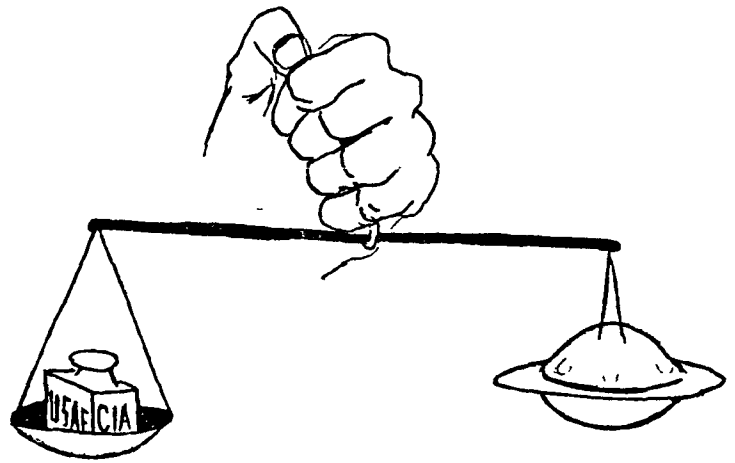


# JUST CAUSE



APRIL 1978

VOL. 1, NO. 1

The official newsletter of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS)

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CAUS Picking Up Where GSW and NICAP Left Off - Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., started the ball rolling last September with a precedent-setting suit against the CIA. GSW's action was the first in over ten years in which a civilian UFOlogical organization focused its efforts on the government cover-up. NICAP, under the guidance of Major Keyhoe and Dick Hall, lobbied extensively--and successfully--to end UFO secrecy during the mid-1960s. Unfortunately, NICAP did not have the one tool available which GSW is now using to hammer away at government suppression: the amended (1974) Freedom of Information Act.

While the FOIA is not quite the panacea many people pictured it as, it does offer the unique opportunity for citizens to obtain heretofore unavailable government documents. Moreover, provisions of the Act allow for redress in U.S. District Courts should the government deny access to particular documents. This is called in camera inspection, and it calls

for Federal judges to view the documents, hear opposing arguments and decide whether the government has a legal right to withhold requested material.

The normal course of action leading to the filing of a suit under the FOIA is as follows: (1) Initial request for information from an individual or organization to a government agency; (2) initial denial of access to the document or portions of documents claiming exemptions from the Act by the agency; (3) appeal by the requester to the agency's internal FOIA review board, asking that exemptions not be allowed; (4) final denial of access to the documents or portions thereof by the agency's review board; and (5) requestor files suit in U.S. District Court asking for the release of the documents (Complaint For Declaratory Injunctive Relief).

Suits under the FOIA can be expensive. Typically, legal fees and expenses for the plaintiff run in the neighborhood of \$5,000 to \$10,000. However, the FOIA provides for plaintiffs to have their legal expenses rebated by the defendant (government agency) should the plaintiff "substantially prevail." Recently, for example, Judith Campbell Exner, former mistress of President Kennedy, was awarded more than \$10,000 in compensation after she successfully sued the FBI in order to obtain the release of 86 documents pertaining to herself.

GSW's suit against the CIA is more or less a test case intended to establish a precedent by having the Court disallow FOIA exemptions involving documents pertaining to UFOs. I.e., by using the government's own findings and statements, GSW hopes to establish that government agencies

cannot lawfully classify or otherwise withhold documents pertaining to UFOs. In order for the government to prevail, they must establish that UFOs are a national security concern--which is contrary to every finding and statement government agencies have made in regard to UFOs. The CIA is in a peculiar dilemma, in that in order for them to uphold exemption (b) (3) (pertaining to revealing intelligence sources and methods) it will have to demonstrate it had the legal authority to investigate domestic UFO sightings.

The suit filed by GSW may not be decided for months--the CIA is already dragging its feet. Therefore, CAUS intends to open the war on UFO secrecy on other fronts by filing suits against the Air Force (which has gotten away with murder thus far) and other agencies. Of course, this can only happen if UFOlogists begin seeing the light and, in the words of Phil Klass, put their money where their mouth is. Contributions and/or loans to CAUS are needed before we can initiate legal actions against government agencies that are suppressing UFO evidence.

Now that Close Encounters is completing its run, the only way that 1978 can truly be the year of the UFO is for UFOlogists throughout the country to demonstrate they have the resolve and fortitude to finally seek an end to the government cover-up, rather than a perpetuation of the mystery. Too many great cases have already slid into the abyss of history, due, at least in part, to the unwillingness of UFOlogists to present a united effort to end unlawful and unnecessary government secrecy regarding UFOs.

James McDonald, Ed Ruppelt and many others went to their graves without knowing the answers. How many more revered UFOlogists must die before we decide to unite? How many weeks, months, years and decades must pass as UFO evidence stagnates in some agency's files without ever seeing the light of day? How long can we continue to bicker and debate, all the while playing right into the CIA's hands?

There is a new generation pumping renewed vigor and life into the UFO movement. But the fate of UFOlogy still rests in the hands of the older generation, those who founded and continue to control UFO organizations. What will happen to the founding fathers (and mothers)? Will they be remembered for helping perpetuate UFO myths or for contributing to the solution of the mystery? Only time will tell--that is, if we have any time left.

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Nuts and Bolts Making a Comeback - Despite the steady drift toward (and off) "The Edge of Reality," physical evidence cases have been making a strong bid for the spotlight of late. Just as everyone was concluding crashed saucers were as much an anachronism as Venusian scoutcraft, suddenly Scully-like stories have reared their nasty heads. Apparently, motion picture companies such as Sunn Classics and a lot of loose dollars have encouraged a revival of "Wright Field" rumors.

A favorite among CAUS circles is the crashed saucer story told by Charles Herbert B\_\_\_\_ and his uncle Sgt/Maj Edward B\_\_\_\_ about the involve-



ment of Col. John B\_\_\_\_ in cordoning off the impact area during a special recovery operation during the late 1940s. Since Charles and Ed were both loyal and dedicated employees of the National Security Agency (NSA), and all the B\_\_\_\_s are straight-laced, closemouthed types, despite the improbable nature of the story this one seems to be true. And keep in mind that all the B\_\_\_\_s are reluctant witnesses; the only way the story has ever surfaced is that Charles, former crypto-repairman at CRS-K, made the tragic mistake of telling his shift supervisor, the notorious Todd Zechel, about it.

Another nuts & bolts case destined for the headlines is the incredible incident related by a former Air Force Intelligence officer, Major P\_\_\_\_. According to P\_\_\_\_, early in 1957 a flight of four F-86Ds had been returning from a practice bombing mission off Ieshima Island to Okinawa. The planes were staggered at  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile intervals. Suddenly, a large UFO dropped out of the 2,000-foot cloud-cover directly into the path of the lead F-86. A collision was unavoidable. The plane splintered into pieces upon impact; the largest fragment observed dropping into the sea by the other three pilots being one wing. Neither the pilot's body nor any of the wreckage were ever recovered. The UFO flew back into the clouds, escaping apparently undamaged.

Major P\_\_\_\_'s involvement in the incident was to interview the three F-86 pilots who had witnessed the event and prepare a report for higher echelons. Included with this report were sketches of the incident as drawn by the witnesses. The report was submitted to General William

Hipps, Commanding General of the Far Eastern Air Force. Hipps has subsequently confirmed all the details of the incident as described by the Major, except he refrains from calling the unknown object "a UFO." He does say there was such an incident; he does say there was a mid-air collision involving an F-86; he confirms the collision did not involve two aircraft; but he will not go so far as to call the other participant a UFO. When asked to describe it, he shrugs, "Since we didn't recover the wreckage, I don't know what it was."

The Major, incidentally, recently appeared on the CBS-TV affiliate in Phoenix. Filmed in an interview with station newsman Ed Bradford, he related the details of the 1957 collision incident involving the seemingly invincible UFO.

So, while most of the great UFOlogical thinkers spend their time attempting to mesmerize old ladies and hucksters with faulty memories, and formulate "M & M" theories thereupon, well-documented cases involving nuts & bolts technology are ignored solely because they conflict with will-o'-the-wisp hypotheses. But one can hardly blame them; given their lack of ability to assemble facts, their only alternative is to invent a ghost-like phenomenon whose characteristics discourage scientific investigation and objective scrutiny. Thus, what began as a crusade for the truth in the late 1940s, has become some thirty years later only a sideshow of all-encompassing theories that appeal mostly to the worst instincts in men.

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AIR FORCE and CIA Persuade NASA Not To Open UFO Project - The investigation is far from complete, but recently-obtained documents indicate both the Air Force and CIA conspired behind the White House's back to stop NASA from fulfilling a request from Dr. Frank Press to become "the focal point for UFOs." (It really didn't take much arm-twisting; NASA officials were opposed to the proposal from the start.)

Of particular interest is a letter from Col. Charles Senn, Air Force Office of Information, to USAF General (Ret.) Duward Crow, a NASA official in Washington, D.C.. In Response to Crow's request for the Air Force's form-letter reply to UFO inquiries, Senn remarked, "I sincerely hope you are successful in preventing a reopening of UFO investigations." The remark, in itself, might not seem all that significant, except it turns out Crow had a hand in rewriting NASA's initial response (September 6, 1977, letter from Dr. Frosch to Dr. Press) to the White House. What further roles Crow, Senn and other Air Force officials played in heading off the White House is yet to be determined.

In regard to the CIA's role in ~~shunting the~~ White House request, NASA indicated a November 8, 1977, report to Dr. Frosch by the Associate Administrator for Space Science, Noel Hinners, entitled "UFO Study Considerations," was prepared in coordination with the CIA. Referring to the beforementioned document, a NASA spokesman stated: "In regard to the question about NASA's relationship with the CIA, prior to transmitting the letter in question, NASA queried the CIA to ascertain whether or not there were any classified data sources pertinent to the recommendations in the letter. No such sources were identified."

What becomes quite obvious in all of this is that the Air Force and the CIA--the two agencies which would suffer the most embarrassment should an impartial UFO program be opened and be presented with such evidence as is available today--found it necessary to conspire against the White House in order for there not to be a "focal point on UFOs." In other words, by preventing the establishment of a project in which it would be required that the sponsoring agency provide answers or otherwise comment on UFO questions, government agencies can continue to suppress UFO evidence and, moreover, never be forced to disclose how much--or how little--they know about the subject.

In the words of Col. Frank McKenzie, originator of the now-famous Iranian message (September 20, 1976), "More information will be forwarded when it becomes available."

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GSW Publishing NICAP Expose - For some months now, there has been an on-going investigation into the murky, often-mysterious events which led to NICAP's sudden plummet from the top in 1969-70. The worst kept secret, as it turned out, was Brad Sparks' discovery that a prominent NICAP board member is a former CIA covert operative. The mystery-man is none other than Col. (Ret.) Joseph Bryan, III, who confirmed his secret CIA affiliation for the first time in a recent interview.

Bryan was preceded at NICAP by two other CIA operatives, Bernard J.O. Carvalho and Nicolas de Rochefort. Both joined the group in 1956 and then departed abruptly when Donald Keyhoe took the reins in 1957.

There will, of course, be loud denials of many of the allegations in the article, which GSW is publishing in its April bulletin. But when all the facts are laid on the table, the conclusions made by the author will be supported. It is expected that even more damaging information regarding the NICAP changeover will surface in the near future.

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CAUS Seeks Support - Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, a non-profit citizens' action group, is presently being incorporated in New York. CAUS intends to involve the general public, as well as UFOlogists and UFO buffs, in an all-out effort to end the government suppression of tremendously important UFO evidence. The organization will not profess any particular UFO ideology, but will instead concentrate its efforts on cases involving military and civilian government employees which have been surrounded by secrecy.

The criteria for cases selected for action by CAUS will be the merits of the incident based on significance, reliability, and provability. A yet-to-be-established Board of Directors will vote on policy decisions and selection of cases.

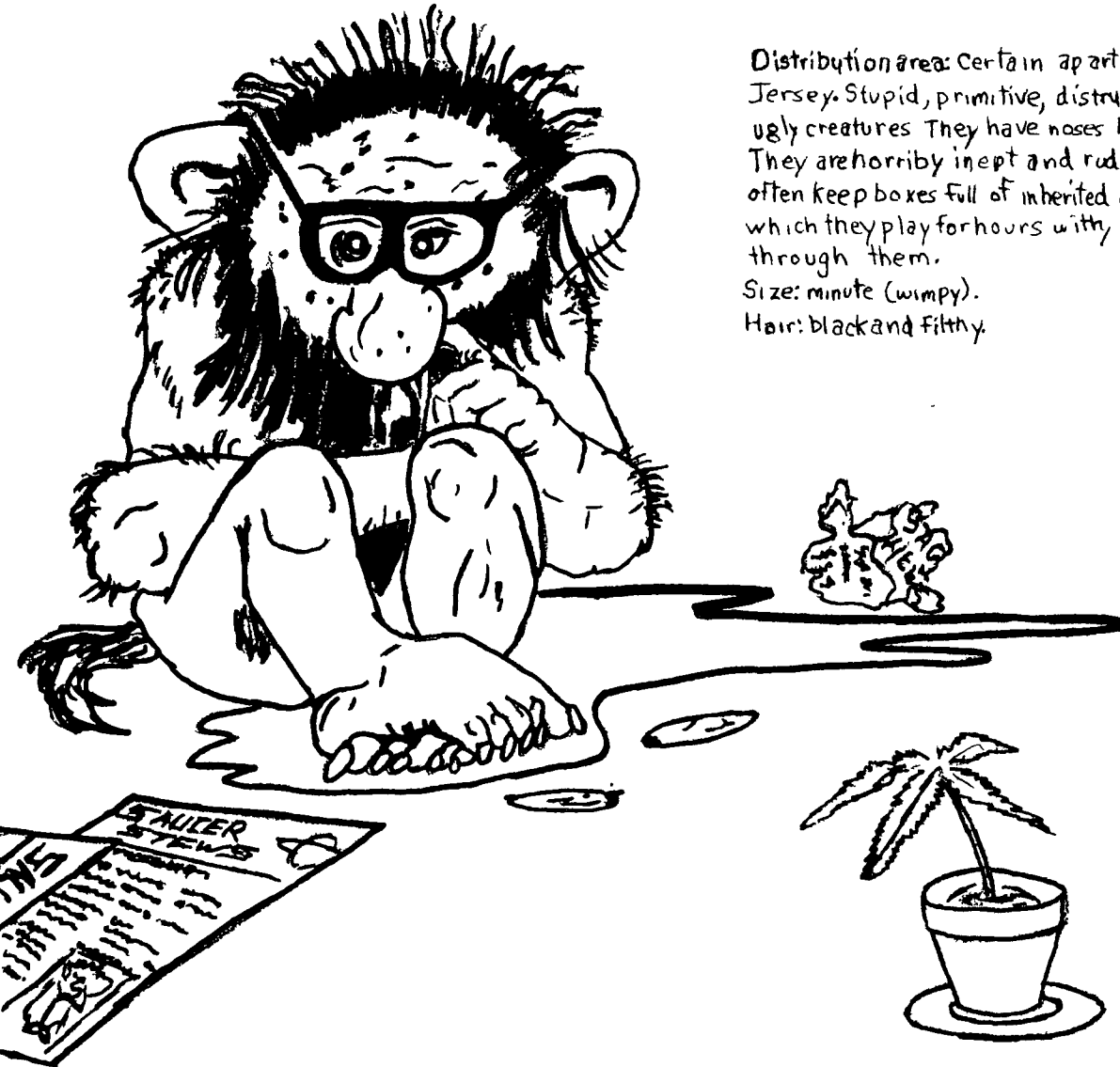
In the near future, letters of invitation will be sent to UFOlogists and other interested persons asking them to join CAUS and to serve in various capacities. At that time, a charter and a structural chart will be published.

But in the meantime, we seek your support, guidance and friendship. Please join us and help obtain the evidence needed to find a solution to the UFO mystery.

# Moseleys

(from The Encyclopedia of Gnomes,  
Abrams, New York. 1976)

Distribution area: Certain apartment complexes in New Jersey. Stupid, primitive, distrustful and unbelievably ugly creatures. They have noses like cucumbers, and a tail. They are horribly inept and rude, and they stink. They often keep boxes full of inherited cash and fraudulent contracts which they play for hours with, running their fingers through them.  
Size: minute (wimpy).  
Hair: black and filthy.



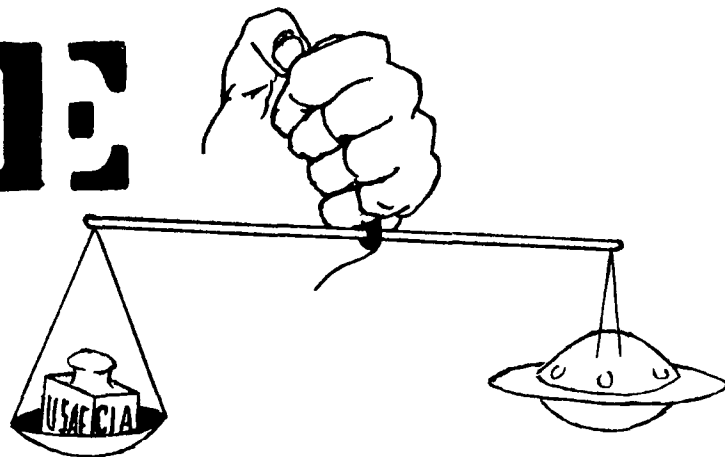
Artwork by: Steven Stoikes

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W. Todd Zechel wishes to thank Peter Gersten, Brad Sparks, and Steve Stoikes for their tremendous contributions to the CAUS and for their unwavering friendship. Steve and Brad, in particular, have worked diligently and often without recognition. But I recognize them as two of the most honorable and dedicated young men in the world. Without them, none of what has been accomplished would be possible.

Peter Gersten deserves special thanks and praise for his hard work in almost single-handedly putting the suit against the CIA together for GSW (and collective humanity). I predict Gersten's contributions to UFOlogy will prove to be the most important and significant of all.

# JUST CAUSE



MAY 1978

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CAUS Files Appeals to NASA and State Department - On May 8, 1978, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy filed appeals to Robert Frosch, Administrator of NASA, and to Charles Hinkle, Director of Freedom of Information and Security Review, Department of Defense.

The NASA appeal pertained to a reply received to a CAUS FOIA request of March 18, 1978. On April 26, Miles Waggoner of NASA's Public Information Services Branch had responded to CAUS's request with what seems to be a capricious and flippant letter. Waggoner, whom had earlier indicated a NASA report entitled "UFO Study Considerations" had been prepared in cooperation with the CIA, this time denied CIA involvement by stating: "...there were no formal meetins (sic) or any correspondence with the CIA."

Despite evidence to the contrary, the NASA spokesman also denied there were records available pertaining to efforts by other agencies to suppress a UFO project, stating: "As far as input from other agencies, we have supplied you with all the correspondence we have regarding NASA's decision not to undertake a UFO study project."

The May 8th appeal by CAUS asks Administrator Frosch to examine Waggoner's conduct in accordance with subsection (4) (F) of the FOIA, submitting that the spokesman's response is both capricious and arbitrary—besides being inaccurate and inadequate. To date, Frosch has not replied.

The State Department appeal is the latest move in an escalating struggle to obtain release of classified UFO documents being held by State. It all began with a CAUS request on January 19, 1978, by Peter Gersten. In spite of the fact Gersten included the date-time-group, the transmit numbers and message serial number with his request, the State Department's FOIA Center replied that it could not locate the document despite repeated researches. On Feb. 28, 1978, the CAUS Director provided additional information about the message, including a detailed description of its text.

Over a month went by without the State Department acknowledging the follow-up letter. A phone call was made to Mary Spruell, FOIA Center employee. She stated that three messages had been found and sent to the Department of Defense's Office of Security and Review for clearance, adding that her department had no objection to their release. Spruell promised to call back in



a week or so and advise when the documents would be released, plus ask for advance payment of search/reproduction fees. No such call was received. After another two weeks had transpired, a call to the Security and Review Office was made. It claimed not to have received any documents from the Department of State for clearance. Back to the State Dept. Spruell asserted she had sent the documents over to DOD and promised to check into it. Again, no notification was received from either department even acknowledging they were considering CAUS's request. Thus, more drastic action became necessary.

A copy of an undated NICAP UFO Investigator was included with CAUS's May 8th appeal. The lead article of the Investigator, entitled "UFOs Force Government Action," indicates NICAP had access to the three documents CAUS is seeking. The article quotes extensively from State Department documents describing UFO incidents in Morocco on the same evening (morning) as the now-famous Iranian incident, September 20, 1976. The NICAP publication also refers to a message sent by Henry Kissinger, then Secretary of State, to the Moroccan government in response to their query.

CAUS's appeal asserts that since NICAP has already revealed most of the contents of the messages, the Security and Review office should clear them without delay. CAUS also asked for a waiver of search and reproduction fees, in light of all the delays and in line with subsection (4) (A) FOIA. As of this date, CAUS has received no response to its certified letter.

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GSW Suit Against CIA Moving Along— Slowly But Surely - The Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., FOIA suit against the Central Intelligence Agency, despite being plagued by continuing funding problems, is headed for a showdown soon in Washington, DC.

CAUS legal consultant Peter Gersten, also under retainer by GSW in its clash with the CIA, recently disclosed plans to file a discovery motion in Washington during the first week of June. Gersten will submit to the U.S. Attorney's office an interrogatory comprising approximately 670 questions about the CIA's involvement with UFOs from 1946 to the present. Also included in the discovery motion are 100 separate requests for documents based on information provided by CAUS Director of Research Brad Sparks.

After filing the discovery motion, Gersten will give the CIA about 30 days to respond and will then move for summary judgement, asking the Court to rule in favor of GSW. It is anticipated that the discovery motion will force the CIA to delineate its role in the UFO cover-up for the first time.

In the meantime, GSW Director William Spaulding has reissued his appeal for donations to support the lawsuit, the lack of which has in the last two months caused some delays in preparing the interrogatory. Make checks payable to GSW, Inc., and specify the money is to be used for funding the lawsuit.

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Recent Navy Radar/Visual Sighting Causes Press Flurry - By Steve Stoikes - At the risk of offending the multitude who share UFO skeptic Ernest Taves' conviction that "simultaneous visual and radar sightings (of UFOs) have no value," CAUS takes the plunge and examines a recent radar-visual contact

which received a great deal of press attention.

The incident, details of which were carried on AP wires Tuesday, May 16, 1978, and by both wireservices, AP and UPI, on the following day, occurred the previous Sunday night, May 14, 1978, at the Pine Castle Electronic Warfare Tracking Station in central Florida.

Pine Castle is a restricted access U.S. Navy bombing range located near Orlando. The base is outfitted with an ultra-sophisticated "Tracking Acquisition" computer system, MSQ-102—one of only three such units in existence—that permits radar units to lock on and automatically track an object as well as provide information on range, elevation and so on.

Radar personnel at Pine Castle were first alerted to the presence of the UFO at approximately 10:30 in the evening on the 14th. The base was receiving phone calls from area residents who had been watching an object hovering in the area of the bombing range for an hour or so, and thought the lights were possibly from flares launched by the Navy facility. As a result of these phone calls, personnel from the mobile radar van went outside and noticed an object which was hovering just above the horizon at a distance of over 5,000 yards from the van. They watched the object for an hour and five minutes, then decided to warm up their radar and attempt to target the object. After the 20 minutes required to warm up the unit had passed, they managed to see the target for one sweep of the radar.

Ten minutes passed before the object—seen as a multitude of lights with the unaided eye, but resolved into three horizontal bands of red, green and white when observed through binoculars—was spotted visually from the observation tower 50 yards from the mobile van. The UFO was still just above tree-top level. Inside the van, radar personnel were in a bit of a technical dilemma. The radar unit could "see" the object but could not obtain a lock-on. Moments later the target again disappeared, both on radar and visually.

Several minutes elapsed before the object was again targeted. At around midnight the radar picked up the UFO again, target motion this time observed three to four miles northwest of the base at a somewhat higher altitude (clearing the trees), travelling southbound at a speed in excess of 500 knots. The UFO maintained this speed for five seconds, then accelerated two more seconds before it appeared to stop dead approximately 15 miles south of the base for a period of one second. While these antics were being witnessed on the radar scope in the mobile van, two men remained in the control tower, scanning the horizon with binoculars. The tower men witnessed both the stopping maneuver and closing run reported by radar personnel manning the scope.

Once the object had closed to within five miles of the base, it disappeared again, both visually and on radar, and for the last time.

Initially, it was supposed that the radar personnel who reported seeing the object from the control tower were, in fact, watching the planet Jupiter, which was right above the horizon. The radar target had exactly the same range

as the observation tower, and the scope, according to early speculation, could have been picking up a scattered reflection from the structure. Further investigation lessens the probability the sighting was attributable to such a set of circumstances. All personnel were cognizant of the positions of both Venus and Jupiter in the night sky and reported seeing both, in addition to the UFO. The radar-man denies the possibility that the object his scope painted was an anomalous propagation—a reflection of the tower used for radar calibration. He has been assigned to the same job for the past eight years at the base without any problems following calibration or confusion with the tower.

A follow-up investigation is being conducted at this time by (presumably) the Navy, and by Al Hendry of IUR and the Center For UFO Studies. In fact, this report is based on information provided by Hendry, who has interviewed many of the personnel involved in the incident and is in the process of securing a possible recorded radar image of the object from data storage tapes at Jacksonville Air Traffic Control Center, the airport facility responsible for the air corridor surrounding the Pine Castle area.

CAUS will keep an ear to the ground for further developments, and will try to ensure that no evidence is obfuscated or suppressed.

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EME At Miramar and a UFO Crash Near Palm Springs? - On March 27, 1978, Navy officials were reportedly "stunned and puzzled" after three Navy planes suddenly and inexplicably crashed near San Diego. Within nine hours, an F-14 Tomcat

went out of control while making routine touch-and-go landings, an A-4 Skyhawk fell into the ocean 50 miles west of San Diego while on a routine training flight, and an S-3A anti-submarine plane from North Island Naval Air Station apparently exploded and crashed into the sea some six miles from its base.

The following day, March 28th, two men—one an art instructor at a nearby college and the other the owner of a packaging/shipping company—were on the phone with each other at about 8:30 in the evening discussing a business deal. The conversation, a local call between Laguna Beach and South Laguna, was interrupted shortly after it began by another call which had somehow crossed over into the line. Since the matter they had to discuss was fairly important, both men attempted to shout over the disruption. It wasn't until they heard one of the unwelcome parties say "...footprints leading from the site but none to it..." that the men decided to listen instead of talk.

The art instructor had a notepad handy and began recording notes. Both men listened carefully as the person speaking went on with his dissertation: "...In danger Geiger count readings...same footprints as before...one spotting, Palms Springs, eighth in three months...they dug eight feet down; everything in the area was dead...there were footprints leading from the site, but none leading to...they had it on radar for less than two seconds to touchdown...they don't know who they are or where they're from...it seems impossible that they can live unless they eject before they hit...they told the news media that it was a meteor...Miramar lost three planes...everything in the planes went haywire in the same part of the stratosphere..."

The person quoted from the art instructor's notes seemed to be giving a briefing to someone he addressed as "General." The "General" could not be heard, however, although there were pauses in the conversation in which he was presumably speaking. In addition, the speaker mentioned reporting all this to "Washington" and to a "General Kelly," whom he said would be out to investigate.

Shortly after overhearing this incredible conversation, the two men contacted a couple of newspapers and several television stations, hoping that someone in the news media could get to the bottom of it. To their dismay, no one seemed to believe them or be interested to the point of doing anything about it. In desperation they turned to the UFO Report Center of Orange County, an affiliate of Dr. Hynek's Center For UFO Studies, and called the Center's 24-hour hotline. Professor Alvin H. Lawson of California State University at Long Beach, sole owner and operator of the Center, listened to the men and became convinced they were sincere. Lawson began making inquiries and filing Freedom of Information requests to nearby Navy and Air Force installations, asking for logs and reports pertaining to the items listed in the art instructor's notes, which he quoted in his FOIA letters.

As of this date, Lawson has not received a single confirmation as the result of his requests that anything in the overheard phone call was based on fact. CAUS picked up the story about a month ago and made several queries to confidential sources. So far, responses have been negative. CAUS also placed a phone call to the pilot of the A-4 Skyhawk, Lt. Evan Chanik, who was rescued at sea and back on duty soon after the incident. Chanik did not react as though

he had experienced any unusual difficulty prior to crashing, such as EME or disruption similar to that encountered by the Iranian F-4s on September 20, 1976. In fact, Chanik said, the accident was being attributed to a malfunction unique to the A-4. He did not seem to be lying.

While both witnesses involved in the overheard phone call seem to be sincere and credible, no evidence has been found to substantiate any portion of what they say they heard. Lawson, meanwhile, continues with his investigation; CAUS will monitor and assist wherever possible.

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Crashed UFO In Bolivia? - As usual of reports coming out of South America, details are still sketchy on an incident involving the crash of a purported UFO in Bolivia. CAUS first heard about it through a brief article in a Madison, Wis., newspaper on May 16, 1978, in which a UPI story reported that NASA was investigating a physical evidence case involving a UFO which had "exploded" somewhere in Bolivia.

On Thursday, May 18th, CAUS phoned NASA in an attempt to ascertain details of the incident. Curiously, there seemed to be a widespread attack of "Blue Flu" in the NASA Public Affairs Office, as spokesman after spokesman was reported being "home sick." Finally, Debbie Rahn, an assistant to NASA Public Affairs officer Ken Morris, provided information about a message originated by the U.S. embassy in La Paz. The message, La Paz #3804, date-time-group May 15/1920Z, was based on a Bolivian newspaper account reporting that an object had crashed near the Bolivia/Argentina border; the Bolivian Air Force would investigate to determine what it was and where it came from.



About UPI's allegation that NASA was in Bolivia investigating, Rahn said: "From what we have been able to determine, NASA has not sent anyone down there." Rahn labelled the UPI report "false." The La Paz message, she said, had NASA on the distribution because "...State Department wanted to know if anyone else knew anything." The object and the incident involved in sighting it were not described in any detail in the La Paz report, Rahn added, and then referred CAUS to a Colonel Robert Eddington in the State Department for further details.

CAUS contacted Col. Eddington; he said, "They (NASA) have had numerous inquiries and immediately contacted us." Eddington said his office was part of the "Bureau of Oceans, International Environmental and Scientific Affairs," and "kept track of launches." In regard to the purported crashed UFO, Eddington stated: "We have received communications from our people (in Bolivia) who have also seen newspaper accounts...What we do not have is any first-hand information that, in fact, the object does exist...I have second-hand information that the newspaper accounts indicate an object some four meters in diameter."

Eddington added that the object was described in some accounts as "egg-shaped," and there was some indication it might be "solid." The Colonel speculated that if that were the case, the object might be "...some bit of tankage—a near spherical liquid oxygen/hydrogen tank from a booster...four meters is a big tank." He added that his department could not correlate the reported object with the reentry of any known space debris. CAUS asked to be kept advised of further developments and subsequently sent a FOIA request for all La Paz traffic related to the incident.

Eddington's office was contacted again on the date of this writing (May 25, 1978); office personnel said they could provide no further information, that there were no further developments.

In the meantime, Len Stringfield, fast becoming the country's leading crashed saucer expert, provided CAUS with a few details about the Bolivian incident he had garnered from a recent Cincinnati Enquirer article. According to the newspaper account, the incident occurred near a village called "Padcaya," otherwise not identified or described. The object was said to have been "a large lighted object," which crashed somewhere on a 13,000 ft mountain on May 6, 1978. The article said an expedition of Bolivian scientists and military had been mounted to recover the object, but the operation had been delayed by bad weather.

Bob Pratt, the National Enquirer's UFO expert, is reported to be in Bolivia at the moment running the story down. (One can almost picture Pratt aboard a donkey, tape recorder in hand, attacking the slopes in search of the elusive booster tank.)

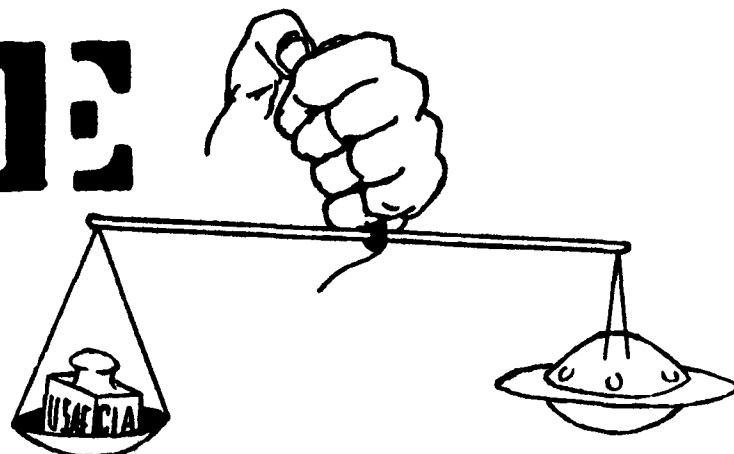
In any case, between relying on Pratt's diligence and hounding Eddington, CAUS anticipates getting the full story—eventually.

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CAUS would like to express its gratitude to Al Hendry, one of the brightest lights in UFOlogy, for his kind mention in International UFO Reporter, and for his extensive cooperation in our investigations. Hendry is without a doubt one of the most objective and intelligent UFOlogists in the world, and his forthcoming book promises to be just what UFOlogy needed—a researcher's guide that will lay it out for us from A to Z.

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# JUST CAUSE



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Gersten Files Discovery Motion Against CIA - It took nearly eight months to put it all together, but as promised in the last issue of JUST CAUSE, Peter Gersten forced the CIA up against the wall with a discovery motion that can only be described as "incredible!" Consisting of 635 interrogatory questions and 274 requests for documents, plus 60 CIA documents attached as exhibits, the discovery motion represents the combined efforts of Gersten, Brad Sparks, Larry Bryant, Dick Hall and many others—all of whom contributed information and advice. Gersten, in particular, must be greatly applauded for preparing such a lucid and forceful presentation.

Previously, Gersten had planned to file the motion in person, but his busy schedule forced him to mail the documents to the U.S. Attorney's office in Washington, D.C. (The suit will be contested in U.S. District Court, District of Columbia.) Although the motion was filed during the first week of June, the CIA and/or the U.S. Attorney have not as yet responded. In fact, a CIA spokesman told a reporter for the Mesa (Arizona) Times last week that although the Agency was fully aware of GSW's suit, it was not aware of the discovery motion being filed.

Included in the requests for documents are the names of 69 UFOlogists and UFO witnesses whom GSW and its consultants suspect the CIA has files on. Also included are requests such as #96: "(any and all documents related to...) CIG intelligence reports on Scandinavian "ghost rocket" incidents of May-December 1946, particularly those of Lt. Gen. J.H. Doolittle, USAAF, who visited Stockholm, Sweden, ca. 29 August 1946; reports and analyses by CIA/ORE Scientific Intelligence Activity including those inherited by OSI; special study by the Swedish Defense Staff, ca. 23 December 1946; and report by British Air Ministry Directorate of Intelligence 9 September 1946."

Document request #99 seeks: "OSI's basic files of flying saucers/ flying discs/UFO reports begun in the W&E Guided Missiles Br. in 1949, later transferred to W&E Aircraft Br; possibly transferred to GP Br., P&E Div., OSI, 1953; possibly transferred to the Directorate of Plans or the development projects staff of the SA/DCI/Planning & Coordination (R.M. Bissell) ca. 1955-1956 (DDP/DPD 1959-1962; OSA 1962-1965; OSP 1965-1973; ODE 1973-)."

Clearly, this is not a fishing expedition. In most cases, in fact, both the requests and the interrogatories are precise, asking for or about specific CIA projects, documents and incidents of CIA involvement. One suspects that even the most skeptical observers will be impressed that the discovery motion prepared by Gersten clearly presents a strong case for a massive cover-up of involvement with UFOs by the CIA.

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GSW Makes Discovery Motion Documents Available - GSW, in the interests of informing the public and raising funds to support its FOIA suit, has decided to offer the discovery motion documents for sale. The entire set, which includes over 60 pages of interrogatories and requests plus 50 of the 60 attachments, will cost GSW and CAUS (JUST CAUSE subscribers) members \$25, which includes postage and handling. Non-members and the general public can obtain the set for \$35.

CAUS members wishing to order a set (which includes CIA documents never before revealed) should make checks payable to Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., and mail to CAUS hqs. Non-members should write directly to GSW: 13238 North 7th Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85029.

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CAUS Obtains Release of State Dept. UFO Documents—Finally - When Peter Gersten filed a FOIA request to the State Department on December 16, 1977, little did he suspect it would take six months to get a rather mundane document released. What makes the whole matter all the more annoying is the

fact Gersten included the message serial number, date-time-group and transmission numbers with his request. Yet that didn't prevent the State Dept. from replying that it couldn't locate the document despite "repeated searches." The Dept.'s request for additional information was answered by CAUS Director Todd Zechel, who supplied the gist of the text in a January 1978 letter. Still, months went by before even a written acknowledgement was received. In the meantime, several phone calls only managed to ascertain that State claimed to have sent three documents to the Dept. of Defense for clearance, but DOD denied having received them.

Finally, on June 7, 1978, the State Department released three documents to CAUS; one of which was formerly classified CONFIDENTIAL, and two which were originally UNCLASSIFIED. The first message, classified CONFIDENTIAL, was transmitted from the U.S. embassy in Rabat, Morocco, on September 25, 1976. Subject of the message was stated as: "Request For Info, Unidentified Flying Objects." Apparently, the document was originated by U.S. ambassador "Anderson" (otherwise not identified), and addressed to "OES (Oceans and Enviromental Sciences--Ed.) Asst Sec Frederick Irving." Anderson reported that a Moroccan government official (all Moroccan names deleted from released documents) had contacted him on September 23rd and requested a meeting. At a conference later the same day, the Moroccan official discussed "UFOs over Morocco on the night of 18-19 September (1976)." According to the Moroccan officer, "the Gendarmerie had received calls from Agadir, the Marrakech area, Casablanca, Rabat, Kenitra and other areas reporting the sighting of UFOs between

the hours of 0100 and 0130, the night of 18-19 September. Reports from these widely separate locations were remarkably similar, i.e., that the object was on a generally southwest to northeast course, it was a silvery luminous circular shape and gave off intermittent trails of bright sparks and fragments, and made no noise. He promised (the Moroccan—Ed.) to provide further details today, the 24th of September and asked that we furnish any information that we might have on these sightings...I promised that we would do what we could." (Emphasis added)

On the 24th, the U.S. ambassador and the Moroccan official met again, with the Moroccan supplying additional info on the sightings. The ambassador's account picks up with, "\_\_\_\_\_ met with DATT (otherwise not identified; not known if this is a name of an American or refers to a position—Ed.) and gave him a summary of the sightings. \_\_\_\_\_ also permitted DATT (possibly Defense Attache ??—Ed.) to look at the drawings of the UFO prepared by various individuals, including himself, who had sighted the UFO."

"The times of the sightings varied from 0100 to 0200 hours on the morning of 19 September, with the majority of them occurring between 0100 and 0130 hours. Sightings were reported from Agadir, Kalaa-Sragha, Essaouira, Casablanca, Rabat, Kenitra, Meknes and the Fez region. There was general agreement that the UFO was proceeding on an approximately south to north course, generally parallel to the Moroccan Atlantic coast, at an estimated altitude of 1,000 meters, and that there was absolutely

no sound from the UFO. Descriptions of the UFO fell into two general categories, i.e., a type of silver colored luminous flattened ball (disc-shaped), or a large luminous tube-shaped object. Observers reported that the object intermittently emitted bright sparks from the rear. \_\_\_\_\_ said he was sent to brief DATT on the subject because he had himself sighted the UFO while returning from the city of Kenitra at about 0115 in the morning. He described the UFO as flying parallel to the coast at a relative (sic) slow speed, as if it were an aircraft preparing to land. It first appeared to him as a disc-shaped object, but as it came closer he saw it as a luminous tubular-shaped object."

Ambassador Anderson concluded his report by stating: "I frankly do not know what to make of these sightings, although I find intriguing the similarity of descriptions reported from widely dispersed locations. In any event, I wish to be able to respond promptly to \_\_\_\_\_'s request for information and would appreciate anything you can do to assist me in this."

On October 2, 1976, OES Asst. Sec. Irving drafted a response to Amb. Anderson's request for info on UFOs. Curiously, the text of the msg simply stated: "Hope to have answer for you next week. Regards. Kissinger."

Then on October 5th, the "answer" was transmitted. This time, however, the message was drafted by OES/APT/SA: J.G. Dardis (in the same office as occupied now by Col Robert Eddington; see JUST CAUSE No. 2—Ed.) The subject was stated as: "Moroccan Request For Info—UFOs." Basically, the "answer" consisted of a typical reference to the Condon Committee findings,



noting the Committee found sightings "can be explained in many ways," and described several natural or artificial phenomena which can account for UFO reports. But also noting that no such phenomena were known to be in the area of the Moroccan sightings. The piece de resistance of the "answer," however, was this statement: "The whole subject of UFOs has been one of much controversy. At present, there is no USG (U.S. government—Ed.) agency studying this matter, the view being that such sightings, where sufficiently detailed and reliable data are available, can be attributed to natural causes and that further study is not warranted."

In the meantime, while denying any interest by the U.S. government in UFO reports, the State Department is transmitting the reports and related correspondence to the CIA, NSA, Air Force and a host of other military/intelligence components.

One has to wonder why, if there is no interest, all such reports are transmitted to these agencies. One also has to wonder why there was no mention of the Iranian incident to the Moroccans—an incident which took place at the same time and had the same general characteristics!!! And, finally, if this information is so mundane, why does it take over six months to get it released????

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NASA Responds to CAUS Appeal; Shoves Foot In Mouth Even Deeper - Hey, NASA, your slip is showing! As reported in the May issue of JUST CAUSE, CAUS had filed an appeal of NASA's response about its relations with the CIA on May 8, 1978. On May 23, 1978, Kenneth R. Chapman, Associate Administrator for External Relations, responded in behalf of NASA Administrator Dr. Frosch.

Chapman assured CAUS that, "In his letter of March 2, 1978, Mr. Waggoner stated, '...NASA queried the CIA to ascertain whether or not there were any classified data sources pertinent to the recommendations in the letter.' (Mr. Chapman's emphasis) The letter referred to is Dr. Frosch's letter to Dr. Press of December 21, 1977, not Dr. Hinnens' internal memorandum of November 8, 1977 as you stated."

Chapman went on to explain that memo entitled "UFO Study Considerations" "was prepared solely by NASA employees and not coordinated with the CIA or any other agency..." He also related that "Mr. Waggoner was correct in his letter of April 26, 1978, when he stated there were no meetings or correspondence with the CIA on the subject of Dr. Frosch's letter to Dr. Press (notice he doesn't exclude UFOs entirely—Ed.). We specifically queried the CIA by telephone to inquire as to whether they were aware of any tangible or physical UFO evidence that could be analyzed; the CIA responded they were aware of no such evidence, either classified or unclassified."

After denying there was any improper behavior by NASA employees in regard to responding to CAUS's requests, Chapman topped his masterpiece by stating: "I can assure you that NASA was not persuaded by anyone under any pretext to take any particular position on the UFO question; Dr. Frosch's letter of December 21, 1977, is, I feel, explicit as to our willingness to investigate such physical evidence as may be brought before us." (Emphasis added)

Let me translate for you: Mr. Chapman is saying that NASA called the CIA on the phone and asked, in effect, if they had any UFOs over at Langley. The CIA of course said no. Then, after Dr. Frosch wrote his final letter to Dr. Press—which said in essence that there was no tangible UFO evidence and NASA hadn't devised a method of researching UFOs without such evidence—NASA again called the CIA to find out "whether or not there were any classified data sources pertinent to the recommendations in the letter."

Obviously, this makes no sense—at least not in the context that NASA presents it. Why would NASA call back the CIA to see if a simple statement that there was no tangible UFO evidence was classified—particularly in light of the fact the Air Force has been saying the same thing publicly for thirty years? Did NASA really think such a statement might be classified?

Try this on for size: NASA queried the CIA for advice on handling Dr. Press's request. (It should be noted that NASA phoned the CIA, which has never been officially involved with UFOs purportedly, not the Air Force, which collected UFO data for twenty years.) The CIA advised NASA to stay out of UFOs, and presented NASA with the basis for turning down Press's request: that there was no tangible UFO evidence. Thus, after NASA had formulated this information into its final response to Press, it thought it necessary to query the CIA to make sure they weren't giving anything away. Just speculation, but it certainly makes more sense than NASA's version.

U.S. Agencies Scratch Heads Over Bolivian Incident - As reported in the May issue of JUST CAUSE, a UFO was reported to have crashed somewhere near the Bolivia/Argentina border on or about May 6, 1978. CAUS made a number of phone calls to NASA (which was reported to be investigating the incident) and the State Dept. Both agencies denied they were investigating the reported crash, but admitted they were receiving messages pertaining to it from the U.S. embassy in La Paz, Bolivia.

The messages only reported various rumors and reports from the Bolivian and Argentine press; none of the information referred to any first-hand sources. Col. Robert Eddington, OES/APT/SA, Dept. of State, subsequently revealed that a classified message had originated from La Paz containing the reports of U.S. personnel who had gone to the area of the suspected crash. Their report, however, apparently states the crash is still unsubstantiated; that no first-hand witnesses had been found. (CAUS has filed FOIA requests for all pertinent messages.)

CAUS recently spoke with Bob Pratt, the National Enquirer's UFO expert, who returned from Bolivia last week (second week of June). Pratt said he had spoken with a number of Bolivian witnesses who reported seeing the object execute a series of maneuvers (turns) before it exploded and apparently crashed. According to Pratt, there were two explosions: the first was tremendous and was heard 85 miles away; the second was much smaller. Pratt also said he had flown over the suspected crash site and had identified a recent landslide in which the rocks showed signs of searing (burning).

Pratt was evidently all set to write a story stating that a UFO had crashed and was buried under the beforementioned landslide. CAUS suggested that it was strange the U.S. government was totally unaware of the witnesses Pratt said he had spoken to; that NASA and the State Dept. hadn't even heard about the purported explosion. Pratt said he was aware of the U.S. personnel who were investigating the incident in the border area; he blamed their lack of diligence as the reason they hadn't made the same discoveries as he had. The Bolivians, Pratt said, were about to hold an election and various candidates were hopping around the country in the government's only helicopters. Thus, a recovery attempt on the mountainside where the UFO was allegedly located was not possible until after the election—if ever.

After speaking with Pratt, CAUS phoned Col. Eddington in the State Dept. and described the information Pratt had purportedly developed. Eddington seemed neither surprised nor concerned, and said he was confident his department had made a thorough check but had discovered nothing of the sort of information Pratt described.

Subsequently, Pratt stated that as of Monday, June 19th, the Bolivian UFO crash story had been "killed"—an editor had decided not to run it. Pratt said he would attempt to rewrite it and submit it again.

What really happened in Bolivia—if anything—remains a mystery. Even Pratt seemed to be suspicious of his sources. Apparently, one of the major problems is the language barrier: in most cases, it appeared Pratt had to rely on someone who spoke English to tell him what somebody else claimed to have witnessed. Obviously, this does not make for a very accur-

ate investigation. Another major problem is the U.S. government's attitude. Judging from Col. Eddington's cautious manner and the careful way he worded his comments, it seems that government personnel are almost deathly afraid of making any statement which could be construed to mean they are investigating the dreaded UFOs. Yet, at the same time they want to leave the impression they are doing a diligent job of investigating such incidents as one which purportedly occurred in Bolivia. Why they have to walk the tightrope like this can probably be blamed on a certain band of screaming-meanies who think it outrageous that government agencies even pay attention to such reports. This band has the ear of the New York Times, Reader's Digest and a number of other semi-respectable journals; all of which publish their tired propaganda, putting UFOs into the same category as occult phenomena and rehashing old Air Force propaganda which even the Air Force thoughtfully discarded. (Such as Phil Klass's predictions of a UFO flap following the release of "Close Encounters.")

It's really unfortunate that in this age of supposed enlightenment that government policies are affected by a group of so-called "skeptics," whose harangues closely resemble the "skeptical" warnings of those who advised Columbus he would sail off the edge of the world and the Wright brothers that it would never fly. In any case, I'm sure the CIA is grateful to this group for making its work a great deal easier.

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CAUS Assists in CUFOS Investigations - CAUS recently assisted Al Hendry of CUFOS in the investigation of an alleged CE-III which took place in Las Vegas last month. Eventually, a semi-confession of a hoax was obtained. IUR magazine will report full details.

Ordinarily, CAUS would not have gotten involved with the investigation of an incident which involved only civilians, but in this case the witnesses were claiming harrassment by Air Force/MIB types. Allegedly, the witnesses' three-year-old German shepherd died as the result of the close encounter with the UFO, was taken to a Las Vegas vet for an autopsy and was subsequently confiscated from the vet by the Air Force/MIB types. Later, the witnesses claimed to be receiving threatening visits from the AF/MIB types and said their home was broken into.

Inconsistencies had already begun popping up by the time CAUS got involved. For example: The witnesses told CUFOS they couldn't give out the name of the vet because they were scared and the vet threatened to sue them. CUFOS arranged to have a lawyer contact them. Subsequently, the witnesses told CAUS that the lawyer knew the name of the vet and had advised them not to disclose it. Both statements were totally untrue.

CAUS advised CUFOS that the female witness might be ready to confess that the AF/MIB harrassment was a hoax, based on statements she'd made and her reactions to various events. When confronted with the overwhelming inconsistencies, she stated that there had been no MIB visits, no vet and no confiscation of the carcass—but still maintained there had been a CE-III. At that point, CAUS's participation ended.

Al Hendry's report on the case in a forthcoming IUR will be must reading for any UFOlogical observer.

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Air Force Colonel Contacted About Involvement With Crashed Saucer - A few weeks ago, CAUS and an NBC reporter phoned Col. (Ret.) John B \_\_\_\_\_ to ask him some questions about his role in the recovery of a crashed saucer on the U.S./Mexico border in 1948. Previously, the Colonel's brother, a thirty-year NSA space intelligence expert, and his nephew, a former crypto repairman with NSA, had both confirmed the Colonel's involvement in cordoning off the area during the recovery of an extraterrestrial spaceship.

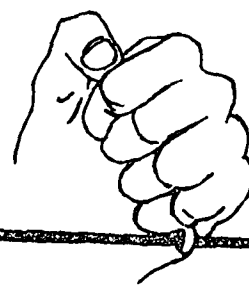
The conversation began with the NBC reporter identifying himself and relating to the Colonel the details of his relatives' testimony. As the reporter started describing the testimony of another retired officer about the same incident, the Colonel interrupted to state: "Look, to sort of get this thing into its perspective. Let's suppose a person did know something like that—what would the value be worth? (The reporter said then that it would be the greatest story of all time) Obviously, if such a thing had happened and a person had not disclosed it, it must be for... it would have to be for very important reasons, right? And if he wanted to disclose it, he could get millions for it, right? Or he would not be foolish—if there was such a thing—to even discuss it."

Interviewer's remark: "Or else you could get in a lot of trouble I suppose." Colonel: "Ah no, it isn't a question of trouble; there's no trouble involved in anything like that. But it's just obviously...I wouldn't talk to you, if something like that were true, I'd talk to persons of more status. (pause) Look, there's no use talking about it." (Hangs up)

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# CAUS



6/10/78

CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY  
191 E. 161st St.  
Bronx, N.Y. 10451  
212-992-9600

W. Todd Zechel - Acting Director  
Steven Stoikes - Administrator  
Brad Sparks - Director of Research  
Peter Gersten - Legal Consultant

H.E. Haglund  
38 Woodlane Road  
Ithica, NY 14880

Reply to:

✓ 240 Briarwood Drive, Apt 302  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

June 8, 1978

Dr. Mr. Haglund:

Thanks for inquiring about CAUS and JUST CAUSE. Your letter was forwarded to me from our office in New York.

CAUS was created to battle government secrecy regarding UFOs and to elevate the struggle above the internecine disputes between various civilian UFO groups which has marked the anti-secrecy effort in the past. We intend to concentrate solely on UFO incidents which have some aspect of government involvement.

You can join this nonpartisan campaign to get all UFO data out in the open by subscribing to JUST CAUSE, the official newsletter of CAUS. Subscription rates are \$10 for 12 monthly issues beginning with Vol.1-No.2, May 1978. Your subscription will ensure that you are kept informed of all the latest behind-the-scenes developments in the anti-secrecy lobby, plus a complete, inside report on the latest incidents involving government personnel. All evidence obtained by CAUS will be released through JUST CAUSE.

In addition, any contribution you'd care to make to CAUS would be most welcome and would be utilized in financing FOIA lawsuits against govt. agencies.

Please make checks or M.O.s payable to CAUS/W. Todd Zechel, and consider yourself a member and supporter of CAUS upon payment.

Most sincerely;

*W. Todd Zechel*  
W. Todd Zechel

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*6/10/78*

# CAUS



6/28/78  
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swatched

CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY  
191 E. 161st St.  
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W. Todd Zechel - Acting Director  
Steven Stoikes - Administrator  
Brad Sparks - Director of Research  
Peter Gersten - Legal Consultant

June 23, 1978

Dear Member:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for joining and supporting our organization. I hope you'll enjoy our newsletter, JUST CAUSE, and please feel free to submit any comments you have about it—even criticisms. I also hope you'll actively participate in our efforts by providing us with information, advice and encouragement. In addition, we'd greatly appreciate having the word spread about us to your friends and the local media.

At the moment, CAUS is working on a plan to get UFO research out of the hands of the government and into the hands of responsible civilians. In order to accomplish this goal, we need to conduct extensive lobbying in Washington, D.C. Work has already begun on this project, but we are severely handicapped by the lack of funding. We would like to establish an office in Washington, where we would have access to Congress and to the national media, which would enable us to apply the kind of pressure which is sorely needed.

In order to raise funds for this lobbying effort, and for our battle against UFO secrecy in general, I have decided to make available many of the sensational recent government UFO reports which I have obtained. These documents, I feel, prove the existence of UFOs beyond a shadow of a doubt and, moreover, prove the government is suppressing vital UFO evidence. The document sets include, in most cases, the covering letters from the agencies which released them. Please make checks payable to CAUS/W. Todd Zechel and specify set when ordering. Allow one week for delivery.

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Loring AFB UFO Overflights.....\$5     | 2. Wurtsmith AFB UFO Overflights..\$5 |
| 3. SAC Missile Sites Overflights.....\$5  | 4. Iranian F-4/UFO Encounter.....\$3  |
| 5. State Dept. Moroccan UFO Rpts.....\$3  | 6. SAFOI UFO Instructions '75.....\$2 |
| 7. Ralph Mayher/CIA Documents.....\$3     | 8. AF Int. UFO Log Entry '75.....\$1  |
| 9. CIA Ops Center UFO Log Entry.....\$1   | 10. NASA UFO Project Memos.....\$5    |
| 11. White Sands UFO Film Analysis.....\$2 | 12. Crashed Saucer Report '48.....\$5 |

Having these documents will make you an overnight expert on the government cover-up. The prices are fair and reasonable in line with the effort and expense it took to obtain them. And keep in mind: the money is going to a good CAUS.

Most gratefully;

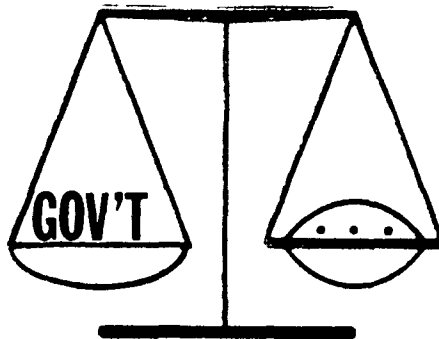
W. Todd Zechel  
W. Todd Zechel

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# JUST CAUSE

vol. 1 no. 4



The Official Newsletter of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS)

## I. GROUND SAUCER WATCH v. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY:

Peter A. Gersten, attorney for GSW, and Todd Zechel, Director of Research for GSW and Director of CAUS, traveled to Washington, D. C., July 7th to participate in a conference and status call on GSW's Freedom of Information lawsuit.

The conference was convened in the U. S. Attorney's Office. In attendance were Mr. Bill Briggs, Assistant U. S. Attorney, Mr. Long, House Counsel to the CIA, Peter A. Gersten and Zechel. During the session, the Assistant U. S. Attorney expressed a reluctance to respond to a discovery motion previously filed (JUST CAUSE, Vol. 1, No. 3) on the grounds that the motion was not relevant to the original request and thus beyond the scope of the present lawsuit. Gersten and Zechel argued that the defendant's improper conduct in its handling of FOIA requests, including the charging of unreasonable and inappropriate search and copying fees, issuing false and misleading statements and discriminating against UFO requests by applying a strict interpretation to the requirement that any documents requested must be reasonably described, discouraged requestors from taking further action and making further requests. Therefore, Gersten and Zechel contended, the discovery motion was both necessary and relevant.

Mr. Long, the CIA Attorney, felt the discovery motion was a form of harassment and claimed the CIA's interest in UFOs was limited to the Robertson Panel. Zechel explained that one of the purposes of the suit was to establish that the CIA could not lawfully withhold information related to UFOs, and that GSW was intending to prove the CIA's involvement with UFOs was long-term, continuing and one of deep concern.

Near the end of the informal session, an agreement was reached to allow GSW to amend the original complaint to include requests for all UFO related CIA documents - more specifically, all UFO

documents which had been requested prior to the suit. Later, in formal court session before U. S. District Court Judge John Pratt, GSW was granted 20 days in which to amend the complaint. The CIA will then have 10 days in which to respond. Court was adjourned until September 7th.

COMMENT:

Although it may be too early to tell, the recent conference may have been a pivotal moment for UFOlogy, and perhaps a major victory in the war against the UFO secrecy. One thing is certain: the CIA is now aware GSW's suit wasn't meant to be "harassment", rather, I think it was readily apparent this is a very deliberate action by serious investigators. Still, The Government is a formidable foe; I'm totally confident UFOlogy will prevail in the end.

II. 1975 FLAP OVER SAC BASES AND MISSILE SITES

CAUS member Barry Greenwood, Stoneham, Mass., has provided CAUS with nine important Joint Chiefs of Staff/National Military Command Center documents he obtained under the FOIA last February. The documents are messages and memorandums pertaining to the National Military Command Center's actions during the 1975 UFO flap over SAC missile bases and sites - mainly pertaining to the overflights of Loring AFB, Maine, on October 27, 29th and 31st

In a letter of February 6, 1978, Charles Hinkle, Director, FOI & Security Review, Office of the Asst. Sec. of Def., stated:

"The OJCS (Organization of the Joint Chief of Staff) identified 24 documents which are responsive to your request. Nine of these documents were released and are enclosed for your use. I have been advised by the OJCS that the remaining 15 documents require continued protection under Section

552(b) (5) of Title 5, U. S. C. The Initial Denial Authority in this instance is Philip D. Shutler, Major General, USMC, Vice Director, Joint Staff."

The most interesting revelations in the documents are the notations on the distribution lists of NMCC messages and memos. On four occasions NMCC notified the CIA via DDO talker that "penetrations" were occurring over Loring. One memorandum for the record, created at 1345 EST, 29 October 1975, states:

"The following were notified IAW (in accordance with) Appendix B, Enclosure D, OI 3100. 2A: J32A (B. Gen. Atkinson) ... NWSB (Col McAnemy)... CIA (Mr. G. Cunningham)... ATSD (AE) (Mr. D. R. Cotter)..."

On two other occasions, the CIA was notified by "IMMEDIATE" ("O") message that unidentified objects were hovering near the weapons storage area at Loring AFB. Yet, when Todd Zechel submitted an FOIA request to the CIA last September asking for all records, reports, messages, log notations, et cetera, pertaining to the SAC UFO incidents, the Agency responded that it could only locate one short log notation in the Operations Center dated October 28. Zechel wrote back and asked the CIA to check its records again, sending along an extract from the Air Force INZA Alert Officer's Log dated October 31, 1975, in which an officer named Barrett reports:

"Per LTC Redican's direction, contacted CIA Ops Center and informed them of unidentified flight activity over two SAC bases near Canadian border. CIA indicated appreciation and requested they be informed of any follow up activity."

Again, the CIA responded it could locate no other records pertaining to the events in question - this in the face of being provided a copy of the INZA log. Zechel wrote a third time, asking the CIA to search once more - it had to have other records. The CIA responded that a third search had failed

to locate any records in any component.

Thus, while Greenwood's NMCC documents irrefutably prove the CIA received at least six notifications on the Loring incidents, including two lengthy messages which were high precedence traffic, it maintains it can only locate one short entry in its Operations Center log.

CAUS has appealed the withholding of 15 documents by OJCS to Mr. Hinkle, contending that (b) (5) cannot be utilized to prevent embarrassment. Previously, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) had implemented (b) (5) to exempt its conclusions in intelligence reports detailing sightings over Loring and Wurtsmith.

It seems likely that the 15 documents being withheld pertain to UFO incidents over other SAC bases and sites, particularly in the 24th NORAD Region (Malmstrom). Since other reports, in particular the 24th NORAD Region Senior Director's log, clearly demonstrate the military characterized the intruding objects as "UFOs," it's no surprise OJCS/NMCC would seek to withhold its reports.

Since the 1975 flap is one of the areas included in GSW's lawsuit, we should soon learn how many of the missing documents were transmitted to the CIA.

### III. CONDON/NPIC MEETING DOCUMENTS

Responding to a request by CAUS Director Todd Zechel, on July 12, 1978, the Central Intelligence Agency released two documents pertaining to the CIA's interfacement with the Condon Committee.

Dated 7 February 1967 and 23 February 1967, the documents reveal that on February 20, 1967, Dr. Condon, Dr. Richard Lowe, Dr. David Saunders, Dr. William Price, and Dr. Thomas Rachford were given a briefing at the National Photographic Interpretation Center, a CIA component directed by Arthur Lundahl. (Price and Rachford were associated with the USAF Research & Development Office; the others were members of the

University of Colorado UFO project.)

The purpose of the briefing was stated as

"to familiarize Dr. Condon and members of his team with selected photogrammetric and photographic analysis capabilities of NPIC."

The NPIC briefing was at the behest of Brig. Gen. Ed Giller, USAF, who had phoned Lundahl to ask if Condon could be shown some equipment and be given some technical guidance. Later, Dr. Thomas Rachford, an Air Force Major, had contacted Lundahl in behalf of Giller to handle details.

Lundahl's February 6 memorandum for the Deputy Director for Intelligence (DDI), CIA, states:

"Giller contacted Lundahl about the project and a line of informal liaison was set up with Rachford by which the USAF might get certain technical advices and services such as measurements and enlargements of alleged UFO photos".

Later, in paragraph (4) of his memo, Lundahl asks for approval from DDI for the Condon visit and adds

"I have told USAF representatives that I can have no part in writing whatever they might conclude on this UFO phenomena but that I might be able to help them technically and thereby add to the government's cost effectiveness program. At the same time I might be able to preserve a CIA window (Spy on- Ed.) on this program for whatever use DDS&T might want to make of it."

Although the author of the 23 February Memorandum for Record is not identified, CAUS has reliable information it was Steven Johnson, Chief, Photogrammetry Div., NPIC. Johnson

reports that a meeting between Condon and Lundahl began at 0915 in Lundahl's office on February 20th. During the ensuing discussion, Johnson reports that it was

"clearly established: A. Any work performed by NPIC to assist Dr. Condon in his investigation will not be identified as work accomplished by CIA. Dr. Condon was advised by Mr. Lundahl to make no reference to CIA in regard to this work effort. Dr. Condon stated that if he felt it necessary to obtain an official CIA comment he would make a separate entry into CIA not related to contacts he had with NPIC. "

Paragraph (5) of the Johnson memo states:

"Following this brief discussion in Mr. Lundahl's office the group adjourned to the (deleted) conference room where a series of briefings was presented to Dr. Condon and his group. Following a short introduction by (Deleted), the following briefings were presented:

...b. (deleted) followed with a presentation of the analysis he had been conducting on UFO photography furnished NPIC by Dr. Rachford...

...f. Returning to the conference room, (deleted) briefed the group on measuring instruments used in (deleted) and followed by a general presentation on the success and failure (deleted) had experienced in trying to measure objects imaged on the second UFO projec assigned..."

(Emphasis added; subparagraphs (a), (c), (d) and (e) and parts of (b) and (f) omitted by the Editor.)



Paragraph (6) of the memo reports

"At about 1215 Mr. (deleted) escorted the group back to Mr. Lundahl's office where a general discussion on UFOs ensued. At about 1235 the group adjourned to lunch and following lunch they left NPIC for a meeting with Brig. Gen Gillers at the Pentagon (sic) "

(Emphasis added)

COMMENT

While the two documents which the CIA released do not necessarily represent "a smoking pistol" (Watergateese for overwhelming evidence of guilt), they do indicate NPIC was running photo analysis on UFO photos prior to and subsequent to the formation of the Condon Committee. Even more interestingly, the documents indicate the Air Force had little faith in its own photo analysis capabilities at ATIC and elsewhere. While Lundahl seems to have been attempting to establish "a window on" the Condon project, it's also likely the Air Force was attempting to get a window on what NPIC was doing with UFOs

NASA (Update)

Ever since March 2, 1978, CAUS has been attempting to determine exactly what transpired between NASA and the CIA during the period NASA was pondering a request by Dr Frank Press, White House, to become "the focal point for UFOs " Additionally, CAUS wanted to discover what precisely NASA was willing to do within the scope of its reluctant acceptance of Press's request (JUST CAUS, Vol. I, No 3)

NASA continues to make statements purporting it s willingness to

"investigate such physical evidence as may be brought before us". Yet, when one approaches NASA with a physical evidence case, one finds they tend to refuse to investigate unless one is willing to tow a "flying saucer" to Washington. Already, NASA has declined to investigate three alleged physical evidence cases of dubious value, one of which was the infamous Betz sphere.

More recently, Arnold Frutkin, who replaced Kenneth Chapman as Associate Administrator for External Relations, has defined NASA's position as: If you wish to introduce to NASA reputable persons with direct knowledge of physical evidence of UFO's, we will be prepared to meet with them in an open and forthright manner." Later, in a phone conversation with Frutkin, it was made clear NASA expects these men to be transported to Washington at their own expense (or CAUS's), at which point NASA may or may not agree to meet with them, and may or may not decide to investigate their claims.

In regard to NASA's elusive communications with the CIA, Mr. Frutkin now describes the second call - the one in which it has been stated NASA queried the CIA "to ascertain whether or not there were any classified data sources pertinent to the recommendations in the letter" - as being for the purpose of determining if the CIA was willing to reiterate its previous statement that it was not aware of any "tangible or physical UFO evidence that could be analysed." In other words, NASA wanted to make sure the CIA was willing to repeat its "no physical evidence for UFOs" statement before it sent Dr. Frosch's December 21, 1977, letter to Dr. Press.

It still hasn't been explained why NASA chose to contact the CIA about physical UFO evidence, seeing as how the CIA claims its only involvement with UFOs was the four-day Robertson Panel in 1953. Perhaps NASA knows or suspects the CIA has been involved with UFOs? In the meantime, NASA sees nothing wrong with USAF Col. Charles Senn writing to NASA official Duward Crow, a retired USAF General, to tell him "I certainly hope you are successful in preventing a reopening of UFO investigations."

(Editorial)

CAUS SALUTES BRAD SPARKS

Brad Sparks, Director of Research of CAUS and member of APRO, has not gotten the recognition and praise for his work that he so greatly deserves.

Sparks has been instrumental over the last three years in getting a large number of CIA documents released through his requests. In fact, without his tremendous work we'd still be groping around in the dark for CIA involvement with UFOs. But Sparks has taken CIA involvement out of the realm of speculation and into the area of proven fact. Along the way, he has pieced together a detailed picture of the behind-the-scenes day-to-day events in UFO secrecy.

Mistakenly, I have sometimes been given credit for accomplishments which should have been attributed to Sparks. It was Sparks who was responsible for assembling much of the information utilized in formulating questions and requests to the CIA as part of GSW's discovery motion. It was Sparks who forced release of most of the 60 CIA documents attached as exhibits.

Sparks has my deepest respect and my fondest gratitude for the amazing work he's done in researching events which often took place over 25 years ago. He's become one of the world's leading experts on intelligence agency activities and structures. CAUS is most grateful to have him with us.

W. Todd Zechel

#### IV. THE TUNISIAN INCIDENT (new)

CAUS has been provided a confidential document from a reliable source which reveals that the Tunisian government was very concerned about UFO incidents in that country in August, 1976.

Quoting from the report:

"A very concerned Chief of Military Security, General \_\_\_\_\_, called DATT (Defense Attache - Ed.) and Alusna (an American official - Ed.) to his office at 1100 hrs, 9 August 76. \_\_\_\_\_ provided DATT with copy of memo he had prepared for the Minister of Defense listing UFO sightings that have been occurring over Tunisia since first reported the night of 3 Aug. 76. English translation of memo provided for info quote: 'Subject: Flying Machines. The appearance of unexplained flying objects have taken place as follows: During the night of 3-4 Aug 76 - at 2325 hrs the pilot of Tunis Air flt TU8953, enroute from Monastir to Tunis reported sighting flying object at 1000 to 1200 meters, going north to south, at 2327 hours five flying objects showing red and green position lights were visually sighted over Monastir and confirmed by radar - At 0024 hrs till 0400 hrs, five separate radar returns were tracked and visually confirmed. During the night 4-5 Aug 76, an Air France pilot enroute to Monastir reported being followed by an aircraft as he approached his descent point to Monastir from 2243 hrs to 2252 hrs (local). During the night of 5-6 Aug, 76, police at Soukra reported seeing what seemed to be four lighted helos at 0020 hrs. At 0040, two remained - at 0115, one remained flying very slowly. All objects were gone by 0145 hrs (local). These observations not confirmed by radar. During the night of 7-8 Aug 76, at 2348 the control tower at Jerba sighted unknown traffic 7km NW of airport. Sighting confirmed by Tunis air pilot, flt 8321, enroute Jerba fm Paris. Pilot of Tunis Air 717 approaching Jerba airport reported a flying object showing one light seemed to touch down near airport then turn south climbing as it went, disappearing at 2412 hrs (local). During night of 8-9 Aug 76 - at 1950 hrs local radar tracked unknown traffic that over flew SIDI Ahmed Airport at Bilerte going east to west then 37km west of base turned and disappeared going south.' End quote"

"2. (c) The Tunisian government is very puzzled by these sightings and wants to know if Sixthflt (Sixthfleet) can shed any light on who or what they might be. \_\_\_\_\_ showed radar plots on UFO tracks on night of 4 Aug 76 plotted on chart. Tracks come generally fm NE over Gulf of Tunis and then proceed to south of city, turning east and west and disappearing from radar screens. \_\_\_\_\_ agreed to call Alusna at home if further sightings were observed. No reported sightings nights of 9-10 Aug 76.

"3. (C) Request advise if any unusual activity has been noted in

vicinity of Tunisian coast \_\_\_\_\_ reports that visual sightings of red and green positions lights and radar sightings have been made and on some occasions correspond with one another. Objects have travelled at high speeds (350kts) slow and seemingly hovered but have made no audible sound. Phenomena completely unexplainable from this end. Any assistance on ideas will be appreciated. AMB concurs. GDS 31 Dec 82

#### COMMENT

This message originally transmitted to the State Dept was in turn retransmitted to the CIA, NSA, DIA, the White House etc basically all these government agencies which declare they are not interested in UFO reports

#### V CUBAN JETS INCIDENT - (exclusive report by CAUS Director of Research - Brad Sparks)

Details of the Cuban jets case have been obtained and pieced together by CAUS including a copy of the widely distributed security specialist's statement. The specialist was assigned to a unit of the U S Air Force Security Service (AFSS) which was the 6947th Security Squadron centered at Homestead Air Force Base just south of Miami. The squadron's mission is to monitor all Cuban Air Force communications and radar transmissions.

One hundred of the squadron's men are assigned to Detachment A located at Key West Naval Air Station. This forward base against attack from Cuba is on Boca Chica Key, a tropical island in the Florida Keys just east of Key West and about 97 miles from the nearest Cuban coastline to the south. Several such squadron units are scattered geographically to enable direction finding equipment to locate fixed or mobile land-based radar sites and communication centers and to plot aircraft movements from flight transmissions.

One day in March 1967 the Spanish-speaking intercept operators of Detachment A heard Cuban air defense radar controllers report an unidentified bogey approaching Cuba from the northeast. When the UFO entered Cuban airspace at a height of about 10 000 meters (about 33 000 feet) and speed of nearly Mach 1 (nearly 660 mph) two MiG-21 jet fighters were scrambled to meet it.

(MiG stands for Soviet aircraft designers Mikoyan and Gurevich. The single-seat MiG-21 UM E76 is the standard top-of-the-line fighter supplied to Soviet bloc countries such as Cuba. It is capable of Mach 2.1 or 1385 mph in level flight, service ceiling of 59 000 feet and combat radius of more than 300 miles on internal fuel.)

The jets were guided to within 5 kilometers (3 miles) of the UFO by Cuban ground-controlled intercept radar personnel. The flight leader radioed that the object was a bright metallic sphere with no visible markings or appendages.

When a try at radio contact failed, Cuban Air Defense Headquarters ordered the flight leader to arm his weapons and destroy the object. The leader reported his radar was locked on the bogey and his missiles were armed. (Missiles probably were K-13A air-to-air types designated "Atoll" by NATO.)

Seconds later the wingman screamed to the ground controller that his leader's jet had exploded. When he regained his composure, radioed there was no smoke or flame, that his leader's MiG-21 had disintegrated. Cuban radar then reported the UFO quickly accelerated and climbed above 30,000 meters (98,000 feet). At last report it was heading south-southeast towards South America.

An intelligence Spot Report was sent to NSA headquarters, since AFSS and its units are under NSA operational control. Such reports are standard practice in cases of aircraft losses by hostile nations. NSA is required to acknowledge receipt of such reports, but the 6947th's Detachment A did not get one; so it sent a followup report.

Within hours Detachment A received orders to ship all tapes and pertinent data to NSA and to list the Cuban aircraft loss in squadron files as due to "equipment malfunction". At least 15-20 people in the detachment were said to be fully informed of the incident.

Presumably, the data sent to NSA included direction-finding measurements that NSA might later combine with other sites' data to triangulate the location and altitude of the MiG-21 flight paths. If the AFSS equipment in Florida was sensitive enough, the UFO could have been tracked by its reflection of the Cuban ground and airborne radars. (This is beside conventional U.S. radar tracking, using our own transmitters.)

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Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) is a New York - based group, created to spearhead reform of U.S. Government information policies about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and to force greater government accountability to the public for truthful disclosure of its UFO data.

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# CAUS

## Citizens Against UFO Secrecy

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Peter Gersten	Counsel

CAUS Story Release

HOLD FOR RELEASE:

A.M. WEDNESDAY, AUG. 9, 1978

### FBI INTERROGATES UFO RESEARCHER: GOVERNMENT MAY CONFISCATE DOCUMENTS

By Brad Sparks  
(CAUS Director of Research)

Two FBI men visited UFO researcher Robert Todd on the evening of July 28, 1978, he told this reporter in exclusive telephone interviews. Todd, age 24, was interrogated about his letters to the National Security Agency (NSA) for more than an hour at his parents' home in Ardmore, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia. Todd specializes in sending freedom of information requests to the U.S. Government about UFOs.

An Air Force major advised Todd by telephone late in the day, Friday, Aug. 4, to seal in an envelope all copies of a statement about a Cuban Air Force jet allegedly destroyed while trying to shoot down a UFO in 1967. According to Todd, Maj. Gordon B. Finley, Jr., said "someone may be around" to retrieve the envelope. But, added Todd, "he didn't say when."

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"Assuming the security analyst's statement is true," Maj. Finley is quoted by Todd, "it does contain classified information." When Todd told Finley the FBI had said it was "Secret or above," Finley reportedly remarked: "I don't know about the 'or above' part, but that it is Secret--that sounds about right."

(This information reached CAUS too late to contact Finley for comment in Washington, D.C., before the weekend. Finley is chief of the Torts and Freedom of Information Branch, Air Force Judge Advocate General's Office.) *Al Hendry → Maj. Finley Aug. 8 confirmed - wouldn't say what was classified.*

① The FBI men questioned Todd about the source(s) for his requests to NSA concerning the Cuban jet mishap and the records of a former NSA employee now active in UFO research in the Midwest. *Todd rechecked* Todd said he then did not know of a widely disseminated UPI dispatch of Jan. 13, <sup>12?</sup> describing the Cuban incident.

"I explained to them," recounted Todd, "a researcher had obtained this statement, that the researcher had passed it on to the reporter ... (who) passed it on to me." Todd said he "finally broke down" and told the FBI the reporter was Robert V. Pratt of the National Enquirer. He refused to disclose the name of the "West Coast researcher" to the FBI. *Stanton Friedman quoted*

FBI spokesmen in Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia, refused to confirm or deny the interview or interest in Todd "at this time." Spokesman for NSA headquarters, at Ft. Meade, Md., would not comment on NSA's alleged role in the UFO incident or the FBI investigation of Todd.



② Todd said the FBI men read his rights to him. Then they "tried to intimidate me," said Todd, "by citing the espionage laws and advising me of the penalties involved, namely, life in prison, or death." He added, "I was shook."

Todd sent a flurry of information requests about the Cuban incident to the Air Force, CIA, NSA, and the Navy, from February to July of this year, all without success. However, on Mar. 10, CIA suggested Todd "check with the Cuban Government for records on this incident."

Todd notified both NSA and the Air Force, on July 14, that since neither agency wished to cooperate, he would contact the Cuban Government for further information. Since he thought both agencies hinted he might have classified data, Todd asked that they "provide advice as to what information in the attached statement should not be transmitted to the Cuban Government." He gave them a 20-day deadline for replies.

"And in response to that," observed Todd, "two FBI agents knocked on my door."

#### Cuban Jets Incident

Details of the Cuban jets case have been obtained and pieced together by CAUS, including a copy of the widely distributed security specialist's statement. The specialist was assigned to a unit of the U.S. Air Force Security Service (AFSS), which was the 6947th Security Squadron centered at Homestead air force base just south of Miami. The squadron's mission is to monitor all Cuban Air Force communications and radar transmissions.

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One day in March, 1967, the Spanish-speaking intercept operators of Detachment A heard Cuban air defense radar controllers report an unidentified "bogey" approaching Cuba from the northeast. When the UFO entered Cuban air space at a height of about 10,000 meters (about 33,000 feet) and speed of nearly Mach 1 (nearly 660 mph), two MiG-21 jet fighters were scrambled to meet it.

(MiG stands for Soviet aircraft designers Mikoyan and Gurevich. The single-seat MiG-21UM E76 is the standard top-of-the-line fighter supplied to Soviet bloc countries such as Cuba. It is capable of Mach 2.1, or 1385 mph, in level flight, service ceiling of 59,000 feet, and combat radius of more than 300 miles on internal fuel.)

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(This is beside conventional U.S. radar tracking, using our own transmitters.)

### FBI Interview

Todd, who is an articulate speaker and effective writer, described the late-afternoon FBI interview for CAUS:

① "It was about 5:30 or 6 o'clock. My mother answered the door. They asked for me; they did not identify themselves. Then I came down and they flashed their identification cards. I knew what it was about as soon as I saw 'FBI.'"

The FBI men and Todd went into the living room, while Todd's parents kept their St. Bernard dog occupied outside. Todd never got the FBI mens' names.

"I had to sign a paper," continued Todd, "saying I had been read my rights." Todd said he waived his to silence because "I didn't have anything to hide."

"They started to read (the espionage laws)," but, Todd told them, "I'm familiar with them." One FBI agent said the laws carry a penalty of life in prison or death. Both men hinted at the possibility some indictments would be issued, Todd said. "It was just so shocking," Todd related.

"To tell you the truth, I had really considered quitting the whole thing (UFO research)," recalled Todd.

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Todd, who earlier warned NSA and the Air Force he might write to Cuba for details of the violent MiG-21 encounter with a UFO, said the FBI asked him if he had ever written to a foreign government. "I told them I had--the Soviet Union, no less," said Todd. "I explained it to them and let them know it was innocent."

The older FBI man said the Bureau had been asked by NSA to investigate this "matter" because NSA has no law enforcement functions, Todd recalled. The agents sat on opposite sides of Todd, who noted: "I felt like a ping-pong ball. One of them took the hard line, one of them took the soft."

The FBI men indicated they knew, or had copies, of Todd's July 14 letter to NSA with the attached security specialist's letter. They asked Todd to identify the source of the letter, and he replied "that a researcher had obtained this statement (who) passed it on to the reporter (who) passed it on to me." The question was repeated many times because, Todd said, the younger agent kept confusing the "researcher" and the "reporter." Todd said eventually he "broke down" and identified the reporter, Robert Pratt of the National Enquirer.

"I told the FBI Bob (Pratt) was going to Dayton for a UFO conference," said Todd. "They asked me where it was being held and what dates and all that. I didn't know where ..., I just knew the dates, 29 and 30 (July)."

"They asked about the researcher," said Todd. When he refused to identify him, the FBI men pressed him to reveal if he was on the east or west coasts. "So I said the West Coast--what harm could that do?" (The

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researcher is believed to be physicist Stanton T. Friedman of Hayward, Cal., who was quoted about the Cuban incident in the UPI report of Jan. 13.)

One FBI agent asked Todd if information in the source statement was ever published. "I said, to my knowledge, it had not," remembered Todd, who did not know about the UPI report until later.

Todd was not without some questions of his own. He wanted to know if any information in the source's statement was classified and at what level. The older FBI man, who Todd said bore a "granite face" and dressed in a white suit, replied: "Some of the information is classified. Most of it is b-----t."

But the younger FBI agent said he was a pilot and admitted he once had seen a UFO. He indicated "for what it was worth," recounted Todd, that "he had seen something that he could not identify." This agent told Todd the information in the statement was classified "above Secret," but later he said "it's Secret or above."

One agent asked Robert Todd, "Do you know a Todd Zechel?" Todd had asked NSA, by letter of July 10, if a W. Todd Zechel was ever employed by NSA, as was claimed in an interview published by the International UFO Reporter in May, 1978, which Todd enclosed.

The FBI men confirmed, said Todd, that the Bureau had received his letter from NSA with the interview. Todd said he does not know Zechel and he told the FBI he did not think Zechel had any connection with the Cuban incident. (Later, Todd wrote to the FBI and NSA that

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Zechel had "absolutely nothing whatever to do with the Cuban incident.")

(Zechel is director of CAUS. Zechel mentioned this reporter, Brad Sparks, by name in the International UFO Reporter interview and in such a way as to suggest association. When this reporter asked the FBI Philadelphia field division to comment on the Todd story on Aug. 1, Special Agent Roger Midkiff of the domestic intelligence section refused. But, Midkiff volunteered, "if there is something that might concern you directly, then, I'm sure that it would be brought to your attention at the appropriate time." Midkiff asked for, and was given, this reporter's phone number and address, then he said, "if there is any reason to get in contact with you, then we can.")

The question of tapping Todd's phone arose at one point. Said Todd: "I mentioned (to the agents) ..., based on the information they had given me, it seemed to me they had sufficient justification for a wiretap on my telephone. They smiled."

Todd said he told the FBI men that, under authority of the Freedom of Information act, he was going to demand the FBI file on its investigation of him. "They said they couldn't send me the information I had just given them," said Todd, "because it was classified."

Todd figures he has sent approximately 1,000 freedom of information requests about UFOs to the government since 1974, mostly at his own expense. Lately, he has been working for Charles L. Tucker, 51, of Nappanee, Ind., a mattress manufacturing executive who runs the International UFO Bureau (no connection with the independent publication International UFO Reporter).

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To make his request for the FBI file as specific as possible, Todd thought of another question for the agents: "I have read enough FBI documents to know they always refer to the subject ... by saying 'captioned as above.' Before they'd leave, I wanted to know how they were going to caption this one--Internal Security or Espionage?"

But, Todd related, the agent who replied said it was neither: "He said it would fall under 'Counterespionage.'"

A few minutes after Todd identified reporter Pratt, the FBI men got up to leave. On the way out, they again met Todd's parents, who had gathered in the dining room during the last half hour of the session. According to Todd:

"My mother asked if I was in any trouble. And (one agent) said 'no,' that I was the 'man on the end of a string.' What drama. He said it straight-faced and I think he meant every word.... Then my mother said, 'You ought to get the top guy.' She was a big help."

#### Official Positions

"I'm not aware of anything" about the Todd investigation said Paul B. Lorenzetti, spokesman for the FBI field division in Philadelphia, on July 31. But, he added: "I'm not cleared to gain information in such investigation.... I have very little contact with the security end of anything."

Lorenzetti reiterated, "I just don't have any knowledge of any of this," and suggested a "call back later after I have got security (to) look for it."

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The next day, Lorenzetti put special agent Roger Midkiff on the line, but first he explained: "I've already given him instructions, if there is a pending investigation ... he is not to make any comment. That is the official policy of the Bureau as far as the Attorney General's guidelines are concerned."

Agent Midkiff said that if there was an investigation, when it was completed there might be some official statement on it. Apart from such statement, he hinted this reporter might be contacted for another reason or reasons, as noted (above).

Spokesman John Perks at FBI headquarters, Washington, D.C., said on July 31 that he, too, knew nothing about an investigation of Todd: "I don't have any knowledge of this..., we're going to have to check."

Later that day, Perks' superior, Tom Coll, called and said: "We never confirm who we've talked to or who we haven't talked to.... We never do that."

Coll said near the end of his call: "Whether we have had agents talk to him (Todd) or they haven't, I don't know. But even if I did, we wouldn't confirm or deny it."

Charles Sullivan, spokesman for NSA, at its headquarters in central Maryland, was reached for comment about the Todd story July 31: "If the FBI is involved--and I'm only knowledgeable of that because you have said so--I'm not going to be responsive to you at all." He explained, "You are not going to get anything from any government agency about another government agency.... It is tough enough knowing what goes on in my own Agency."

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"I know nothing except for what you've told me," Sullivan stressed.

Documents to be Taken?

Air Force Maj. Gordon Finley reportedly phoned Todd at about 4 to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 4. Todd recounted: "He told me he was calling because it was the last day of the 20-day time limit I had put on my request for information in my July 14 letter.... It came out to 21 days on the calendar."

Maj. Finley said the statement on the Cuban incident, if "true," included classified information, Todd related. "He asked me how many copies of the statement I had. And I asked him why he wanted to know."

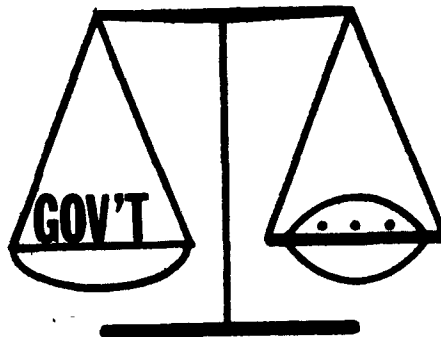
Finley then told Todd to seal all copies of the statement in an envelope and that "someone" may come by to pick it up. Todd said he refused.

"I asked him what (was) the classification of the information," Todd recalled, "and he seemed very reluctant to give me that information." Todd told Finley about the FBI investigation and quoted the agent who had said "Secret or above." Finley said, according to Todd, that Secret sounded about right.

"I asked him if the Air Force was going to turn the matter over to an investigative agency," said Todd, who had the FBI in mind. "And he said 'probably.'" Finley indicated to Todd the Air Force had given his letter a lot of thought.

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## CIA FINDS 1,000 PAGES OF UFO DOCUMENTS: FOIA SUIT PAYS OFF

The Central Intelligence Agency disclosed on Aug. 10 that "approximately 1,000 pages of additional materials concerning UFOs have recently been surfaced and are currently under review." The discovery seems to have been prompted by the amended complaint in the Ground Saucer Watch (GSW) suit, which had been authorized by a federal judge on July 7, 1978.

The CIA disclosure was made in a letter to CAUS Director Todd Zechel (who also is GSW's research director), replying to Zechel's FOIA request of July 13, which among other things requested documents related to the reported recovery of an extraterrestrial spacecraft or landing craft by the U.S. Government. (See story on pp. 18-20 of this issue.)

(Continued next page)

CIA Information & Privacy Coordinator Gene F. Wilson asked Zechel to suspend his request until after he has reviewed the 1,000 pages of UFO documents the CIA apparently is going to release. CAUS thinks this to be a CIA stall tactic since the documents are thought to have little or no connection with Zechel's July 13 request.

Although GSW's initial complaint, filed on Sep. 21, 1977, mainly related to the Ralph Mayher incident and the Durant Report of the CIA Robertson Panel, an agreement was reached during the July 7, 1978, status conference to allow GSW to amend its complaint to include requests for virtually all CIA UFO-related records. (See JUST CAUSE, July 1978, pp. 1-2.) CAUS Counsel Peter A. Gersten, representing GSW, submitted an amended complaint in early August that included requests dating back to 1973--to all of which CIA had failed to respond satisfactorily.

On Aug. 17, Assistant U.S. Attorney (District Columbia) William H. Briggs telephoned Gersten and asked him to submit a stipulation that would go far beyond even the amended complaint in scope. CIA wanted Gersten to identify broadly all categories of UFO documents to enable CIA to search for all of its UFO records at once. Gersten, based on a draft by CAUS Director of Research Brad Sparks, prepared and submitted a stipulation requesting CIA to conduct "a reasonable search" of the following CIA components: CIA Strategic Warning Staff; CIA Operations Center; CIA Office of Legislative Counsel; National Foreign Intelligence Board (NFIB); National Foreign Assessment Center components as follows: Imagery Analysis Service; NFIB Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation Staff; Foreign Broadcast Information Service; Office of Current Intelligence; Central Reference Service; Directorate of Science & Technology (DDS&T) components as follows: Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center (Office of Weapons Intelligence); Office of Electronic Intelligence; Office of Research and Development;

Office of Development and Engineering; Office of Scientific Intelligence; National Photographic Interpretation Center; Office of Technical Service; Directorate of Administration (DDA) components as follows: Office of Security; Office of Joint Computer Support; Directorate of Operations (DDO) components as follows: Covert Action Staffs; Domestic Collection Division; Counterintelligence Staff; Counterintelligence and Foreign Intelligence Staffs of DDO (including area divisions).

Perhaps almost unbelievably, the CIA has agreed to abide by the stipulation and, evidently, has initiated a search of the specified components. U.S. District Court Judge John Pratt made the stipulation an official order of the court on Sep. 7, and he gave CIA 90 days from the date of its final approval in mid-September to complete the search (i.e., until mid-December 1978).

Meanwhile, discussions between Gersten and the assistant U.S. attorney Briggs, and between Todd Zechel and Charles E. Savage (Wilson's deputy in CIA), have established that the 1,000 pages of material are mostly Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI) files from the 1950s. This material was first requested by Brad Sparks for APRO in early 1975. From Sparks' 1975 interviews with OSI officers in charge of the UFO files from 1949 to 1956, CAUS thinks it has a fair idea of what the files contain: Mostly Air Force and Navy reports of UFO sightings plus some records of unauthorized CIA domestic UFO investigations in 1951-1952.

CAUS requests that UFO researchers refrain from submitting FOIA requests until after the documents have been received and analyzed, in order to avoid slowing down the process of reviewing and releasing the documents CIA has located.

It also should be noted that the forthcoming documents may be fragmentary and lacking in historical context. Conclusions reached by people unfamiliar with

this context may lead to confusion or to the promulgation of erroneous assumptions. --WTZ, with BCS.

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FBI INTERROGATES UFO RESEARCHER: GOVERNMENT MAY CONFISCATE DOCUMENTS -- Two FBI agents visited UFO researcher Robert Todd on the evening of July 28, 1978, CAUS learned in exclusive telephone interviews. Todd, age 24, was interrogated about his letters to the National Security Agency (NSA) for more than an hour at his parents' home in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadelphia. Todd specializes in sending FOIA requests to the U.S. Government about UFOs.

An Air Force major advised Todd by telephone late in the day, Friday, Aug. 4, to seal in an envelope all copies of a statement about a Cuban Air Force jet allegedly destroyed while trying to shoot down a UFO in 1967. (See JUST CAUSE, July 1978, pp. 11-12, for a full account of the incident.) Maj. Gordon B. Finley, Jr., told Todd "someone may be around" to retrieve the envelope, but he did not say when. Todd refused to comply with Finley's request.

"Assuming the security analyst's statement is true," Maj. Finley told Todd, "it does contain classified information." When Todd told Finley the FBI had said it was "SECRET or above," Finley remarked: "I don't know about the 'or above' part, but that it is SECRET--that sounds about right."

Al Hendry of CUFOS interviewed Maj. Finley by phone on Aug. 8, and Finley confirmed everything he had said to Todd on Aug. 4. However, Hendry could not pin Finley down as to what in the security specialist's statement was classified, i.e., the NSA information or the UFO incident, or both. Finley is Chief, Torts and Freedom of Information Branch, Air Force Judge Advocate General's Office.

The FBI men questioned Todd about the sources for his requests to NSA

concerning the Cuban jet mishap and the records of a former NSA employee now active in UFO research as Director of CAUS and research director of GSW, W. Todd Zechel. Robert Todd said he then did not know of a widely disseminated UPI dispatch of Jan. 12, describing the Cuban incident.

"I explained to them," recounted Todd, "a researcher had obtained this statement, the researcher had passed it on to the reporter ... (who) passed it on to me." Todd said he "finally broke down" and told the FBI the reporter was Robert V. Pratt of the National Enquirer. He refused to disclose the name of the "West Coast researcher" to the FBI. That researcher, physicist Stanton T. Friedman of Hayward, Cal., was quoted about the Cuban incident in the UPI story.

FBI spokesmen John Perks and Tom Coll (in Washington, D.C.) and Paul B. Lorenzetti (in Philadelphia) refused "at this time" to confirm or deny the interview or the FBI interest in Todd. However, Special Agent Roger Midkiff of Philadelphia (whom Todd later learned was one of the FBI agents who interviewed him) obliquely confirmed the interview by suggesting to CAUS research director Brad Sparks that he might be interviewed by the FBI.

(One of the FBI agents asked Todd, "Do you know a Todd Zechel?" Todd had asked NSA, by letter of July 10, if W. Todd Zechel was ever employed by NSA, as was claimed in an interview published by the International UFO Reporter in May 1978, pp. 7-9, a copy of which Todd enclosed. The FBI men confirmed that they had received this letter from NSA with the IUR article, Todd said. And Zechel mentioned Sparks by name in the IUR article in such a way as to suggest association. Thus Midkiff's remark to Sparks, "if there is something that might concern you directly, then, I'm sure that it would be brought to your attention at the appropriate time.")

Charles Sullivan of the NSA Policy Coordination Staff, at Ft. Meade, Md.,

refused to comment on NSA's reported role in the UFO incident or in the FBI investigation of Todd.

Todd said the FBI men read his rights to him. Then they "tried to intimidate me," said Todd, "by citing the espionage laws and advising me of the penalties involved, namely, life in prison, or death." He added, "I was shook."

Todd sent a flurry of FOIA requests about the Cuban incident to the Air Force, CIA, NSA, and the Navy, from February to July 1978, all without success. However, on Mar. 10, CIA information and privacy coordinator Gene F. Wilson suggested Todd "check with the Cuban Government for records on this incident."

Todd notified both NSA and the Air Force, on July 14, that since neither agency wished to cooperate, he would contact the Cuban Government for further information. Since he thought both agencies hinted he might have classified data, Todd asked that they "provide advice as to what information in the attached statement should not be transmitted to the Cuban Government." He gave them a 20-day deadline for replies.

"And in response to that," observed Todd, "two FBI agents knocked on my door."

CAUS heard a report in late August that Todd, who figures he has submitted about 1,000 FOIA requests about UFOs since 1974 mostly at his own expense, will be quitting the UFO field when his pending FOIA requests are completed. CAUS wishes to praise Todd for his enormous accomplishments in the FOIA/UFO field, more of which we hope will come to light in the next several months. Meanwhile, CAUS recommends letters of encouragement be sent to Robert Todd at 2528 Belmont Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003. --BCS.

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REF ID: A6

FBI DESTROYS UFO DOCUMENTS

FBI field offices nationwide destroyed their UFO files earlier this year, according to reliable information obtained by CAUS.

An agent at one FBI office told CAUS' confidential informant he was familiar with Dr. Bruce Maccabee's request for UFO files because of communications that agent had had with FBI Headquarters. The agent reportedly said Maccabee had not had enough money to buy copies of all of the FBI's UFO documents. Maccabee would have had to pay \$1,000 (i.e., 10,000 pages at 10¢ per page) to get all of that one field office's UFO files, the agent boasted. But it was too late, anyway, since the files had been destroyed on Apr. 1-2, 1978, as part of a general file destruction program at all FBI field offices.

CAUS has learned that the National Archives and Records Service (NARS) authorized the FBI field office file destruction program on Mar. 26, 1976. The NARS Office of Federal Records Centers/Records Disposition Division permitted the destruction of field office closed-files containing investigative reports, inter- and intra-office communications and related evidence. FBI Headquarters issued orders to all field offices, in October 1977, to begin the obliteration of all such records. UFO files are just one of the categories slated for the incinerators and/or the shredders. Certain old organized crime files are another category, to the chagrin of many FBI agents.

FBI is awaiting permission from NARS to perform an even broader housecleaning of the Headquarters' files. This FBI request of May 4, 1977, was submitted by NARS to Congress, where Sen. James Abourezk's Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure (Judiciary Committee) has reportedly taken an interest. The destruction request must be cleared with Congress because Congress might have an investigative interest in the files, as a result of inquiries about Watergate, CIA, etc.

FBI Headquarters spokesman Tom Coll told CAUS on July 31, 1978, that the FBI had not yet received authorization from NARS to begin the HQ-file destruction.

CAUS urges its members to protest the FBI UFO-file destruction to Dr. James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the U.S., NARS, Washington, D.C. 20048, and to demand that UFO records be exempted from destruction in the future. CAUS understands that if there is sufficient public or news interest certain records will be preserved.

(References: The Nation 4 Feb 78 pp. 108-111, 25 Mar 78 pp. 325-326, 3 Jun 78 pp. 653-655; Los Angeles Times 13 Mar 78 part II p. 8.)

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BOLIVIAN DOCUMENTS RELEASED BY STATE DEPARTMENT: MYSTERY CONTINUES -- In earlier issues (May pp. 10-12 and June pp. 10-12), JUST CAUSE reported an incident that was said to have occurred in Bolivia on or about May 6, 1978. UPI disseminated a story about a week later reporting that a UFO crashed near the Bolivian mountain village of Padcaya (21°52'S. 64°46'W); that the U.S. space agency, NASA, was investigating the crash and had sent personnel to Bolivia.

CAUS queried NASA repeatedly to determine if the UPI report was factual. NASA officials denied adamantly any involvement other than receiving messages from the U.S. Embassy in La Paz, Bolivia. NASA said the messages contained mostly news reports from Bolivian newspapers and radio stations.

NASA referred CAUS to Col. Robert P. Eddington in the State Department's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) Advanced & Applied Technology Affairs (APT) Office of Technology Policy and Space Affairs (SA), or OES/APT/SA for short. Eddington said his office "kept track of launches," and he indicated fallen space objects were within his purview. He told CAUS his office had not determined whether the news stories were based on a real event or not. But Eddington said he had received unsubstantiated information that

an egg-shaped, four-meter diameter object had been recovered. He speculated that, if the report was accurate, the object might be a fallen propellant tank from a rocket.

CAUS sent an FOIA request to the State Department, on June 21, 1978, asking for all documents related to the Bolivian incident. Within a week, Mary Spruell of State's FOI Staff replied that unless the information sought was of interest to a broad segment of the public, rather than to a limited or specialized group, her office would charge search fees of \$11 per hour. Spruell's statement apparently was a State Department interpretation of subsection (4)(A) of the amended FOIA, which reads: "Documents shall be furnished without charge or at a reduced charge where the agency determines that waiver or reduction of the fees is in the public interest because furnishing the information can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public."

Spruell argued that CAUS's request "does not appear to fall into this category." CAUS vigorously protested that recent public opinion polls and the popular successes of "Close Encounters" and "Project UFO" clearly showed the information sought is of interest to a broad segment of the public.

Evidently, the rather pointed letter by CAUS Director Todd Zechel, in response to Spruell's refusal to waive search and copying fees, convinced State that UFO material appealed to a "broad segment of the public." On Sep. 1, 1978, Spruell wrote that: "A search of our files has revealed 6 documents relevant to your request. The enclosed 5 documents have been reviewed by the appropriate officials of the Department of State and there is no objection to their release. One document is still under review and will be the subject of further correspondence." No mention was made of search or reproduction fees; State obviously decided to waive them after all.

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Of the five documents released, three originally were UNCLASSIFIED, one was classified CONFIDENTIAL, and the other was SECRET. The earliest of the messages was sent on May 15 at 1909Z (3:09 p.m. EDT) from the U.S. Embassy in La Paz to the Secretary of State, with the action copy to State's Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs and information copies to CIA, NSA, NASA, and other units inside and outside State. It carried an IMMEDIATE precedence, a designator reserved for situations "gravely" affecting the national security, intelligence "essential" or "vital" to the national security, etc., and it read as follows:

"Subject: Report of Fallen Space Object. 1. The Bolivian newspapers carried this morning an article concerning an unidentified object that apparently recently fell from the sky. The papers quoted a 'Latin' correspondent's story from the Argentine city of Salta. The object was discovered near the Bolivian city of Bermejo (2245S-6420W) and was described as egg-shaped, metal and about four meters in diameter. 2. The Bolivian Air Force plans to investigate to determine what the object might be and from where it came. 3. Request the Department check with appropriate agencies to see if they can shed some light on what this object might be. The general region has had more than its share of reports of UFOs this past week. Request a reply ASAP. Boeker." (Note: Paul H. Boeker is U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia.)

State replied to Boeker on May 18, in an IMMEDIATE message, classified SECRET, and drafted by Col. Eddington of OES/APT/SA:

"Subject: Report of Fallen Space Object. Ref: La Paz 3804 (Note: Quoted above). 1. Preliminary information provided in referenced cable and FBIS (Note: Foreign Broadcast Information Service, a CIA unit that monitors foreign newspapers, publications, radio and TV broadcasts) cables Panama 142357Z (Note: May 14 at 2357Z) and Paraguay 161913Z (Note: May 16 at 1913Z) has been checked with

appropriate government agencies. No direct correlation with known space objects that may have reentered the earth's atmosphere near May 6 can be made. However, we are continuing to examine any possibilities. 2. Your attention is invited to State Airgram A-6343, July 26, 1973 which provides background information and guidance for dealing with space objects that have been found. In particular any information pertaining to the pre-impact observations, direction of trajectory, number of objects observed, time of impact and a detailed description including any markings would be helpful. Vance." (State 126725.)

At about this time, Project MOONDUST got involved. MOONDUST is a foreign-space-debris analysis program of the Air Force Systems Command's Foreign Technology Division (FTD/SDM) at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. FTD originated a CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN (means "No dissemination to Foreign Nationals," in this case Bolivians, it would seem) cable on May 19 that evidently referred to Latin American press reports and raised the question of MOONDUST involvement. (The FTD cable was not released to CAUS. We suspect it is the 6th document under State's FOIA review and we have sent a special request for it to FTD.)

On May 24, the U.S. Defense Attache Office (USDAO) in La Paz transmitted a CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN cable to FTD/SDM and to HQ USAF WASHDC/INYS (Air Force Intelligence Science & Technology Branch, or AFINYS for short), with info copies to DIA/DC-4B/DT-3B (Defense Intelligence Agency DC-4B is Guidance & Requirements Branch, Human Resources Division, Directorate of Collection Operations; DIADT-3B is Technical Data & Foreign Materiel Branch, Directorate of Scientific & Technical Intelligence), NORAD COC/DOFS (North American Air Defense Command Combat Operations Center/Aerospace Defense Command Space Operations Division), and the State Department. It read as follows:

"Subject: Moon Dust (U) (Note: "U" means subject title is unclassified).

Ref FTD CONF NOFORN 191830Z May 78, subj, as above & SECRET State 126725 (Note: Quoted earlier). 1. (C/NOFORN) (Note: This begins CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN part of cable) This office has tried to verify the stories put forth in references to the FTD msg and those which appeared in the local press. The Chief of Staff of the Bolivian Air Force told DATT/AIRA (Note: U.S. Defense Attache's Air Attache) this date that planes from the BAF (Note: Bolivian Air Force) have flown over the area where the object was supposed to have landed and in their search they drew a blank. Additionally, DATT/AIRA talked this date with the Commander of the Bolivian Army and he informed the DATT that the Army's search party directed to go into the area to find the object has found nothing. The Army has concluded that there may or not (sic) be an object, but to date nothing has been found. 2. (U) (Note: Remainder of message UNCLASSIFIED) Will keep you informed if anything factual turns up. GDS 31 Dec 84." (Note: Under the General Declassification Schedule, this cable ordinarily would not have been declassified until Dec. 31, 1984.)

From what CAUS can determine, the May 24 USDAO message was based on an expedition of Bolivian Army soldiers and scientists that returned from the suspected impact area on May 21. CAUS has reliable information from an American source that this expedition did not get to Cerro Bravo (Bravo Mountain), the suspected crash site, because the slopes were too steep to negotiate.

After the first expedition returned, a young Bolivian astronomer, who had been part of that team, flew over Cerro Bravo in a BAF plane with a BAF pilot, making five or six passes to observe a rockslide he had noticed earlier from the ground. He became convinced something had struck the side of the mountain, causing the slide.

A second expedition consisting of three BAF officers and a guide set out on horseback on May 23, reaching the rockslide on foot on May 25. The officers told

the American source they believe something crashed into the mountain but they could not find any debris. The officers reached this conclusion because: the rockslide appeared to be recent; it had created huge monolith-like boulders three meters (10 ft) tall and two meters (6 ft) in diameter; they found a 100-meter trench running parallel to the slide three to four meters (10-13 ft) wide at the top; some of the large rocks appeared to have been burned, having a whitish appearance as though seared by extremely high heat; and the grass around the sides and the top of the slide area was brown and withered for about 100 meters, whereas grass further away was green. K

At present, it is not known if the information gathered by the second expedition--which returned on May 27--ever reached the U.S. Government. (The latest document released was dated May 26 and it merely promised to pouch on May 29 a copy of State Airgram A-6343 to Bolivia as requested on May 19.) Strangely, none of the State Department documents even alludes to the type of detailed and significant information given to CAUS by a reliable American source. Whether this denotes a coverup or a simple foulup is yet to be seen.

CAUS research director Brad Sparks has devised a possible explanation for the Bolivian incident: For the last eight years, the Soviets have occasion have placed heavy (20-ton) maneuverable payloads into high-energy orbits. These satellites are each equipped with a rocket stage (weight included in the 20 tons) to enable them to maneuver in space. (One theory has it that these are orbital tests of the Soviet version of our Lunar Module.) The report in the Salta, Argentina, newspaper (mentioned in Ambassador Boeker's May 15 cable) of an "egg-shaped" metal object about 4 meters in diameter is consistent with the 4-meter-diameter upper stages of the so-called "D" class Soviet satellite launchers that lift these maneuverable payloads into high orbits. Then there are the low-altitude Soviet ocean surveillance satellites (such as the one that reentered over Canada recent-

ly), launched by "F" class rockets, and fitted with 2-meter-diameter station-keeping rocket stages to keep the payloads from reentering too soon.

Suppose one of these satellites failed and reentered the earth's atmosphere before consuming much of its propellant. The fuel and oxidizer tanks might have survived reentry because of their strong high-pressure design--and the Soviets are known to use more and denser metal (usually steel) for their sturdy rockets than seems necessary when compared to U.S. rockets.

During the fiery descent, the tanks might have leaked (even caught fire), thus accounting for some reports of course-changes and aerial blasts (JUST CAUSE, June 1978, p. 10). On impact with the mountain slope, the tanks still may have been leaking fiery propellant, thus accounting for the scorched rocks. Such fires might have been extinguished by a final rupture or explosion of the tank(s) at the end of the 100-meter slide, thus spraying propellant over a wide area. Ice-cold (cryogenic) fuel or oxidizer sprayed over the ground might explain the unburned dead grass.

"Catastrophic decays," as the deep-space reentries are called by NORAD, and even routine decays are observed by certain highly classified sensor systems, and the decay locations anywhere in the world can be fixed to within a precision of tens of meters. This raises the possibility that such a decay of a Soviet space vehicle occurred on May 6, 1978, that the U.S. recovered the remains (say, by May 11 or 12), and that the U.S. let everyone think it was surprised about the event when news leaked to the local press by May 14. This would obviate the need for the U.S. to return this useful intelligence materiel to the Soviet Union as required by treaty--"officially" the U.S. would know nothing about the material. Stranger things have happened in the realm of the U.S. Intelligence Community, e.g. the Glomar Explorer and the conflicting stories about how much of the Soviet submarine was retrieved, or even who ran the operation (CIA, NSA, or NSC).



There are, of course, problems with this theory and discrepancies. If the rocket came down tumbling, its burning or leaking propellant could not point in any preferred direction so as to cause a course-change--but that observer-report might be erroneous. Soviet propellant tanks are not likely to be "egg-shaped," or even round, since they can use enough excess steel to simply section off the cylindrical rocket into two tanks. Even if the Soviets made bathysphere-like tanks for the "D" class maneuverable stage, the tanks would be shaped more like squat pumpkins, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  meters high by 4 meters diameter, than like eggs. And the "F" class maneuverable stage tanks would be shaped similarly, but only about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  meters high by 2 meters diameter. But the "egg-shaped" 4-meter-diameter report might, after all, be erroneous, too.

Further, this theory might not account for the 100-meter-long trench dug in the mountain slope, depending on how deep it was. The width (3-4 meters) is about right. Another possible problem is the Col. Eddington cable of May 18--but clever weasel-wording and hedging might eliminate it: Eddington said there was no "direct" correlation with "known" space objects that might have reentered at about the right time--leaving open the possibility of indirect correlations of known objects or of direct correlations of temporarily unknown earth-satellites. Then the hedge: "However, we are continuing to examine any possibilities." Still, public records of orbiting objects have enough continuity and completeness to make it difficult for the U.S. to conceal a reentry of a large object for very long, what with the British, Swedes, Germans, Soviets, and others, watching the skies to double-check them.

And so the Bolivian mystery lingers. --WTZ, with BCS.

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NICAP TARGET FOR KGB OPERATIONS -- CAUS has developed reliable information that a KGB officer or agent thought to be Gennadiy I. Fedosov, First Secretary for Public Cultural Exchanges, Soviet Embassy offices, Washington, D.C., attempted to recruit NICAP President John L. "Jack" Acuff in May 1977. The purpose of the operation is not clear at present: One theory is that the Soviets noticed NICAP had developed confidential sources who were providing the group with classified UFO reports, such as the NORAD message about the 1975 flap and the Iranian, Moroccan, and Tunisian UFO reports of 1976--parts of which were published in the NICAP newsletter, UFO Investigator. In that case, the Soviets either were interested in the sources of the classified data or in the UFO data, or both.

Another theory contends NICAP was targeted because of certain covert CIA employees who hold or held important positions in the organization. Still another theory explains the attempted recruitment as a continuation of the KGB operations aimed at the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers (SPSE) from 1967 to 1970, when Jack Acuff was its Executive Director.

The KGB operations against SPSE began rather innocuously: The Soviets ordered books about--presumably--photometry and photogrammetry from SPSE, sending checks for them through the mail. The FBI intercepted the checks and/or monitored the bank accounts, then phoned Acuff to inquire as to their purpose. From then on, Acuff made a point of notifying one particular FBI agent whenever Soviet checks came in. Eventually, Acuff's relationship with the Bureau reached the point where he would meet Soviet personnel at the secret request and guidance of the FBI. The Special Agent-in-Charge (SAC) of the Washington FBI office told Acuff he thought the KGB was trying to "get through to some of the people who are doing classified work" in the SPSE.

In May 1970, Acuff became President of NICAP, and left SPSE. This made no

difference to the FBI, but it did to Acuff: The FBI asked him to initiate new contacts with the Soviets, but Acuff declined. Apparently, there was no further communication with the Soviets until May 1977, when Fedosov phoned Acuff to try to arrange a meeting. Fedosov said he was interested in UFOs personally and he wanted to discuss the subject with Acuff.

The NICAP head cleared the meeting with the FBI and met Fedosov for lunch in a downtown Washington restaraunt. The Soviet never once mentioned UFOs, despite his earlier professed interest. Instead, Fedosov made a rather intriguing offer to Acuff, one that could be interpreted as part of a cultural exchange, or as part of something more ominous: "You will have a lot more money soon. You'll have a lot more space. You're going to have to learn a foreign language because you'll be traveling abroad."

Afterward, Acuff dutifully reported the Soviet offer to the FBI. The agent told Acuff, "We think they will offer you money; what we want to know is what the strings are." Evidently, Acuff never did learn what were the "strings," since Fedosov never contacted Acuff again, as far as CAUS can determine. The Soviets did attempt to recontact Acuff in late July or August 1978, when another KGB officer or agent came to NICAP headquarters in Kensington, Md., but Acuff was out of the office at the time.

Though the reasons for the KGB interest in NICAP are not yet clear, it is known that the founder and original Chief of the CIA's Psychological and Political Warfare Staff, Colonel Joseph Bryan, 3rd, (USAF-Ret.), is a prominent member of the NICAP Board of Governors. (JUST CAUSE, April 1978, pp. 8-9.) Some observers suspect the CIA's interest in NICAP stemmed from the Agency's concern about the dangers of Soviet psychological exploitation of NICAP's vociferous charges of government coverup, which Donald Keyhoe and others hurled repeatedly throughout

the late 1950s and early/mid 1960s. Whether or not Bryan's involvement with NICAP was related to this CIA concern, and whether or not he took part in some sort of plot to neutralize the organization, is not yet known. But more information is coming to light all the time, with 1978 being the most fruitful year of all since Brad Sparks' discovery of the Bryan-CIA connection in December 1974. More may be revealed when documents are released by the CIA. --WTZ.

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SUBPENAS FOR CRASHED SAUCER WITNESSES: CAUS PLANS FOIA SUIT AGAINST AIR FORCE ET AL.

Much has been said about so-called crashed saucers in recent months (and during the past 29 years), but not much constructive action has been taken, other than making charges and staging news conferences. Todd Zechel, Director of CAUS, has investigated a dozen or so such cases and has found only one that seems to have substance.

In that case, Zechel obtained the first lead while working in a National Security Agency communications center in 1964. He has since tracked down five people who have knowledge of the incident: A former NSA colleague, two of his colleague's uncles (one a retired Air Force Colonel and the other an NCO still with NSA), a retired Air Force Lt. Colonel, and a now-deceased career Navy officer.

All of the people involved are reluctant witnesses, as one might expect. But in piecing together what they have told Zechel and their friends and relatives, it has become evident that some sort of extraordinary vehicle crashed near the Texas-Mexico border in the late 1940s and it was recovered by U.S. armed forces.

More recently, Zechel tried to bring this evidence to the attention of the White House and NASA. The President's national security advisor, through another White House official, informed Zechel that the Air Force denied any such incident

took place. Although NASA repeatedly asserted its willingness to investigate UFO physical evidence, it offered no encouragement to Zechel that it would either meet with the officers or investigate their claims. NASA evinced no interest in actively seeking out physical evidence of extraterrestrial visitation (seemingly its primary mission if one believes its own statements), but said it would consider such evidence if delivered to its laboratories. (Should there be more than a few tons, transporting this to NASA could become a problem.)

Zechel submitted detailed FOIA requests to the CIA and Air Force on July 13 and 14, 1978, asking for records of the incident. CIA did not deny it has such information categorically, but it suggested Zechel contact the Air Force as this type of incident would come under its purview. Col. Jack Morris, executive for Air Force Intelligence (AFIN) and director of AFIN Command Management Support, replied on Aug. 17. Morris denied AFIN had any records related to such an incident.

While waiting for other Air Force units to respond to his elaborate July 14 request, Zechel filed an FOIA appeal with AFIN on Sep. 7, threatening to file an FOIA lawsuit if the Air Force does not produce the records demanded. The Air Force now has 20 working days to respond to the appeal, after which Zechel is free to file suit--unless the Air Forces supplies the documents.

CAUS would like to raise a retainer fee of \$5,000 to pursue the FOIA action against the Air Force. Legal fees and expenses for the GSW suit have thus far come to nearly \$8,000, but Peter Gersten has been forced to do most of the work on his own time, rather than during company hours, because GSW lacks funds to pay the entire amount. A retainer of \$5,000 would accelerate the litigation by allowing Gersten to devote most of his company time to the FOIA suits.

It is essential to note that both GSW and CAUS expect to be reimbursed by

the U.S. Government for their legal costs, in accordance with subsection (4)(E) of the FOIA: "The court may assess against the United States reasonable attorney fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred in any case under this section in which the complainant has substantially prevailed." GSW, soon to win the release of a large number of UFO-related documents, will submit that it has prevailed substantially and ask for an assessment.

In an action unprecedented in the history of the UFO controversy, CAUS intends to subpoena all of the military officers who know of the recovery of an extraterrestrial vehicle and a number of government officials thought to have knowledge of the incident. By compelling officials to testify, CAUS hopes to either prove or disprove the occurrence of such an event, to lay the crashed saucer rumors to rest in one way or another.

The CAUS suit depends on the support of the UFOlogical community and the general public. Many people have been looking forward to an opportunity such as this to discover "the truth" for a very long time. We hope the UFOlogical community will realize this is a unique chance to see if physical evidence exists. Judging from the reaction to the recent MUFON Symposium, many thousands of people believe in such a possibility. If these UFOlogists and UFO buffs would each contribute a small donation, we could collect the needed sum in short order.

The goal is \$5,000 by the end of October. It is a "put your money where your mouth is" challenge. If you decide to meet the challenge, please make checks payable to Peter Gersten/CAUS, 191 E. 161st St., Bronx, NY 10451. Please specify the money is for the FOIA retainer. If the suit is not filed for any reason within the next six months, your donation will be returned to you, unless you indicate otherwise. --WTZ.

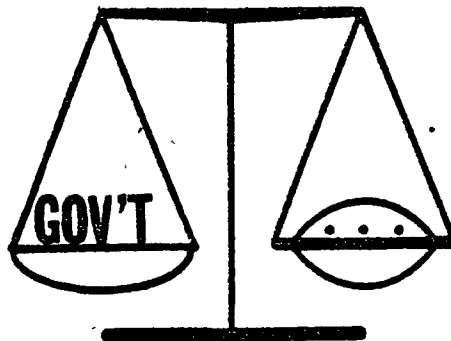
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# JUST CAUSE



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY (CAUS)

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Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., et al., v. CIA, et al., Civil Action 78-859 (D.D.C.)  
PAYDAY NEAR ON FOIA LAWSUIT- (Washington, D.C.) On or about December 17, 1978, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is scheduled to release the results of its comprehensive search of files for UFO-related documents made in accordance with a stipulation submitted in September (1978) by Peter Gersten, attorney for Ground Saucer Watch (GSW).

The stipulation, submitted at the request of the CIA through U.S. Attorney William Briggs, specified which components of the Agency the plaintiff, GSW, wanted searched in line with the amended complaint Gersten filed in behalf the Phoenix-based research group in August. (Following a July 7th Status Call conference, GSW was granted permission by the Court to seek all CIA UFO documents in an amended complaint.) By mid-September, the stipulation was made an official court order by U.S. District Judge John Pratt and the CIA was given 90 days to search the stipulated components, make determinations of releasability, and index whatever documents it intended to withhold.

Prior to the stipulation, the CIA, in a letter to CAUS Director W. Todd Zechel, indicated it had already located "1,000 additional pages" of UFO materials. Subsequently, U.S. Attorney Briggs, representing the CIA, indicated to Peter Gersten that the Agency had found a "substantial" number of documents in addition to the 1,000 pages previously mentioned--perhaps as many as 10,000.

On November 24, 1978, U.S. Attorney Briggs informed Gersten that the CIA expected to comply with the 90-day stipulation and would produce by December 17th the documents considered releaseable, along with an affidavit detailing the documents being withheld, including a list of exemptions claimed for each item being denied. According to Gersten, "Once again, the U.S. Attorney indicated that the documents are believed to be substantial in number, but refused--because of the short period of time--to indicate the exact amount."

Gersten also disclosed that on November 22 he received three documents from the Defense Intelligence Agency which had been forwarded to the Department of Defense from the CIA, pursuant to the FOIA suit. Of the three DIA documents, two had not been previously released and contained Intelligence Reports (IRs) of civilian UFO sightings in Iran during June and July of 1978. The third document was the previously-released "Iranian Report" of September 1976. All three reports were originated by the U.S. Defense Attache's Office (USDAO) in Tehran.

(In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, only the originating agency is empowered to declassify and/or release documents. Thus, whatever documents the CIA locates in its files that were originated by other agencies must be forwarded to the pertinent agency for review and release.)

However, although the DIA documents revealed two UFO incidents most researchers were unaware of, the most significant disclosure was contained in IR 6 846 0392 78. Page two of the report makes reference to an evaluation performed on the now-famous Iranian incident of September 1976, referring to an analysis conducted by a DIA component coded as "DB-3B2." (This component as subsequently identified as the "Directorate of Intelligence Research-Western Division" by Louis Foster, FOIA Officer of the DIA.) At this point, it is not clear as to whether the evaluation was complete and/or that any conclusions were arrived at. Foster stated he would release the evaluation document to CAUS, along with two other DIA IRs, originated in 1974 from a country not specified in the conversation.

Currently, a small amount of confusion exists as to how many of the documents the CIA has located were originated by Department of Defense components. Gersten received a letter from Charles Hinkle, Director of Freedom of Information and Security Review, DOD, stating that his office had received a number of documents from the CIA to be returned to the originator for clearance. Curiously, however, Hinkle's letter identifies the originating agencies as the Defense Intelligence Agency and the U.S. Army--no mention was made of the Air Force, which seemingly would have transmitted a large number of UFO-related messages to the CIA. Gersten queried the U.S. Attorney about the matter, but only managed



to determine that the CIA forwarded "at least 100 documents" to the Department of Defense. If this figure is accurate, and Gersten's estimate--based on comments made by the U.S. Attorney--that the CIA has located in excess of 5,000 documents is equally correct, then it would seem the Agency's information channels provided it with a large amount of purportedly uninvited UFO data.

Obviously, at this point it is extremely difficult to determine how much information the CIA will release. Speculation about the forthcoming event consists mostly of expressions of distrust of the CIA, with many informed observers suspecting the really significant material will either be withheld or "not found." Former CIA employees, in particular those who worked in the Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI) or the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC), cling to the position that the Agency had no interest or involvement with UFOs beyond the Robertson Panel (January 1953). It should be noted, however, that these individuals do not enjoy a reputation for being candid or forthright about events they've been directly involved in. Therefore, it is difficult to attach much credibility to their comments.

Comment: The GSW FOIA lawsuit is probably one of the most important events in the history of UFOlogy, yet it receives very little attention in the UFOlogical press and has gathered little support other than expressions of sympathy. In the meantime, accusations of multiple crashed saucer recoveries and other unsubstantiated claims are made in a circus sideshow atmosphere, seemingly designed only to draw attention. Publicity seems more important than results to these people; allegations are prolific but evidence is scarce. When offered an opportunity to take part in an effort to bring their claims into court, as part of an FOIA suit, they hastily back away. But they don't shy away from publicity or from making more allegations.

CAUS wishes to thank and commend GSW Director William "Bill" Spaulding for his support, both financially and morally, of the suit. Ground Saucer Watch, although one of the smallest and least commercial of the major groups, has financed this tremendous effort out of its own treasury, virtually without assistance.

Unfortunately, the most difficult part of the lawsuit may lie just ahead. If the CIA decides to withhold or expurgate a large number of documents, it will be up to GSW and Peter Gersten to force these documents to be released through litigation, defeating the CIA's claimed exemptions by presenting arguments to the court. It won't be easy--not many plaintiffs have ever prevailed against

the CIA. In fact, the onus would be on Gersten to establish precedents.

Quite frankly, ultimate victory in the suit may depend upon the support the effort receives from the UFOlogical community. Rumors and allegations are, as usual, in excess; funds and encouragement are in short supply. If that is reversed, then perhaps all UFO evidence can be made available for study and the subject would soon be awarded the recognition it deserves.

~~###~~

AIR FORCE, NSA AND FBI: EGG-ON-THE-FACE OVER CUBAN INCIDENT - ROBERT TODD: A FRIGHTENED UFOLOGIST - As reported in JUST CAUSE past issues (#4&#5), an incident reported to have occurred in the skies over Cuba in March 1967, involving the "zapping" of a Cuban MIG-21 by a UFO, caused the Air Force and National Security Agency (NSA) to make threats against FOIA requester Robert Todd when he attempted to obtain government records of the incident.

NSA, an agency that typically says only "no comment" when queried about almost anything, reacted to Todd's threat to write to the Cuban government about the incident (as had been suggested to him by the CIA) by sending two FBI agents to his home in Ardmore, Pa., on July 28, 1978. The agents indicated to Todd that a half-page statement describing the incident which had been provided to him by a former NSA "security analyst" (actually, the NSA employee was a voice intercept operator and the statement was provided to Todd by Stan Friedman, who had been in contact with the source; Todd did not and does not know the source) was classified "above SECRET," and that such information, if transmitted to a foreign government, would be a serious violation of espionage laws. Having been read his "Miranda Rights" at the beginning of the interrogation, Todd was admittedly frightened by the agents' visit and remains disturbed about it even now.

However, Todd was not intimidated. Subsequent to the FBI visit, he wrote to both the Air Force and NSA, asking them to declare which portions of the "security analyst's" statement were classified, indicating that if such identification was made he would not disseminate or transmit the classified portions. NSA responded to Todd's July 31st letter on August 8th, stating, "This agency has located no record indicating that the incident related in the attachment to your 14 July 1978 letter in fact occurred. However, information contained in the attachment related to the alleged manner in which information about this incident was obtained and handled is classified since, as you assert, its origin is a former U.S. intelligence analyst. Any disclosure of such information by a United States intelligence analyst was presumably an unauthorized disclosure in violation of the law."

"Since you have been informed that such information is classified, I call your attention to the provisions of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 798, prohibiting the knowing unauthorized disclosure of classified information about or derived by communications intelligence activities of the United States Government. You are, of course, free to describe the incident in question to anyone (including the Cuban government) as long as you do not disclose classified information about U.S. Government activities or the manner in which information about the incident was allegedly obtained."

Signed by Daniel Silver, General Counsel, the NSA letter amounted to a lot of doubletalk and a refusal to flatly state that the "security analyst's" statement was classified or identify which portions should not be disseminated. And the Air Force didn't fare much better, almost matching NSA's doublespeak.

Responding to Todd's August 7th request for his FOIA case file (all documents generated as a result of his request), on September 14th, Col. James Johnson, Executive Officer of the USAF's Office of the Judge Advocate General, stated: "You have requested confirmation of the classification of the 'statement' attached to your letter of 14 July 1978 addressed to Mr. Nelson. You are advised that the Air Force can neither confirm nor deny the authenticity of this statement, nor the existence of any records concerning the incident described therein. However, if authentic I am advised the statement would be classified SECRET in its entirety."

Col. Johnson went on to state that the Air Force could release to Todd only the letters he had sent and received, excluding the "security analyst's" statement; all of which Todd obviously already possessed. As for the rest of the records, Johnson stated: "The following documents are also responsive to your request, but are exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (1) and (b) (5). They are classified, in whole or in part, in the interest of the national defense. They contain discussion which, if disclosed, would reveal Air Force intelligence gathering interests and practices. Further, they are pre-decisional in nature, and contain opinions and recommendations. Since they were prepared in reasonable anticipation of a civil action or proceeding, they are also not subject to the access provisions of the Privacy Act."

"a. Memorandum for Record on USAFSS/DAD (\*Air Force Security Service/ Directorate of Administration) letter of March 24, 1978.

b. HQ USAFSS/CS letter, 5 May 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL (Air Force Judge Advocate General, Litigation Division\*).

(\*)=Acronym translations by CAUS Staff

- c. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 22 May 1978 to HQ USAF/SPIB (\*Air Force Security Police, Classification and Safeguarding Branch).
- d. HQ USAF/SPIB letter of 25 May 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL.
- e. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 19 June 1978 to the following Air Force offices:
  - (1) Intelligence (IN)
  - (2) Security Police (SP)
  - (3) Judge Advocate General(JA)
  - (4) Information (SAF/OI)
  - (5) Assistant Vice Chief of Staff (CVA)
  - (6) General Counsel (SAF/GC)
  - (7) Administrative Assistant to the Secretary (SAF/AA)
- f. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 23 June 1978 to HQ USAF/IN (Air Force Intelligence\*)
- g. HQ AFIS/INS (Air Force Intelligence Service, no translation available for "INS" \*)  
letter of 28 June 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL.
- h. HQ USAF/JACL Memorandum of 29 June 1978.
- i. HQ USAF/JACL letter of 21 July 1978 to HQ USAF/IN.
- j. HQ AFIS/INS letter of 1 August 1978 to HQ USAF/JACL."

Comment: The reactions, actions and statements made by the National Security Agency and the Air Force in this matter, when viewed collectively, give every indication of confirming the authenticity of the source's description of the incident. Informed observers and former intelligence employees can see no reason for the government's behavior other than an attempt to suppress information about an amazing UFO incident.

The former voice operator's statement, while arguably disclosing a small amount of sensitive information about NSA and AFSS, certainly doesn't warrant more than a pro forma attempt to plug a leak. However, NSA and AFSS chose to act like Nixon's "plumbers," sending memos and agents in a near-panic attempt to determine the source of the information.

Having tracked down and spoken with the NSA source for the Cuban story, the CAUS Director can vouch for the intercept operator's sincerity and apparent honesty. Both the source and Robert Todd have been shaken by the government's conduct, but neither are intimidated to the point of foregoing their efforts to determine and disseminate the truth. CAUS vows to support them in whatever manner is necessary.

###

LEGAL PURSUIT FUND OFF TO MODEST START - In response to the plea issued in the last issue of JUST CAUSE for the establishment of a special fund of at least \$5,000, by which we can retain the services of CAUS Legal Consultant Peter Gersten, we are pleased to announce the receipt of \$200 from a long-time polemicist in the struggle against UFO secrecy. He prefers anonymity

at the present time.

CAUS hopes to build a special "defense" fund which would give us the latitude to file Freedom of Information lawsuits whenever we found it necessary--and that happens almost daily--and to defend or otherwise assist anyone who encounters difficulties as the result of disclosing information related to UFOs. Mr. Gersten has donated many, many hours of his valuable time to UFOlogy and it would be totally unreasonable to expect him to take part in forthcoming legal actions without compensation. Furthermore, his obligations to his employer would prevent him from devoting needed time to the litigation unless a retainer fee was paid.

Our anonymous benefactor said it best in his accompanying note: "This fund to finance the use of the U.S. Freedom of Information Act in prying the lid off the 'crashed saucer' story and other important evidence is something that should have been established by responsible researchers a long time ago. Let's hope my token amount will be more than matched in weeks to come by legions of donors prepared to cease mouthing the status quo and to start coughing up the dough."

###

1959 "PSYCHIC" INCIDENT ADDED TO UFO FOLKLORE: CAUS FINDS DISCREPANCIES -

"Old UFO incidents never die--it's impossible to kill them." No, this isn't a statement made by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, or even UFO explainer Philip Klass, but it does seem to be true. Once an incident becomes widely reported--and widely accepted, usually without thorough investigation--it seems nearly impossible to ever explain or identify the sighting (or incident) as anything other than another "bona fide" case. Typically, whenever someone does come forward with negative information about a famous case, he's either ignored or scorned. And this applies to UFO advocates as well as UFO debunkers.

One such famous case is the July 6, 1959, so-called "Psychic Incident" which took place at a CIA building in downtown Washington, D.C. In most reports, the building is identified as "CIA Headquarters." In reality, there was nothing glamorous about the place, nor was it a "Headquarters." Located at 5th and K Sts., N.W., it was known as the "Stewart Building," with an automobile dealership on the ground floor and the CIA occupying the four floors above. It was a shabby and dreary building right in the middle of a high-crime area--personnel from the place often got mugged during their late-night excursions for takeout food. All in all, an unlikely site for a UFO

---

CAUS Staff: W. Todd Zechel, Director - Former intelligence employee; held TOP SECRET+ security clearance with the National Security Agency/Army Security Agency  
Brad C. Sparks, Director of Research - Physics major with UC-Berkely; long-time student of the U.S. intelligence community; considered an expert on intelligence involvement with UFOs - Larry W. Bryant, Administrator - One of the founding fathers of the anti-UFO secrecy movement: long-time editor with government publications.

sighting, and an even unlikelier spot for an attempt to contact extraterrestrials through psychic means.

But that's what reportedly occurred on July 6, 1959. And according to a report filed by Major Robert Friend, USAF, Commanding Officer of Project Blue Book, contact was made, a UFO appeared upon request and was viewed through the window by CIA personnel, and the sighting was later confirmed by radar.

Friend's version of the incident appears in "UFOs: Past, Present, and Future," a movie produced by Allan Sandler and also the title of a book written by Robert Emenegger, who wrote the script for the movie. Both the book's and movie's versions of the incident were based on a document provided by Dr. David Jacobs, author of "The UFO Controversy in America," who happened across Friend's hand-written memo on the incident in the files of Dr. Hynek. Subsequently, Jacobs interviewed Friend about the memo and was sworn to secrecy as to the names of the individuals listed as participants in the report--CIA and Navy personnel.

Because neither Jacobs nor Emenegger/Sandler attempted to talk with any of the participants and publicized the incident without ever verifying the details, CAUS Director Todd Zechel made it a priority mission to conduct an investigation. It took nearly two years to determine the names, and, so far, Zechel has interviewed only one of the participants, Arthur Lundahl. This is Zechel's reconstruction of what occurred, based on his investigation:

In 1954, Mrs. Guy Swan of Elliot, Maine, began claiming she was in contact with extraterrestrial beings who were orbiting Earth in an artificial satellite. Mrs. Swan claimed she communicated with these beings through a "sound-on-sound" device; when they wished to speak with her she would hear an audible whistling noise, at which time "they" would begin speaking to her and she would speak back, each hearing the other by means of the invisible device. No telepathic or psychic method was involved.

Soon, Mrs. Swan spread the good news to her neighbors, retired Navy Admiral Knowles and his wife. Both were impressed and requested Mrs. Swan to ask questions of her alien friends. Of course, the "aliens" would never contact Mrs. Swan when anyone else was present, but she would write down their answers to the Knowles' questions. Admiral Knowles then decided to write to the Office of Naval Intelligence and ask them to check out some of her information, some of which seemed to entail technology beyond her knowledge and comprehension. (According to the Navy Intelligence Command's Inspector General Office, the Navy received Knowles' letter and asked the FBI to investigate. Sometime in 1954, apparently, the FBI

interviewed Mrs. Swan. CAUS has requested the records from the FBI.)

In any case, Knowles' letter apparently remained in ONI files until July of 1959, when USN Commander Julius M. Larsen happened across it. Larsen was an ONI liaison officer to the CIA's Photographic Interpretation Center at 5th and K Sts. He was also a pilot and needed some flying time to keep his pilot's status, so he and a Lt. Commander flew to Elliot, Maine. They spent the evening talking with Mrs. Swan about her extraterrestrial contacts, slept in the Knowles' home and returned the following day.

Larsen, like Knowles, was impressed with Mrs. Swan. But he was confused. Mrs. Swan had experimented with automatic writing prior to 1954, but nothing much had come of it. However, she demonstrated automatic writing--a procedure that called for placing oneself in a psychic trance--to Cmdr. Larsen. He assumed this was the means by which she communicated with her "alien" friends: a false assumption that was furthered by the reams of messages she had written down and were strewn throughout her home.

Thus, on July 6, 1959, after he had signed in at the guarded entrance of the Photo Interpretation Center, Larsen headed straight for the office of the Center's Director, Arthur Lundahl, knowing that Lundahl was deeply interested in UFOs and psychic phenomena. Larsen walked in, sat down and subsequently went into a trance. Present were Lundahl and his assistant, Lt. Cmdr. Robert Neasham, who formerly worked at the Naval Photographic Interpretation Center (NavPIC) when Lundahl directed that center. In fact, Neasham, along with civilian employee Harry Woo, spent countless hours analyzing the Newhouse/Tremonton UFO film and testified about his conclusions before the Robertson/CIA Panel in January 1953. Neasham and Woo had concluded the objects on the film were extraterrestrial spacecraft and both became very upset when the Panel rejected their conclusions and opted for the infamous "seagull" explanation.

Larsen, in the meantime, was writing the answers to questions he was asking: performing a curious sort of rite in which he would voice the questions and receive the answers telepathically through automatic writing. Lundahl glanced at the paper Larsen was writing on and could not discern anything intelligible: what in Larsen's mind were declarations made by superior alien beings appeared to Lundahl to be nothing more than childish scrawls. Neasham, on the other hand, was more impressed. As Cmdr. Larsen continued with his question-and-answer session, Neasham asked, "Can we see proof?" Larsen, switching from writing to speaking, suddenly, said, "Go to the window, we'll fly by for you." At this point, both Lundahl and Neasham quickly covered the short distance

to the room's only window and searched the sky for the promised appearance. Neasham, more eager to see something than Lundahl, noticed there were strange cloud formations, isolated, turbulent fluffs that formed and dissolved before their eyes. Perhaps Neasham thought the promised spaceship lurked behind one the many clouds swirling around in the sky, but Lundahl says, "At no time did I see a spaceship or a UFO. And, to the best of my knowledge, neither did Bob (Neasham)."

In spite of the fact nothing of any consequence occurred, other than Neasham suspecting a UFO lurking behind the clouds, both Lundahl and his assistant decided to report the trance session to Project Blue Book. It's possible Neasham influenced Lundahl in this regard by telling him he had phoned the Washington National Airport radar section and they had informed him that radar returns from that sector of the city were "blocked out" during the time of the sighting. Whether Neasham ever made such a call or was told such a thing is open to question; Neasham, it seems, is prone to embellishment, if not fabrication.

Lundahl had suggested to Neasham that he phone Blue Book and invite the commanding officer, Major Friend, to drop in on them the next time he was Washington and they'd tell him about their experience. Neasham, however, got carried away as usual and more or less ordered Friend to come immediately to Washington for an important briefing.

Friend arrived on July 9th, prepared to be given a "TOP SECRET" briefing by CIA personnel on UFOs. Instead, he was taken to Lundahl's office by Neasham and the two chatted about the Tremonton and Great Falls UFO films, which Lundahl had supervised the analysis of. Subsequently, Neasham briefed Friend about the July 6th incident, telling him a UFO was seen out the window and confirmed by radar. Friend, needless to say, was impressed and amazed. Being basically in awe of the CIA, it never dawned on him he might be receiving erroneous information. Later, Larsen came to the building and in Friend's presence attempted to re-contact Mrs. Swan's alien friends. Nothing much happened except that Cmdr. Larsen scrawled the same incomprehensible doodles on paper. A request for another fly-by went unanswered in the cloudless sky.

Friend returned to Wright-Patterson and filed a report with his superiors, whereupon he was told to drop interest in the matter--his superior would take care of it. It might have died a deserved death right there had it not been for Jacobs finding Friend's hand-written memo in Hynek's files and any number of opportunistic writers who've latched onto it since.

###

JUST CAUSE will be publishing at least two issues in December, including reports on the CIA documents, KGB interests in UFOs worldwide, DIA reports of UFO sightings, Air Force UFO sightings, Navy reports, crashed saucer update, etc., etc. etc.



Comment: The reason it took nearly two years to get to the bottom of this case was because those persons who participated in the event or had knowledge of it all felt the need to protect the names of the key individuals. Lt. Col. (USAF-Ret.) Robert Friend believed he was under a caveat not to disclose the names and, moreover, wouldn't and didn't speak about the incident until the Secretary of the Air Force's office had cleared it. (This came about as result of Emenegger/Sandler getting permission to use the case in their film.) Even after Jacobs discovered the memo in Dr. Hynek's files (seemingly, Hynek "borrowed" the memo from Project Blue Book files while serving as Scientific Consultant), Friend felt obligated to protect the sources and swore Jacobs to secrecy about the names.

I was able to ascertain Lundahl's name from Col. Friend, however, through a series of interviews. At first, Lundahl denied any involvement in the incident, but did say it hadn't happened as had been reported. Lundahl also felt obliged to protect Cmdr. Larsen, knowing this was not an official experiment of any sort and that Larsen considered it a personal experience. In addition, Lundahl's eventual admissions rather impugned his top assistant for many years, Bob Neasham. Therefore, Lundahl was understandably reluctant to discuss the event in any detail.

Be that as it may, it seems to me that the writers and producers who reported the incident should have at least talked with one of the main witnesses to make sure it had happened as described in Friend's memo. Had they done so, and had they subjected this case to the kind of scrutiny all UFO incidents need to be under, it would have never made its way into UFO folklore and I would have been saved the expense and anguish of investigating it. WTZ

###

FT. RILEY LANDING: HOAX OR DELUSION? - Another case headed for the UFO folklore collection is one being currently promoted on radio shows across the country by former soldier stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, Aaron David Kaback, who claims to have guarded a "flying saucer" that had landed at the base.

Kaback originally wrote to CAUS on June 29, 1978, stating: "This is probably the hardest letter that I have ever written But (sic) I swear to God every word of it is true." He then went on to describe how he had been on guard duty sometime in November of 1965, standing sentry at the motor pool, when the Duty Officer came along at about 2 AM and ordered him into his jeep. The O.D. drove Kaback to a remote area on the base, where they met three other enlisted men who had also been pulled off their regular posts. The four men were taken to the rear of five-ton truck parked there in the field. According to Kaback: "...we drove for about 10 minutes and came to an area where there were three officers standing in the

back of a 5 ton (sic) truck, ...we were given a full clip of M-14 ammo, and told that 'our balls' would be shot off if we gave out any information on the object we were to guard."

"After about a ten minute hike we came to an area where a large oval object was resting, an army chopper was flying above the object and shining a powerful light on it, lighting up quite an area, (sic) at times the chopper would fly a short distance away and light up the area away from the object. The object I guarded was approx (sic) 35 to 48 feet in diameter (sic) had a fin on the end and an exhaust port, or some kind of hole below the fin, (sic) it also had a row of squares all around its rim...the object was completely dead and never moved during the 2½ hours that we guarded it. I can only tell you that this was no known object of the U.S. Army. I had read little about UFOs until after that happened, (sic) since that date I have read many books on the subject and know that the object I guarded that morning in Fort Riley was truly something from out of this world!"

A follow-up telephone call to Kaback revealed he had previously been in contact with UFOlogist Len Stringfield and that Stringfield had requested a tape-recorded version of the incident for presentation at his forthcoming speech at the MUFON Symposium (July 29th, Dayton, Ohio). Kaback related that he had been handed the clip of ammo and told to guard the "saucer" by a two-star General believed to be "Gen. Seaman, the commanding general of Fort Riley." CAUS requested proof that Kaback had been in the Army and the subject promised to mail his separation papers. The subject also disclosed he had contacted a "publicity group," which had referred him to "Eugene Marvin," a Las Vegas resident who had previously produced a TV show about UFOs (apparently a local show). Because the subject kept insisting he only "wanted someone to check out the incident," and that he absolutely wanted no personal publicity or reward, CAUS suggested to him it seemed curious he kept contacting people about the incident even after Stringfield had promised to investigate it. The subject could not resolve the inconsistency.

A more serious inconsistency arose when Kaback's separation papers arrived in the mail. Kaback had claimed the incident occurred sometime in November 1965, yet his DD214 revealed he had been given a hardship discharge on July 16, 1965, after being inducted on April 24, 1964. Since he had served for only one year and two months, CAUS found it strange he would confuse the date of the incident. The subject's only reply was, "I just forgot."

In the first follow-up conversation CAUS had with the subject, he expressed total familiarity with UFO literature, remarking on such cases as Ray Fowler's "Fritz Werner" crashed saucer case and the reported diary entry wherein "Werner" writes something to the effect "went on a special mission today that I can't talk about" on the day he claims to have participated in the recovery of a crashed saucer. Kaback says he thinks he wrote a letter to his wife shortly after the guard-duty incident and will look for it.

Sure enough, Kaback later produces an alleged copy of the letter he wrote to his now-divorced wife, mimicing "Werner's" letter completely. Although the letter seemed authentic, in that it chats about Kaback's difficulty in getting home for Christmas (the letter is dated Dec. 11, 1964--the incident allegedly took place on Dec. 10), the closeness to the diary entry in wording ("got put on a special guard duty I can't talk about") makes it highly suspect.

Another serious inconsistency popped in the first conversation with the subject. He claimed to have received a series of threatening phone calls in which someone simply said, "Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ mouth shut!" That was it; no explanation of what the threat was related to. Kaback expressed extreme fear of danger based on the calls, even to the point of the feeling his life was threatened. Yet, while claiming to be "scared sh\_\_less," Kaback's voice and manner belied any sort of fear; he in fact sounded quite calm and the so-called threats had no effect on his efforts to speak about the incident.

Much later, when more and more inconsistencies reared their ugly heads, Kaback was questioned about the threatening phone calls. At this point, he said they were probably intended for his brother. Asked why he now thought the calls were meant for his brother, Kaback said, "Oh, he got into a fight with some guys at a bar; they were probably calling him." Needless to say, CAUS concluded the phone calls were contrived out of the subject's imagination.

The straw that broke the saucer's back occurred when CAUS spoke with Gen. (U.S. Army-Ret.) Johnathon O. Seaman, former commanding general (1964-65) of Fort Riley, Kansas. Seaman, now retired and living in Beaufort, S.C., was phoned by CAUS Director Todd Zechel, who told the General he had been assigned to guard a "flying saucer" at Fort Riley on December 10, 1964. Now, Zechel said, one of his fellow guards had talked and he (Zechel) was being contacted by people in the news media; he wanted to know if the incident was still classified or if he was free to talk about it. Seaman was clearly taken aback by the call--but not in sense of having something to hide. Rather, he seemed to think the call was being made from some nearby mental hospital and could

barely suppress a chuckle throughout the conversation. He had no recollection whatsoever of any "flying saucer" incident or anything like it, but said, "If you think it happened and you want to talk about it, go ahead."

Subsequently, CAUS played the tape of Seaman's conversation to Kaback, who had emphatically stated he was sure the two-star General who handed him the ammo, told him to guard the "saucer," and threatened to "shoot his balls off" if he told anyone about it, was General Seaman. After hearing the tape, Kaback said, "He's lying." But when CAUS said it was totally clear the General wasn't lying and that everyone who had heard the tape expressed the same opinion, Kaback admitted it did seem the General was telling the truth. When asked to resolve this total inconsistency, Kaback could only say, "Well, all I know is it happened."

CAUS related its findings to UFOlogist Len Stringfield, stating it had concluded the case was either a hoax or a delusion, Stringfield, however, disagreed with CAUS's conclusions and went ahead with his MUFON Symposium presentation which featured a tape-recording of Kaback relating his story. In mid-October, CAUS discovered Kaback had approached a radio station newsletter service with his story and it was now being circulated around the country, with instructions to call "Dave" (Kaback's middle name) at his home number. At the time, CAUS had agreed to cooperate with radio station WPGC, Cheverly, Md., which was producing a two-week series on UFOs entitled, quite uncreatively, "Project UFO." WPGC, which has a wide listening audience in the Washington, D.C.-metro area, recorded Kaback and aired his story before CAUS could add its disclaimer. CAUS was even more chagrined to learn Kaback had been interviewed by radio stations across the country--"450" according to Kaback, who seemed to be reveling in the publicity. In fact, Kaback's gleeful manner when contacted by CAUS Director Todd Zechel in the midst of this publicity blitz seemed to confirm CAUS's conclusion that the subject was suffering from a powerful delusion.

Although Kaback still expressed a desire for anonymity, CAUS feels it can no longer grant the subject this protection. After all, he gave his home phone number to any number of radio stations. If anyone in the government was interested in tracking him down, it would take only a few seconds. Therefore, CAUS feels he has compromised his own confidentiality and only wants anonymity to avoid being held responsible for a bogus story.

###

Comment: UFOlogists who report unsubstantiated claims and/or apologize continuously for inconsistencies in a witness's story are doing everyone a disfavor, including themselves. Promotions of weak or phony cases through major publicity campaigns only serve to offset painstakingly detailed investigations conducted CAUS, CUFOS, MUFON and others. It is difficult enough to separate the wheat from the chaff without having the chaff being called wheat. w/TZ

UFOS IN PERSPECTIVE: COMMENTARY BY CAUS DIRECTOR W. TODD ZECHEL - During the waning years of its UFO project, the Air Force contended it could readily identify 90% (or thereabouts) of all sightings and explain the rest after some difficulty or if more information was available. Most UFO believers scoffed and rejected these claims, often pointing to the seemingly reckless manner in which Blue Book assigned identifications, sometimes appearing to have tossed a coin to decide which one to use.

In recent years, in particular since the closure of Blue Book, UFO debunkers have made similar assertions. Unfortunately, the debunkers' methods of identification have often seemed as hit-and-miss as the Air Force's, even to the point of publishing entire books devoted to attributing UFOs to theoretical phenomena such as electrical plasma--a theory which has now fallen into the dung-heap of tried and failed catch-all explanations. (The plasma theory contended that high-voltage power lines created huge plasma clouds which sometimes escaped into the atmosphere and survived long enough to be seen and reported as UFOs.)

More recently, Time magazine revived the old glowing bug theory in its science section, proving once again that there's no fool like an old fool. And Time has been wrong enough, often enough, about UFOs and a multitude of other matters--China, Viet Nam and Nixon, to name a few--to be safely classified as an old fool, even though Henry Luce has bitten the dust. No, Henry will never fire another correspondent for reporting the truth instead of what the old man wanted to hear, but Time marches on in his tradition.

What's wrong with all these calculated guesses--calling them theories or hypotheses would be an overstatement--is that they fail to account for how and why plasmas, or bugs, or strange ice masses, or other undiscovered, unobserved natural phenomena; hover over Air Force missile bases and sites; play chicken with Iranian fighters; bother foreign governments enough to cause officials to scurry to the U.S. embassy in search of help; and the CIA felt strongly enough to use covert agents to collect information on them, engage in psychological warfare against them and keep everything secret it learned about them. (If, by some major miracle, Time's bug theory turns out to be correct, then the CIA and Air Force are going to have to explain why they wasted millions on something they could have hired the Orkin Man to handle.)

This is not to say 90% of all sightings can't be identified. Al Hendry, Chief Investigator for the Center For UFO Studies (CUFOS), has assembled a large body of objective evidence that indicates the vast majority of civilian UFO reports can be identified or explained. Hendry's studies have conclusively established that most reports are spurious--that they are based on emotional reactions to mundane phenomena such as stars, planets and ad planes. Nor are military sightings automatically classified as unidentified; he has positively identified several, including an impressive-sounding report by Navy personnel.

What makes Hendry's work so significant is that he did not decide beforehand that UFOs were or were not spaceships and set out to prove or disprove either position. This is what is known as objectivity. Debunkers, on the other hand, start from the position that UFOs--extraterrestrial spaceships--cannot exist, their thinking locked into the fortyish notion of Flash Gordon-like flying saucers traveling from some distant planet to Earth. Being familiar with man's current state of space technology, debunkers make rudimentary calculations on the travel-time involved and decide it just can't be done;

therefore, UFOs as anything that won't be ultimately identified as something terrestrial cannot exist. This has become known, for some peculiar reason, as the "scientific" position on UFOs.

Because UFOlogy has dared question the "scientific" position, its members have been branded as heretics. This is a reversal of the days when the church suppressed scientific discoveries and scientists were called heretics. Times have changed, though. Back in the good old days they liked to poke hot things up your most personal orifices in order to get you to see the error of your ways. The modern method of punishment for a heretic is to use non-physical tortures like smear campaigns. Lies have replaced the hot poker, but the pain's still the same.

So, while the military tracks UFOs on radar, chases them in jets and helicopters, only to be evaded and out-maneuvered, and whirring objects hover defiantly over weapon storage areas at SAC nuclear missile bases, and in the meantime (October-November 1975) enough cattle to feed Exeter for a year are being mutilated in fields across the country (if this is being done by a Satanic cult, it has to be one that's larger than the American Legion, more clever than the Moonies and more dedicated than the People's Temple), Time magazine revives someone's old bug theory, the leading UFO debunker revives the Air Force's discarded flap-follows-publicity slogan, and the Air Force runs off a few thousand more copies of its famous "no UFO ever investigated gave any indication of being an extraterrestrial vehicle" release.

And how would a UFO do that, pray tell? Drape a banner over the side that reads, "This is an extraterrestrial vehicle"? Perhaps someone should point out to the Air Force that in order to know what something isn't, one first has to know what something is. In other words, if they don't know what an extraterrestrial vehicle looks like, how do they know what they're seeing isn't one?

Whoever said "Military Intelligence is a contradiction in terms" hit the nail squarely on the head. For the small sum of only \$20 Billion a year they can't accurately predict what our friends are going to do, much less our enemies (case in point: Iran). To be sure, they've got a string of successes going--from Pearl Harbor to Saigon, from Watergate to Koreagate, and from Cuba to Chile. Those who suspect the Watergate operation was deliberately bungled haven't been paying attention. If a former President of the United States can bang his head on three separate occasions on the same helicopter door, it stands to reason almost anything can be botched. (After Ford cracked his head on the helicopter door for the third time, the Secret Service forbid newsmen from filming future chopper boardings.)

What has this got to do with so-called "government cover-up?" Well, for one thing, the general view of most UFO believers is that a bunch of devious men sit around in a room and plot the suppression of UFO evidence. Out at Wright-Patterson, meanwhile, so the story goes, they've got so many recovered crashed saucers that they've had to build additional hangars. And the alien cemetery is overflowing with 4½ foot graves. (Why saucers have to end up at Wright-Patterson has never been fully explained.) After so many accidents, one begins to suspect the "aliens" have as many problems as we do. That hardly makes them worth knowing.

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Amazing Government UFO Reports Obtained By CAUS Under the FOIA Are Available To JUST CAUSE Subscribers - Complete Set, Including Latest CIA, NSA, DIA et al For \$100 - Send For List of Document Sets and Prices For Separate Items...

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

14 December 1978

Peter A. Gersten, Esquire  
Rothblatt, Rothblatt, Seijas & Peskin  
191 East 161st Street  
Bronx, New York 10451

Dear Mr. Gersten:

Re: Ground Saucer Watch, Inc. v. CIA, et al.,  
Civil Action Number 78-859

This letter covers the release of CIA documents responsive to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request at issue in the above-designated litigation. A total of 397 CIA documents were retrieved to date in the process of responding to this FOIA request. You will find that a total of 340 documents of approximately 900 pages have been released and are enclosed. ~~57 documents were withheld in their entirety pursuant to exemptions under the FOIA.~~ There may be a few duplicate documents, although most have been removed.

To date, a total of 196 documents were retrieved from CIA files which were originated by other U.S. Government agencies. These documents have been referred to the originating agencies for response to you. The breakdown by agency for these documents is as follows:

a. Air Force	76
b. National Archives	1
c. DIA	19
d. Army	30
e. Navy	11
f. NSA	18
g. State Department	41

I shall forward copies of the letters of transmittal regarding these referred documents in the near future.

The fee for reproduction of the Agency originated released documents is 10 cents a page. Please forward by return mail to CIA a check or money order in the amount of \$90.00 made payable to the order of the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully,

*George H. Owens*

George Owens  
Information & Privacy Coordinator

NSA REFERRED DOCUMENTS

1. By classified letter, dated 8 November 1978,  
CIA referred 15 documents

15

Document dated 26 January 1958

Document dated 26 January 1958

Document dated 2 March 1958

Document dated 20 March 1958

Document dated 26 March 1958

Document dated 18 Sept. 1958

Document dated 22 October 1958

Document dated 27 January 1959

Document dated 23 October 1959

Document dated 14 April 1967

Document dated 23 August 1967

Document dated 12 February 1968

Document dated 29 August 1968

Document dated 5 January 1973

Document dated 8 February 1978

2. By classified letter dated 30 November 1978,  
CIA referred 1 document

1

Document dated 27 January 1966

3. By classified letter dated 30 November 1978,  
CIA referred 2 documents

2

Document dated 1971

Document dated 1971

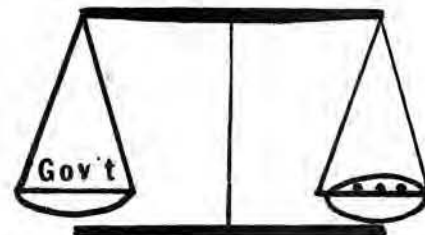
TOTAL REFERRED DOCUMENTS

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18



# JUST CAUSE



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY (CAUS), Inc.  
P.O. Box 4743, Arlington, VA 22204 U.S.A.

JANUARY 1979

VOL. 1 - No. 7

## CIA RELEASES DOCUMENTS—GSW PREVAILS IN FOIA LAWSUIT

As the result of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit originally filed in September 1977 by Ground Saucer Watch (GSW), the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has released approximately 900 pages of its own UFO-related files and forwarded nearly 200 additional documents back to the originating agencies in the Department of Defense, the National Security Agency and the State Department for clearance.

The material from the CIA's files was released on Dec. 15, 1978, in accordance with a court-ordered stipulation filed in U.S. District Court, Washington, D.C. The stipulation, which was made a court order by U.S. Judge John Pratt on September 18, 1978, granted the Agency 90 days to search 41 of its components specified by GSW.

In the course of its alleged search, the CIA evidently located the documents it sent back to the originating agencies. This material seems to consist of around 700 or more pages, and it is being released on a document-by-document basis, as each is declassified and cleared.

According to the covering letter of U.S. Attorney William Briggs, the CIA returned the following UFO documents to the originators: Air Force-76; Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)-19; Army-30; Navy-11; State Department-40; and National Security Agency (NSA)-18.

### VICTORY FOR GSW

The release of the CIA material represents a total victory for GSW, in that the suit initially sought the release of five documents related to the CIA's contact with former Marine Ralph Mayher. In March 1976 the Agency admitted having five Mayher documents, but said it could only release two, with about 70% of each deleted in accordance with exemptions (b) (1)—related to classified information—and (b) (3)—related to revealing intelligence sources and methods. The remaining three

documents could not be released at all, said the CIA, in accordance with the same exemptions.

Furthermore, the CIA's 1976 covering letter to GSW Director Bill Spaulding said: "At no time prior to the formation of the Robertson Panel (Jan. '53) and at no time subsequent to the issuance of the Panel's report has the CIA engaged in the study of the UFO phenomena. The Robertson Panel Report is summation of the Agency's interest and involvement in this matter (UFOs)."

Although the CIA had refused to declassify the Mayher documents and thereby forced GSW to file an FOIA lawsuit, the entire five documents were released on Dec. 15th with only minor deletions. This, alone, would mean that GSW has prevailed—i.e., forced the sought-after documents to be released, and without even presenting an argument to the court. Seemingly, therefore, the CIA's original claimed exemptions were arbitrary and capricious, and the Agency apparently felt its claims would be easily defeated in court—which is what GSW representatives have contended all along.

The GSW victory is further attested to by the release of nearly 900 pages of UFO material the CIA denied having. Or, in the words of an Omni magazine columnist, "hypothetical, alleged secret UFO files." These documents belie the CIA's oft-repeated claims of non-involvement with UFOs.

### CIA STUDIES UFOS DURING FLAPS

Careful analysis of the CIA material reveals the CIA initiated at least three separate studies of UFOs: in April 1952, in November 1957, and in January 1965. (The "official" CIA study in 1952 began in August; however, testimony from reliable sources indicates Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI) employee Fred (Contd. Page 2, right column)

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**MUFON MEMBERS AID CAUS**

The response by members of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) to an article by CAUS Director Todd Zechel in a recent issue of The MUFON UFO JOURNAL has been most encouraging.

Zechel's article had pleaded for financial and moral support for FOIA suits such as GSW's and ones CAUS intends to file in the near future. The CAUS Director related that the GSW suit had been successfully carried out mainly through the efforts and sacrifices of three or four people. UFOlogy as a whole had pretty much stayed back and awaited the outcome.

Zechel also disclosed Citizens Against UFO Secrecy intends to file FOIA lawsuits against Department of Defense components, and included in these suits will be requests for documents related to the recovery of a so-called "crashed saucer" by elements of the USAF.

CAUS legal advisor Peter Gersten says he intends to handle the forthcoming FOIA actions, including the "crashed saucer" requests, and will file actions after the CIA has produced an affidavit detailing the search of its files and the documents it's withholding.

MUFON members have contributed much-needed funds to these efforts, and CAUS wishes to express its deep gratitude.

CIA-contd- Durant, posing as a civilian, befriended Major Dewey Fournet and Captain Ed Ruppelt in order for the CIA to gain access to the Air Force's UFO data as early as April 1952.)

The CIA's interest in UFOs was seemingly increased whenever a "flap" occurred (i.e., whenever there was a flurry of UFO activity around the country or around Washington, D.C.). Between flaps, the Agency was a so-called "passive recipient" of UFO reports.

The summer flap of 1952 seems to have caused the CIA the most worry. Office of Scientific Intelligence officers such as Marshall Chadwell, Ransom Eng and Phil Strong presented papers to the Director of Central Intelligence, Gen. W.B. Smith, expressing deep concern--to the point of Chadwell calling for a CIA policy to be formulated to prevent "panic."

The CIA's 1952 study culminated in the Robertson Panel, which met for 4 days in January 1953 in order to determine if UFOs "represented a direct, hostile threat to national security." Although many observers have contended the Robertson Panel's report, which recommended debunking UFOs, demonstrated the CIA was responsible for the so-called "cover-up," the evidence seems to indicate it was the Air Force that engineered the "cover-up" and was guilty of withholding significant evidence from the CIA. Just how significant that evidence was will be brought to light in forthcoming legal actions taken by CAUS.

Not much is known about the CIA's 1957 study, except that it resulted from a "request from 'The Hill'." Evidently, this means either a Senator or Congressman, or groups thereof, requested the CIA to look into UFOs. In any case, on November 6, 1957, the CIA's Office of Scientific Intelligence levied a requirement on the Contact Division to collect information on UFOs and forward the data to OSI. (The Contact Division, later called the Domestic Contact Service and now known as the Domestic Collection Division, is a domestic intelligence network with offices



in most American major cities, and more recently in most smaller ones as well. Ostensibly, the purpose of this division is to interview Americans who have returned from travel abroad, particularly in countries such as the Soviet Union. Since the CIA is prohibited by law and charter from engaging in domestic spying, it has received only tacit approval from the Executive Branch and Congress to have a domestic component engaged in collecting foreign intelligence. However, the CIA's willingness to utilize the domestic offices to collect information on UFOs, and the relative ease with which it managed to conduct these programs, keeping in mind that domestic agents of this component usually identify themselves by CIA ID and use real names, certainly indicates the Agency could and may well have used the domestic collection offices for a variety of purposes not related to foreign intelligence.)

OSI's 1957 levy specified the Contact Division UFO data had to be forwarded to CIA headquarters by November 14th. Although the order to collect UFO data went out to at least 15 cities, the only reports released to GSW deal with the CIA's contact with UFO photographer Ralph Mayher—which CAUS and GSW officials were already aware of. It seems the Cleveland Contact Division office's attention was drawn to Mayher by a newspaper article that appeared on November 6, 1957. The article reprinted a still photo from the UFO film that Mayher shot on July 29, 1952 (the same day an Air Force press conference announced the Washington, D.C., radar/visual sightings were attributable to "temperature inversions").

Mayher had turned his film over to the Marines on the same night it was made. On the following day, the 30th, the film was developed in a civilian processing lab associated with a Miami TV station. Although no copies were made of the 16mm film, the processing technicians did manage to run off two sets of seven or eight frames, one of which was given to Mayher. The other set was retained by the TV station, WTVJ, and later confiscated by the

Marines and subsequently transmitted to the Air Force.

The film itself was turned over to Major William Frazier of Air Force Intelligence on July 31, 1952. Frazier sent the film to Air Force Intelligence in the Pentagon, and that's the last anyone outside the Air Force has seen or heard about the film. It is not available in the National Archives, where all UFO evidence collected by the Air Force is allegedly deposited.

On November 7, 1957, Mayher was contacted by an agent from the Cleveland domestic Contact office. The agent interviewed Mayher about his sighting and was given five still photos to be analyzed by the CIA. In December, the photos were returned to Mayher by another agent, but no analysis results were disclosed. Contact Division memos, however, indicate the film photos were analyzed at "high levels" of the Agency, the results of which were not made known even to the Contact personnel.

When the photos were returned to Mayher, he asked the agent for permission to state the CIA had shown an interest in his film and had analyzed frames of it. This permission was denied by the CIA representative, and Mayher was asked to keep his contact with the Agency confidential. Later, however, Mayher discussed his CIA contacts with Major Donald Keyhoe, Director of NICAP. Keyhoe subsequently wrote several letters to the Director of Central Intelligence, complaining that Mayher had been silenced. Keyhoe's letters put the CIA on the spot, but they managed to send him several evasive replies and Keyhoe eventually dropped his interest in the matter.

Missing from the CIA material released to GSW are the analysis of the Mayher photos, other reports generated by the Contact Division, conclusions or evaluations of the data collected, and summary reports issued to whoever requested the study in the first place.

The CIA documents reflect the Agency periodically demonstrated an interest in NICAP (the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena), a group headquartered in Washington, D.C. Thus,

it seems appropriate that the Agency turned to NICAP for information on UFOs when another study was requested on January 19, 1965. This time, the request came from the Director of Central Intelligence, based, apparently, over concern about the flap of sightings in and around Washington, D.C., during December 1964 and January 1965. Included in the flap was a sighting made by Army Security Agency personnel in a downtown Washington, D.C., office.

The same day the new UFO study was ordered by DCI, the 19th, an Office of Scientific Intelligence officer called the Washington-area Domestic Contact Service office and requested agent Al Coleman to obtain UFO reports from NICAP. During Coleman's briefing, the OSI official told him the group was headed by Major "William Kehoe," who the OSI said had retired some three years earlier to form NICAP—a group he was no longer associated with, added the OSI man. (Obviously, the OSI briefing amounted to a farce, since almost everything which was said about NICAP and "Kehoe" was totally in error.)

Coleman subsequently phoned NICAP and made an appointment to see Richard H. Hall, Assistant Director and the real power behind the throne, on the same day. Keyhoe, author of a number of books and articles depicting a massive cover up of UFO evidence by the Air Force, was frequently absent from NICAP's office and Hall usually handled management of the flourishing organization and its enviable sub-committee reporting network, which Hall had established.

Coleman met with Hall later that afternoon in NICAP's Connecticut Ave. office. After a friendly chat, Coleman asked for and was given UFO sighting reports pertaining to incidents which had occurred recently in the Washington area. Coleman also requested to be kept posted on ensuing developments and gave Hall several phone numbers where he could be reached. Later, Hall phoned Coleman to ask if he was interested in more UFO reports; the DCS agent said he was, and Hall sent the new data

to a Washington, D.C., post office box. Weeks later, all the reports were returned to NICAP with a covering letter by Coleman thanking Hall for his cooperation, but without further comment about the reports themselves.

While the documents released to GSW reveal the CIA was considering granting Hall a security clearance and using him as a full-time source on UFOs, no analyses of the reports Hall provided were released; nor were reports that seemingly would have been sent by other DCS offices.

In general, it appears the CIA has rather carefully selected the material it has thus far released, disclosing basically only those documents which relate to CIA involvement CAUS and GSW officials were previously aware of and could establish in a court of law.

At the conclusion of its 90-day search, the CIA was supposed to have submitted an affidavit detailing its search of files, listing the documents it intends to withhold and accounting for each deletion it made in the released material with an appropriate exemption under the Freedom of Information Act. All that was provided to GSW, however, was a covering letter stating the Agency intends to withhold 57 documents. Subsequently, the CIA went to U.S. District Judge John Pratt and obtained a 60-day extension to prepare the affidavit. Pratt granted the extension without offering GSW's attorney an opportunity to present an argument.

In the meantime, CAUS Director of Research Brad Sparks has determined that over 200 documents are directly referenced in the material released—all seemingly related to UFOs—and remain unaccounted for. In other words, the CIA "didn't find" at least 200 documents it should have. Furthermore, Sparks asserts the released material derives from only 4 of the 41 components GSW requested to be searched, indicating 37 components weren't searched or that not one single document was found in them, whichever you prefer.

Even more puzzling—and angering—



is the fact CAUS Director Todd Zechel received a letter from the CIA in August 1978 informing him the Agency had just located "1,000 additional pages of UFO material." A follow-up phone call by Zechel to CIA Information & Privacy Coordinator Charles Savige determined the 1,000 pages were mostly Office of Scientific Intelligence files which had been located in the retired archives. Furthermore, phone calls between GSW attorney Peter Gersten and U.S. Attorney William Briggs led CAUS officials to believe the CIA had located in excess of 5,000 documents. The conversations between Gersten and Briggs took place after the court-ordered search of files supposedly began on September 18th, and more than a month after the CIA had said in a letter it had already located "1,000 additional pages."

Thus, there are very serious questions remaining about the validity of the CIA's alleged search of files. If there has been any misrepresentation, the fault lies totally with the Agency and the U.S. Attorney. Moreover, the CIA's haste in releasing the documents to the public—including a substantial number of news media organizations—without accounting for its deletions, as is required by law, without preparing its affidavit as required by the court, and without taking steps to protect the rights of a number of civilians named in the documents, gives every indication the CIA was more than anxious to dump the material in order to fulfill a disinformation purpose. This contention seems to be supported by the fact not one person other than those associated directly with CAUS has been able to determine the extent of the CIA's involvement with UFOs from reading the documents. The facts, as stated in this article, are there; however, one is required to be an expert in order to interpret and decipher them, apparently.

#### NSA AND STATE DEPT. WITHHOLD REPORTS

Most of the documents sent back to the originating agency by the CIA, in conjunction with GSW's suit, are gradually being released. However, at least

two agencies—the State Department and the National Security Agency (NSA)—have declared certain documents to be classified and might not be released.

The State Department had informed GSW attorney Peter Gersten that 8 UFO reports were under review for declassification. Subsequently, three were released. However, questions remain as to how many documents were actually returned.

Roy Banner, Chief, Policy Staff, National Security Agency, wrote to Gersten on Jan. 9, 1979, regarding the 18 UFO reports the CIA returned to NSA, and declared: "We cannot provide you access to, or release a copy of, the information because it is classified and therefore exempt from access or release pursuant to Title 5 USC 552 (b) (1). The information is currently and properly classified in accordance with the criteria for classification in section 1-3 of Executive Order 12065, and paragraph 2-202 of Department of Defense Regulation 5200.1-R."

"The information is also exempt from access or release pursuant to Title 5 USC 552 (b) (3), which provides that the FOIA does not apply to matters that are specifically exempted from disclosure by statute. The applicable statutes in this case are Title 18 USC 798, Title 50 USC 403 (d) (3), and Public Law 86-36," Banner added.

\*Editor's Note: This will come as quite a shock to a noted UFO skeptic who has often contended intelligence agencies such as NSA couldn't possibly have classified UFO reports, and called anyone who said they did a liar. UFOlogy, of course, won't be the least bit shocked the skeptic has once again been proven wrong!

#### NI-CIA-AP OR NICAP?

When space propulsion researcher T. Townsend Brown founded the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in October 1956, at least two CIA covert agents worked themselves into key positions with the organization. One, an ultra-mysterious character named "Count" Nicolas de Rochefort, was a Russian immigrant and employee of the CIA's Psychological Warfare Staff, where the "Count"

wrote scripts in French and Russian for Voice of America radio broadcasts, among other covert missions. "Count" de Rochefort managed to get himself appointed Vice-Chairman of NICAP in late 1956.

The "Count" was a controversial ultra-right-winger and a leading force in the lobbying effort to prevent Red China from being recognized or admitted to the U.N. For covers (visible employment to mask his CIA involvement), he utilized professorships at Georgetown and American Universities, as well as claiming to be an escort interpreter with the State Department.

The other CIA agent was an even more mysterious person named Bernard J. O. Carvalho, a native of Lisbon, Portugal. Among other missions, Carvalho had been a cut-out (go-between) man for such CIA proprietaries (secretly owned companies) as Fairway Corporation, a charter airline utilized by Agency executives. He managed to get himself appointed to chairman of the group's (NICAP's) membership subcommittee, a key position.

Since the Air Force had been interested in Townsend Brown's propulsion theories back in the early '50s, as Project Blue Book records attest, one might expect the CIA was interested as well (from a research & development point of view). Additionally, because of the Air Force's and CIA's concern over the potential subversiveness of UFO groups, as articulated by the Robertson Panel Report in 1953, one might well expect to find covert CIA agents infiltrating a newly-founded, Washington-based UFO organization.

Obviously, since de Rochefort is dead and Carvalho hasn't been heard from in many, many years, the exact nature of the two agents' roles in NICAP may never be learned. One writer who attempted to obtain confirmation of de Rochefort's CIA employment through the Freedom of Information Act, ended up losing an expensive FOIA lawsuit when the U.S. District Judge upheld the CIA's "can neither confirm nor deny" posture on covert employees. But there is more than ample evidence to conclusively establish both de Rochefort and Carvalho were at least during certain

periods of their lives covert employees of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Because Townshend Brown was mostly a dreamer with ambitions loftier than he could even hope to fulfill (such as publishing at least two monthly magazines and a salary structure for the NICAP staff that many corporations would have envied), he was stripped of his leadership position in January 1957 and Major (USMC-Ret.) Donald Keyhoe was appointed President of NICAP.

Keyhoe had entered the flying saucer fray with guns blazing away by writing an article entitled "The Flying Saucers Are Real," which appeared in the January 1950 edition of True magazine. An Annapolis graduate and former aviation writer, he gave respect to the theory the government—specifically the Air Force—was covering up the truth about UFOs; that the government knew UFOs were extraterrestrial visitors but decided not to tell the public out of fear of panic.

Evidently because Keyhoe's attacks on the government excluded the CIA and were mostly barbs hurled at the Air Force and the so-called "Silence Group" within it, shortly after assuming the reins of NICAP he managed to induce Vice-Admiral (USN-Ret.) Roscoe Hillenkoetter, former and original Director of the CIA (1947-50), to join NICAP's Board of Governors. Hillenkoetter was a classmate of Keyhoe's at the Naval Academy, and his service as a figurehead on Keyhoe's chosen board gave the organization and Keyhoe a tremendous boost in credibility.

Hillenkoetter told Keyhoe privately that the CIA had been interested in UFOs from the very beginning (June 1947) of the reports, and kept a watchful eye on the subject despite the lack of directives to do so. He also allowed himself to be quoted as saying: "The Air Force has constantly misled the American public about UFOs...I urge Congressional action to reduce the danger from secrecy."

In 1961, Keyhoe began sending his "proof" of UFO "reality, censorship and the increasing hazards of secrecy" to Congress, hoping to initiate an investigation by the House Science and



Astronautics Committee. In May of 1961 the House Space Committee formed a subcommittee to look into UFOs. In August Keyhoe sent the committee members a statement signed by Hillenkoetter. "Acting with the majority of the NICAP Board of Governors, I urge immediate Congressional action to reduce the dangers from secrecy about UFOs," Hillenkoetter said.

He listed the dangers as: "The risk of accidental war, from mistaking UFO formations for a Soviet surprise attack. (2) The danger that the Soviet government may, in a critical moment, falsely claim the UFOs as secret Russian weapons against which our defenses are helpless."

By early 1962, Keyhoe was well on the way to forcing Congress to open hearings on UFOs and the Air Force's means of dealing with the subject. Even though much of Keyhoe's evidence was predicated on confidential informers he couldn't be certain would testify, he was counting on Hillenkoetter's willingness to make condemnations of Air Force UFO policies to carry the day. But suddenly Hillenkoetter pulled the rug out from under him by abruptly resigning from the Board, and Keyhoe's Congressional investigation collapsed faster than a three-story house of cards.

Hillenkoetter's letter of resignation said: "In my opinion, NICAP's investigation has gone as far as possible. I know UFOs are not U.S. or Soviet devices. ...The Air Force cannot do any more under the circumstances...and I believe we should not continue to criticize their investigations..."

Since Hillenkoetter's letter represented an almost total reversal from his earlier positions, Keyhoe has long suspected the Admiral was pressured by the CIA and/or the Air Force to drop out of the picture and quit making troublesome statements. But until the GSW FOIA lawsuit, Keyhoe's suspicions remained unconfirmed.

Without going into details at the present time, CAUS has determined that Hillenkoetter was in fact pressured by the Agency at the behest of the Air Force, which communicated a number of complaints about Hillenkoetter's role in NICAP to high-level Agency officials.

But while the CIA and Air Force put extensive pressure on a former CIA Director in order to persuade him to drop his involvement with NICAP, another Board member who held a high-level position in the CIA apparently wasn't pressured at all and remains on the Board to this day. His name is Col. (USAF-Ret.) Joseph Bryan, III. He is the founder and original Chief of the CIA's Psychological Warfare Staff (1947-53).

And until CAUS's DoR Brad C. Sparks uncovered Bryan's covert employment with the CIA during the course of his interviews with former CIA employees, very few people—including Keyhoe—knew of Bryan's CIA connections. But Bryan has now confirmed these connections in interviews with CAUS Director Todd Zechel in 1977 and 1978.

Bryan approached Keyhoe in late 1959, asking to see some of his "really hot cases." Since Bryan was ostensibly an Air Force officer, Keyhoe immediately suspected an AF plot to infiltrate his organization, and he resisted the Colonel's advances. However, Bryan soon put Keyhoe's mind at ease by allowing himself to be publicly quoted as saying: "The UFOs are interplanetary devices systematically observing the Earth, either manned or remote-controlled, or both. Information on UFOs has been officially withheld. This policy is dangerous."

Contrast Bryan's statement to Keyhoe, which led to his being invited to serve on the Board of Governors, to the one he made in March 1977, describing his reason for joining NICAP: "I thought the government was neglecting it, was turning its back on it, closing its eyes to it, and I thought somebody ought to take over—and express an interest in it. Don Keyhoe, whom I respected and admired very much, seemed to be the leader in this thing so I joined up with him."

While admitting to having been a former covert official for the CIA and asking that this fact not be made public since "it might embarrass CIA," Bryan denied any association or communication with the CIA during the period he has served on the NICAP Board. How-

ever, when it was suggested to Bryan that two CIA covert agents had penetrated NICAP in the very beginning, he remarked: "Penetrated! Good God! What do you want to penetrate NICAP for? There's nothing to penetrate about—it was all overt, the whole thing."

Bryan may well be right. Former CIA briefing officer Karl Pflock was chairman of NICAP's Washington, D.C. subcommittee during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Pflock denies the Agency ever asked him for information on UFOs or NICAP, although he kept his CIA affiliation secret from most NICAP officials. But someone close to NICAP gave the CIA information on the group, as a 1973 document recently released to GSW reveals.

The undated CIA document, written by an unnamed person from an unnamed component of the Agency, indicates some familiarity with G. Stuart Nixon, at the time a top assistant to NICAP President John L. (Jack) Acuff. Interestingly, the NICAP daily activity logs from the late 1960s and early 1970s reflect that Nixon met with several past and present (then) CIA employees on a frequent basis. The CIA officials include Art Lundahl, then the Director of the CIA's National Photographic Interpretation Center, Fred Durant, author of the Robertson Panel Report and a former CIA Office of Scientific Intelligence missile expert, and Dr. Charles Sheldon, a consultant to the Agency now with the Library of Congress.

Another former CIA employee Nixon says he's had "dozens" of conversations with Col. Joseph Bryan. Curiously, however, none of the NICAP logs reflect any conversations between Nixon or Bryan, either by phone or in person, although almost every other daily occurrence is denoted in the logs. Questioned recently about this discrepancy, Nixon refused to comment.

Even more curious is the fact Nixon refuses to discuss his involvement in the ouster of Keyhoe from his position of NICAP President on Dec. 3, 1969. However, it should be noted Nixon's "no comment" stance serves him better than

Col. Bryan's statements on the same matter. Bryan flatly denied during a 1977 interview that he had anything to do with Keyhoe's abrupt removal from his President's position. In fact, Bryan asked the interviewer, Todd Zechel, to communicate a message to Keyhoe. "Please tell him that I had nothing whatsoever to do with it," pleaded Bryan.

Yet, NICAP files on the Dec. 3, 1969, executive committee meeting in which Keyhoe was voted out clearly establish that Bryan not only was Chairman of the Board of Governors at the time, but that he wrote and distributed a memo in which he called Keyhoe "inept." Evidently, this memo, coming from the Chairman of the Board, helped convince an otherwise loyal-to-Keyhoe panel to approve his firing.

Most interesting of all is a handwritten note in the same file in which Stuart Nixon questions the propriety of Bryan's remark in light of the plan to placate Keyhoe with some sort of Research Director's appointment. Seemingly, Nixon is only critical of Bryan's action because the subcommittees will find it incongruous Keyhoe is being put in charge of their activities after the Chairman of the Board has labeled him more-or-less a bumbling fool. Nixon doesn't seem to quarrel with the fact Keyhoe was being treated like yesterday's dung. But not many people at NICAP did.

Keyhoe's abrupt dismissal paved the way for Jack Acuff to be appointed the new President of NICAP. Acuff had been meeting with Stuart Nixon since mid-1968, seemingly waiting in the wings. Prior to his NICAP appointment, Acuff had been the head of the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers (SPSE), a Washington-based group that had been the target of frequent KGB spying attempts. Apparently, the Soviets were interested in the Society because a large number of its members were photo-analysts with Department of Defense intelligence components and with the CIA. Acuff, because of his role as the head of SPSE, was approached by Soviet agents on several occasions. He reported these approaches to the FBI and subsequently began to



meet with the KGB agents in behalf of Washington FBI office, acting, in effect, as a covert agent.

In May 1977, Acuff was once again approached by Soviet agents, but this time they expressed an interest in UFOs. Acuff contacted the FBI and the Bureau gave him the go-ahead to play along with the KGB officials. However, other than making a few ambiguous comments about offering Acuff money, the Soviets never did make clear what their intentions were. Recently, however, Acuff disclosed he stands ready to continue co-operating with the FBI and would meet with the Soviet agents if they contacted him.

Since taking over NICAP, Acuff has converted the organization from being a vocal and persistent critic of the government's UFO policies to being a rather "passive recipient" of civilian UFO reports. The group's investigating network, the subcommittees, was disbanded shortly after Acuff took the job. But even though NICAP offered the public very little in the way of original investigations or research, and its newsletter, "UFO Investigator," became mostly a collection of unspectacular sighting reports mailed in by loyal members, NICAP managed to maintain a subscribing membership in excess of 3,000.

Since Keyhoe had been accused of mismanagement or non-management, and NICAP under his leadership had constantly teetered on the brink of bankruptcy, the hiring of a professional manager in the person of Acuff was evidently a decision by the Board to put the group on solid financial footing.

Acuff achieved fiscal soundness in a hurry by firing all full-time NICAP employees— including, eventually, Nixon— (Nixon actually resigned under pressure) except for a secretary whose salary was spread between NICAP and several other nonprofit groups Acuff managed under one roof.

After a slow start, NICAP was soon bringing in around \$50,000 a year under Acuff. However, usually around \$35,000 of the NICAP income went to Acuff Associates for "contracting services," which included part of the secretary's salary,

Acuff's salary, and a few office expenses that were also split with the other groups being managed out of the same office.

For example: In 1975, NICAP's total receipts came to \$50,333.59. Of that income, Acuff received a flat \$35,000 for his management fee or "contracting services." (The contracting services fee does not include the newsletter expenses except for whatever portion of the secretary's time was involved in typing it; all other newsletter expenses were listed separately in disbursements.) During 1975, \$76 of the \$50,000 income was spent on "general research."

In 1976, NICAP began its downward financial slide. It received \$41,690.05, nearly \$10,000 less than the previous year. Acuff, however, took a cut of only \$1,000, claiming \$34,000 for contracting services. That year, \$20 went for general research. (The ridiculously low research figures may account for at least part of the decline in income.)

By 1977, Acuff was claiming NICAP owed him money; telling Todd Zechel in May 1977 that "NICAP isn't pulling its own weight." In 1978, things took an even greater turn for the worse. In order to raise money, Acuff took to selling some of NICAP's supposedly outdated mailing lists. Unfortunately for Acuff, one his customers turned out to be a neo-Nazi group headquartered in Canada, Samisdat.

By August 1978, a new and controversial character emerged from out of NICAP's past: "Dr." Williard (a.k.a. "Willard") F. McIntyre, a former photographic consultant to the group and friend of Stuart Nixon. McIntyre began accusing Acuff of knowingly selling the mailing lists to the Nazis and told various UFOlogists around the country that Acuff intended to merge with Samisdat, or sell NICAP to them. In the meantime, Acuff had been approached by Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, a pro-contactee group based in Tucson, Arizona. Jim Lorenzen, APRO's International Director, asked Acuff if he was interested in selling NICAP. Acuff evidently replied affirmatively, and a price in the \$40,000 range was discussed.

In actual fact, Acuff had been tricked into selling NICAP's mailing lists to the Nazis by the Nazis' use of a front-

group called "The Idea Center," which they employed whenever they wished to mask the Nazi affiliation. But McIntyre continued with his vociferous accusations, inciting many former NICAP members and employees to start an ad-hoc group called "The Ad-Hoc Committee To Preserve NICAP." The ad-hoc members, which included John Carlson, Dick Hall and Larry Bryant, worked behind the scenes to block any attempts by Acuff to sell NICAP's potentially valuable files to someone who might misuse and abuse them, or keep them hidden away for selfish reasons.

While McIntyre worked frantically to thwart what he thought was a sell-out to the Nazis, he began to assert privately that he was a former covert agent of the CIA and said he knew Acuff had worked for the CIA too. Interviewed by CAUS Director Todd Zechel in August 1978, McIntyre said he had utilized the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers (SPSE) as a cover for his CIA employment. Jack Acuff, then the head of SPSE, had known about this covert CIA activity and willingly cooperated with it, McIntyre alleged.

McIntyre also claimed that he first joined NICAP around 1967, while working at the CIA's National Photo Interpretation Center (NPIC). Contrary to Agency policy, McIntyre said he did not clear his NICAP membership with his employers, and was subsequently called on the carpet for not reporting it. According to McIntyre, while he was being verbally reprimanded for his failure to notify his superiors, Col. Joseph Bryan's name was mentioned as the source of the information that a covert CIA agent (McIntyre) had infiltrated NICAP.

McIntyre named his CIA superiors as Jim Atherton and William Leftwich. He also identified a building at 1000 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, Va., as a secret CIA center. However, under subsequent questioning, McIntyre failed to recognize the building's commonly-known (within CIA circles) nickname, "Blue U." (so-named for the blue panels that are an eye-catching part of its appearance). A CAUS investigation determined Jim Atherton and William Leftwich both worked in the photographic

field, which McIntyre had been associated with for a number of years, but neither had ever worked for the CIA.

Because McIntyre failed to recognize "Blue U." and didn't seem to know it was a CIA training center, and had incorrectly referred to CIA's clandestine component as "DDT" (rather than DDP--Deputy Director for Plans), and had given erroneous information about two persons in the photographic field, CAUS officials decided to disregard his allegations about both Acuff and Col. Joseph Bryan.

In the meantime, however, McIntyre's accusations that Acuff was about to "merge with the Nazis" stirred up interest on Capital Hill. Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Arizona), a NICAP Board member since 1974, was alerted of Acuff's alleged Nazi deal through his aid, Charles Lombard, with whom McIntyre had apparently spoken.

By mid-September 1978, it was clear Acuff wanted out of the NICAP job, claiming the organization owed him a rather large sum of money. Key ad-hoc committee members began contacting the NICAP Board to offer taking possession of the files should the group fold. Dick Hall of MUFON and John Carlson of INFO proposed a coalition between NICAP, MUFON, CUFOS (Dr. J. Allen Hynek's Center For UFO Studies) and INFO.

In general, the reaction to Acuff's handling of NICAP was one of outraged disgust by former NICAP officials and employees, many of whom had lost interest in the group's activities over the past several years. The basis of the former NICAPers' anger was the feeling they had all worked and sacrificed to make NICAP a potent influence during the mid-1960s; they had assembled an investigating network that the Air Force could never hope to match. Now, they felt, Acuff had lived off the reputation they had established, had sucked it dry and then wanted to dump it. Or, as one former NICAP employee put it, "Acuff got on a damn good horse and rode it until it dropped. He never took care of it or fed it, and now he's trying to sell the bones."



The NICAP Board, meantime, hadn't seemed to have been bothered by the fact Acuff took in over \$50,000 in 1974 and spent only a paltry \$67 on research (investigations), or that in 1973 he took in over \$48,000, and in 1975 over \$50,000 again, with similar miniscule amounts expended for "general research." Neither did they seem to be bothered by NICAP's dwindling membership and an almost total lack of respect for the group throughout the world.

What did bother the Board, evidently, was Acuff's faux pas in selling the group's mailing lists to Samisdat, and the fact past and present NICAP subscribers were suddenly being deluged with Nazi brochures. Charles Lombard, Sen. Goldwater's aid, was incensed and worried about the possible effect Acuff's boner would have on his boss. (Goldwater's opponents could have a field-day with a Nazi tie-in to the conservative Senator.)

Thus, by the October 17, 1978, Acuff's fate was sealed—he was through as NICAP's President. Following the meeting, Board members reported Acuff had "resigned." But Acuff was allowed to remain on the Board, apparently in an effort to stave off his demand to be paid in excess of \$20,000 he claimed NICAP owed him for "contracting services." The files would also remain in Acuff's custody. (One former NICAPer said, "He's holding the files as ransom.")

While the Board more or less rejected the ad-hoc committee's idea for a coalition at the Oct. 17th meeting, it did decide to work out some sort of merger with Dr. Hynek and CUFOS. At the same meeting, two new board members were voted in: Charles Lombard, Sen. Goldwater's aid, and John Fisher, head of the American Security Council, an ultra-conservative political lobbying group.

Toward the end of October, former NICAP Director under Major Keyhoe, Richard H. (Dick) Hall, began making proposals to the Board and offering to serve as Acuff's replacement. Hall's overtures were met with mixed response by key board members: Gen. (USAF-Ret.) Robert Richardson and Joseph Hartranft reacted favorably, telling Hall he was

their most likely candidate. Charles Lombard, on the other hand, seemed to feel Hall wasn't qualified for the position as he defined it. Lombard indicated in an October 30th meeting with Hall and Dr. Hynek, wherein Hynek had flown into Washington at his own expense since NICAP claimed its treasury was totally empty, that he was searching for a "White Knight" to rescue NICAP—a retired government official with management experience who could tap corporations and foundations for donations.

Yet, even though Lombard seemed to be set on appointing an ex-intelligence official of some sort, Richardson kept telling Hall he was their most promising prospect and would probably be appointed at the November 29th board meeting. However, not only was Hall not appointed in the November meeting, he was dropped from consideration. Also suffering at the meeting was the proposal to merge with CUFOS and have NICAP newsletter subscribers receive the International UFO Reporter magazine as a substitute for the nearly-defunct UFO Investigator.

Acuff, the resigned President, seemed to be at least partially responsible for blocking the CUFOS merger, apparently because he had discovered the Center was nearly as moneyless as NICAP. Acuff seemed to be in favor of a merger with APRO, which indicted it had substantial funds or access to them. (Most observers feel Acuff wants to be paid off and doesn't feel the CUFOS deal would achieve a quick payment of his "contracting services".)

Thus, by January 1979, NICAP was still wallowing in confusion. The Board had talked in glowing terms about raising funds for UFO research by utilizing John Fisher's Communication Corporation of America, a conservative fund-raising mechanism, but details of the campaign to raise money were slow in being worked out. Apparently, up-front money was needed to get the effort started, but neither NICAP or CUFOS had operating funds enough to swing it.

In the meantime, Lombard's search for a "White Knight" took a humorous turn. Art Lundahl, a retired CIA official liv-

ing in Bethesda, MD, was offered the NICAP Presidency by an unnamed board member in early January. Lundahl quickly pointed out the storm of protest such an appointment would arouse and declined the offer. Subsequently, several other retired CIA officials were offered the job. Finally, one accepted.

The new "White Knight" is Alan N. Hall, about 60, a retired CIA employee living in Bethesda. Reportedly, Hall has agreed to fill Acuff's shoes for a 6-month trial period on a volunteer basis, without pay. Not much is known about Hall's background at the moment, except that he evidently worked in some technical capacity—perhaps with the Office of Scientific Intelligence, or in the DDS&T directorate.

Obviously, the appointment of a retired CIA employee raises some serious questions of propriety. During the late 1950s and early-mid-1960s, NICAP, under Keyhoe, received a great deal of confidential information on UFO cases that were being kept secret; military and intelligence sources repeatedly leaked inside UFO info to Keyhoe. Apparently because of its past reputation, NICAP continued to have confidential UFO data leaked to it during Acuff's tenure. In late 1976, for example, an officer in the Pentagon provided Acuff with copies of a number of classified documents, including the now-famous Iranian report and several other "hot" reports. In 1978, an NSA employee supplied Acuff with information about domestic UFO reports that were coming in through NSA's communications system.

The fact Acuff was working as a covert agent in behalf of the FBI raises some obvious questions about how these confidential sources were handled. And now that a retired CIA employee is taking Acuff's place, even more serious questions are raised. Like: What happens to someone who walks in and hands Alan Hall a classified UFO report, not knowing the strong government ties? Does the document ever see the light of day? Does the source ever again see the light of day?

Who knows, maybe this is all a set-up. One would naturally have to be suspicious of any board of governors that was comprised of two former CIA covert employees (Bryan and Lombard), a retired Air Force General once associated with the Foreign Technology Division (FTD), the component that took over UFO analysis, and an ultra-conservative political activist who once compiled files on millions of Americans he considered "potentially subversive" (Fisher).

But maybe it isn't a set-up. Maybe they just accidentally destroyed NICAP by hiring a businessman who couldn't care less about UFOs and letting him stay on the job until the reputation Keyhoe had established had been milked for all it was worth.

Maybe it's just a coincidence that the founder of the CIA's Psychological Warfare Staff has been on the board for nearly twenty years. Maybe it's another coincidence that Charles Lombard, a former CIA covert employee (according to himself) would seek out a retired CIA executive to run the organization after a covert agent for the FBI had decided to resign when the money ran out.

Or maybe we're all paranoid. Maybe we shouldn't even blink our eyes when these hocus-pocus acts occur. Perhaps Keyhoe deserved to be fired from the organization he built with his own sweat, blood and sacrifice. The timing couldn't have been better, in any case. Keyhoe, after all, was beginning to focus on the CIA in 1969, instead of his tunnel-visioned attacks on the Air Force. Then there was the matter of the Condon Report, issued in 1969. With Keyhoe out of the way, the laughable conclusions of Condon and his gang of merry UFO debunkers allowed the Air Force to get off the hook for good.

To come right out and say it was all a conspiracy would either be leaping at conclusions or stating the obvious—take your pick. But in the final analysis, the results speak for themselves. And the results are that if they wanted to destroy the leading anti-secrecy organization of the 1960s, they couldn't have done a better job if they'd tried.



Editor's Note: It's possible the gentlemen associated with the NICAP Board of Governors are guilty of nothing more than poor judgement. Most Board members who took part in the hiring of Jack Acuff have expressed regrets. They say the hiring was a mistake and that a management-type with no interest in UFOs wouldn't and couldn't work out. Yet, knowing that hasn't prevented them from appointing an ex-CIA employee to replace Acuff. By this and other actions, they have created the appearance of impropriety.

CAUS worked diligently behind the scenes attempting to convey the idea to the Board that another unpopular and secretive hiring such as the one which occurred in 1970 would doom NICAP and place the Board in total suspicion. Our warnings went unheeded. If the Board thinks NICAP can exist on an island by itself, cut off from mainstream UFOlogy, and with a total lack of trust and cooperation, we think they will discover they've made a tremendous and tragic mistake.

#### CAUS NOTES

\*Since mid-December, CAUS and GSW have been overwhelmed with media interest in our activities. CAUS Director Todd Zechel has been interviewed by over 40 radio stations, several newspapers, television stations, and a number of magazines, including Newsweek and several foreign publications.

\*The Washington Post, one of the nation's most influential papers, carried a front-page story entitled "What Were Those Mysterious Craft" on January 19, 1979. The story was based on documents obtained by Todd Zechel under the FOIA related to the Oct./Nov. 1975 flap of hoverings by low-altitude UFOs over SAC B-52 bases and missile sites. The story was picked up by the wire services and many papers throughout the country carried it front-page, including the Atlanta Constitution, which ran it as a banner headline.

\*CAUS Director Todd Zechel and GSW Director William Spaulding appeared together on NBC-TV's "Today Show" on Wednesday, Jan. 24.

Interviewed by co-host Jane Pauley about the 1975 flap (which Pauley was under the mistaken impression had been released as part of the CIA suit; in fact, the '75 flap material had been released mostly in 1977), Zechel said the reports indicated the Air Force had a major security problem on its hands.

\*On Thursday, Jan. 25, CAUS Director Todd Zechel testified before the House Rules Committee of the House of Representatives, State of Mississippi. Rep. Horace Buckley, a black legislator from Jackson, Miss., introduced a resolution in the House asking the Mississippi government to petition the U.S. Senate to conduct an investigation into UFOs. The resolution also called for President Carter to live up to his reported campaign promise and disclose what the government knows about the subject.

Zechel and Al Hendry, Chief Investigator for the Center For UFO Studies, were invited by Rep. Buckley to appear as expert witnesses on the problems of getting UFO information from the gov't. and the need for scientific research.

Interestingly, the members of the committee didn't deny the reality of UFOs; on the contrary, at least two members of the sub-committee argued that the government considered UFOs a threat to national security and had a perfect right to withhold information.

\*CAUS is presently swamped with documents and is working intensely to sort out the ones which would be of interest to its members. A new list of documents for sale will be circulated to all members who have requested it. CAUS Document Manager & Public Relations Coordinator Don Berliner will be handling the sales.

\*CAUS is syndicating a radio series entitled CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT KIND. Highlight of the series is the crashed saucer case. Four separate witnesses will be heard, as well as a document that seems to support the case. Contact your favorite radio station and ask them if they've heard from us.

## UFO WHISTLEBLOWERS

Whistleblowing -- that fine art of a government employee's ratting on his/her employer for alleged illegal/improper conduct -- became a mini-growth industry in the Watergate era and now is inviting the attention of researchers specializing in "investigative reporting" of UFO information policies/practices. To the whistleblower's craft we owe the revelations of the famous Iranian and Cuban air-intercept UFO cases.

Though there are too few incidences of UFO whistleblowing to draw a firm personality profile, here's what we can surmise about the typical practitioner:

- (S)he is an intelligence employee (either military or civilian) privy to raw UFO data being processed through the nation's intelligence channels.

- (S)he is familiar enough with the popular UFO literature to be able to discern politics from legitimate concern for "national security" -- and in so doing is motivated more by a sense of duty to the ultimate national interest vis-a-vis the UFO controversy than by any sense of loyalty to his/her employing agency.

- (S)he is willing to go only so far in subjecting career security to the almost thankless prospect of honesty and candor in public affairs.

- (S)he can be influenced to blow the whistle louder and more frequently if s(he) perceives support from fellow workers and from the recipients of his/her "leaks" of heretofore suppressed UFO data.

The above was submitted by a member of the CAUS staff. He suggested we create a special fund to offer a monetary reward to persons who provide leads to suppressed UFO data. We feel the idea has merit, but we would not want the offer to be construed as an inducement to violate legitimate laws, vows or oaths of secrecy. After all, we operate under the assumption UFO-related documents cannot be lawfully withheld under national security grounds according to the countless statements and findings made by various government agencies which proclaim exactly the opposite. We would like some reader feedback on this matter, with letters addressed to CAUS Administrator Larry W. Bryant.

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# JUST CAUSE

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"The Evidence Will Speak for Itself"

## GSW & CIA at Odds Over Release of UFO Papers

LARRY W. BRYANT

In what's shaping up as a career Freedom of Information case for CAUS Legal Advisor Peter A. Gersten, the latest developments in Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., Vs. U. S. Central Intelligence Agency offer little hope to those of us who welcome a speedy, comprehensive ruling in favor of GSW. Without that wrap-up, we here at CAUS and, indeed, throughout the UFOlogical community will remain stymied in our efforts to enlist the aid of the FOI Act toward ferreting out additional UFO data that the CIA has collected/evaluated since the filing of GSW Vs. CIA in 1978.

For some reason -- certainly not one in the interests of freedom of information -- the Agency has declared itself unwilling to entertain post-suit FOIA UFO-related requests until it concludes its participation in the suit. This policy means, in effect, that "If you want any UFO data beyond what we've already released to GSW, you'll have to wait until we can get GSW off our back."

Already, for example, it's been nearly a year since I sent the following FOI request to the Agency:

"... send me a copy of all your records/documents/electronic recordings pertaining to the CIA's coordination/cooperation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (particularly the RCMP's intelligence-investigatory arm, the Security Service) in the collection/dissemination/evaluation/cataloging of intelligence data on the scientific, military, sociological, psychological, and political implications of reported sightings of, and encounters with, unidentified flying objects (flying saucers/flying discs/unconventional aircraft)."

So far, all I've received in response to the request is this put-off from one George W. Owens, of the Agency's Information and Privacy Office:

"On the basis of the amended FOIA request

which is the subject of litigation with the Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., any documents responsive to your request regarding the Canadian event would be encompassed by the search currently being conducted, if such documents exist. Under the circumstances, to continue the formality of recording your appeal when the substance of your request is already the subject of litigation would be a meaningless activity. In view of this, I am not planning to take any further action on your separate request."

Adding still another bureaucratic weapon to its arsenal of delay tactics, circumlocution of the issues, and general arrogance toward legitimate requests for its precious, "passively" received/stored Pandora's box of UFO goodies, the Agency has caught itself in a procedural web involving my FOI request of July 26, 1978, for its entire "George Adamski UFO Contactee dossier."

Here comes into play the Agency's old ploy of trying to discourage requestors by charging them exorbitant records-search fees -- in this case, over \$130 for what should be a simple matter of looking under index-file "A" (for Adamski, George) and "F" (for flying saucers) (or vice versa); and if they didn't want to cover old ground, they also could check through the package they'd already searched out/served up to GSW. But according to CIA spokesman Owens, the Adamski dossier wasn't included in the GSW complaint and therefore can't be made available as part of a reproduction of that package. (Apparently, he was unaware -- or was told to ignore -- that Adamski's name is included in the voluminous interrogatory submitted by GSW in the course of outlining its desires for all UFO-related information in the possession of the Agency.)

Based on the Agency's carefully orchestrated, censored release of its UFO paners under order of the U. S. District Court (Washington, D.C.); based on its continuing contradictory statements (if not outright misrepresentations of its agreement to comply with the Court's direction); and based on the predisposition that it intends merely to perpetuate a 30-year history of concealing its true role and findings in Federally controlled UFO research, Mr. Gersten has filed a "Notice of Motion for an Order Adjudging Defendant /CIA/ and Its Employee in Civil Contempt." \*

True to form, instead of realizing GSW means business in this contest, the Agency, through the office of the U. S. Attorney, has chosen to rely upon the old Watergate strategy: stonewalling. Unfortunately for GSW, the judge in the case apparently thinks this is just another ho-hum civil action, of more nuisance than of any perceptible benefit to the public's right to know. Otherwise, why did he so glibly dismiss Gersten's multipage, documented motion in favor of the Agency's countermotion that Gersten be restricted to filing a statement "reflecting what, if any, withheld documents are still being sought"?

For the answer to that question, we'll probably have to await the defendant's (and the judge's) response to the following "Reply to U. S. Attorney's/ Opposition to File out of Time," submitted by Gersten on June 18, 1979:

"The defendant has pursued, during the last 30 years, a policy of deception and dishonesty with respect to UFO information. This deception continues throughout this litigation. The dishonesty pervades the Stipulation and Order filed September 15, 1978.

"The Stipulation and Order filed September 15, 1978, is a sham: the perpetration of a fraud upon the plaintiff and the court. Plaintiff cannot comply with a fraud. Plaintiff is required to bring this fraud to the Court's attention.

"Defendant's affidavits did not detail 'all materials withheld' (see plaintiff's 'motion adjudging defendant and its employee in civil contempt of this court' - at paragraph 18). Plaintiff cannot possibly file a statement 'reflecting what, if any, withheld documents are still being sought' when the defendant has not complied with the Stipulation and Order.

"Plaintiff contends that it has no alternative but to file the aforementioned motion and bring to the Court's notice defendant's unlawful conduct. This entire lawsuit was totally unnecessary. The documents defendant denied possessing prior to the lawsuit were released to plaintiff on December 14, 1978. The evidence is clear and convincing that the defendant unlawfully withheld UFO information from the plaintiff.

"It is the defendant which willfully and flagrantly 'violates both the letter and spirit' of the Stipulation and Order. Defendant misrepresents plaintiff's position to the Court when Mr. Briggs in his 'opposition to motion for leave to file out of time' states: 'plaintiff intends to attack the adequacy of the CIA search conducted in this case.' It is not the adequacy of the search plaintiff intends to attack, but --

- (1) that no de novo search was conducted;
- (2) the defendant never intended to conduct a de novo search;
- (3) the defendant concealed this intention

from the plaintiff and the Court;

(4) the defendant's Information and Privacy Coordinator, George Owens, lied in his affidavit to conceal defendant's intention;

(5) defendant still has a considerable amount of UFO documents they haven't acknowledged withholding.

"It is obvious that plaintiff cannot participate in a fraud. Plaintiff can prove its contentions. Defendant's conduct is violative of the law and must be exposed and condemned. The defendant is not above the law. Unfortunately, the defendant has a tendency of forgetting this.

"Accordingly, plaintiff suggests that the Court consider its motion on the merits."

\* Readers desiring a copy of the motion (with countermotion, the judge's response, and Mr. Gersten's reply) may order it from CAUS for \$4.50 postpaid (\$5.00 for foreign orders).

## Stonewalling at USAF's OSI

Here we go again. This time, acting on a lead provided by W. Todd Zechel's acquisition of information pointing to the existence of a now-defunct U. S. Army "Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit," CAUS has dispatched a Freedom of Information request to the Commander, USAF Office of Special Investigations, Washington, D. C. -- to wit --

"... furnish /us/ a copy of all documents and other records pertaining to the files, functions, and operations of the Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit, a defunct U. S. Army counterintelligence activity that transferred its technical reports, standing operating procedures, and other permanently filed data to your command back in 1962."

Predictably, on June 6, 1979, the OSI processor of the request informed CAUS that "A review of the Defense Central Index of Investigations and inquiries to the appropriate offices of this headquarters have failed to disclose any information regarding the Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit. If AFOSI had performed the function described in your letter, any existing records may have been incorporated in the Project Bluebook /sic./ files which have been transferred to the National Archives."

Considering this "kiss-off" reply to be an apparent denial of the request, CAUS filed a formal appeal under terms of the Act. Predictably, the OSI spokesman, Rudolph M. Schellhammer (Director of Plans, Programs, and Resources),



replied by denying that his failure to fulfill the request was meant as a denial of it. Again, he referred us to the National Archives' Project Blue Book files. (Of course, if those files do contain any documents pertaining to the alleged Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit, that fact would have been discovered -- and publicised -- long ago through the research efforts of dozens of Blue Book archeologists.)

Predictably, on July 24th, CAUS dispatched this rejoinder:

"Since you have failed to document for us the actual disposition of the documents/records in question, we have no choice but to assume these documents/records are being purposely suppressed from public view. And since you have invoked no alleged protection of any Freedom of Information Act exemption for this suppression, we are prepared to bring the matter before the appropriate U. S. District Court in our forthcoming litigation to compel Air Force compliance with both the letter and spirit of /the Act/ as regards all officially created/maintained records on the subject of 'Interplanetary Phenomenon.'"

Clearly on the defensive, Schellhammer's office fired back this beefed-up iteration:

"... /AFOSI/ is not maintaining any information responsive to your request. Attached

/see figure/ you will find a copy of the print-out from the Defense Central Index of Investigations which identifies those file numbers assigned to inquiries made by AFOSI in response to alleged WFO sightings. Please note that in each instance the file is clearly marked as having been destroyed.

"We have directed you to the agency that can most likely provide you with the information you are seeking. Accordingly, we can be of no further assistance to you regarding your request and consider the matter closed."

At this writing, the ball is back in OSI's court, where they have these last words of CAUS to ponder:

"We're unable to 'consider the matter closed' . . . inasmuch as you still have failed to account for OSI's disposition of the records in question. If those records were in fact transferred to another government agency or were destroyed by OSI, we need to have from you a formal, complete documentation of such transfer/destruction; otherwise, we have no choice but to add this matter to our docket of Freedom of Information Act appeals litigation."

Note: any CAUS member having details on the Unit is encouraged to relay them to us (anonymously or otherwise).

01 INTERPLANITARY PHENOMENON					GP=
*** ?NO RECORD FOUND					
01 UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT					GP=
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=00	NO=00HQD24-105/303	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=52	NO=52HQD24-105/4/14	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=53	NO=53HQD24-105/5/27	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=54	NO=54HQD24-105/14/3	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=54	NO=54HQD24-105/10	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=54	NO=54HQD24-105/5/20	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=55	NO=55HQD24-105/7/8	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=56	NO=56HQD24-105	CTX=SUBJECT	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=63	NO=63HQD24-105/4/37	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=64	NO=64HQD24-2054/303	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
02 UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS					GP=
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=00	NO=00HQD24-105/8/10	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=52	NO=52HQD24-105/1/35	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=52	NO=52HQD24-105/2/10	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=52	NO=52HQD24-105/340	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=52	NO=52HQD24-105/302	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=52	NO=52HQD24-105/4/12	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=52	NO=52HQD24-105/4/10	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=53	NO=53HQD24-105/2	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=53	NO=53HQD24-105/5/29	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
ADD'L DATA DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=54	NO=54HQD24-0/1026	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
FWRD/PF-1	RNTR/PF-4		EXT/PF-5	QMD = -- DESTROYED	
?SEL-NEXT ?UPDATE					
01 UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS					GP=
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=54	NO=54HQD24-105/2/10	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=54	NO=54HQD24-105/0/5	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=50	NO=50HQD24-105/4/29	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED
02 UNIDENTIFIABLE FLYING OBJECT					GP=
*** ?DOSSIER	LOC=FOSI	YR=00	NO=00HQD24-0/1590	CTX=	RET=UNK DESTROYED

## Hq Potpourri

### JUST CAUSE BACK ON SCHEDULE ?

On the whole, CAUS members have shown remarkable understanding of our lack of a regular publishing schedule for Just Cause. Because former editor W. Todd Zechel has been preoccupied with the so-called "crashed saucer" investigation and related endeavors, and because of the earlier commitment of assistant editor Brad C. Sparks to a book-length research project, the editorial production of CAUS reached a standstill with issue No. 7 (Jan. 1979). As we now try to get back on schedule, we are extending everyone's initial subscription to cover a period of at least 12 issues, regardless of when the subscription was entered. We hope this will be a satisfactory arrangement for those of you who, in the words of one member, are hungry for news out there. When Mr. Zechel was editor, we had a surfeit of material to publish; now, with that source directed at other pursuits, we have a dearth of material and even less manpower by which to process and publish it. Obviously, we need your support in the form of procedural tips, late-breaking news items, story leads, and the results of your own FOI requests and other involvement in the politics of UFOlogy. With this material as a "domino base" -- whereby one datum leads to a string of related data and eventually into a clearer view of a report, event, or policy -- we can keep the pages of Just Cause rich in original research and strong in our effort to counter the plans and programs of official "UFO secrecy."

### BACK-ISSUE DEPARTMENT

Meantime, for the information of newcomers to the CAUS, we advise that back issues of Just Cause are out of print. For the postpaid price of \$2.00 per issue, however, we can mail you xerographic copies.

### \$ UFO PAPERS \$

Our document-sales project is suspended until it can be properly managed. If the suspension inconveniences any of you over past, unfilled orders, please let us know and we'll try to work out a settlement.

### NEW HOPE FOR FOI ACTIVISM

The Fund for Open Information and Accountability, Inc. (FOIA), an NYC-based organization, shapes up as "a grass-roots movement necessary to the survival of the Freedom of Information Act," according to Vol. 1, No. 1 (Dec. 1978) of its bimonthly newsletter, Update. An article in Update's third issue (May 1979), entitled "Taking the FBI to Court," reports: "The accelerated pace at which the FBI is destroying documents has moved FOIA, Inc. into emergency action. A lawsuit demanding that the FBI be prohibited from any further shredding, burning, or pulping of politically and historically significant files is now being prepared in behalf of a broad group of individuals and organizations . . . ." Among the plaintiffs is the editor of the national periodical The Nation, which in its July 14-21, 1979 issue discusses not only the Bureau's arbitrary files-destruction program, but also director Webster's lobbying for a watered-down Freedom of Information Act.

Presumably, the material targeted for wholesale destruction, now ensuing apace, includes UFO-related documents. CAUS members desiring to add their voice of protest against the FBI's shredding/stifling programs might wish to do so by contributing funds to FOIA, Inc., or, at least, by subscribing for Update (\$12 annually: 36 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036).

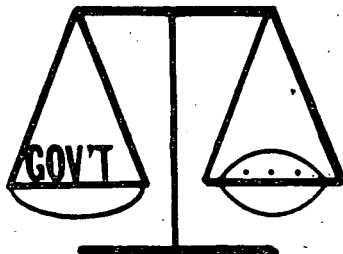
### JUST CAUSE No. 9 . . .

. . . will contain the article "No UFOresight in Congress."

Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS)

P.O. Box 4743

Arlington, VA 22204



"The Evidence Will Speak For Itself"

*F.Y.I. from Peter Tomlinson* *my photo* 1979

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NOTICE: Press Conference CONTACT: Anita Hernandez 992-9600  
SUBJECT: UFOs and National Security  
DATE: October 25, 1979, Thursday at 1:00 p. m.  
LOCATION: Metromedia, 205 E. 67th St., (Kluge Hall--3rd Floor)

On thursday, October 25, 1979, attorney Peter A. Gersten on behalf of his client, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), will present several unsettling disclosures concerning 'unidentified flying objects' (UFOs). The documentary evidence, including a recently released document from the National Security Agency, will enable Gersten to talk about UFOs in terms of an advanced scientific technology which may pose a threat to national security. Gersten will be announcing the filing of further lawsuits against government agencies withholding UFO documents and will call for a congressional investigation.

The article "UFO FILES THE UNTOLD STORY" which appeared in the October 14, 1979 issue of the New York Times magazine is enclosed to provide background of the latest developments. A question and answer period will follow Gersten's announcements. Documents from the Air Force, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of State will be distributed to members of the press.

The press conference will be held at Metromedia, beginning at 1 00 p. m.

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CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY - CAUS

For Immediate Release (1 P.M.)

Thursday, October 25, 1979

PRESS RELEASE:

During the past year, the United States Government has released, through the Freedom of Information Act, 3000 pages of documents on the subject of what is commonly referred to as 'unidentified flying objects' or UFOs. The Departments of State, Army, Navy, Air Force; the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency have all released previously classified documents involving UFOs, which, incidentally, most denied possessing at one time or another.

My client, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), a public interest group organized to bring about greater public awareness concerning UFOs and this government's policies and practices regarding them, has reviewed these documents. After an intensive analysis, CAUS can now report that the documents expose the policy of this government to debunk reports of UFO sightings by the public and of thereby succeeding in minimizing their significance. (Document J) Furthermore, the government has continually misinformed (Documents A, T) the American people and obscured the subject's true importance.

The government's official position is that 1) no UFO reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of a threat to our national security; 2) there has been no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that sightings categorized as "unidentified" represent technological developments or

principles beyond the range of present day scientific knowledge; and 3) there has been no evidence indicating that sightings categorized as "unidentified" are extraterrestrial vehicles. (Document C)

Though the documents contain no evidence concerning the identity or origin of UFOs, there is evidence that some UFOs perform beyond the range of present day technological development. More importantly, the documents reveal that some UFOs may pose a threat to our national security.

The documents disclose this government's widespread and continuing interest in the subject of UFOs contrary to official denials. The documents which cover the past thirty-two years, reveal hundreds of UFO sightings around the world by scientists, military personnel, law enforcement officers and other reliable, responsible and credible people.

An FBI document reveals that from 1948 through 1950 UFOs were sighted by persons "whose reliability is not questioned" near sensitive military and government installations and caused great concern. (Document D)

A CIA document reveals that in 1952 "sightings of unexplained objects at great altitudes and travelling at high speeds" were sighted in the vicinity of major U.S. defense installations (Document E) and posed a potential threat to our national security.

A newly released State Department document reveals that in March, 1975, strange "machines" were being seen near Algerian military installations by "responsible people." Some of the sightings were confirmed by radar. (Document F)

Recently released Department of Defense, Air Force, and CIA documents reveal that six months later, during October and November, 1975 reliable U.S. military personnel repeatedly sighted UFOs in the vicinity of nuclear weapons storage areas, aircraft alert areas, and nuclear missile control facilities at Loring AFB Maine, Wurtsmith AFB Michigan, Malmstrom AFB Montana, Minot AFB North Dakota as well as Canadian Forces Station at Falconbridge, Ontario. Many of the sightings were confirmed by radar. (Document G) At Loring AFB the UFO "demonstrated a clear intent in the weapons storage areas." (Document H) The incidents drew the attention of the CIA, (Document I) the Joint Chiefs

of Staff and the office of the Secretary of Defense. Though the Air Force informed the public and press that individual sightings were isolated incidents, (Documents J, K) an Air Force document indicates that security measures were coordinated among fifteen Air Force bases from Guam to Newfoundland. (Documents G, L) An Air Force document indicates that the Air Force did conduct an investigation into these incidents. (Document K) It is thus difficult to understand how the Air Force can still maintain that "no UFO reported, investigated and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of a threat to our national security" (emphasis added). (Document C)

Defense Intelligence Agency documents reveal that on September 19, 1976 American made F-4 Iranian jets encountered several UFOs over Iran. During the encounter one F-4 jet, upon approaching a UFO, lost all instrumentation and communication functions. Furthermore, the F-4's weapon control panel became inoperable when the pilot attempted to fire at the UFO. (Document M) The recently released DIA evaluation refers to this incident as "an outstanding report" in that the object was seen by many witnesses; the credibility of the witnesses was high; the visual sightings were confirmed by radar; similar electromagnetic effects were reported by three separate aircraft; and physiological effects were reported by some of the crew members. Furthermore, the UFOs displayed an "inordinate amount of maneuverability". (Document N) Though the documents indicate that follow-up reports on the incident were to be forwarded to the DIA, all government agencies deny the existence of any further documents.

Other recently released State Department documents show that UFOs were reported over Morocco about five hours prior to the Iranian incident. The UFOs were sighted by at least one Moroccan official as well as civilians. Though a CIA document indicates that some government official personally requested an immediate investigation, (Document O) the CIA denies the existence of any further reports.

Still another State Department document reveals that during November 1978, a series of UFO sightings caused the Government of Kuwait to appoint an investigatory committee of experts from the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research. According to the document (Document P) the UFO which first appeared over the northern oil fields seemingly did strange things to the automatic pumping equipment. This equipment is designed to shut itself down when any failure occurs which could seriously damage the petroleum gathering and transmission system. It can only be restarted manually. At

the time of the UFOs appearance the pumping system automatically shut itself down. When the UFO "vanished", the system started up again, automatically.

The evidence leaves little doubt that UFOs, which have unlimited and unrestricted access to our most sensitive nuclear installations and which can cause electromagnetic effects that render inoperable the instrumentation and communication of American made jets or that shut down and restart sophisticated pumping equipment, can pose a threat to our national security.

These and other sighting reports, many confirmed by radar (Documents F, G, I, M, Q) or other tracking devices, describe unconventional aerial objects that exhibit advanced performance characteristics involving maneuverability, speed, size and shape.

In June, 1978 the French governmental UFO study group (GEPAN) concluded that "everything taken into consideration a material phenomena seems to be behind the totality of the phenomena-a flying machine whose modes of sustenance and propulsion are beyond our knowledge."

Analysis of the documents further reveals, that as early as 1952, the government has pursued a policy of secrecy (Document R) and withholding of UFO information, both from the public and from the press. This policy continues to this day.

In 1977 a former intercept technician with the Air Force Security Service confided to nuclear physicist and UFO expert Stanton Friedman that in March, 1967 the technician intercepted a communication between the pilot of a Russian made Cuban MIG-21 and his command concerning an encounter with a UFO. The technician stated that when the pilot attempted to fire at the UFO, the MIG and its pilot were destroyed by the UFO. Furthermore, the technician stated that all reports, tapes, log entries, and notes, concerning the incident, were forwarded to the National Security Agency at their request. (Document S) Numerous requests to NSA for further information have been met with the response that the Agency can neither confirm nor deny the existence of the incident.

Presently the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency admit to withholding 57 and 18 UFO documents, respectively. (Documents U, V) Furthermore, the CIA refuses to acknowledge at least 200 other UFO documents that were in its possession while NSA refuses to

acknowledge the existence of any of its UFO documents. Presently the Air Force is withholding all information relating to 'unknown tracks', its latest synonym for UFOs.

Due to the government's withholding of UFO information, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy has been forced to ask the Federal Court for assistance. During the coming week CAUS will be filing two lawsuits in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia: 1) a lawsuit against the National Security Agency to compel it to release its UFO files including the 18 documents it has acknowledged withholding and the Cuban incident report it has refused to either confirm or deny; and 2) a lawsuit against the Air Force to compel it to release its reports of 'unknown tracks'. Furthermore, within thirty days, as part of the Ground Saucer Watch lawsuit against the Central Intelligence Agency, I will be asking the U. S. District Court in Washington to enjoin the CIA from withholding the 57 documents it refuses to release.

Last month the National Security Agency released to researcher Robert Todd a document dated 1968 and titled 'UFO Hypothesis and Survival Questions'. (Document B) All of the UFO hypotheses considered by NSA "have serious survival implications" for mankind. "Up until this time, the leisurely scientific approach has too often taken precedence in dealing with UFO questions. If you are walking along a forest path and someone yells 'rattler' your reaction would be immediate and defensive. You would not take time to speculate before you act. You would have to treat the alarm as if it were a real and immediate threat to your survival. Investigation would become an intensive emergency action to isolate the threat and to determine it's precise nature - It would be geared to developing adequate defensive measures in a minimum amount of time. It would seem a little more of this survival attitude is called for in dealing with the UFO problem."

Do some UFOs pose implications for the survival of mankind as the NSA suggests? Do some UFOs pose a threat to our national security as the evidence suggests? What are these unconventional objects that reliable people are sighting throughout the world? CAUS believes that the American people have the right to know the answers to these very important questions.

In light of the foregoing, CAUS calls upon the Congress of the United States to exercise its oversight powers and launch a full scale inquiry into whether the government has thoroughly investigated the threat to national security that some UFOs may pose. CAUS calls upon the government of the



United States to 1) reverse its position that further scientific investigation of UFOs is unwarranted; 2) immediately declassify and release all its UFO documents which do not legitimately effect national security; and 3) unconditionally waive all search and copying fees for UFO documents. CAUS calls upon the American people to come forward with any information concerning UFOs and this government's suppression of UFO evidence.

CAUS believes the time is long overdue for an objective re-appraisal of the implications of the UFO phenomena.

# JUST CAUSE

Vol. 1-No. 9 (December 1979) — U.S.A.  
Published Intermittently by Citizens Against  
UFO Secrecy (CAUS), P. O. Box 4743, Arlington,  
VA 22204 -- United States of America.



"The Evidence Will Speak for Itself"

## A Primer on UFOlogy as a Public Issue

Citizens who are newcomers to the politics of UFOlogy probably wonder what is the best means for acquiring a capsule explanation of the issues and principals involved in this sociopolitical drama of the past 30-odd years. If you're one of those citizens, you might find the answers to your questions by reviewing two recent media events of interest to UFOlogists and ordinary citizens alike.

NYT

The first is the ground-breaking publication by The New York Times Magazine (14 Oct 79) of an in-depth article entitled "UFO Files: The Untold Story," by NYC-based freelancer Patrick Huyghe. Tracing the record of the growing credibility gap between what the Federal Government secretly collects/evaluates on UFO's and what it publicly acknowledges/releases, Huyghe's analysis leaves the reader with a bitter taste over what essentially is a deliberate, continuous UFO-data coverup by such agencies as the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Security Agency, the military-service departments, the Department of Defense, and the State Department. Needless to say, a substantial volume of documentation and commentary digested by Huyghe in the course of his extensive research had to be edited from the piece to conform to the magazine's word-space limitations. But even so, for a big-name medium like The New York Times to sponsor sober coverage of such a journalistically sensitive topic as UFOlogy marks a milestone in providing that investigative specialty its day in court. (Xerographic copies of the article may be ordered direct from the author -- 214 East 83rd Street - #5C, New York, NY 10028 -- postpaid at \$2.50 per copy.)

GSW

And speaking of UFOlogy's day in court: the other media event occurred in Bronx, N. Y., on October 25, 1979, in the form of a press conference held by CAUS legal director Peter A. Gersten. Curiously unattended by local print media representatives (including The New York Times), the conference was called to publicize the latest developments in the litigation of Ground Saucer Watch, Inc. Vs. CIA; to highlight the plans of Gersten to file (on behalf of CAUS) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits against the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of the Air Force; and to dramatize the concern of CAUS members and others that the Federal Government's apparent mishandling of legitimate, hard-core UFO data could endanger the national interest. To support his intentions and contentions, Gersten distributed a "press kit" composed, in part, of selected government

documents recently obtained via FOIA actions. Among them was an NSA 1968 monograph, entitled "UFO Hypothesis and Survival Questions," the lead paragraph of which reads: "It is the purpose of this monograph to consider briefly some of the human survival implications suggested by the various principal hypothesis [sic.] concerning the nature of the phenomena loosely categorized as UFO." (Xerographic copies of Gersten's 8-page press release (with index to the press kit) may be ordered direct from CAUS at the post-paid price of \$2.00 apiece.)

## Call for National Convocation on UFO Secrecy

A CAUS member in the Washington, D. C., area has suggested that a coalition of UFO research groups sponsor and conduct a day-long National Convocation on UFO Secrecy, to be held, appropriately enough, in Washington, D.C., to coincide with the anniversary of the amended U. S. Freedom of Information Act (which took effect on February 19, 1975).

The convocation's objectives would be to --

- Foster wide-open, robust public discussion on the policies and practices of Federal, State, and local agencies in perpetuating official UFO secrecy. This could include (1) a program of speakers on specialized topics related to UFO secrecy/UFO news management; (2) a panel of experts debating one or more of the issues involved; and (3) the publication of the convocation's proceedings for sale to the general public.
- Provide a secure forum for heretofore undeclared witnesses to officially suppressed UFO data, in which their testimony can receive its day in court without being subjected to the whims of repressive, retributive authority. Presumably, this might include confessions of UFO secrecy by past participants in official UFO research. It also could include the coming forward of principals involved in cases of alleged retrieval/storage of "crashed saucers."
- Formulate direction of and plans for an aggressive campaign to end UFO secrecy and to coordinate the release and publication of heretofore secret UFO data in the possession of the U. S. and foreign governments. This could include a workshop on the mechanics of using the Freedom of Information Act as the primary tool by which to ferret desired data. It also could include formation of a lobbying corps to bring legisla-

tive reform to the Executive Branch's continuing efforts at maintaining UFO secrecy.

- Affirm and renew the resolve of concerned citizens to counter any present or future instance of UFO secrecy perpetrated by any official in the course of investigating UFO encounters or in the processing/evaluating of UFO data submitted to government agencies for analysis.

- Honor the work of Major Donald E. Keyhoe (USMC, Ret.), the "father" of anti-UFO secrecy, as the impetus for "citizens against UFO secrecy." This could include a testimonial, "contributors' plate" dinner in his honor (with "roasting"?), the proceeds of which would be applied to special projects.

#### MANAGING THE PROJECT

Of course, any undertaking of this magnitude would require thorough planning, sound management, adequate funding, and the dedication and hard work of volunteers. Assuming those resources can be acquired and marshaled within the next year or so, is there anybody out there who'd be interested in becoming the Project Manager for this call to action? And are there any persons able and willing to join him/her in forming the cadre of planners and coordinators necessary for developing and executing the project? If so, please send your names and qualifications descriptors to CAUS headquarters immediately. This is your chance to get involved, to help build on our growing record of success in dispelling ignorance of (and/or apathy toward) the dangers of sustained UFO secrecy.



### Foreign Forum

It doesn't take long for U. S.-grown UFOlogists to realize that official UFO secrecy is confined no more to North America than is inflation. A subscription for one or two foreign UFO journals soon bears this out. Of course, in the Soviet Union and other totalitarian nations, everything of political importance starts out a secret. There, even the fact that UFO secrecy exists probably ought to be kept a secret in the eyes of some government leaders. (Which was the case here in the United States when UFO's debuted upon modern man's consciousness; now, with the evidence of Project Blue Book largely declassified, all those official pronouncements of a policy of non-UFO secrecy have a distinctly hollow ring.)

CAUS correspondents in Spain, for example -- having applauded American efforts at ridding the Executive Branch of any hold-over UFO secrecy policy practices -- acknowledge their own government's poor record in fostering a free-flow of vital UFO data to the citizenry. In recent correspondence with CAUS, Jose Carlos Fernandez Garcia, president of Spain's Instituto Reusense de Investigacion Ufologica, observes: "The reasons of my letter is to express my solidarity with your efforts to get a planification of the information about UFO's; so kept in silence and in secrecy by the governments. We all-studions of this phenomenon know the risks that entrails the want of information and the attitude taken for many

countries of not submission of these objects."

#### THE MEXICAN CONNECTION

Back on this side of the Atlantic, we find that Mexico might be sitting on a powder keg of UFO data. Case in point: Mexican embassy officials in Washington, D.C., have ignored CAUS inquiries about the Mexican role in the U.S.-led recovery of an alleged flying saucer that crash-landed on Mexican soil on December 8, 1950. According to UFO researcher W. Todd Zechel, the military recovery team out of Carswell Air Force Base, Tex., managed to dupe the Mexicans into thinking that the saucer was nothing more than an experimental American craft -- and hence the province/property of the border-crossing U. S. retrievers.

One easily can speculate on the Mexican embassy's demonstrated reticence about the event. Maybe the Mexican officials merely are embarrassed by this momentous intelligence scoop sprung on them by their neighbor to the north; and so they wish not to reopen that old wound in their international image. Or maybe they're a party to a U.S.-engineered conspiracy to suppress all past/present/future data about the recovery mission, with the understanding that the Mexican government share the wealth of knowledge derived from any on-going analysis of the craft. Then, a third theory would be a hybrid of the first two. Whichever theory survives the test of time, you can be sure that the next UFO that crash-lands in Mexico will receive not only royal treatment by the natives, but also the careful attention of a Mexican-led recovery team, acting on strict orders to resist interference from the greedy gringos from Texas.

In the meantime, CAUS researchers are trying another approach for cracking Mexico's wall of secrecy surrounding not just the 1950 case but also, presumably, any present or future body of valid UFO data. The results of this effort will be reported at a later date.

#### A NOTE TO CANADIAN CAUSIANS

At least one Canada-based UFO researcher is on the trail of alleged European retrievals (hardware and/or software). If any of the incidents pans out, it will dispel the notion that disabled UFO's somehow prefer to land on our side of the globe. CAUS plans to pursue the secrecy aspect of these incidents, and we commend our Canadian brethren for their investigative prowess to date.



### Carter's Broken Promise

LARRY W. BRYANT \*

In today's trend toward single-issue candidacy/recall on the part of the electorate, President Jimmy Carter's chances at reelection are slim indeed.

If you objectively can point to a string of broken campaign promises as the culprit in Mr. One Time's decline and fall, you should include among them his apparent failure to, in his words,

"make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and the scientists."

Although he did ask his science/technology advisor to look into the advisability of having the National Aeronautics and Space Administration reopen a formal Federal Government examination of the UFO problem (an act comparable to asking the oil cartel to report on the causes of worldwide inflation), President Carter nonetheless lost the chance for a turnabout in the credibility of officialdom's reaction to, and handling of, that problem.

Was his reneging due to a grand scheme to suppress vital UFO data from public view? Some of the hundreds of citizens who have bothered to write their views to the President probably would think so.

#### THE PULSE OF DISILLUSIONMENT

Citizens' letters to the President on UFO's -- representing all walks of life, all political/religious persuasions, all extremes of UFOlogical orientation -- carry a popular message, best depicted in quotations from a few of the letters at random:

• In your recent televised talk to the American public, you stated that you were going to honor all of your campaign promises. Mr. President, do you intend to honor the above promise? Having researched the problem of Government documentation regarding UFO's, I am aware of quite a bit of such documentation currently being held by various Government agencies and departments. I would be more than willing to submit specific details of the existence of this documentation to you for any action you deem appropriate.

• I was surprised to learn about your intended action concerning UFO's. The magazine U. S. News & World Report states that the President himself would disclose information on UFO's that will astound and surprise the American public. Is this information derived from the Project Blue Book or any other governmental projects? Or is this new information that has been kept from the public? As the magazine reports, Mr. President, you will disclose this information towards the end of the year. Is this a true statement? I am concerned about UFO activity in the U. S. and their meaning of existence. I would appreciate a letter of reply. May I thank you for being concerned over this important matter.

• Mr. Carter, I have followed the UFO mystery for over 25 years. In that time, I have seen USAF officers make comments about UFO sightings far worse than the comment Paul Rand Dixon made recently about Ralph Nader. I would hope that you will very quickly make "every piece of information" the government has about UFO's publicly available. I would hope that this would include information as to just who in the Federal Government is currently investigating them. Officially, or at least for public consumption, the USAF has been out of it since late 1969, but there are a great many people who feel that theirs was merely the overt investigation and that covertly another agency (a special branch of the CIA has been mentioned by some researchers) has both carried out investigations of UFO reports and harried

sighters into not publicly reporting details of their observations/encounters with UFO's. Your assistance in piercing the "silence Curtain" thrown up around UFO sightings for many years by the USAF and other agencies will be greatly appreciated.

• I have read several books on UFO's, and I am convinced beyond any doubt that they are not mere figments of the imagination, but actually alien spacecraft from other worlds. My own sightings convinced me even more. I have read (in that same article) that you have seen a UFO yourself. When I first became interested in UFO's I was very much a skeptic. But now I am completely the opposite. In these books I have read about government cover-ups, especially Air Force. I have read and I am convinced that both the government and the Air Force do in fact know that most UFO's are alien spacecraft. Of course, I am aware there have been many hoaxes. I have read that the Air Force has even threatened people who have had sightings with good evidence not to talk to the press or anybody about their sightings. This should stop immediately! Should good, decent citizens be intimidated when they have the right to know the truth?! I am sure that by now you know the truth about UFO's. Of course, I have heard theories that there would be widespread panic, but I believe this is terribly underestimating the common sense of the American people. I believe if the government released, for publication, all UFO information over the course of the next few years it would not come as such a shock. After all, in a recent nationwide poll, 15 million Americans say they have seen a UFO. I realize UFO's are not a major national concern, so I can't expect you to do anything about it right away. I strongly believe that releasing all information on UFO's is something you can't put off. I have seen that in just your first month in office you are a man of action, and not afraid to do things differently. For this reason I believe if you don't do it, nobody will for a long, long time.

• I do believe the time has come to lift the lid off and release all the information the government has. Does the government in fact have an intact alien spacecraft hidden at Wright-Patterson A.F.B. along with its frozen occupants? As it stands now there is enough eyewitness testimony to say that something is or was hidden at the base.

I realize this information would have to be released slowly because of the effect it would have on some people. But it would be a great step in bringing back an open government -- not one shrouded in secrecy. Reply wanted, please.

The Secretary of the Air Force's replies to these honest expressions of anticipation and concern generally have consisted of a form-letter response that says, in effect, "Thanks for writing, but we neither seek nor need your advice/support on this irksome matter /especially for our various mail processors along the way from White House to Pentagon/." Little wonder that any registered-to-vote recipient of that pat AF response would be disinclined to renew his/her faith in the Carter persona come election time.

Of course, it's possible that the Presidency

is not the fountainhead of official UFO secrecy. Considering Carter's apparent overall naivete on other issues of national concern or commitment, who's to say that, as regards the UFO controversy, he's not merely accepting at face value the put-off answers of his intelligence advisors?

Whether BSer or bungler, President Carter has left a sizable chunk of the electorate disillusioned and dismayed over the nonfulfillment of his al-

leged campaign promise. But, really, when you think about it -- you who've seen previous presidents dodge the UFO issue, term after term -- what UFO-oriented citizen actually ever has expected Jimmy Carter to plunge into the politics of UFOlogy?

\* Mr. Bryant is the compiler-editor of an unpublished book entitled Jimmy Carter Answers His UFO Mail: Citizens' Letters to the President on UFOs.

## EDITORIAL

### The Crashed Saucer Secret: How We're Getting It - Why We'll Tell It

LARRY W. BRYANT

Now that its major issue is settled -- i.e., the right of a magazine to publish information gleaned from unclassified sources -- the celebrated case of the U. S. Government Vs. The Progressive Magazine raises questions about the Federal Government's possible intervention in the present and future efforts of UFOlogy media to publicize the facts/myths surrounding the growing suspicion that downed UFO hardware/occupants have been retrieved/stored by U. S. officials.

If upon sifting through rumor after rumor, claim after claim, unsubstantiated fact after unsubstantiated fact, a researcher stumbles across the crucial clue that unlocks Ali Baba's cave of UFO goodies, what is he to do with that key to the ultimate mystery of UFO's?

#### A FOOT IN THE DOOR

Well, if the researcher is Leonard Stringfield of Cincinnati, Ohio, the nation's leading specialist in the lore of "crashed saucers," he will proceed on a careful, methodical course of documentation until all the pieces of the puzzle are put in their proper places. In Stringfield's case, this means numerous man-hours of chasing fruitless leads, of enduring the sacrifice of his time needed for family matters, of remaining frustrated because of this or that missing element of data or lack of confirmatory evidence for the diversity of accounts relayed to him. It also means subjecting himself to abuse from persons who can't accept the seriousness of his work or who resent his leadership role in it. And it means exposing one's published interim reports to the critical whims of other researchers and mass-media analysts, who too often forget that what the report offers is not the final solution to the UFO controversy but rather a means for arriving at that solution.

Thus, if you're a Leonard Stringfield hot on the trail of retro-UFOlogy (the collection/evaluation of historical evidence gleaned from newly acquired evidence and testimony), you have every right to be apprehensive over whether your government is going to clamp down the secrecy lid on your findings. Should such a governmental incursion into your private life occur, what recourse do you have to protect your interests as a free citizen and to assure that the public's right to know is maintained free of prior-restraint censorship?

#### HAVE NO FEAR

If you follow the example of The Progressive's publisher, you'll enlist the aid of such public-interest groups as Citizens Against UFO Secrecy and the American Civil Liberties Union, both of which stand ready to advise you of your legal rights and obligations when Big Brother comes calling. And you'll rely on the glare of widespread publicity as a weapon to counteract any unconstitutional act that government officials might be contemplating using against you.

With that knowledge and assurance in hand, you will remain in a strong position to withstand unwarranted government control and to persevere in your efforts at being a conduit of information from, and among, sources heretofore entrenched in reticence.

Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS)

P.O. Box 4743

Arlington, VA 22204

## Carter's Broken Promise -- II

By Larry W. Bryant

My article in the December, 1979, issue of Just Cause has prompted some reader response. A well-known researcher on the West Coast writes:

"I have been completely unable to find any evidence whatsoever that Carter ever made the statement that he would 'make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and the scientists.' It was printed in the National Enquirer, as have been innumerable misquotations about UFO's from all kinds of people, including myself. Bill Pitts /NE reporter/ provided me with a transcript of the actual statement made to the Enquirer reporter; it was in March 1975:

'Reporter: If you were President, would you reopen inquiries into UFO's?

'JC: Oh, no, but I would make information we have in regard to sightings available to the public.

'Reporter: The U. S. used to have a body that investigated UFO's. That's been discontinued. Would you reopen it?

'JC: I don't know yet.'

"In another campaign press conference (on Steve Tom's new 2-record set):

'I don't see any reason to keep information like that secret. But there may be some aspects of the UFO information that, uh, with which I am not familiar that might be related to some secret experiments we were doing that might involve our national security or new weapon systems. I certainly wouldn't release that, but if it was something removed from our national security, you know, in my opinion as President, I'd go ahead and release it. I see nothing wrong with that.'

"I think there can be no doubt that the duplication of the flight capability of flying saucers by us or any other nation would have an enormous impact on national security. I for one do NOT want all data about flying saucers released to the public. I do think a statement should be made that some UFO's are ET spacecraft and that the technology could have a substantial impact and that we should all turn our attention to what it means for us to be visited . . . I do not think it appropriate to beat the dead horse of a nonexistent campaign pledge. A passing comment in a press conference situation cannot be taken to be a pledge.

"/I'm/ looking forward to your response or a first-hand demonstration that Carter did make the pledge you attribute to him."

### PRESIDENTIAL FOLKLORE

Simply stated, my response is that it matters little, now, whether Carter actually made a campaign pledge to free-up all official UFO data. Since numerous citizens apparently believe he made the pledge, the effect of that collective belief is that he did make it -- especially when you consider that he's never denied making it. So it's not a question of beating a dead horse; it's a question of keeping the beast alive so that we may reach a diagnosis of his malady.

To that end, on December 19, 1979, CAUS sent the following letter to President Jimmy Carter:

"It has been widely and frequently reported in the news media that you made the following promise/pledge during your first-term presidential election campaign:

'I will make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and the scientists.'

"Since that time, scores of persons have written to the White House to voice their sentiments about that alleged statement. Most of these persons have received a form-letter reply that neither confirmed nor denied whether you actually made the statement that prompted their inquiries. As a consequence, there is a growing controversy over whether your alleged promise/pledge actually was worded as quoted above and whether it has been fulfilled or forsaken in the course of your presidency. In order to clarify the issue, therefore, we pose the following two questions:

"(1) What is the true content of the alleged promise/pledge (assuming it ever was made)?

"(2) Do you consider that your administration has fulfilled all or any part of it? If so, please explain.

"We realize that this letter likely will be forwarded to an agency or official designated to respond to UFO-related inquiries addressed by the public to your office. But we as a public-interest group feel entitled to substantially more than a form-letter response from a functionary who has neither the time nor inclination to assist in the clarification of this issue."

#### THE MACHINERY FOR UFO-CORRESPONDENCE REFERRAL

Fully expecting the White House to forward that letter to the newly appointed dumping ground for citizens' UFO-related inquiries -- the National Aeronautics and Space Administration -- I got a bit of surprise. It came in a letter from Daniel M. Chew, Director of Presidential Correspondence, on March 19, 1980:

"This is to acknowledge your letter to President Carter. Please accept my sincere apology for the delay in my replying.

"Since the volume of mail prevents the President from responding personally to each communication he receives, he has asked the departments and agencies of the Federal government to reply on his behalf in those instances where they have special knowledge or special authority under the law.

"For this reason we are forwarding your correspondence to officials of the Department of Defense. You may expect to hear from them shortly if they are able to help you in any way.

"You may be interested to know that President Carter asked the National Aeronautics and Space Administration about the advisability of reopening formal investigations into reported unidentified flying objects.

"Officials of NASA reported back to the President that such investigations do not seem warranted. However, they also indicated that they would be willing to reconsider the question if evidence from credible sources is presented in the future."

What surprised me, of course, in Mr. Chew's form-letter response, was his decision to forward our letter to the Air Force rather than to NASA. Isn't the Air Force out of the UFO public-relations business? I wondered. Not exactly.

There seems to exist at the White House mailroom an unpublicized Standing Operating Procedure that goes like this: "If the inquiry addresses the issue of UFO secrecy or censorship of sighting data, send it over to the Air Force; if it dwells on the technical or scientific aspects of UFOlogy, send it to NASA."

As if confirming this processing policy, the Air Force, on March 28th, had its Col. F. W. Hausmann write me a letter that not only contained the stock phraseology of its expected formletterese but also artfully avoided providing me direct answers to our specific questions:

"Thank you for your recent letter to President Carter concerning unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

"As you are no doubt aware, with the termination of Project Blue Book in November 1969, the Air Force regulation establishing and controlling the program for investigating and analyzing UFOs was rescinded. Project Blue Book documents have been selected for inclusion in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and are readily available to any interested parties.

"In this regard, the Air Force has no information which is being withheld from the public. Since the termination of Project Blue Book, no evidence has been presented to indicate that further investigation of UFOs by the Air Force is warranted and I must report that in the current circumstances, the Department of Defense is not likely to renew involvement in this area. As you are aware, the considerable and fruitless Air Force commitment of resources in the past, and the extreme pressure on Department of Defense funds at this time, preclude such renewed effort.

"Additionally, I have no knowledge of any federal agency tasked with or funded for further investigation of UFO phenomena. This is not meant to deny or refute the experiences various individuals allege to have had with UFOs; rather, it appears to be a pragmatic use of our federal resources in the face of the many pressing needs and problems confronting our Nation.

"I hope this information will clarify the Air Force position as an investigating agency on this matter."

#### A PRESIDENTIAL FINGER STILL IN THE PIE?

Aside from the USAF-NASA pigeonholing, the White House does have at least one other option in its art of dodging citizens' inquiries pertaining to the role of the Presidency in official UFOlogy: it sometimes chooses to dispatch its own form-letter response, as in the case of Mr. Chew's reply of March 28, 1980, to a letter from CAUS member Richard W. Heiden:

"As promised in my February 12th letter, I have looked further into your concerns about President Carter's efforts to clear up the recurring question about the existence of unidentified flying objects.

"The attached NASA Information Sheet /No. 78-17/ is self-explanatory. The President's science adviser agreed with the space agency that, in the absence of tangible or physical evidence of the existence of UFOs, there is little to be gained from mounting another full-scale investigation along the lines of the U. S. Air Force Project Blue Book.

"Although NASA to date has not received one piece of physical evidence for laboratory analysis, NASA officials are keeping an open mind on the subject."

Whether you view it as a promise that was misconstrued, a promise that was summarily broken, or a promise written only on the fantasies of the hard-core UFOphile, Jimmy Carter's inoperative entry into the politics of UFOlogy will linger on even after the presidential election in November. In the meantime, of course, Mr. Carter has a chance to revive the comatose stallion of his promise and thus redeem himself to those citizens (and voters) who, fairly or unfairly, have attributed to him a new hope for objective governmental treatment of the UFO enigma.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE . . .

### The Fund for UFO Research

The newly established Fund for UFO Research, Inc., a privately directed, nonprofit organization chartered to do for serious UFO research what the Ford Foundation, say, does for basic research (with only a fraction of the Ford-style monetary outlay), is incorporated in Washington, D. C (mail address: P. O. Box 277, Mt. Rainier, MD 20822).

With a distinguished board of directors and a growing corps of supporters and contributors, the Fund shortly will begin consideration of formal research proposals. For guidelines on the formatting and evaluation criteria of any soundly thought-out and adequately justified proposal that you might have toward bringing the UFO subject into objective focus, you are invited to write direct to the Fund.

Should any such proposal have a bearing on the issue of official UFO secrecy policy/practices, you might wish to compare notes with CAUS. Citizens Against UFO Secrecy is available to help you in defining terms, checking cross references, determining adequacy of data sources, and otherwise improving the articulation of the proposal before you commit the final draft to consideration by the Fund. Once that commitment is made, it's up to you and the Fund to negotiate an acceptance of the proposal. If you need further assistance from CAUS during the course of this negotiation and/or during execution of the accepted proposal, we will try to work out an arrangement.

FUNDING FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION



The Fund will consider proposals to use the U.S. Freedom of Information Act (and any lawsuits deemed advisable thereunder) to pry loose from Federal confines any policy/technical information identified as essential to public understanding of the UFO controversy. In this connection, you may wish to contribute directly to the Fund any donations previously contemplated for the CAUS legal Pursuit Fund; your donations will then be tax-deductible.

Assuming that the Fund will support FOIA actions -- as it has indicated an interest in doing -- this new relationship between the Fund and CAUS will help assure proper fiscal management of contributions to future legal activism, and will serve as an example of how organized private UFOlogy can work toward common goals. It is expected that the progress of any UFO-secrecy-related proposal accepted by the Fund will be publicized regularly in the pages of Just Cause for the remainder of your subscription, and thereafter in the monthly MUFON UFO Journal.

#### A NOTE ON THE FUTURE OF JUST CAUSE

This issue of Just Cause represents not so much a rebirth of CAUS activity as it does an effort to deal with the unfilled portion of current subscriptions. Negotiations for a leading UFO-research organization to acquire the CAUS mailing list and to fill our outstanding subscription orders with issues of the organization's journal have been suspended because of unresolved financial aspects. In the meantime, we'll try to publish as many future issues as available resources (including printing funds and newsworthy material) will allow. Though we have ceased solicitation of new subscription orders, we still offer for sale xerographic copies of all back issues -- at \$2.00 per copy, postpaid. Please address your orders to:

Citizens Against UFO Secrecy  
P. O. Box 4743  
Arlington, VA 22204 - U.S.A.

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Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS)

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Arlington, VA 22204

MAIL FIRST CLASS TO:

# UFOs? What UFOs? Records? What records?

THE PLAIN DEALER  
NOV. 8 1981  
CLEVELAND OHIO

By Ward Sinclair

WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

**T**he U.S. government says it keeps no records on unidentified flying objects, because they don't exist. But 131 secret documents about UFOs in the files of the National Security Agency (NSA) have become the subject of an intense legal battle.

Would the documents disclose startling details about the flying saucers, or UFOs, that more than 10 million Americans claim to have seen? Would disclosure compromise NSA's sophisticated eavesdropping techniques? Is it all buncombe? Or is it all too frightening to contemplate?

Apparently only NSA can answer those questions and NSA isn't talking. NSA, in fact, refuses to talk and its reticence is being challenged in the federal courts.

Eleven months ago, U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell held that the documents were so sensitive that their release might endanger national security. Gesell did not review the documents. His decision was based on a 21-page top-secret affidavit given him in chambers by NSA.

The battle last week reached the U.S. Court of Appeals, where a small organization known as Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), arguing for release of the NSA documents, told a three-judge panel that the government cannot have it both ways.

If UFOs do not exist, CAUS attorney Peter A. Gersten of New York told the court, then Uncle Sam has nothing to hide. If they do exist, then we may be in big trouble — and we ought to know about it. But NSA's lip stays buttoned.

The suit brought by CAUS under the Freedom of Information Act is another in a series of challenges to the powers of spy outfits such as NSA, the CIA and the Defense Intelligence Agency to withhold virtually anything they want under the guise of national security.

"The government position is that UFOs are not a threat and that the government does not study UFOs," Gersten told the appeals panel. If the panel does not order disclosure, he said, Gesell at least should be directed to review the 131 UFO documents and decide for himself just how sensitive they really are.

Arguing for NSA, attorney Cheryl M. Long said there is no way the documents, no matter what they show, could be released without exposing and compromising the intelligence-gathering techniques of the agency, which include global electronic snooping and code-breaking.

CAUS' appetite for government documents was whetted by the 1978 release of Air Force and CIA reports on UFO sightings that were deemed to have no national security implications. Ground Saucer Watch, a Phoenix-based UFO monitoring organization, forced the release through freedom-of-information suits.

Those documents revealed that in October, November and December of 1975, reliable military personnel saw unconventional and unexplained aerial objects hovering around nuclear weapons storage sites, aircraft alert areas and missile-control complexes at installations across the northern United States.

In some instances, as radar sightings of the objects were made, Air Force fighter planes were sent aloft in unsuccessful pursuit, although the records gave no indication that the fighters fired on the intruders.

CAUS and the Fund for UFO Research, based in Mount Rainier, Md., noting the sixth anniversary two weeks ago of a celebrated series of sightings over Loring Air Force Base in Maine, brought a wit-

ness to Washington to tell his story at a news conference.

Stephen B. Eichner, a now-retired sergeant who was on duty when a strange object hovered over the Loring ammunition dump, described in some detail what he saw in 1975 and said that officials at the base tended to discount his and other witnesses' reports.

Eichner told how he and fellow airmen had seen a football-shaped reddish orange object, three or four car-lengths long, hovering over the Loring dump. He said the object suddenly vanished, then reappeared some distance away at the end of a runway.

Numerous other visual and radar sightings were made at Loring. Air Force planes were scrambled in a luckless attempt to track down the object. The Air Force generally theorized that the object was an unidentified helicopter, but Eichner said last week it made no noise and could not be mistaken for a helicopter.

Gersten said CAUS intends to file another freedom of information suit against the Air Force this month in an effort to force disclosure of more data on the series of still unexplained 1975 sightings over Strategic Air Command bases.

## Local News

THEODORE G. SAUPPE - Chairman; ALLAN J. MANAK - Vice Chairman and Group Astronomer; CAROL J. HILBERG - Secretary and Treasurer; RICK R. HILBERG - Public Affairs Director; ELMER F. SCHUTT - Technical Consultant; MERRY J. TROYER - Membership Chairman; JOHN P. TIMMERMAN - Consultant, United States and WERNER WALTER - Consultant, West Germany, CENAP

Meetings  
4 March 1982  
1 April 1982  
6 May 1982

At the 4 March meeting Robert S. Easley will discuss, in a new illustrated slide lecture, the controversial subject of "UFO Contactees". This lecture will look at early "contactees" such as George Adamski, Howard Menger, Dan Fry, Woody Derenberger, and others in an attempt to determine whether their claims of alien contact are true or not. If time permits, a seventeen minute color science film entitled "The Solar System" will be shown. This animated film, narrated by Richard Basehart, looks at the origin of the solar system and the make-up of the planets. The regular monthly features, which include the "UFO Sightings Map" and "UFO-Comp", the group's Computer Project, along with a run-down of local, national and world-wide UFO sightings, will also be given. NOUFOG meetings are held the first Thursday of each month beginning at 7:30 PM at the Parma Regional Library, 5850 Ridge Road (just south of Ridge/Snow intersection).

Full Membership in the NORTHERN OHIO UFO GROUP is \$10.00 per year, and entitles you to attend all monthly meetings for free besides receiving the UFO JOURNAL each month. Full Members will also receive discounts on special lectures, conventions or shows that the Group may sponsor. To join see the Membership Chairman at one of the meetings.

Associate Membership in NOUFOG is \$6.00 per year or \$11.50 for two years. This entitles you to receive the UFO JOURNAL monthly, mailed in an envelope via first class mail.

\* \* \* \* \*

Be sure to listen each and every Sunday night to the "UFO JOURNAL" on FM radio WBWC at 88.3 on your dial. America's only weekly talk show on UFOs features host John Basalla interviewing Robert S. Easley, Allan J. Manak and Rick R. Hilberg. The show, from 5 to 7 PM., also takes your call-in questions, by dialing 826-2145 or 826-2187.

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For the latest information on the 19th Annual NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE, to be held in the Parma Memorial Auditorium on 29 May 1982, be sure to attend the March NOUFOG meeting! This convention, being sponsored by the "UFO JOURNAL" and UAPA, will be the biggest one of 1982! Featured speakers include Gray Barker, James W. Moseley, Tom Benson, Edward Biebel, Werner Walter, Larry Blazey, and many more! Tickets for the afternoon (1 - 4) session and the evening (7 - ?) session will be available at the March meeting at a special "Pre-Convention Discount Price" so be sure to attend this important meeting!

## Local News

THEODORE G. SAUPPE - Chairman; ALLAN J. MANAK - Vice Chairman and Group Astronomer; CAROL J. HILBERG - Secretary and Treasurer; RICK R. HILBERG - Public Affairs Director; ELMER F. SCHUTT - Technical Consultant; JOHN P. TIMMERMAN - Consultant, United States and WERNER WALTER - Consultant, West Germany, CENAP

Meetings  
1 April 1982  
6 May 1982  
29 May 1982

At the 1 April meeting, to honor the "Holiday", UAPA will present a special never-before-shown illustrated slide lecture on little known UFO photographs, many of which are extremely rare. These photographs will both amaze and startle you! A 22 minute color science film entitled "Mars Minus Myth" will be shown. Using photographs made by the Mariner and Viking satellites, a scientist explains major findings of the expeditions; discusses origins of land forms, discovery of ice in the polar caps, and the improbability of life on the planet. Should be a highly interesting film. The regular monthly features, which include the "UFO Sightings Map" and "UFOCOM", the Group's Computer Project, along with a run-down of local, national and world-wide UFO sightings, will also be given. NOUFOG meetings are held the first Thursday of each month beginning at 7:30 PM at the Parma Regional Library, 5850 Ridge Road (just south of Ridge/Snow intersection).

For the latest information on the 19th Annual NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE, to be held in the Parma Memorial Auditorium on 29 May 1982, be sure to attend the April NOUFOG meeting! This convention, being sponsored by the "UFO JOURNAL" and UAPA, will be the biggest one of 1982! Featured speakers include Gray Barker, James W. Moseley, Tom Benson, Edward Biebel, Werner Walter, Larry Blazey, Robert Goerman and many more! Tickets for the afternoon (1 - 4) session and the evening (7 - ?) session will be available at the April meeting at a special "Pre-Convention Discount Price" so be sure to attend this important meeting!

## CAUS Files For Appeal To U.S. Supreme Court

The Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) legal action against the National Security Agency has moved to the court of last resort. Peter Gersten, attorney for CAUS, on February 1, 1982, filed a petition for "writ of certiorari" with the Supreme Court to call up from the United States Federal Court of Appeals the records of their decision and those of the District Court of Appeals the records of their decision and those of the District Court of Appeals pertaining to this case, both of which decided in favor of the National Security Agency on the grounds that to release the documents would not be in the interests of "national security." The Supreme Court agrees to hear only about one in a thousand cases appealed, so the probability of a hearing must be regarded as a "long shot."

In a conversation with Attorney Gersten on January 28th, the details of current other legal actions were revealed. In a continuing effort to secure UFO-related documents from government agencies under the Freedom of Information Act, CAUS has been requesting each month from five or six NORAD regions copies of all documents involving UFO incidents. The Air Force through NORAD has had a standard procedure which involves a fee for the retrieval and copying of such documents, but any fees under \$30.00 were automatically waived. However, the several NORAD regions have now grouped their fees to CAUS so that the amount totals more than the amount they will waive, in an apparent attempt to discourage the continuing request for such documents. Working with the limited funds, monthly fees of approximately \$200.00 with no guarantee that documents will be found become a major obstacle for CAUS which must depend upon individual donations from the general public of interested persons for their total financial support.

For this reason, CAUS has discontinued requests to the NORAD regions for UFO documents until a decision can be made on the matter of fee waivers. A similar problem exists with the CIA and with the State Department. They, together with the Air Force, have all refused to waive fees for the document searches requested by CAUS. This precipitates a time-consuming administrative procedure wherein CAUS must request that each separate agency waive its fees. The denial of waiver is followed by an appeal to each agency. A denial of the appeal leaves a law suit as the next step. All three agencies are now in the process of considering the appeals by CAUS. If they deny the appeals, Attorney Peter Gersten will then put together a law suit naming all three agencies as defendants, suing for a waiver of fees and letting the courts determine whether in fact the public's right to information relating to government UFO documents merits a waiver of fees.

As far as the law suit against the Air Force is concerned, there will be one and it is just a matter of when. It will encompass the documents being withheld which concern radar tracks of unknowns during 1975 detected and recorded by NORAD.

In a related matter, the State Department has just acknowledged the existence of four documents previously unreported, one of which they are withholding in its entirety. Attorney Gersten added that CAUS intends to appeal for that document and, if necessary, sue for its release. A second of the four documents involved an incident over Kuwait during 1978 which was reported and discussed by Gersten during his press conference at the MUFON 1981 Conference at M.I.T. in Cambridge. The third document also involved Kuwait, but during 1980. Gersten said he had seen that document earlier, but doesn't think many others have. He is sending a copy of it to CUFOS for sharing with our ASSOCIATES in a future periodical. The fourth document relates to a 1980 UFO incident near Buenos Aires which Gersten had not seen before and this will also be published as soon as possible following its receipt. □

## Washington News Conference Provides Perspective

Though a relatively small number of journalists turned out for a special news conference called by CAUS in Washington, D.C. on October 27, 1981, those who did seemed to be engrossed in what Attorney Peter Gersten had to say. The thrust of his presentation was that no longer can the Federal Government ignore its responsibility to (1) be honest with the public on the contents of official UFO documentation and to (2) bring its worldwide resources to bear upon revealing what Gersten called the "ultimate secret: what are the so-called unidentified flying objects?"

Gersten tied this two-fold obligation to the inherent weakness of the government's position on official UFO research, as evidenced by the failure of the Defense agencies to cope with the now-famous series of UFO fly-overs at some sensitive U.S. military installations in the Northeast back in 1975. With a geography-chronology "backgrounder" presented by colleague Dr. Bruce S. Macabee, an optical physicist working for the Navy, Gersten proceeded to let the 1975 "flap" evidence speak for itself, adding to it a surprise witness, as it were, in the person of a former Air Force sergeant, who countered the Air Force contention that the UFO sightings at Loring AFB, Maine, could be attributed to nothing more than "unknown helicopter" activity.

The government's "bee-sting" (or "isolated-incident," in USAF parlance) approach to formal investigation of UFO encounters should not be tolerated by the American citizenry, Gersten said. The nation's security is at stake, he averred, so much so that individual citizens like the UFO-victimized Betty Cash and others of Dayton, Texas are fast losing confidence in the ability of government authorities to come to grips with the UFO problem.

(Continued on Pg. 6, Col. 1)