

JUST

CAUSE



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NEW SERIES

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SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

The past year has been a good one for CAUS, due mainly to the support of our subscribers. Without you, much of the news reported in this newsletter would not have been possible to obtain.

Please continue to support our efforts. Charter subscribers are reminded that subscriptions are now due for the next year's issues. All funds go into either printing and mailing JUST CAUSE and financing document requests.

FLASH FLASH FLASH HUGE FILE RELEASE BY AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE

In an unexpected move, the Air force has cleared the release of 1720 pages of UFO files. The material, which has been stored at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. partially documents the involvement of Air Force Intelligence in the UFO phenomenon between the years 1948 and 1953. An interesting fact is that the Intelligence files were stored under the same records group heading (RG341) as the Project Blue Book files; yet, these UFO-related files were never listed with the Blue Book data.

CAUS researcher Robert Todd spent many months pushing for release of the files, often with great diff-

iculty. However, persistence prevailed and the Air Force allowed access to the never-before-seen documents. We must thank Bob Todd once again for his remarkable ability to get into tight spaces and shed light on these matters.

A few selected extracts follow:

- MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD-
dated 18 Feb. 1949. Class-
ified: SECRET. (portion)

"Of some 210 incidents, approximately twenty per cent have been explained. The majority of these involved misidentification of synoptic weather balloons. Others involved observations of airborne cosmic ray research equipment, bolides, meteors, and in one instance, the daylight observation of the planet Venus. Only two reported incidents were determined to have been hoax.

To date there has been no tangible evidence which would support a theory that any incidents are attributable to activity of a foreign nation. On the other hand, there is no evidence to categorically deny such a possibility, particularly since some incidents which occurred overseas could have involved foreign aircraft. The possibility of foreign devices becomes more remote in the case of domestic incidents, and would represent which defy many well-defined limits in aeronautical science.

However, there are many incidents reported by reliable and competent observers which are still unexplained."

(Discussion: We see a very early admission here by A.F. Intelligence that invoking the now-old theory of "secret weapons" as an explanation for the UFO phenomenon was just not going to work.

A current theory, called the "Federal Hypothesis" by its chief proponent William Spaulding, still clings to the idea that the government is responsible for the UFO activity that we see today. CAUS sees no clear evidence of this, except for perhaps a few isolated instances in which the sighting characteristics indicate a technology gone awry rather than the activity of an advanced civilization from elsewhere. [Cash/Landrum for example?]

CAUS prefers to base its speculations upon government information which is known to be well-documented. Until we see evidence that the government is producing a highly-advanced aircraft which can duplicate UFO appearance and movement, the secret weapon theory or the "Federal Hypothesis" just does not hold up under scrutiny.)

- Letter from A.F. Intelligence to a private citizen dated 23 Apr. 1952. (portion)

"An evaluation of the World War II "Foo Fighter" reports was made at the end of the war. Because of the lack of adequate data, this evaluation was necessarily very general in nature. Essentially, it was concluded that these reports were the result of misidentification of conventional objects and did not represent any unusual phenomena."

(Discussion: This was news to us! An analysis of "Foo Fighters" was performed by the government, even though nothing was ever mentioned of this in previous releases to our knowledge.

We did try at one time to obtain access to WW2 histories and bombing mission reports which dated around the time of most of the Foo Fighters [which were very active between November 1944 and March 1945]. Requests were filed with the National Archives and history detachments of both the Army and the Air Force. Nothing could be located even though we listed a variety of names under which Foo Fighters were known. But, as always, we are forced to prove that certain files exist, using "lucky" releases such as the above letter extract, to gain access to further data. There are currently about 40 to 50 reports of this type from the WW2 era, as gleaned from books, periodicals and eyewitnesses. A release of documentation from government files detailing some of these reports would be an interesting historical find.)

- AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT dated 20 Dec. 1948
(Prolog: This is a 6 page study of 4 UFO cases which occurred on July 24, 1948 [two] and July 26, 1948 [two]. These all involved objects which were cigar-shaped and which were witnessed by reliable persons. Incident 1, as designated in the report, attracted the most comment by the analysts and is known to UFO researchers as the Chiles/Whitted case. The following comments revolve primarily around this case.)

" 1) The only incident which possesses absolute intelligence significance is Incident 1. It is obvious that this object was not a meteor. There has been no evidence to support any findings of unreliability, nor have there been any major inaccuracies on the part of the witnesses.

2) Weather reports establish areas of visibility as stated in the observers' reports.

3) Available information from Ordnance, Army, Navy and AF Weather Bureaus, Research Organizations and other, failed to reveal any evidence of testing devices

to which this incident could be attributed."

(The report at this point discusses the feasibility of a torpedo-shaped or cigar-shaped craft as a flying machine and enters this discussion in some detail. Acknowledging that the technical deductions were not intended to ascribe an origin or particular engineering or propulsion system to the UFOs in the report, it did state that "If this type of unidentified aerial object has extremely long range it is probable that the method of propulsion is one which is far in advance of presently known engines.")

The report concludes:

" 1) The flying anomaly observed, remains unidentified as to origin, construction and power source.

2) A definite trend of flight headings has evolved as generally south in bearing.

3) Supporting evidence from separate reliable sources establish existence of this configuration.

4) An aircraft of the configuration described could support itself in flight by aerodynamic means."

● TRANSCRIPT titled "The Cupless Saucer" dated July 26, 1952

(Prolog: This is a transcript of actual transmissions between Washington National Airport and Andrews AFB during the great UFO wave over Washington, D.C. in 1952. We thought this would be of interest to UFOlogists old and new. The transcript commences at 2130 EDT.)

WA: Andrews Tower, do you read? Did you have an airplane in sight WNW or East of your airport eastbound?

AN: No, but we just got a call from the Center. We're looking for it.

WA: We've got a big target showing up on our scope. He's just coming in on the west edge of your airport - the NW edge of it eastbound.

He'll be passing right through the northern portion of you field on an East heading. He's about a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from the NW runway - right over the edge of your NW runway now.

AN: What happened to your target now?

WA: He's still eastbound. He went dir-

ectly over Andrews Field and is now five miles East.

AN: Where did he come from?

WA: We picked him up ourselves at about seven miles East, slightly SE, and we have been tracking him ever since then. The Center has been tracking him farther than that.

AN: Was he waving his course?

WA: Holding steady course, due East heading.

AN: This is Andrews. Our radar tracking says he's got a big fat target out here NE of Andrews. He says he's got two more South of the field.

WA: Yes, well the Center has about four or five around the Andrews Range Station.

The Center is working a National Airlines - the Center is working him and vectoring him around his target. He went around Andrews. He saw one of them - looks like a meteor. (garbled).. Went by him.. or something. He said he's got one about three miles off his right wing now.

There are so many targets around here it is hard to tell as they are not moving very fast.

AN: What about his altitude?

WA: Well, must be over 8,000 feet as we don't have him in radar anymore.

END

WORLD WAR TWO UFO ---AN UPDATE

Additional information has surfaced regarding the UFO sighting by Donald Pratt aboard the Battleship USS New York in mid-March 1945.

A search of our clipping files has turned up a report in the Philadelphia INQUIRER dated Apr. 10, 1966, which confirms basic details of the sighting. The report was carried by UPI but, unfortunately, the origin of this story was not given. Subscriber Doug Labat also forwarded a clipping of the same story from the Baton Rouge, La. SUNDAY ADVOCATE. It is likely that another witness gave the story to the press during the UFO wave of April 1966.

The UFO was described in the account as being round, silver-colored

and seemed about the size of a two-story house. The Baton Rouge paper provided this additional comment about the ship's navigator:

"His brow knitted. He hurried to his room, made some quick calculations and came back to report to the commander.

"Sir," he said. "If it were possible to see Venus at this time of the day, you would see it at exactly the same position of the silver balloon."

The commander gasped. He signaled his destroyer escort to have their navigators confirm to him the position of the planet Venus.

The answers all came back the same.

And so, in the archives of the Navy, the battleship New York is recorded as having fired the first shot in any future space war.

The battleship New York had been firing at the planet Venus."

We should pause to reflect on this. While a very careful observer might locate Venus in broad daylight at greatest brilliancy (which happened to be March 10 1945), we find it difficult to accept that Venus would present any appreciable size in daylight, no less a two-story house. Also, the clippings, as well as our witness Mr. Pratt, say that the object was confirmed on radar, a neat trick if it were Venus. Pratt's time of the sighting (1300 local) would not have Venus placed "directly overhead" (per witness and newsclips) but it would be some 20 degrees East of the meridian. This is dependent, of course, on the witness's time being accurate.

The explanation for the object is, so to say, still up in the air!

APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA
CRASH/RETRIEVAL -- AN
UPDATE

Checks into the Apple Valley UFO (JUST CAUSE, March 85, pg.4)

have, to date, proven fruitless. Several former teachers and the school principal have been interviewed and none have verified the story. We must regard the incident as inconclusive until supporting evidence comes forth.

STATE DEPARTMENT AND FBI
DOCUMENTS RELEASED

CAUS supporter Mike Charest has again obtained several new "old" documents from the State Department. One is a State Dept. AIRGRAM dated Dec. 23, 1966 and says in part:

"Over the weekend of Dec. 10, the Luanda press reported the possible sighting of two "flying saucers" by the passengers and crew of a TAP flight from Beira, Mozambique to Luanda on Dec. 7. The press accounts related that a passenger, noticing what seemed to be objects "scouting" the plane when it was about 20 minutes from Luanda, informed the plane's Captain, Commandant Maia De Louriero, who looked for himself, and then reported the sighting to the Luanda Control Tower. The tower, according to Maia's statement to newsmen upon landing, informed him that there was no traffic in the area at the time. After the initial sighting, the plane's occupants reportedly continued to watch the objects until the aircraft was about 1 minute from touchdown in Luanda; at that point they (the objects) vanished."

Charest has also filed and obtained release of 83 pages of documents from the FBI's Los Angeles field office on Jan. 3, 1985. The FBI's letter to Mike states that an additional 98 pages have been withheld to protect the privacy of contacts. The material dates largely between 1948 and 1952 and consists of clippings and FBI Complaint Forms reporting a variety of UFO sightings in Southern California.

LOOK FOR A POSSIBLE TV MOVIE ABOUT THE RENDLESHAM FOREST INCIDENT SOON!