

JUST



CAUSE

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EDITORIAL

As of this writing the Ethics in Government Act is still in effect, preventing smooth operation of this newsletter. Non-governmental help has been enlisted to continue Just Cause until the law is changed. Exchange publications are advised that Just Cause is still active and on schedule and to continue existing arrangements.

In the meantime, two interesting contributions appear in this issue. One consists of a three-page document release from the Defense Intelligence Agency relating to the now-famous Belgian UFO wave, followed by a two-page release from the Air Force on an aerial sighting involving airliners near Belgium in January 1987. Both are courtesy of Robert Todd.

And an analysis of the MJ-12 "Truman document" signature by Dr. Willy Smith adds further evidence to the idea that the document is a photocopy forgery.

NEW DATA ON THE BELGIAN UFO WAVE

PAGE:0014

INQUIRE=DOC10D
ITEM NO=00503294
ENVELOPE
CDSN = LGX492 MCN = 90089/26566 TOR = 900891502
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS5049 0891251-CCCC--RUEALGX.
ZNY CCCCC
HEADER
R 301251Z MAR 90
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC
RUEDADA/AFIS AMHS BOLLING AFB DC
RUFTAKA/CDR USAINTELCTRE HEIDELBERG GE
RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE
RUETIAQ/MPCFTGEORGEADMD

(CAUS Note: This message is part two of a two-part transmission. The first part reprints a news story, while the second is more important in that it deals with the Belgian government's reaction to the wave. Anyone interested in the entire message may request a complete copy.)

RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
RUEALGX/SAFE
R 301246Z MAR 90
FM [REDACTED]
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
INFO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DAT-7//
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ2-OC/ECJ2-JIC//
RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE
RHFQAAA/HQUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW/INO//
RHFPA AAA/UT AIS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INRMH/INA//
RHDLCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
RUFHNA/USDELMC BRUSSELS BE
RUFHNA/USMISSION USNATO
RUDOGHA/USNMR SHAPE BE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUFGAID/JICEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUCBSAA/FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC
RUFHBG/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
RUEATAC/CDRUSAITAC WASHDC
BT
CONTROLS

[REDACTED] SECTION 02 OF 02 [REDACTED] 05049

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 807 0136 90.

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) BELGIUM (BE).

SUBJ: IIR 6 807 0136 90/BELGIUM AND THE UFO ISSUE (U)

MAR TV SHOW.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PAGE:0015

6. (U) DEBROUWER NOTED THE LARGE NUMBER OF REPORTED SIGHTINGS, PARTICULARLY IN NOV 89 IN THE LIEGE AREA AND THAT THE BAF AND MOD ARE TAKING THE ISSUE SERIOUSLY. BAF EXPERTS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO EXPLAIN THE PHENOMENA EITHER.

7. (U) DEBROUWER SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED THE POSSIBILITY OF THE OBJECTS BEING USAF B-2 OR F-117 STEALTH AIRCRAFT WHICH WOULD NOT APPEAR ON BELGIAN RADAR, BUT MIGHT BE SIGHTED VISUALLY IF THEY WERE OPERATING AT LOW ALTITUDE IN THE ARDENNES AREA. HE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT NO USAF OVERFLIGHT REQUESTS HAD EVER BEEN RECEIVED FOR THIS TYPE MISSION AND THAT THE ALLEDGED OBSERVATIONS DID NOT CORRESPOND IN ANY WAY TO THE OBSERVABLE CHARACTERISTICS OF EITHER U.S. AIRCRAFT.

8. (U) MR BRENIG HAS SINCE ASSURED THE COMMUNITY THAT HE IS PERSONALLY ORGANIZING A NEW UFO OBSERVATION CAMPAIGN AND SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS THE HELP OF THE BELGIAN MOD.

9. [REDACTED] RELATED A SIMILAR UFO SIGHTING WHICH APPARENTLY HAPPENED TO A BELGIAN AIR FORCE OFFICER IN THE SAME AREA NEAR LIEGE DURING NOVEMBER 89. THE OFFICER AND HIS WIFE WERE ALLEGEDLY BLINDED BY A HUGE BRIGHT FLYING OBJECT AS THEY WERE DRIVING ON THE AUTOROUTE. THEY STOPPED THEIR CAR, BUT WERE SO FRIGHTENED THEY ABANDONED THE VEHICLE AND RAN INTO THE WOODS. THEY COULD NOT PROVIDE A DETAILED DESCRIPTION BUT WHATEVER IT WAS DEFINITELY APPEARED REAL TO THEM. [REDACTED] UNDERLINED THEIR CREDIBILITY AS SOLID.

COMMENTS: 1. [REDACTED] COMMENT. HE COULD PROVIDE VERY LITTLE CONCRETE INFORMATION EXCEPT TO VERIFY THE LARGE VOLUME OF SIGHTINGS AND THE SIMILARITY OF SOME DURING NOV 89. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] THE BAF HAS RULED SOME SIGHTINGS WERE CAUSED BY INVERSION LAYERS, LAZER BEAMS AND OTHER FORMS OF HIGH INTENSITY LIGHTING HITTING CLOUDS. BUT A REMARKABLE NUMBER OCCURRED ON CLEAR NIGHTS WITH NO OTHER EXPLAINABLE ACTIVITY NEARBY.

3. [REDACTED] THE BAF IS CONCERNED TO A POINT ABOUT THE UFO ISSUE AND IS TAKING ACTION TO INVESTIGATE INFORMATION THEY HAVE. [REDACTED] DOES ADMIT, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT RESOLVING THE PROBLEM.

4. [REDACTED] FIELD COMMENT. THE USAF DID CONFIRM TO THE BAF AND BELGIAN MOD THAT NO USAF STEALTH AIRCRAFT WERE OPERATING IN THE ARDENNES AREA DURING THE PERIODS IN

QUESTION. THIS WAS RELEASED TO THE BELGIAN PRESS AND RECEIVED WIDE DISSEMINATION.

PAGE:0016

[REDACTED]
ADMIN

PROJ: (U)

INSTR: (U) US NO.

PREP: [REDACTED]

ACQ: [REDACTED]

DISSEM: (U) FIELD: AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS (DCM).

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED -- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

BT

#5049

NNNN

ZNY

R 232050Z FEB 87
 FM JCS WASHINGTON DC
 INFO RUEALGX/SAFE
 R 231924Z FEB 87

FM

TO RUEKJCS/

INFO

RUEOAWA.

BT

CONTROLS

QQQQ

BODY

SUBJECT: UFO SIGHTING/FOLLOW-UP DATA

REF: _____ MSG 221838Z JAN 87, SUBJ: UFO SIGHTING

1. _____ THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS PROVIDED REF ABOVE SIGHTING: "AT 171845Z JAN 87 _____ DEPARTED ENROUTE TO _____ THEY WERE ALL PHYSICALLY WELL-RESTED AND FEELING VERY ALERT. AS THEY APPROACHED BELGIUM AT AN ALTITUDE OF 20,000 FEET ON A COURSE OF 310 DEGREES THEY WERE ASKED BY MAASTRICHT CONTROL IF THEY COULD CONFIRM A SIGHTING BY SCANDINAVIAN FLIGHT 575. IT SEEMS THAT FLIGHT 575 HAD REPORTED A LARGE ORANGE BALL OF LIGHT ACCOMPANIED BY A SMALLER PAGE 2 RUWSAAA1088 : PURPLE LIGHT TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS EARLIER. THIS SAME FLIGHT 575 WAS NOW OUTBOUND FROM PARIS AT 31,000 FEET AND REPORTING A REPEAT OF THE EARLIER SIGHTING. _____ WAS IN THE RIGHT SEAT, _____ WAS STANDING BEHIND HIM, AND _____ WAS IN THE LEFT SEAT. AT 1915Z THEY LOOKED OUT AND CONFIRMED THEY WERE OBSERVING A BRIGHT ORANGE, SLIGHTLY FLATTENED CIRCULAR LIGHT AT THEIR ONE O'CLOCK POSITION. THEY OBSERVED THAT THE LIGHT WAS PULSING AT IRREGULAR INTERVALS AND SEEMED TO BE VARYING FROM THREE TO EIGHT NAUTICAL MILES IN SIZE. IT SEEMED TO BE LOCATED SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN THE EXISTING CLOUD DECK WHICH WAS A BROKEN CLOUD LAYER AT APPROXIMATELY 5,000 FEET. IT WAS VERY INTENSE IN THE CENTER WITH DIFFUSION AROUND THE EDGES. _____ WHO IS AN ASTRONAUTICAL MAJOR WITH EXPERIENCE OBSERVING ROCKET LAUNCHES, NOTED THAT IT WAS NOT SIMILAR TO ANYTHING HE HAD EVER SEEN. AS THEY APPROACHED THE THREE O'CLOCK POSITION THEY CAME UPON A BROKEN AREA OF CLOUDS. AT THIS TIME (APPROXIMATELY 1940Z) _____ NOTED THAT IN ADDITION TO THE LARGE ORANGE LIGHT THEY COULD ALSO SEE A SMALLER UPRIGHT CYLINDER OF VERY INTENSE ORANGE LIGHT NEARER TO THE GROUND (_____ COULD NOT SEE IT FROM HIS POSITION). _____ NOTED IT WAS SIMILAR TO THE "LIGHT SABER" SPECIAL EFFECTS FROM "STAR WARS"

PAGE 3 RUWSAAA1088

EXCEPT THAT IT WAS ORANGE. _____ SAID IT LOOKED LIKE THE INTENSE FLAME HE HAD SEEN ASSOCIATED WITH OIL DERRICKS IN SOUTH TEXAS. BOTH AGREED THAT THIS SMALLER ORANGE LIGHT WAS VERY INTENSE AND SEEMED TO BE LOCATED NEAR TO THE GROUND. ALL THREE _____ WERE STILL OBSERVING THE LARGE ORANGE LIGHT SLIGHTLY BELOW THE CLOUD LAYER. AT 1945Z THY PASSED THE THREE O'CLOCK POSITION AND LOST SIGHT OF BOTH LIGHTS. THE TOTAL DURATION OF THEIR OBSERVATION WAS ONE-HALF HOUR. WHEN ASKED IF THEY FELT THE SMALLER ORANGE LIGHT WAS THE SOURCE OF THE LARGE ORANGE LIGHT, _____ SAID "NO, THE LARGE LIGHT WAS TOO BIG", _____ FELT IT WAS POSSIBLY THE SAME SOURCE BUT DID HAVE MISGIVING DUE TO THE SIZE DIF- FERENTIAL."

A CRITICAL COMMENTARY

Abstract

This critique addresses only the POSTSCRIPTUM that appears under the by-line of Dr. Bruce Maccabee in a recent analytical report released by Moore et al. (Ref. 1, p. 72), and does not imply any intent to evaluate the report as a whole.

Dr. Maccabee's contribution is no more than another example of his recently acquired propensity to fall for the Cartesian fallacy, i.e., confusing a clear argument with a correct argument. The reasoning is based on faulty premises, and the conclusion that "the data do not support the claim that the signatures are identical" is unwarranted. On the contrary, a more careful analysis seems to indicate that -- to use Osborn's terminology-- the signatures are suspiciously similar.

Discussion

The issue at hand is whether or not two Truman signatures have a common ancestry. The two specimens are: (a) the signature appearing on the so-called Truman Memorandum, one of the crucial MJ-12 documents dated September 24, 1947 [Illustration "G" in Ref. 1]; and (b) the signature on a short letter from President Truman to Dr. Bush, dated October 1, 1947, known to be genuine [Illustration "H" in Ref. 1].

The problem is not as simple as it seems, as we do not have originals but copies several generations removed, obtained by using both copiers and photographic methods. As Dr. Maccabee points out, copying devices sometimes have slightly different horizontal and vertical magnifications, resulting in distortions of the copies. Thus, a straight line in the original could appear shortened or stretched in the copy.

However, horizontal lines will not be affected by the vertical distortion, and likewise, vertical lines will not be affected by the horizontal distortion. On the contrary, slanted lines will be affected both ways, depending on the angle with respect to the horizontal. In principle, each specimen has different and unknown vertical and horizontal magnifications and to take ratios of corresponding measurements in both specimens is meaningless, as the scale factors do not cancel. Here is where Dr. Maccabee went astray. As shown in Ref. 1, p. 72, he took the ratios of 8 pairs of corresponding segments in both specimens, which of course leads to a variety of dissimilar results. In addition, the pairs of values referred to as "predominantly vertical" (d and g in Fig. 1) are far from being so. This figure is a generic representation of both specimens, in which the different lengths of interest have been marked "a", "b", "c", etc. The numerical values measured for each specimen are listed on page 55 of Ref.1.

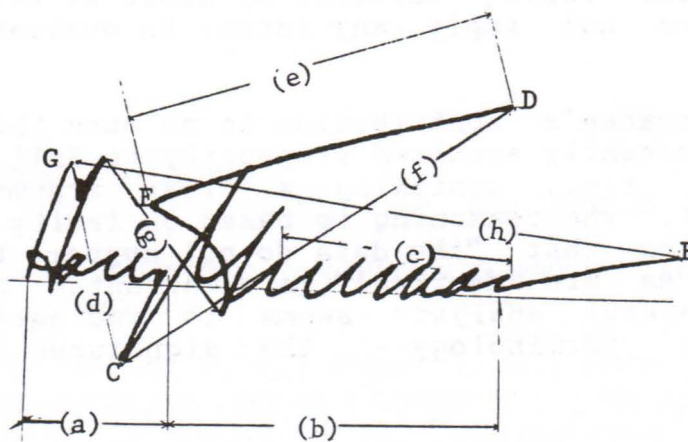


FIG. 1

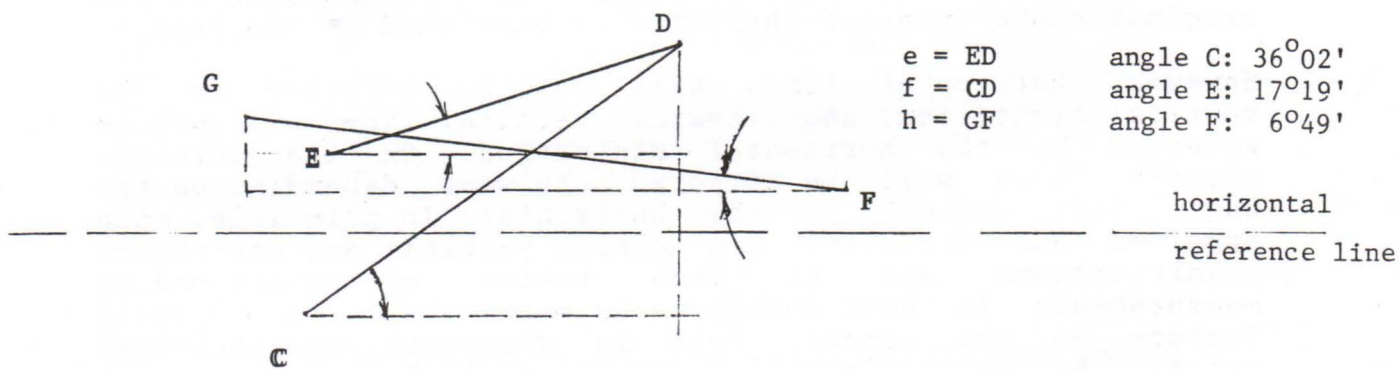


FIG. 2

To simplify the discussion, let A be the possible common ancestor of G and H. If we now consider two horizontal measurements in specimen G and determine their ratio, the scale factor is the same and will cancel, giving us the ratio of similar segments in A. Notice that this is a true invariant, remaining the same regardless of the number of copying operations. Likewise, if we repeat the procedure with the measurements from H, the (different) scale factor cancels and the ratio should be once again equal to the ratio of those two segments in the original. If both results are the same, A is the common ancestor of both G and H.

The first step is to determine the horizontal in the specimens, which can be easily done by referring to the typewritten text. Using the reproduction on page 107 of Ref. 1, and illustration H on page 55 (in which "Sincerely yours " is typed), we find that the horizontal passes through the bottom left point of the H in "Harry" and the bottom of the "a" in Truman. This is true for both specimens.

It is obvious then that "a" , "b" and "c" are not exactly horizontal, and moreover, the end points of those segments are not clearly defined in the reproductions on page 55 of Ref. 1, no doubt due to the distortions of the duplicating process. To minimize errors, the best thing is to use the longer available segments, namely "e", "f" and "h", which also happen to have very well defined ends in the drawings, allowing a rather accurate determination of the slopes involved. The details are shown in Fig. 2, and using the measurements for both specimens the following table was constructed, in which we have conserved the digits to the third decimal place.

| Specimen | Segment | Length, mm Ref.1, p.55 | Horizontal component | Vertical component |
|----------|---------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| G | e(= ED) | 48.8 | 46.587 | 14.525 |
| | f(= CD) | 61.1 | 49.411 | 35.945 |
| | h(= GF) | 79.9 | 79.295 | 9.483 |
| H | e(= ED) | 47.5 | 45.347 | 14.138 |
| | f(= CD) | 59.5 | 48.118 | 35.003 |
| | h(= GF) | 77.1 | 76.516 | 9.151 |

Next, we find the ratios of all possible pairs of horizontal and vertical segments, for both G and H separately. Since the original measurements have only 3 significant digits, we round off the results to the same number of digits.

| Ratios | Horizontal | | Vertical | |
|--------|------------|------|----------|------|
| | G | H | G | H |
| e/f | .943 | .942 | .404 | .404 |
| e/h | .588 | .593 | 1.53 | 1.54 |
| f/h | .623 | .629 | 3.79 | 3.82 |

The numerical results speak for themselves: the two specimens derive from a common ancestor.

Conclusion

As shown in the above table, the ratios of any two vertical or horizontal segments are essentially the same for both specimens, thus indicating a common ancestry. Since specimen H is known to be authentic, i.e. a direct copy of a verified original, it follows that specimen G is also a copy of the same original.

In addition, comparison by superposition of both specimens on a light table, verifies that the two signatures are similar, but not identical. This is to be expected, if we consider the above results as valid and specimen G was obtained from H by tracing or more sophisticated methods. The thicker lines of specimen G, which are apparent in the reproductions, help to mask tracing irregularities and/or defects. Moore et al. devote some space (Ref. 1, p. 57) to discuss discrepancies existing between the two specimens, but all of them could be ascribed to the procedure used to lift the signature from the original document. The differences are, at any rate, minor and do not invalidate the argument presented in this paper which is based on the published numerical values of the measurements. Admittedly, the analysis could be refined if better drawings of the specimens with more precise definition of the end points of the segments were to become available.

Dr. Willy Smith
UNICAT Project
Jan. 1, 1991

REFERENCES

1. Moore, W. L. and Shandera, J. H.; THE MJ-12 DOCUMENTS, AN ANALYTICAL REPORT; The Fair Witness Project, 1990.
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