, a leaked document without a cover letter or confirmed source is instantly suspect. Official documentation follows standard formats in style, structure; etc. On this paper, the security markings are misplaced too low and too off-centered, there are many silly spelling mistakes (Febuary, verticle, aquired, for example), the source of the text is not identified at the end of the report. And one would think that the author of an intelligence report would know how to spell "intellegance!"

The report ends by stating that the incident was classified "sensitive," even though there is no such security classification and the document is clearly stamped "Secret." Most notable is the use of an anomalous, non-governmental dating style in paragraph two, the same style used in the MJ-12 Eisenhower briefing, a feature which contributed to the downfall of MJ-12.

An obsession of the UFO community with such information as this has been that it is regarded as genuine until it is decisively proven to be fraudulent. Sometimes it is almost impossible to prove a source, particularly if the document has been anonymously mailed to a researcher or media representative. In that event, the paper should never be used as evidence of anything except for the virtues of cheap wallpaper until better evidence surfaces.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
1103 EAST 57TH STREET
CHICAGO · ILLINOIS 60637

May 5, 1979

Mr. W.Todd Zechel
Box 4743
Arlington, Va. 22204

Dear Mr. Zechel:

I do not know the source of your information but after having assigned several graduate students to spend considerable time researching the University archives, I find that you are correct in your information about some very strange humanoid bodies being examined here in 1948 and again in 1952.

The professors you named indeed did participate in the autopsies and studies but unfortunately, all three are deceased so we can obtain no further information from them. All results of the studies were apparently classified and removed from the university by government agents for whom the studies were performed.

The only people my graduate students could locate that were even remotely connected with the studies said that they only remembered talk of four-foot-tall sexless bodies thought to have been the product of Nazi cloning and genetic experiments and recovered from the ruins of German laboratories.

The enclosed list of names and addresses will give you all the leads we could develop in case you want to follow up on them

Frankly, as fascinating as this all seems, we just do not have the time to pursue it any further here, so, Good Luck!

Sincerely yours,

Leigh Van Valen
Professor

/sew

Another obsession currently in vogue is that if a document is a hoax, then the government must be behind it in an effort to seed dissention in the UFO community. Someone must be getting too close to the truth so a distraction is necessary, or so goes the thinking. Once again, this is a situation that must be proven. Certainly, there could be times when a government agency might wish to play games with UFO people for whatever purpose. It is doubtful that this happens as often as UFOlogists think. Given the current sad state of affairs with the credibility of UFOlogy, one wonders whether the government considers UFOlogists important at all! It is as plausible to think that in a situation where a hoaxed document is discovered, said situation may be salvaged by claiming that the government was behind it all along. Attention remains focused on a hoaxer as an innocent victim of government intrigue and an eager audience awaits further developments.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

SECRET

copy 1 of 2
h Febuary, 1990

copy 1 of 2
attch 1

C/C AFSC Intel. Div.

"AQUA BLUE" scramble incident.

Grumman Aerospace Corp.
Radar/Targeting
Telemetry/Tracking office

1)Request data review and interpretation of aquired information concerning unknown track.

2)At approx. 1540 hrs on 04 Febuary, 1990 an unknown aircraft entered military restricted airspace on range site 2-71A over gulf ACMI training area. Four F-15C aircraft assigned to the 33rd Tactical Fighter Wing were scrambled to intercept and identify object.

3)Unknown would not respond to transmitted requests for identification and no IFF/transponder frequencies were identified.

4)Pilot debriefing reviews concluded the following; the aircraft, once visually sighted, appeared to have no surface features, giving an unsure depth of field appearance. General shape and configuration suggested having a lifting body design. Aircraft would appear on sweep radar at intermitant intervals, suggesting some stealth capabilities. Pilots reported crafts flight profile was not within any known envelope. Aircraft displayed advanced maneuver capabilities, at times out turning and out accellerating chase aircraft. YEZ speed and thrust to weight suggested a high end ratio.

5)After 22 minutes of engagement and multiple attempts at intercept the craft entered the verticle and displayed constant accelleration in the verticle until out of sight. At no time were any aggressive maneuvers noted. AFSC confirmed that no testing was performed at this time in that area.

6)Latest intellegance reports add that no Eastern Bloc country nor known Soviet aircraft have the capabilities displayed by the unknown. At time of this dispatch incident is classified sensitive.

SECRET

End of report.

Figure Two

Faked documents have a quality all their own as well. They are generally of poor condition, having large faded or dirty patches about them. This actually works to the hoaxer's advantage. Obvious flaws in the hoax process can be masked by the poor reproduction. The more often the document is recopied and circulated to others, the more the flaws will be hidden. This was very true when we inserted Figure One into this issue; the lines of the false text have faded to near-invisibility.

The proliferation of false UFO documents has another serious side-effect. Suppose a "smoking gun" UFO document does exist and is in the hands of one who would be willing to come forward with the discovery. Realizing that a record has now been created by UFO hoaxers of "leaked" documents being held in great disregard, a potential whistleblower will be far less likely to make his/her information available to the public. That is unless the agency of ownership promptly endorses the leaked information, which we don't anticipate would happen. They would more likely not endorse the leak which would put the entire burden of proof on the whistleblower. It is not an advantageous scenario for the whistleblower.

As long as profitable attention is given to very questionable UFO documents, they will continue to appear and flourish, in spite of their eventual exposure as fakes. Some of them will be believed no matter what is said. Nothing can be done to prevent that. But concern and quick action by UFO researchers against the dissemination of false information can retrieve a semblance of dignity for UFOlogy.

(Figure Three illustrates an additional false document Can you tell?)

E M E R G E N C Y

CLASS-A PRIORITY

07 AUGUST 1959

BEP A098

Y 217009

FM SISG 77.7
TO SISKT/CINCCDF/CINCNALFLT
RBEGC/COMEASTAIRCORR
INFO RCDDM/ODFSE
RJEPSN/CO 35TH AIRDIV
RJEPSN/CG 14TH AIRDIV
RJEPSN/CG 117TH SQD
RJEPSN/CG/CO 93RD SBTSKFRC
RJEPSN/CO 11 SBATTGP
RBEPW/ DIR.4THCIAAIRINTELGP
RBEPW/ ASSDIR.NW.REGCIATSKFC
RCEPC/ 33GHQ/NATPAC
RFEXC/CANARJFAX
RCEHJC/CANAVRED
RECEHJC/CANCOMNEW
RJEXC/CNTRLD.C.DEFGRP

Y 1088701

FM COMD 133 TAC AIR DEF GP WRIGHT-PATTERSON FIELD
TO RJEDEN/COMDR AIR DEFENSE COMMANDENT AFB COLO SPGS COLO
RJEDWP/CINC/USFRCS/WASHD.C.
EYES ONLY: SEC CLRNCE: CLASSAAA/IA

REF; SPECIAL EMERGENCY GUIDE BOOK/CODE/
ISS: 17 JULY 1959/P.45
REF; 'PROCEDURES WHEN ENCOUNTERING ANIMATE CREATURES' SUB.SEC 6-
'HOSTILITIES' FOR TECH.DATA WHEN RESPONDING TO CURRENT SECURITY
ISSUE 8 JULY/'59:'INTRUDERS IN DUSGUISE' WITH CODIFIED RESPONSE
AS PER SPEC.EMER GD BK, SUB. SEC 3.34/P.08.
.....
CURRENT REPORTS FR. COMSUBLANT SHOW CRAFT CAPABILITY OF FLOATING
ON WATER 'OR ABOVE'. AND WHEN APPROACHED BY LANDING CRAFT FROM THE
USS TARPON TYPE CC.767 SEEMED CAPABLE OF DISRUPTING AIR PRESSURE IN
SURROUNDING AREA. ADDENDA TO SECISS 8 JULY 1959 TO BE APPENDED IN
FORM AS ATTACHED.
CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT FROM THE ENTERPRISE SIGHTED AND REPORTED OB-
JECTS FLOATING IN THE APPROX. VICINITY OF BOGIE FLOATING OFF TARPON'S
PORT BOW. OBJECT WAS BOGIE OCCUPANT, BUT NEITHER OCCUPANT NOR ANIMATE
WHEN RECOVERED. EX-OCCUPANT, ABOARD TARPON, REVIVED FOR BRIEF WHILE
AND STUDIED BY CREW AND OCEANOGRAPHERS FROM IGY ON BOARD. AFTER EX-
PIRATION, BODY TURNED OVER TO UNIT OF NW.REG.CIATSKFRC FOR FURTHER
EVALUATION. U R G E N T D I R E C T I V E : DUE TO INADVERTANT
CONTACT BETWEEN TARPON CREW AND BEARCAT CREW, RUMORS SPREAD OVER
CARRIER ENTERPRISE, AND THUS ACROSS FLEET. YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO
MAKE ALL EFFORTS TO PREVENT SUCH RUMORS FROM BEING DISCUSSED BY CMM.
OFFICERS, AND THEREBY, ENLISTED PERSONELL IN ANY FORM WHATSOEVER,

STATUS REPORT OF CURRENT AGENCY OPINIONS ON UFOS

It is 1991. Twenty-two years have passed since the Air Force closed Project Blue Book. Still, many government agencies receive recurring inquiries about UFOs. Since the heyday of document releases during the late 1970s and early 1980s, the pace of released papers has slowed dramatically , but the public stances of agencies about UFOs has remained the same.

We have shown conclusively that the standard responses being given to the public shortly after the end of official UFO interest tended to be very deceptive. Agencies possessed thousands of pages of UFO documentation apart from Project Blue Book, while, publicly, they were saying that Blue Book was the only source of UFO documents. Only through intense pressure by a small group of prople did this "lost" history finally become available via court cases and the Freedom of Information Act. The papers released were a fascinating, and often suggestive, look back at the official mismanagement of UFOs, but there weren't any "smoking guns" to prove UFO reality beyond a shadow of a doubt.

Documents do continue to be withheld, hundreds of pages of which we know for certain and perhaps many more of which we don't know. The courts allowed the National Security Agency, for example, to withhold 156 UFO-related documents, and none have seen the light of day for decades.

What are people being told now when they inquire about UFOs?

U.S. AIR FORCE - Fact sheets are supplied to inquirers explaining the conclusions of Project Blue Book, and that these documents, which they claim is their entire holding of UFO data, is stored at the National Archives. However, nothing is said of the documents obtained after 1970 under the FOIA, including the 1975 overflights of U.S./Canadian military bases by unknowns, the 1700-page Air Force Intelligence UFO file obtained in the 1980s, and numerous other releases. So, despite many highly-publicized releases after the Blue Book file was let go, the public is still being told that the pre-1970 documents are all there is of their official look at UFOs.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY - Inquirers are advised that the CIA's official interest in UFOs ended during the 1950s, and that while sporadic correspondence still occurs and some reports are received, the only available UFO papers from the CIA are those released as a result of the 1979 GSW vs CIA lawsuit. That release entailed nearly 900 pages of files, few of which were very dramatic, and none of which bore any type of "Top Secret" classification. One may buy these papers from the CIA for 77 dollars at current rates. There have been recent releases of Foreign Broadcast Information Service transcripts by the CIA of UFO-related information but none of this is mentioned in current CIA answers to public questions. CIA was allowed to withhold 57 documents in the 1979 lawsuit, with some 200+ documents referenced in the existing papers which they won't acknowledge as still surviving.

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY - Here it is pretty clear cut. The NSA acknowledges 156 UFO documents which it won't release. Any request for searches of UFO material under the FOIA usually met with a request for a 250 dollar payment, after which not a single document need be released, even if any are located. And if an individual does pay the fee and a thorough search is conducted without release,

though other requests may be received a day, o two, or a week later, they too will be charged the $250 fee rather than be given the results of the first search. Only a very small number of UFO papers are available from the NSA.

NORAD - They will not honor FOIA requests for UFO data, having declared itself exempt by way of it being an "international agency" (Their operations are a cooperative with Canada). They would be a likely source for tracking information on unknowns overflying the U.S., but obviously are immune to public or legal pressure on this issue.

NASA - They have released a few UFO-related documents, primarily an attempt by President Jimmy Carter to have NASA reopen UFO investigations in 1977. NASA refused and nothing more was said about it. Yet, a curious letter was sent to UFO researcher George Fawcett in 1990, by Brian Dunbar, a public affairs officer for NASA's Office of Space Science and Applications:

> "There is a long history, starting in the 1940s, of sightings of what came to be called UFOs. The U.S. Air Force and then NASA investigated the sightings and concluded that in most cases the evidence had been faked. In a very few instances there were interesting events, but upon examination the evidence pointed to a terrestrial explanation."

That NASA claims they had investigated sightings is news in that their only public involvement was supposed to have been at the request of President Carter. NASA's policy is that while they would not ignore legitimate physical evidence of UFOs, none has ever been presented to them to date.

A few isolated instances of NASA studying UFO incidents are known. Two involved the filming of unknown objects by X-15 pilots Robert White and Joseph Walker in 1962. The sightings were regarded as wayward ice flakes by NASA. Strangely,recent inquiries to NASA about these incidents have been met with a case of amnesia, though both incidents have been substantially documented. (CAUS files, NASA 1962)

A recent side issue in the NASA/UFO involvement question has been a claim by UFO investigator Robert Oeschler that NASA was to have become involved in an exhibit with the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey International. The idea was to promote UFOs and the possibilities of extraterrestrial life. A major feature of the exhibit was to have been an alien corpse, laying in state in a cryogenic chamber along with other exhibits promoting UFO reality. This information was supposed to have been gleaned from a variety of gov-insiders with whom Oeschler was in contact. As outlandish as the story sounded, it was presented quite seriously and in detail by Timothy Good in his book ALIEN LIAISON (Century, 1991).

In response to this, researcher Dr. Armen Victorian issued the result of his own investigation into the Oeschler tale. Titled "A Review of Alien Liaison: Timothy Good", Victorian launches a devastating assault on Oeschler's claims, documented with letters from some of the principal characters in the original story. Too lengthy to reproduce here, CAUS will make the Victorian paper available for $3 to cover our reproduction and mailing costs.

Contact: CAUS, Box 176, Stoneham, Mass. 02180.

This then is the current state of affairs on the government's public UFO stance, encouraging as it isn't to the UFO faithful. We don't expect any major changes unless important UFO news coverage warrants it. Patience is the word here.

UFO CRASH AT ROSWELL

It is probably no surprise to readers of this bulletin that we have a very tough attitude towards claims of crashed UFOs and alien bodies. As compelling as the stories sound, there is no chance that we will choose to believe any particular story without some sort of physical artifact or body, or at least indisputable official documentation of same. The reason for this is that no matter how many people tell confirmatory stories, piled one upon the other sky high, it all remains circumstantial evidence. Surely, such information can not be ignored. It may lead to proof, then again it may not. Crashed disc tales remain puzzles lacking many pieces, those missing pieces being the most crucial towards completing the picture.

The "Roswell Incident", as it has become known, is by far the most debated, berated, praised, razed, believed and disbelieved UFO crash story of all time. It was never given much regard until the 1970s, when Major Jesse Marcel, former Roswell Army Air Field intelligence officer, told a remarkable tale to UFO researchers. He had found a site littered with the wreckage of an unknown flying object after a crash had been reported by eyewitnesses. Marcel actually handled the pieces and had watched a cloak of secrecy descend upon the whole situation with the rapidity of an arctic blizzard. It is difficult to easily dismiss a report like this out of hand as we are not dealing with unconnected outsiders. Persons like Marcel and other credible witnesses were involved in the military infrastructure of the incident. If a UFO had actually crashed in the area, these individuals certainly would have been involved.

There are some indisputable facts in Roswell. Something did crash and was recovered, verified by extensive press coverage of the day. The government did change their story about the nature of the object. Very little government documentation is available for researchers to examine the government's position in detail.

UFO researchers Don Schmitt and Kevin Randle faced a daunting task when they decided to tackle Roswell. Hundreds of witnesses had to be located and interviewed, a paper trail had to be found documenting the government's actions in the affair. And they had to put it all together in coherent form so that even dispassionate outsiders could follow what had happened. The resulting book UFO CRASH AT ROSWELL is one of the more fascinating ones of recent years. No kooky UFO book by any stretch of the imagination, one can only admire the great effort put into the investigation by two highly-motivated and experienced UFO investigators like Schmitt and Randle. It is something that very few people can devote the time and money to, given that UFO research is not a profession that pays an hourly wage and puts food on one's table.

They have made an interesting circumstantial case for the Roswell crash being a mystery. It is difficult to reconcile the then Army Air Force's official explanation, a balloon-borne radar target device, with the litany of witnesses'statements that the answer was not that simple.

What to this writer is most puzzling from the point of view of CAUS is the lack of documentation of the Roswell incident, meaning not the Schmitt/Randle investigation but the government's own investigation. If you grant that the explanation for the crash is a spaceship, it is clear why the documentation is unavailable, it's classified. Yet, if one grants that the explanation is not a spaceship but something more mundane, it is bothersome that only a few official sheets of paper exist referring to the incident at all. For such a high-profile story as this there should have been much more of a case file in Project Blue Book, especially since very explainable reports involving balloons are often given large entries.

(We will examine more pros, and cons, of Roswell in our next issue.)