

# The Secret Pratt Tapes and the Origins of MJ-12

By Brad Sparks and Barry Greenwood

In 1982, the late author, reporter and later MUFON *UFO Journal* Editor, Robert Pratt, secretly tape-recorded his meetings and phone conversations with Roswell investigator, William L. Moore, in which they discussed Moore's recent meetings with Staff Sgt. Richard C. Doty, Special Agent of the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI).

Moore had been in contact with a mysterious AF Colonel (later called "Falcon" by Moore) since about September 5, 1980, and had been meeting with the Colonel's designated "middleman" special agent Doty ("Sparrow") since September 30, 1980.<sup>1</sup> At that first meeting, Doty outrageously claimed that Friedman and Sparks knew him personally and would vouch for him – Moore immediately phoned both and verified that neither one had ever even heard of Doty before. This would be typical of Doty's brazen self-contradictions for decades to come.<sup>2</sup>

Subsequently Moore told me (Sparks) he was passing to Doty every scrap of information he and his fellow Roswell investigator, nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman, collected on their Roswell investigations and on UFO research and UFOlogists.<sup>3</sup> The identity of the Colonel has never been disclosed, but possibly may be Doty's superior officer in AFOSI, Col. (John) Barry Hennessey, or someone in a similar position. Both Doty and the Colonel were repeatedly caught lying to Moore and Friedman yet the latter continued to maintain contact for years in hopes of obtaining some inside government information on UFO's.<sup>4</sup>

Evidently Doty, the Colonel and AFOSI took the Roswell and other UFO information, documents and ideas from Moore and Friedman then recycled it back to them (and others) in the form of fake documents and false stories, as disinformation to confuse and

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<sup>1</sup> William L. Moore telecon with Brad Sparks, Sept. 30, 1980, discussing the Doty meeting; Moore interview by Jerome Clark, Nov. 3, 1987, in Clark, *UFO Encyclopedia* (1998 ed.) vol. 1, p. 304. Moore's first contact with Doty was when Doty contacted him about Sept. 21, 1980. (Pratt-Moore meeting transcript, July 7-9, 1982, p. 5). Moore evidently first met the Colonel in late Oct. 1980, with Doty present (cf. Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, 2005, pp. 63-64, but note Bishop has some dates scrambled and events telescoped; Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, July 1990 ed., p. 6). See further discussion later.

<sup>2</sup> "Multiple stories were vintage Doty" (Bishop, *Project Beta*, p. 65).

<sup>3</sup> Moore meeting with Sparks and Kal Korff, Jan. 17, 1982. Moore repeatedly alludes to his mass UFO and UFOlogist information transfers to Doty / AFOSI: Moore, MUFON 1989 Symposium MJ-12 statement, slightly edited, *MUFON UFO Journal (MUJ)*, Nov. 1989, pp. 12b, 15b, 16a; Dec. 1989, p. 9a).

<sup>4</sup> During his book promotion tour for the *Roswell Incident* book in Sept. 1980, Moore "was approached by various insiders who provided some leads and some legitimate as well as **false leads** apparently checking on whether we would just swallow the bait," Friedman admitted (Background Comments/Roswell-MAJESTIC-12, Aug. 25, 1987, p. 1, emphasis added). Besides such factual falsehoods Doty and the Colonel also "kept making and then breaking promises," Friedman writes. "Apparently they hooked Shandera and Moore despite their failures to deliver the goods." (MUFON 1992 Symposium paper, p. 272.)

disrupt the UFO field. We will study some examples where this seems to have occurred based on the new information revealed in the secret Pratt files and tapes. Moore has given an example of such feedback when information on a famous UFO hoax he provided to agent Doty of AFOSI was used to fashion a disinformation document, the purported Aquarius Executive Briefing of President Carter. The hoax was turned into supposed true history in document form then planted on UFO mutologist Linda Howe just a few months later, on April 9, 1983.

We now learn from the secret Pratt files that the better-known MJ-12 “Eisenhower Briefing Document” (EBD) was apparently also known as the “*original* Aquarius Document.” EBD and Aquarius are now linked. Thus the 1952 EBD was also called something like the 1952 Original Aquarius Eisenhower Briefing (loose paraphrase) as we now learn, and was the “original” version of what was supposedly later revised into the Aquarius Executive Briefing of Carter in 1977. No one had heard ever before of an Aquarius document from 1952 and involving Eisenhower, until now. The information came from Doty and was relayed by Moore to Pratt in the secret tape transcripts.

Even the EBD’s staunchest defenders Moore and Friedman have admitted in print that the alleged Ike document was may have been an “official fabrication” that was “created by an insider” and that their “insider” AFOSI contacts knew all about it,<sup>5</sup> as we will see in detail later.

Moore chillingly articulates the goals of the AFOSI disinformation program against UFOlogy in his taped sessions with Pratt. We will quote Moore later, along with quoting official AF regulations that substantiate the use of such disinformation techniques by AFOSI against civilian US citizens and organizations on flimsy pretexts. These AF directives describe such AFOSI operations as seeking to “counter” and “neutralize” supposed adversaries using methods that “influence, disrupt, corrupt or usurp” those they target, including U.S. organizations and individuals.<sup>6</sup> It is not just limited to foreign powers or terrorist groups as many probably assume.

### **The “Original Aquarius Document” and the MJ-12 Eisenhower Briefing**

In the December 1981 meetings with Moore leading to Moore’s approach to Pratt on writing a book, Doty revealed a vast array of alleged secret information concerning crashed saucers and dead aliens purportedly recovered by the U.S. Government and compiled in the “original Aquarius Document.” This latter was supposedly an executive briefing of President Truman at the end of his term in late 1952, then repeated in *briefing President Eisenhower*.<sup>7</sup> Doty claimed all copies but one were ordered destroyed by Eisenhower. But then the one copy of this Aquarius Eisenhower Briefing (= EBD) was continually updated for years afterwards, until it became the alleged Aquarius Briefing of President Carter in June 1977, Pratt was told.

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<sup>5</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report (July 1990 ed.) p. 103; Friedman MJ-12 Report, p. 138. See later discussion.

<sup>6</sup> AF Policy Directive (AFPD) 71-1, subsecs. 3 and 7.4.2; AFPD 10-7, paras. 1.2, 2.1, pp. 18, 21; DoD Directive 5240.1R, Procedure 10, sec. B.2; AF Instruction 14-104, subsec. 11.10. See further discussion below, with additional citations.

<sup>7</sup> Pratt-Moore meeting transcript, July 7-9, 1982, pp. 20-24. Quoted in the main text, below.

This Aquarius Executive Briefing of Carter is believed by all serious researchers to be a hoax – it claims Jesus Christ was an alien, etc. (see sample pages). It was revealed by Doty to attorney Peter Gersten in January 1983. Then the document was shown by Doty to Linda Howe in April 1983. Photographic copies of the 11-page document were allowed to be made by Moore at about this time, March 1983, in a very melodramatic “cloak-and-dagger” fashion (secret meeting in upstate New York, limited time allowed to take photos of the document, etc.).<sup>8</sup>

Doty unloaded the extensive array of new Aquarius MJ-12 information to Moore in two meetings in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on December 29 and 30, 1981, at a restaurant, not at Doty’s AFOSI office at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), which was also in Albuquerque. The Moore memos in the Pratt files reveal for the first time that Doty provided Moore with copies of three documents at the second of the two meetings, one of which was supposedly admitted by Doty and the Colonel to have been a fake used to “test” Moore.<sup>9</sup> Another one of the three is clearly the one-page Aquarius Teletype, which contradicts Moore’s later stories that he received a copy from Doty in (late) February or on March 2 or “several weeks later” in 1981, to be passed on to Bennewitz as disinformation to discredit him and then in fact given to Bennewitz in June 1981.<sup>10</sup>

Then Moore called Pratt, who flew out to Arizona to meet him on about January 2, 1982, to propose a non-fiction book project.<sup>11</sup> As Pratt later recounted it:

“I happened to be in Houston and flew out to Phoenix to visit Bill [Moore] at his request. He wanted to talk to me about something he couldn’t discuss on the phone. He was in bed with a bad back at the time, and as I sat in a chair and took notes he told me about Project Aquarius, MJ-12 and a number of other things.”

#### **“PRATT SENSITIVE”**

Moore proposed the non-fiction book project to Pratt to convey this important alleged information from AFOSI agent Doty to the public. Pratt agreed but insisted on making it a fictional novel as that would lessen the difficulties in cross-checking and documenting material that came from or involved Doty/AFOSI. The Moore-Pratt-Doty book project itself fizzled out in 1983-4 and nothing was published.

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<sup>8</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 31. Presumably this strange travel cross-country to NY State occurred after Moore and Shandera attended a Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR) Board meeting in the Washington, DC, area on March 12, 1983, where the 11-page Aquarius Executive Briefing document was not mentioned, only the one-page Aquarius Teletype was brought up (*ibid.*, p. 11).

<sup>9</sup> The alleged Project Silver Sky report of October 21, 1969. Greg Bishop has a “partially redacted” printed version in his book, not a photocopy, and lacking an exact date other than 1969 (Bishop, *Project Beta*, pp. 61-62). Bishop reports that “Falcon” and Doty told Moore the document was a fake, a “test” to see how he would respond (*ibid.*, pp. 63-64).

<sup>10</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Jan. 2, 1982, p. 5 (describes receiving three documents on Dec. 30, 1981). Later claims by Moore date his receipt of the single page Aquarius Teletype in (late) February 1981 (Moore, MUFON 1989 Symposium statement, *MUJ*, Dec. 1989, p. 11a) or “several weeks after” a March 2, 1981, meeting with Doty and “Falcon” (Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 10).

<sup>11</sup> Pratt letter to Robert Todd, Feb. 20, 1989. The Jan. 2, 1982, date is on the Moore memos in Pratt’s files given to Pratt that day or soon after.

The secret tape transcripts show Moore was disappointed with the fiction novel approach taken by Pratt. Moore sarcastically commented on it at times such as in the July 7-9, 1982, meeting when he complained “It takes too long to develop any action. It just drags along.” Moore emphasized “what we are trying to do ... is try to get as much of the story out with as little fiction as possible.”<sup>12</sup> Pratt had to defend the fiction book approach (as in the taped phone call with Moore the week of Feb. 22-26, 1982). The story evolved into that of a protagonist, an AFOSI agent loosely based on Doty, who fights the evil UFO coverup of the US Government which is hiding proof of alien visitation in the form of recovered crashed spaceships and dead alien bodies – in other words a plot line that played into the thinking of many UFOlogists.

In a letter to the late Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) UFO researcher Robert Todd, Pratt explained how his title for the book started as *MAJIK-12* but was changed by Moore to *The Aquarius Project*, which was its final title for the unpublished manuscript.<sup>13</sup>

In the March 1989 issue of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) newsletter *Just Cause* it was first revealed publicly that writer-researcher Bob Pratt had been involved in an early effort to present MJ-12 in a fictional context in cooperation with William Moore and Richard Doty (under the pseudonym “Ronald L. Davis”). Pratt had written extensively about UFO’s as a reporter for the *National Enquirer*, during a serious phase of the *Enquirer*’s history when it exercised responsible journalism.

Pratt acquired a reputation as a serious investigator and a no-nonsense, fair-minded writer who broke the mold of the stereotypical, sensationalist UFO reporter. His articles on high-profile UFO sightings during the 1970’s through the 1980’s set a journalistic standard that other reporters would be hard pressed to equal. When Bob Pratt passed away on November 11, 2005, he left us a legacy of fascinating insights from his case writings and on-scene investigations.

The Pratt family has not released the Pratt-Moore-Doty book manuscript of 250+ pages. However the draft novel is not an investigative report and would not reveal the wealth of facts dutifully recorded by Pratt in his investigative files, which MUFON labeled “PRATT SENSITIVE” and kept extremely confidential as had Pratt himself. (See example marked “PRATT SENSITIVE.”)

In effect Pratt was compiling a journalistic investigation of both Moore and Doty, at the same time Moore was investigating Doty, their secretive third partner on the book project. Those who knew Pratt personally as we did over many years know that he scrupulously compiled masses of tapes, transcripts, interview notes and reports on each case he investigated. So his work on Moore and Doty was quite in character.

Pratt entrusted his notes, tapes, and transcripts to MUFON but until the material was digitized in the new MUFON Project Pandora in early 2007 no one knew of the existence

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<sup>12</sup> Pratt-Moore meeting transcript, July 7-9, 1982, p. 9.

<sup>13</sup> Pratt letter to Todd, Feb. 20, 1989, p. 2.

of Pratt's secret tapings of Moore or his extensive investigations amounting to hundreds of pages. The material came to light when a number of UFO digitizing projects were being coordinated. CUFOS Webmaster Mary Castner then organized a research project to review and investigate the secret Pratt tapes and files. This paper is the result of that effort.

The Pratt tapes and files reveal much about Moore and Doty who had become controversial figures in UFOlogy later in the 1980's in connection with the alleged "MJ-12" Roswell documents. Moore and associates released these on May 28/29, 1987, which were prominently reported in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, etc.<sup>14</sup> So MJ-12 made it into the big leagues of the media.

These MJ-12 documents were supposedly leaks of classified government papers telling about a supersecret UFO control committee "MJ-12," an alleged panel of government scientists and military officials that investigated flying saucer crashes in the late 1940's beginning with Roswell and controlled the secret crash evidence. No such "MJ-12" committee or designation has ever been found in indisputably genuine government documents and no activities of such a purported 12-member committee have ever been found in genuine government files, despite unsubstantiated claims to the contrary.<sup>15</sup> No

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<sup>14</sup> *New York Times*, June 16 and Aug. 26, 1987; *Washington Post*, June 29, 1987, etc. The full EBD was released after Moore-Shandera-Friedman issued a partial release of the EBD in the April 30, 1987, *Focus* newsletter of Moore's Fair-Witness Project (mailed May 27, 1987), which had sanitization blackouts that misleadingly made it look like it was an official government document released under the FOIA. Also Moore made a brief mention of the EBD's contents in his 1985 MUFON Symposium paper (p. 174) without identifying it specifically, in fact it is attributed to a human source rather than a document.

<sup>15</sup> Even staunch MJ-12 defender Friedman admits the so-called Cutler-Twining Memo (CTM) dated July 14, 1954, had been suspiciously "planted" in the National Archives for Moore and Shandera to find, which they did on ca. July 18, 1985, that some unknown person "put it in Box 189" for them (Friedman, TS/MAJIC, pp. 91, 97). "I am certainly convinced that it [the CTM] had indeed been planted in the box during the [declassification] review, as we should have realized after receipt of poetic postcards ... with return addresses noting Box 189" concedes Friedman (Preliminary MJ-12 Update, Oct. 31, 1987, p. 2). Clues had been sent to Moore and Shandera in "riddle postcards" which "certainly pointed them towards the Archives" and "all but directed" them to "Box 189" in the National Archives, where it was eventually found (Friedman, TS/MAJIC, pp. 89-92; MUFON 1989 Symposium MJ-12 paper, p. 97; MUFON 1992 Symposium paper, p. 272). Moore agrees "that someone planted it amidst the papers in Record Group 341 knowing that there was a strong chance we would find it there" (Moore, MUFON 1989 MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Dec. 1989, p. 13bc; Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report pp. 98-99: "someone deliberately planted it there ... so Shandera and Moore would find it"). Even on its face the CTM does not describe a committee of 12, makes no mention of UFO's or Roswell, etc. It is a carbon copy but the original has never been found. The "planted" and thus highly suspect CTM was so close an emulation of a genuine but non-UFO-related Cutler-Twining memo of July 13, 1953, which Friedman and Moore had already found over three years earlier in the Twining papers in late 1981 (and thus would have been made known to Doty/AFOSI by Moore) that, as Friedman writes, when "Bill [Moore] read the memo to me over the phone, I was immediately reminded of" this genuine non-MJ-12 CTM (*ibid.*, p. 92). "The CT memo has very similar language and format" to this earlier-found genuine CT memo admits Friedman, "even including ... the odd phrase 'Your concurrence in the above arrangements is assumed' " (Friedman MJ-12 Update, Oct. 31, 1987, p. 3). The "similarity in wording" was so great that these "concluding words of the two memos are virtually the same" admits Friedman, even to similarities in what the two memos "say" and "don't say" (TS/MAJIC, p. 93). Historian Dr. Larry Bland at the Marshall Foundation said that he could "find the correct stationery and an appropriate typewriter" to "fake the MJ-12 documents" such as the CTM, the only one with the stationery even known (*ibid.*, p. 153). No trace of the "NSC/MJ-12 Special Studies Project"

staff assistants to the MJ-12 committee have ever turned up (the alleged MJ-12 committee members themselves were all conveniently dead before the MJ-12 documents showed up in December 1984). Whereas a number of first-hand Roswell witnesses are known, not a single first-hand witness can testify to the alleged 2nd crash described in the MJ-12 EBD, at Texas-Mexico in December 1950.

MJ-12 in turn grew out of the “Aquarius” document hoax, as long suspected and as these new Pratt tapes help establish more firmly, revealing many new details for the first time. In particular the alleged MJ-12 Eisenhower Briefing Document dated November 18, 1952, can now be seen as the same as, or another name for, the alleged “original Aquarius Document” of the Truman-Eisenhower transition in late 1952. Thus Aquarius and the MJ-12 EBD are tied together and both fall together if one is bad – and every serious researcher agrees that the Aquarius Document is a preposterous hoax with its bogus allusion to Jesus Christ as an “alien” planted on earth 2,000 years ago, numerous phony “project” codenames, absurd alien-government conspiracies, etc.

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mentioned in the evidently fake CTM has ever been found elsewhere in government records. In fact not even the usual suspects of disinformation liar “witnesses” have come forward telling any stories of their service or knowledge of such a 1950’s era “NSC/MJ-12 Special Studies Project.”

PRATT SENSITIVE

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1/15/82

01/02/82 CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO ORIGINAL NOTES INDICATED IN GREEN.  
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Source of the following information is Richard C. Doty, Special Agent, United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Doty's office phone is (505) 844-2911. His home phone is (505) 255-1076. License number of his official car is DFH 894 (New Mexico). According to the New Mexico State Department of Motor Vehicles, there is no such plate number. License number of his private auto is CZT 875 (New Mexico). Doty's description is about 5'9", 165-170 pounds, black hair, dark complexion, given to wearing sun glasses, moustache. He holds a military rank which he says is "classified". I have never seen him in uniform. Meetings took place 9/80, 2/81, 8/81. Also several phone conversations, most notably one on 5-8-81.

1. Both the Air Force and NASA are actively involved with UFOs at the present time. Reports of UFOs which seem to be of military or national security interest are funnelled through Air Force OSI or the Foreign Technology Division at Wright-Patterson AFB directly to D.C., and from there to the NASA people. Reports are all classified and nothing is released to the media.

01/02/82

2. CIA either has <sup>probably</sup> custody or copy of report on crashed saucer. This is a thick volume which is very highly classified even to the extent of cipher-coded names, places and dates. A separate document is required to decipher these codes, and of course this separate document is even more highly classified. The report in question deals with metallurgical analyses, structural analyses, autopsies, and propulsion theories. Aliens are described generally as short, virtually hairless, with one heart-lung organ, a simple digestive tract which is functional but less complicated than human, no kidneys, a bladder with an attached organ (apparently kidney-like), a complex and highly convoluted brain, and an organ of some sort associated with each limb. Humanoid, but not human.

01/02/82

Govt. (President + NSC)

3. A.F. UFO project is Aquarius, classified Top Secret with access restricted to MJ 12. (MJ may be "magic"). This project begun about 1966, but apparently inherited files of earlier project. Many AF

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Current files maintained by OSI, Bolling AFB, D.C. in several filing cabinets.

4. NASA currently heavily involved through a covert operation headquartered

### **Suspicious About the MJ-12 “Eisenhower Briefing Document” and Aquarius**

This late 1952 alleged “original Aquarius Document” for briefing President Eisenhower appears to be the same as the so-called MJ-12 Eisenhower Briefing Document (EBD) dated November 18, 1952, as mentioned above. Both are dated late in 1952 at the transition from Truman’s presidency into Ike’s administration. If identical then the copies we have are of the EBD, as the label “original Aquarius Document” is information from Doty apparently describing the EBD, or what would become the EBD when it was forged. This 1952 Aquarius Briefing reportedly transformed by revisions into the 1977 Aquarius Briefing of Carter and perhaps should be called the 1952 Aquarius EBD.

The EBD of supposedly 1952 is believed by almost all serious UFO researchers to be a hoax, which surfaced in 1984 soon after the Pratt-Moore meetings. The EBD is believed to have been forged in about 1984 so that the 1952 date on it is false of course. Doty told Moore his main source for the Aquarius info and the Carter briefing was allegedly an intelligence assistant to Carter’s National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, named Scott Doorman.<sup>16</sup>

But Moore and Friedman had been researching in the archives on the dates of possible Presidential briefings, and other possible high-level official meetings on Roswell, since 1979. They had already fixated on the important “transition” period from Truman to Eisenhower in late 1952, as Moore lays out to Pratt in the 1982 tape transcripts we will quote below, where he says “I’ve done a lot of thinking about that” and then goes into great detail about the critical timing of this “change in administrations” when “Truman was ending his administration and Eisenhower was beginning his.”

Apparently Moore passed this late 1952 Truman-Ike transitional thinking and research on to Doty and AFOSI who later turned it into a fairly well-done fake document (the MJ-12 EBD) marked with their key date of November 18, 1952, which only Moore and Friedman – and hence Doty – knew the significance of. This date was the first time after his election victory that Eisenhower met Truman. Then afterward Ike met with top

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<sup>16</sup> The date of the purported Aquarius Executive Briefing of Carter changed when research by Moore (and perhaps Doty) in late 1981 settled on June 3, 1977, as the most likely date, not the more widely believed June 14 date found on its front cover and today on various websites, and not the June 2 date initially reported by Doty to Moore (and Pratt). They settled on the June 3 rather than June 2 because a published announcement of White House meetings showed a more viable meeting on that date. To reconcile the discrepancy Moore evidently decided to make the Briefing Document merely after-briefing “notes” done at a later date (June 14) though there is no actual indication of that, it is just an apologetic assumption to rescue the fake document from the date error. (Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 31.) Pratt’s files have a copy of the page marked “UFO Briefing” in handwriting by Moore on the entry for President Carter on June 3, meeting with Vice President Walter F. Mondale, National Security Adviser Brzezinski, and Director of Central Intelligence (CIA Director) Adm. Stansfield Turner. Since Doty’s alleged source was a Brzezinski aide the emphasis was on finding a Carter-Brzezinski meeting in the suitable time frame, and with the supposedly “only” 4-5 in attendance. Brzezinski did have a meeting with Carter on June 2, but alone, so that date was evidently ruled out for not having 4-5 persons attending. On June 14 Brzezinski met with Carter alone, then later in the day Carter met with a group of intelligence officials to discuss the intelligence budget then met with DCI Turner alone.



officials at the Pentagon, as was widely reported in the news then, and in the 1980's easily located in the *New York Times Index* in any sizable public library.<sup>17</sup>

### **MJ-12 Names and Data Were Known Before December 1984**

Likewise, by 1982 Moore and Friedman already knew from their archival research the names of all of the alleged MJ-12 committee members by identifying those likely involved in a supersecret Roswell investigation – and these names were no doubt also dutifully passed on to Doty and AFOSI, as with all of their Roswell research.

As Friedman writes in his MJ-12 defense book, *TOP SECRET/MAJIC* (1996) p. 130, emphasis added:

“... the simple fact of the matter is that Moore, Shandera, and I had already picked up on ***all the names of the [MJ-12] list*** prior to receipt of the [EBD] film (except for Dr. Donald Menzel)<sup>18</sup> as a result of the many days spent in archival research begun a decade ago.... We had noted who was where in early July 1947, when the Roswell incident occurred.”

Thus it should come as no surprise that this list of top scientists and military officers should later resurface in the MJ-12 documents in Shandera's mailbox postmarked Albuquerque,<sup>19</sup> and strongly suspected to be an AFOSI-Albuquerque (Doty) hoax.

According to Moore and Friedman, their “insider contacts” (apparently Doty and the “Falcon” Colonel) knew in advance about the MJ-12 documents coming to Shandera<sup>20</sup>:

“There had been cryptic post cards from inside sources and other communications suggesting something might be forthcoming. Even the [Albuquerque] postmark

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<sup>17</sup> Friedman, MUFON 1989 Symposium MJ-12 paper, p. 88.

<sup>18</sup> See similar quote in Friedman, MUFON 1989 Symposium MJ-12 paper, p. 88. In fact, the Friedman-Moore research was even better than Friedman modestly claimed – they had actually gotten ***all*** the MJ-12 names by 1982 including Menzel's. The one alleged exception, notorious UFO debunker astronomer Menzel, that Friedman claims he did not know about and no one knew about until the EBD surfaced in 1984, was in fact already known by Friedman in 1980. I (Sparks) had long arguments about this with my friend Stan Friedman in person and on the phone locally in California in early 1980 before Stan moved away to Canada in August 1980 (and then we could no longer meet and telephone). Stan had just obtained the newly uncovered 1950 Wilbert Smith memo and decided that Menzel of all people, the anti-UFO archdebunker, must have led the original 1947 Roswell investigation (not mentioned by Smith). We argued over his sudden reversal on Menzel. He based it on facts about Menzel being in New Mexico in the late 1940's on a secret AF contract which I had uncovered, and on the Smith memo (which I pointed out was 3 years later, made no mention of Roswell or 1947, etc.). As Stan wrote in his *TS/MAJIC* book, that prior to the 1984 MJ-12 documents, “We had noted who was where in early July 1947, when the Roswell incident occurred.” Indeed Stan had insisted to me in 1980, “Menzel was the right scientist, with the right credentials, at the right time, to head up the Roswell investigation in 1947. He had all the right clearances and was right there on the scene in New Mexico.”

<sup>19</sup> Partial photocopy of mailing envelope shows a “DEC 9 1984” postmark (not Dec. 8 as is sometimes stated) but the city has been sliced off (Moore-Friedman MJ-12 paper, 1988 MUFON Proceedings, p. 241); Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report pp. 43 (Albuquerque postmark Dec. 8), 74 (mailed Dec. 9); Friedman *TS/MAJIC* (1996) pp. 20, 58 (Albuquerque postmark), 138-9.

<sup>20</sup> Moore-Friedman, MUFON 1988 Symposium MJ-12 paper, pp. 210, 217.

on the packet containing the film gave some clue that there might be a connection with inside sources....

“Moore’s continuing contacts with inside sources [after receipt of the MJ-12 documents] was another factor. Although none of these individuals would admit to being the party responsible for sending the film to Shandera, it seemed only reasonable to believe that there had to be a tie-in somewhere.”

This is a different and earlier, 1984, episode of postcards with clues than the more familiar ones in 1985 that led to the Cutler-Twining memo in the National Archives.<sup>21</sup> In neither case, however, have the postcards or copies of the postcards ever been released by Moore or Shandera for study. We are forced to rely on the word of these researchers. Ironically on the very next page of their article following the above quote Moore and Friedman complain that the late skeptic Phil Klass’s tactics work “well as long as his readers are denied access to the complete data on any given matter.”<sup>22</sup>

It is time now that the “complete data,” these postcards and other withheld documents be released by Moore and company, as was promised long ago.<sup>23</sup> After 27 years it is time now to have the identity publicly released of the AF Colonel, the original “Falcon” who contacted Moore in September 1980, so that we have the “complete data” on the MJ-12 matter. One report claims that the Colonel or “Falcon” is now deceased<sup>24</sup> so there should be even less reason to continue suppressing his identity.

#### **Admissions that MJ-12 was “Created” by Government “Insider”**

Even such pioneer MJ-12 investigators and defenders as Moore and Friedman admit the possibility the EBD is an “official fabrication” or “totally fraudulent.”<sup>25</sup> Friedman concedes that the documents “must” have been “created by an insider,” not in the 1950’s, but referring to present day “insiders” such as Doty / AFOSI as suspect(s), and almost admitting that MJ-12 is a forgery:

“Whether the documents are valid *or not*, they *must have been created by an insider*, and Jaime [Shandera] and Bill [Moore] had been having conversations with *insiders (including Richard Doty of the OSI)* for years before Jaime got the film.”<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report p. 93.

<sup>22</sup> Moore-Friedman, MUFON 1988 Symposium MJ-12 paper, p. 211.

<sup>23</sup> Moore, MUFON 1989 Symposium statement, *MUJ*, Dec. 1989, p. 11b; Moore, MJ-12 article, *MUJ*, Jan. 1989, p. 9a; etc.

<sup>24</sup> Bishop, *Project Beta* (2005) p. 232: “The man known as ‘The Falcon’ is now deceased. Moore and Doty still steadfastly refuse to divulge his real name.”

<sup>25</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report p. 103; Friedman MJ-12 Report p. 1 (“It is certainly possible” that the EBD is “totally fraudulent”); Friedman *TS/MAJIC* (1996) p. 22 (“the entire roll of [EBD] film could be disinformation or a hoax”).

<sup>26</sup> Friedman, *TS/MAJIC* (1996) pp. 138-9, emphasis added.

The active connection between the alleged Eisenhower Briefing Document and AFOSI<sup>27</sup> is strange and certainly not an innocent or natural connection if the EBD was genuine. The EBD purports to be from 1952, does not claim to be written by AFOSI and makes no mention of AFOSI.

Why then would anyone in AFOSI know anything about such an allegedly decades old document if AFOSI is not even in the document or the author or recipient of it? Don't AFOSI agents have better things to do with current caseloads than go rummaging through ancient historical archives of other agencies?

As Friedman ironically admits about a later series of MJ-12 forgeries surfaced by Timothy Cooper, mainly in the 1990's<sup>28</sup>:

“In the back of my mind, though, was the nagging suspicion that the [Cooper MJ-12] documents, or at least some of them, might be too good to be true.... It just seemed like too many elements were matching up.”

The same argument could be made about the original MJ-12 documents. They were “too good to be true” and had “too many elements matching up” with Moore's and Friedman's own Roswell research – because the fake documents were composed by hoaxers who intentionally “matched up” the contents to the Moore-Friedman research on Roswell. That way these MJ-12 documents would be believable to them and others in Roswell UFOlogy.

As Friedman admits, if MJ-12 is a hoax “somebody had to do a lot of homework that no one else has done” except Moore and Friedman<sup>29</sup> – who however had passed their “homework” on to Doty/AFOSI. When Moore and Friedman saw many of the same “facts” from their own research appearing in these supposedly leaked classified documents they saw it as confirmation, rather than as clever echoing of their own ideas and research. We will see specific examples of this in the Pratt files and an example from Moore himself, previously mentioned, regarding his Aztec hoax research being recycled by Doty into the fake Aquarius Executive Briefing foisted on Linda Howe as genuine (and on Peter Gersten as well).

In fact, Friedman almost gives away the store when he allows “there is some truth” to the working of a disinformation feedback loop whereby his Roswell research with Moore was used by hoaxers – possibly Doty / AFOSI as we quoted him intimating above – to manufacture the MJ-12 documents containing all their best candidates for MJ-12 member names and their latest Roswell crash research:

“There is, of course, all the information dealing with the Roswell incident that's described in the [Eisenhower] briefing memo. A skeptic might say that since

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<sup>27</sup> Moore-Friedman, MUFON 1988 Symposium MJ-12 paper, pp. 210, 217; Friedman MJ-12 Report p. 1; Friedman TS/MAJIC (1996) p. 20.

<sup>28</sup> Friedman, TS/MAJIC (1996) p. 150.

<sup>29</sup> Friedman interview quote in his hometown paper, Fredericton, New Brunswick, *Daily Gleaner*, Aug. 28, 1987, p. 16c.

Friedman and Moore already knew all of this, there is nothing new there. ***There is some truth in that***, although ***most people didn't know*** about our [pre-MJ-12] investigation of the various names of the [MJ-12] people, but it is hard to believe that, if this were a genuine memo, one could say it wasn't genuine because it includes material that we already knew to be true!"

If "most" people did not know what Moore and Friedman knew that means ***some*** people like Doty at AFOSI ***did*** know. Why didn't Moore and Friedman consider the some who did know about their research? But not all the information in the EBD was "true" or "known to be true," either. This ***mistaken information*** in its contents is traceable for the very reason that it came from and could only have come from Moore and Friedman, who were passing on every scrap of information on their research to Doty and the "Falcon" Colonel / AFOSI. And it was blindly incorporated into the MJ-12 EBD by the hoaxer.

### **Fatal Error in the MJ-12 "Eisenhower Briefing Document"**

Friedman has rightly said that one of the main ways of determining if "the document is phony," referring to the EBD, is "on the basis of any mistaken information in it," according to "all the rules of science and journalism." Moore and Shandera joined him in saying this. Unfortunately they are wrong in concluding the EBD has no "mistaken information" in it, that "there is none," they flatly declare.<sup>30</sup>

In fact one of the most basic pieces of data in the EBD, the history-making location of the Roswell UFO crash site – the Foster Ranch site where Mack Brazel and Major Jesse Marcel found the debris – is seriously "mistaken information." The EBD wrongly claims the site is "approximately seventy-five [75] miles northwest of Roswell Army Air Base," a gross error that Sparks has been pointing out from the start in 1987.<sup>31</sup> The actual distance is 62 miles not 75 miles from Roswell (and in the unlikely case that airmen would use road distance instead of air distance, by road it is over 100 miles, again not 75 miles).<sup>32</sup>

In an alleged briefing for the President this erroneous distance can only be a needless outright lie, it cannot be a mere careless error especially when a listed Attachment "H" is "Maps and Photographs Folio" (never released) indicating the exactness one would expect from military cartography done on an all-important UFO crash site. Needless because if there was some legitimate security reason for protecting the information on the correct distance the mileage could simply have been ***omitted*** from the briefing document as was done with the alleged 2nd UFO crash in the same EBD (Texas-Mexico, no

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<sup>30</sup> Friedman, Comments on CSICOP/Majestic-12, Aug. 26, 1977, p. 3; Moore-Shandera-Friedman, Debunkers Ignore Evidence, Sept. 11, 1987, p. 5; Sept. 15, 1987, *Focus*, p. 5a.

<sup>31</sup> Sparks interview in Jerome Clark article, *Omni* magazine, Nov. 1987, p. 131b. Sparks also has discussed this major error in the EBD with Friedman on repeated occasions from 1988 to 2001.

<sup>32</sup> Brazel Debris Field coordinates are latitude 33°56' N, longitude 105°18' W. Roswell AAF/Walker AFB coordinates 33°18' N, 104°32' W. Distance by air in between is 62 statute miles. Distance by road is: 6 miles from Roswell AAF to Roswell downtown, 56 miles along Hwy 285 to turnoff at Hwy 247, 31 miles along 247 to turn south on unpaved road (now called TW Road or CR-B007) 11 miles to turn southeast on dirt trail approximately 3 miles to the Brazel Debris Field. Total road distance: 6 + 56 + 31 + 11 + 3 = 107 miles. Also, a 62-mile figure would be rounded to "approximately" 60 miles not "approximately" 75 miles, so the "approximately" qualifier does not save the MJ-12 EBD from fatal error.

distance mileage given at all). There was no reason to lie to the President, just leave it off the document entirely (Ike could have been told the truthful distance figure in the oral briefing if needed, without having to put a falsehood down on paper).

The supposed MJ-12 team was reporting on the results of five years of investigations of the Roswell crash recovery, including mapping of the site, yet they could not even get the mapped distance correct even for the President of the United States?? Rather than being the top scientists and military leaders in the nation, these must have been bumbling incompetents or dishonest liars (to say nothing of sloppy spellers unable to get “liaison” and “consensus” right, misspelled as “liason” and “concensus”).

In reality, the 75-mile figure was unwittingly taken by the MJ-12 hoaxer from the erroneous 75-mile figure published in the original *Roswell Incident* book in 1980 or a later article, the only possible sources for such an error, there being no other figures for the distance given by anyone else and it is not the true distance which is 62 miles.<sup>33</sup> The hoaxer evidently did not realize there was even a problem with the distance figure. Since the distance of 75 miles was a mistake only made in print in 1980 and afterward, it could not possibly have been known in 1952 when the EBD was allegedly composed. But it would certainly have been known in 1984 or so when the EBD was evidently actually forged. As mentioned earlier, Doty and the Colonel made contact with Moore on the September 1980 *Roswell Incident* book publicity tour so they no doubt had a copy of the book if not multiple copies.<sup>34</sup>

### **MJ-12's Messy Menzel Mistakes – the Cryptanalysis Conundrum**

There are still other major errors in the EBD, particularly relating to Harvard astronomer Donald Menzel, but space limitations preclude delving into them in detail here (almost book-length treatment would be required).<sup>35</sup> Briefly, the EBD author clearly did not

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<sup>33</sup> Berlitz-Moore, *Roswell Incident* (1980) p. 27; Moore, MUFON 1982 Symposium Roswell paper, p. 87. The Moore 1982 paper is endorsed by Friedman who even lists himself as co-author in various later articles (e.g., Friedman, MUFON 1989 Symposium MJ-12 paper, p. 100, References, lists the co-authors: “Moore, W.L. and Friedman, S.T., ‘The Roswell Investigations ....’ *MUFON 1982 UFO Symposium Proceedings*, July 1982, pp. 85-104”).

<sup>34</sup> Moore telecon with Sparks, Sept. 30, 1980; Moore interview, Nov. 3, 1987, in Clark, *UFO Encyclopedia* (1998 ed.) vol. 1, p. 304. Doty contacted Moore about Sept. 21, 1980. (Pratt-Moore meeting transcript, July 7-9, 1982, p. 5, about “three weeks” into the month of Sept. 1980). “Falcon” appointed Doty his “liaison” or “middle-man” with Moore. (Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, pp. 4, 6; Moore, MUFON 1989 Symposium MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Nov. 1989, pp. 12b-13b.) Moore started using his “Falcon” and “Sparrow” designations only in 1984 so his use of the avian labels in recounting earlier events, in 1980-2 is merely in retrospect (Moore, MUFON 1989 MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Nov. 1989, p. 12c). Robert Hastings (MJ-12 Report 1989, p. 1) states that Linda Howe told him Doty applied the “Falcon” label to himself at their April 9, 1983, meeting, however her account of this comes from ca. early 1989 and may be contaminated by later events and labeling. Moore claims “Neither ‘Sparrow’ nor ‘Falcon’ were aware that we were using these terms in reference to them, nor was anyone else to the best of my knowledge, prior to about mid-1985” (Moore, MUFON 1989 MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Nov. 1989, p. 12c). Moore apparently got the idea for the “aviary” cover names from his reading the book *The Falcon and the Snowman*, on the TRW / CIA spies Boyce and Lee, which in this time period Moore told Sparks he was reading.

<sup>35</sup> A favorite pastime of defenders and critics of MJ-12 documents has been the formatting, typefaces, styles, signatures, control numbers (or lack of same) and markings of the documents, none of which has proved to be conclusive in determining authenticity or fraud except in rare cases. However it is interesting that in the 20 years since the MJ-12 EBD went public, *not a single example of the Zero-Digit Month-*

know of Menzel's consulting work in cryptanalysis for the Navy (and later the NSA) and his mastering the Japanese script and language which talents would have made him an ideal candidate for analyzing alien writings written with strange symbols. This is shown by the fact the EBD makes no mention of Menzel's cryptanalysis background or any role by Menzel in attempting to decipher the alien writings allegedly found at Roswell. The EBD merely states: "Efforts to decipher these have remained largely unsuccessful."

Here in the EBD there is no mention of Menzel trying to crack the alien code even though Menzel was mentioned in the very sentence preceding this paragraph – but on his publicly well-known astronomer expertise. Dr. Detlev Bronk got two mentions for his purported alien autopsy work on the same page of the EBD, so there was no taboo against mentioning an MJ-12 committee member's work twice. All the EBD author had to do was to add several words to recognize Menzel's vital codecracking work and say something like: "Efforts **by Dr. Menzel who is an expert cryptanalyst and his team** to decipher these have remained largely unsuccessful." Surely the former supreme allied commander in WWII, Eisenhower, would want to know about the competency of the efforts to decrypt these all-important alleged alien documents since decryption of enemy communications was crucial to winning the war and Eisenhower was one of the few high officials fully informed about this top secret cryptanalysis effort.

But the EBD author just did not know about Menzel's cryptanalysis background to be able to put it in the EBD – and neither did Friedman or Moore until 1986. That is when Friedman uncovered it in the Menzel papers, well after the EBD surfaced in 1984. So Friedman and Moore obviously had been unable to supply that information to Doty / AFOSI before the EBD was written up by the apparent AFOSI hoaxer or hoaxers in 1984 or so (maybe the EBD was written by the "Falcon" Colonel).

Thanks to Friedman's excellent research in the Menzel papers he uncovered something interesting about Menzel's background, namely his cryptanalysis work, which should have been mentioned when the subject of cryptanalysis was brought up in the EBD, but from our perspective today embarrassingly was not mentioned. And that is because Friedman had not made his discovery about Menzel yet so the MJ-12 hoaxer could not possibly have known about it. It was a blunder of history so to speak, which points to a hoax. Thanks to Friedman's discovery this is strong evidence against the EBD.

But strangely, Friedman seems to think the EBD actually mentions Menzel's cryptanalysis and NSA background – but cannot seem to quote where it does. Friedman claims "there are many details **in the briefing** [the EBD] that were not known to any of us on the outside at the time. (See Appendix C.)" Seeing Appendix C of Friedman's book, looking to find these details "in the briefing," we find Menzel's Connections and Talents listed, including "association with NSA and predecessor Navy agency" and

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**Comma date style**, called by Moore and Shandera Style (k) as seen in 01 August, 1950, 07 July, 1947, and 06 December, 1950, in the EBD (Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 58) **has ever been found in a genuine government document** or anything written by supposed MJ-1 Admiral Hillenkoetter. Only partial styles, **either** the Zero-Digit or the Month-Comma have been found, but **never both together**.

“Expert cryptanalyst; taught cryptanalysis.”<sup>36</sup> So these Menzel NSA connections and cryptanalysis talents are supposedly “details in the briefing” according to Friedman.

But we cannot find anywhere in the seven-page EBD that such “details in the briefing” about cryptanalysis by Menzel or his NSA-type consulting are mentioned. Maybe it is in code?

Friedman does candidly concede<sup>37</sup>:

“My research so far has not revealed a ‘smoking gun’ pointing to Menzel’s involvement in Operation Majestic-12.”

However, the idea of bringing in a “cryptographer” to analyze alien writings in the Roswell UFO crash was already brought up by Pratt and Moore in their *fictional novel MAJIK-12 project two years before the MJ-12 EBD document showed up*.

In July 1982, also a year before anyone sees the Aquarius Executive Briefing with its ludicrous claim that Jesus Christ was an alien, we find Pratt and Moore discussing the very same idea in the context of constructing the plot of their fiction novel. Pratt asks how would Truman or Ike find out about the alien-Jesus connection, by direct alien contact? Moore replies with a different idea<sup>38</sup>:

Moore: Or they managed to decipher material, written material found in the [Roswell UFO] crash. Suppose there were some volumes found on board and they’re dealing with that and they were ultimately deciphered.

Pratt: But then where do they get the idea that they pose no threat to earth?

Moore: We could quote some of those texts. Work in a *cryptographer* or something who had to deal with that material.

So here we see Moore invoking the concept of written materials found in the Roswell crash that need decipherment by a “cryptographer” (sic).<sup>39</sup> Although Menzel is not mentioned one cannot help but get the feeling that cryptography was in the air, so to speak, and in an uncomfortably *fictional* context right around the time in the early-to-mid 1980’s when the same concept shows up in the MJ-12 Eisenhower Briefing Document in Shandera’s mailbox. And the cast of characters discussing it is an uncomfortably short and nearly identical list in both cases.

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<sup>36</sup> Compare Friedman, TS/MAJIC, pp. 67 and 233, emphasis added.

<sup>37</sup> Friedman, TS/MAJIC, p. 39.

<sup>38</sup> Pratt-Moore meeting transcript, July 7-9, 1982, p. 13.

<sup>39</sup> Cryptographers make codes, not break them. Cryptanalysts break codes. Cryptologists do both, make and break codes.

The concept of indecipherable writings found in a recovered saucer goes back to Scully in 1949,<sup>40</sup> but rarely surfaces again if at all until this discussion between Moore and Pratt in 1982. Moore goes one logical step farther by bringing in one person to work on deciphering the writings, a kind of Menzel-like person. Since Doty was the third partner in the book project, Moore would have told him all about his discussions with Pratt. Time goes by, Moore's idea about "volumes" of writings found inside the crashed UFO actually appears in the MJ-12 EBD that showed up in Shandera's mailbox in 1984, where we are told: "Numerous examples of what appear to be a form of writing were found in the wreckage. Efforts to decipher these have remained largely unsuccessful." It is very eerie with traces of *déjà vu*.

If we try to make this all fit with the hypothesis of a genuine EBD it is a difficult fit, there is a tension in doing so. Suppose Moore got the idea of a cryptographer deciphering large volumes of alien writings from Doty who read this in the "genuine" EBD which is assumed really dates from 1952 for purposes of this argument. But the EBD says the alien writings were not decipherable (no mention of any meaningful content read). Here the idea for the book's plot was to have the alien writings ***deciphered so their contents would assure the President the aliens are friendly***. Where is that in the EBD? Where does the EBD say that the friendly intent of the aliens was proven by (Menzel's) decipherment of captured alien writings? We would have to presume that Moore reversed or falsified the supposed "true story" here. This does not fit comfortably with the idea that the fiction novel's purpose was to try to get as much of the true story out with "as little fiction as possible" as we quoted Moore stating<sup>41</sup> in the same meeting with Pratt.

### **MJ-12 "Liaison" Ruppelt Mad at Menzel for Misappropriating Blue Book Files**

But this is not the only case of the EBD author not knowing something critically important about Menzel's background which if known would have forced a change in the document. There is another matter, which goes beyond information presentation, and if known to a real MJ-12 or even to the MJ-12 hoaxer would have forced a change in the very structure of the alleged MJ-12 operations:

Project Blue Book chief Capt. Edward Ruppelt, Gen. William Garland and other AF personnel were upset at Menzel in 1952 after Menzel arrogantly attempted to dictate terms to the AF in a meeting at the Pentagon in May 1952, trying to pressure the AF to give him a UFO consulting contract to test out his "mirage" theory (later even trying to practically take over the whole Blue Book project). Ruppelt wrote in his private papers marked "Private – Absolutely Not For Any Type of publication" that Gen. Garland "blew a stack" at Menzel.

From that point in May 1952 onward Ruppelt had a policy of non-cooperation with Menzel, also citing shady contracting practices by Menzel which he had learned about from Navy sources at that time. When Ruppelt's then top boss at ATIC, Col. Frank Dunn,

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<sup>40</sup> Frank Scully column, *Variety*, Oct. 12, 1949, "indestructible parchment writings as yet uncoded," found in the allegedly recovered saucer.

<sup>41</sup> Pratt-Moore meeting transcript, July 7-9, 1982, p. 9.



rejected Menzel's request for special access to classified Blue Book files a few months later in September 1952, pointing out that Menzel had no ATIC security clearance to do so, Menzel bypassed them all. Menzel circumvented the security restrictions in October 1952 by having his friend Dr. Howard Aiken of Harvard, who did have an ATIC clearance, get the Blue Book files for him under a fraudulent ruse, which is that Aiken was studying UFO cases. Aiken concealed the fact that he was getting the Blue Book files for Menzel.

Given the hullabaloo about Menzel's fancy security clearances, and his unparalleled control of governmental UFO information through the alleged MJ-12 control committee, it is very surprising to read that Menzel did not even have an ATIC security clearance and could not get one even when he requested it. Menzel could not even visit Project Blue Book.

Ruppelt tried to "push an investigation" of Menzel for violating security in stealing or misappropriating Blue Book files,<sup>42</sup> as Ruppelt's private papers reveal. Ruppelt said Menzel was a "poor security risk" based on this and that Aiken was equally guilty as he should not have passed on classified Blue Book files "to someone who didn't even have a clearance."<sup>43</sup>

Yet the EBD claims that Majestic-12 had direct cooperation with Ruppelt, that current liaison is "maintained through the Air Force officer who is head of the [BLUE BOOK] project." There is no hint of any schism or problem between Ruppelt and purported MJ-12 member Menzel. Nor has any sign of MJ-12 itself ever turned up in any of Ruppelt's papers or in any AF documents.

If MJ-12 had liaison with Blue Book for the very purpose of obtaining Blue Book data (and from its Sign and Grudge predecessors as well) why would an important alleged MJ-12 committee member such as Menzel need to steal Blue Book's files and risk creating a security problem for MJ-12 in the resulting uproar if exposed (as it was)? Why did Menzel even need to ask Blue Book for its files in the first place when he should have had MJ-12's back copies of Blue Book files already? No need for Menzel to bother contacting Blue Book and risk MJ-12 security. The very purpose of the alleged MJ-12 liaison with Blue Book was to satisfy MJ-12's "need for as much additional information as possible" about UFO's and it was assertedly a long-standing liaison relationship going back five years. Blue Book's files were "additional information." Didn't MJ-12 already then have copies of all of Blue Book's files and of its predecessors for the past five years?

Well the most logical and reasonable answer is that MJ-12 did not and does not exist, it is a fictional construct of 1980's disinformation, and so Menzel in 1952 had no way to access nonexistent copies of Blue Book case files held by a nonexistent MJ-12 committee

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<sup>42</sup> Apparently many Blue Book papers were outright stolen by Menzel and Aiken and never returned. Battelle Memorial Institute noted that "many of our forms" evaluating UFO cases in the Blue Book files were never returned from Harvard, they were "lost." This resulted in about a 2-month delay in Battelle's statistical analysis of UFO cases. (Battelle Project Stork Supv. William T. Reid letter to Miles E. Goll, ATIC, Jan. 23, 1953.)

<sup>43</sup> Ruppelt memo on Menzel, 7 pp., undated (1955), Ruppelt papers.

which he of course knew nothing about because it was and is nonexistent, a figment of the imagination of future deception officers of the Air Force.

### **Moore's Example of Doty's Document Faking with Data from Moore (Aquarius)**

Bill Moore describes how information he passed on to Doty was shortly afterward used to fabricate the Aquarius Executive Briefing of Carter, which cites the Aztec crash as legitimate, and was shown to Linda Howe by Doty on April 9, 1983:

It was in late '82, during one of the many friendly discussions I had with Richard Doty, that I happened to mention that I was researching the Aztec rumor. Rick indicated he knew nothing about the matter, and wanted me to ***tell him everything*** I could about it. ***I did so***, and, as I recall, he took some notes.

Some months later, in early 1983, I became aware that Rick was involved with a team of several others [in AFOSI], including one fellow from Denver that I knew of and at least one who was working out of Washington, D.C., in playing an elaborate disinformation game against a prominent UFO researcher [Linda Howe] who, at the time, had close connections with a major television film company [HBO] interested in doing a UFO documentary.... My understanding was that because the researcher [Howe] was known to have close ties to Bennewitz and had exhibited a strong interest in his work, certain elements within the intelligence community were concerned that the story of his having intercepted low frequency electromagnetic emissions from the Coyote Canyon area of the Kirtland/Sandia complex would end up as part of the script of a feature film [by HBO].

Since this in turn might influence others (possibly even the Russians) to attempt similar experiments, someone in a control position apparently felt it had to be stopped before it got out of hand. In any case, the prime objective of the counterintelligence people who swarmed around Bennewitz between 1980 and 1984 seemed to be the maintenance of a high-level security net around the radio signals he was intercepting.

I was unable to determine why this was a priority at the time and I still do not know today. What I do know, however, is that since they couldn't physically stop Paul [Bennewitz] from intercepting these signals, and since they hadn't been successful in enlisting his voluntary silence, they fell back on a wall of disinformation as the best way to confuse the issue, and, ultimately, to call his credibility into question.

When the film maker [Howe] appeared on the scene and it looked as if Paul's story might become part of the script, the [AFOSI] counterintelligence people simply extended their disinformation activities accordingly. Part of this game involved a meeting [on April 9, 1983] between the UFO researcher in question [Howe], agent Richard Doty, and others at the AFOSI office at Kirtland AFB, wherein the researcher [Howe] subsequently claimed to have been allowed to

view certain purportedly sensitive documentation about the government's real involvement with UFOs [the Aquarius Executive Briefing of Carter]. Included in this material was information about an alleged UFO crash/retrieval at Aztec....

I ... was never required to sign a security oath and am therefore breaking no laws when I tell you that ***the information which changed hands that day was directly descended from the discussion Doty and I had had on that very topic*** only a few months earlier! I can also tell you that it was a very effective deception because the researcher involved [Howe] continues to believe this information and actively continues to try to convince others of its truth even now – more than six years after the fact.

Unfortunately, there was no UFO crash at Aztec. Nor was there much truth to any of the other material [Doty] supplied to this particular researcher [Howe]. The much touted alien harvest is really a dismal crop failure. To the best of my knowledge, it was ***all disinformation***; and ***I was the one who had unwittingly supplied the fuel*** to those who were spreading the fire.<sup>44</sup>

Moore's candid description of how his information given to Doty was within months turned into a fake document, the Aquarius Carter Briefing, planted on another UFOlogist, is an important and useful model for understanding the AFOSI disinformation methodology as carried out by Doty the "Sparrow," the "Falcon" Colonel and their AFOSI counterintelligence cohorts.

Notice how the relationship between Bennewitz and Howe was viewed by AFOSI in terms of how to "influence others." It was not about collecting information or spying on UFOlogists. They collected information only for the purpose of twisting it into disinformation to "influence others." We will see later that AF regulations explain the purpose of "Influence Operations" as the defeat of AF adversaries and that these adversaries are not at all limited to foreign powers but can be law-abiding U.S. citizens and organizations as well.

### **The AFOSI Disinformation and Destabilization of Bennewitz**

Moore also described how Bennewitz was to be publicly discredited<sup>45</sup>:

"... Bennewitz was expected to wave it [the one-page Aquarius Teletype] to the press and others as proof of what he was saying about an alien invasion, at which point the document would be denounced as a counterfeit and Bennewitz would be further discredited."

"I was personally aware of the intelligence community's concerted efforts to systematically confuse, discourage and discredit Paul by providing him with a large body of disinformation on the subject of UFOs, the malevolent aliens who

<sup>44</sup> Moore, MUFON 1989 MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Dec, 1989, p. 9, emphasis added. In Bishop's later interviews of Doty on Oct. 8, 2003, and Moore throughout 2003, Doty was described as "grilling" Moore for his Aztec investigation details (Bishop, *Project Beta*, pp. 81, 206).

<sup>45</sup> Moore, MUFON 1989 MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Dec, 1989, p. 11a; Nov. 1989, p. 15.

allegedly pilot them, the technology they employ and the underground bases they supposedly possess and occupy.

“The entire story of a secret treaty between the U.S. government and the aliens, of exchanges of technology between us and the aliens, of battles between aliens and American armed forces, and of aliens allegedly having implanted hundreds of thousands, even millions, of human beings for the purpose of taking over the world and using us as cattle or slaves, came about as a result of this process. I know, because I was in a position to observe much of this process as it unfolded, and I was providing regular reports on its effectiveness to some of the very people [in AFOSI] who were ‘doing it’ to Paul. And I can tell you that it was effective, because I watched Paul become systematically more paranoid and more emotionally unstable as he tried to assimilate what was happening to him.... Not long afterward I heard he had been hospitalized and was under psychiatric care.....

“I do know from first-hand experience that there was a tremendous amount of government disinformation involved, and that a large proportion of what we are hearing today about malevolent aliens, underground bases and secret treaties with the U.S. government has its roots firmly planted in the Bennewitz affair. Stories of an alleged UFO crash at Aztec, New Mexico, are also a part of this picture....

“And, since connections can be shown to exist between those who are spreading it now and those who were spreading it then, both from the Bennewitz angle and from within the intelligence community, it seems reasonable to assume that those responsible for it are not satisfied that their task has been completed, even after all this time.... The real question is ‘Why?’ ”

Although Moore regurgitates the “national security” flag-waving arguments he was given to explain the anti-Bennewitz operation by AFOSI he had some trouble believing it. He says, “I was unable to determine why this was a priority at the time and I still do not know today.” And he had to ask “Why?” was the Bennewitz disinformation continuing for years after Bennewitz had faded from the scene? Well Moore was being snowed with pure rubbish by AFOSI as to its real purpose in destabilizing Bennewitz.

The stuff about Bennewitz being a threat to classified “experiments” at Kirtland AFB / Sandia Labs – because he was intercepting the base’s radio transmissions or electromagnetic emissions, he would not voluntarily keep quiet<sup>46</sup> and could not be “physically” stopped from “intercepting these signals” – is absolute hogwash for numerous reasons:

1. Unauthorized personnel such as Bennewitz could not intercept U.S. government radio transmissions without violating the Communications Act of 1934 and/or the Espionage Act of 1917.

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<sup>46</sup> Bishop claims that someone in AFOSI or DIA made a decision not to ask Bennewitz to “cease and desist,” so that they could continue to monitor his activities as if he might be a spy (*Project Beta*, p. 43).

2. If any transmissions that Bennewitz intercepted were encrypted then the NSA would have come down on Bennewitz like a ton of bricks, seizing his equipment, shutting down his business, and arresting him for mere possession of classified code-related information originating from the government, under the Espionage Act of 1917 and similar laws.

3. Bennewitz's AF contract with his company Thunder Scientific would have been jeopardized. The AF could have used his contract as leverage to shut down his interception activity. Bennewitz certainly would have had a security agreement with the AF as part of his contractual arrangements, which subjected him to the AF's security requirements and regulations, which could have gotten him shut down and/or jailed.

4. Any actual interception of signals or emissions from Kirtland/Sandia would have been stopped by the "Tempest" program as soon as security officials learned of Bennewitz's interceptions (assuming they really were from Kirtland/Sandia). The U.S. Government's "Tempest" program since the 1960's protects against the interception of stray electromagnetic emissions, especially communications under COMSEC (Communications Security) programs directed by NSA. When any evidence of possible leakage of radio emissions from communications, computer and other types of equipment are found to allow possible intelligence compromise Tempest operations are initiated to stop the interception and correct the leakage problem with shielding, repositioning of antennas, etc.

The very notion that Bennewitz could not be "physically stopped" is thus absurd in the extreme. He could have simply had his equipment **jammed** by Tempest program engineers beaming an ECM (electronic countermeasures) jammer at his home and he would have been stopped in his tracks, assuming that Tempest had not also shut off the stray electromagnetic emissions with proper shielding (assuming there ever were any stray EM leakages of signals in the first place).

Bennewitz actually complained that from the early days of his private "Project Beta" in 1979/80 there were "Federal Agents" or DOD or AFOSI or AF Intelligence officials stationed in the "rented townhouse" across the street from him using "ECM" equipment against him and even engaged in "possible communications" with **his** precious "Alien."<sup>47</sup> That means the government agents were not just eavesdropping but **transmitting** too. Strangely their "ECM" radio transmissions did not stop his intercepts, so what was its real purpose? Bennewitz seemed to realize that the feds' ECM equipment was actively engaged in these "Alien" communications, using the same coded "alien" language. Well then how would Bennewitz know who was really transmitting the coded "alien" communications if the feds "also" transmitted radio signals in the alien code?

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<sup>47</sup> Bennewitz letters to Jim Lorenzen, APRO, Aug. 14, 1981; March 30, 1982, p. 4. In Bishop's recent version, Bennewitz supposedly alleged that it was NSA that moved into the townhouse across the street (*Project Beta*, p. 144) but NSA is not accused of that in Bennewitz's actual contemporaneous correspondence. The "NSA" (meaning AFOSI) was engaged in a "coded **transmission** project" targeting Bennewitz (*ibid.*, pp. 43-44, emphasis added).

What this means is that very likely it was AFOSI that was actively transmitting and apparently **originating the “alien transmissions.”** Using ECM-type equipment AF disinformation agents were evidently beaming the bogus “alien” radio and video signals to Bennewitz with fraudulent messages about alien implants, underground bases, etc. This was reinforced with visits from Doty and others recruited by Doty such as Moore, bearing false stories and false documents with the same “alien” lies. In his saner moments even Bennewitz realized he was being lied to, and commented with unintended humor that “at times the Alien” on his radio or video screen “is very literal, other times he lies a lot.”<sup>48</sup>

There is little doubt that Bennewitz was being personally visited by Doty, as Bennewitz phoned then wrote to Capt. Harris in AF Intelligence at the Pentagon on December 2, 1981, with an impressive list of officials supposedly backing his claims of alien contact including two generals and:

“SA [Special Agent] Rick Doty - Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, NM - phone Autovon 2442911

“I have passed numerous data through Mr. Doty for his routing - he has seen the tracking ground station, witnessed and used computer communications, and initially determined the validity of what I am doing.”

In July 1979 Bennewitz began taking movie film of lights in the sky and recording alleged radio emanations (but not messages) from UFO’s, which he claimed he could “D.F.” (direction-find) to prove that he was tracking UFO’s up to 60 miles distance.<sup>49</sup> In August 1979, there was an informal convocation of UFOlogists from around the country that converged on Albuquerque to meet with a Japanese television crew from Nippon TV, and to meet among themselves. Bennewitz networked with other UFOlogists and cattle mute researchers, and almost certainly came to the attention of talent spotters in AFOSI

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<sup>48</sup> Bennewitz letter to Jim Lorenzen, APRO, March 30, 1982, p. 2.

<sup>49</sup> Bennewitz’s “physicist” background is strange in light of the physics nonsense he was spewing. Bishop found reason to question Bennewitz’s competence as an “electrical physicist” (*Project Beta*, p. 23). Passive receivers with simple direction-finding cannot determine distances, as they are not radars that send a signal out and time the return in order to find the distance nor are they sophisticated interferometers which can triangulate the distance to a signal. Yet Bennewitz boasted to APRO director Jim Lorenzen that on March 29, 1982, he had tracked a “big” UFO ship at a distance of 20 miles, an impossibility with his type of passive equipment. Bennewitz thoroughly confused plutonium with the alpha particles that plutonium emits on decay. He promoted the absurd notion that the dangers of plutonium were due to these allegedly dangerous “Alpha” particles, which he claimed had a half-life of 20,000 years. It is the plutonium that has the approximately 20,000-year half-life (isotope Pu 239 half-life about 24,000 years), not the high-speed alpha particles which survive for fractions of a second before capturing electrons and turning into helium gas. Alpha particles are helium-4 nuclei (minus orbital electrons) and are non-radioactive, and effectively have no half-lives. He babbled about “vaporized alpha particles” being released and that “Exposure to alpha particles allows only death – there is no cure.” (Bennewitz letter to George Damonas, staff member, US Sen. Pete Domenici, Dec. 16, 1981, p. 1.) Alpha particles are virtually harmless externally as they cannot even penetrate human skin and contrary to Bennewitz do not contaminate the environment (it is the plutonium that contaminates the environment). The helium that alphas convert to is a harmless inert gas. The danger is from **plutonium** entering the body where the emitted alpha radiation does damage to organs **internally**, and where plutonium has a long residence time (body has difficulty expelling it).

counterintelligence at this time. They no doubt assessed him as especially susceptible to discreditable UFO storytelling but also as an effective promoter and networker who could spread the crazy stories to influential figures in the fringes of UFOlogy. Soon thereafter the “alien” messages began.

Bennewitz claimed that on January 27, 1980, he received his first radio communication from the aliens. This was, he asserted, shortly after the U.S. armed forces fought a battle with the aliens at the underground “alien US base” near Archuleta Peak, some 4.5 miles northwest of Dulce, NM. He claimed that an AF security officer was even present at this historic “milestone,” giving him guidance, the Commander of Kirtland AFB/Manzano Base’s 1608th Security Police Squadron, Major Ernest Edwards. Bennewitz told AF Intelligence by letter<sup>50</sup>:

“Major Edwards has witnessed closely all events throughout including establishment of the first communications with the Alien since Jan. 27, 1980. He has unofficially provided valuable logistic judgment as the Project progressed.”

This historic event would actually be AFOSI beginning its beaming of crackpot “alien” messages to Bennewitz, perhaps from the townhouse across the street or perhaps from the base (Bennewitz lived close to the base fence<sup>51</sup>). The stories fed to Bennewitz grew crazier and more complex until the whole scenario recited above by Moore was fully developed, including the fake Project Aquarius run by NASA according to Bennewitz (and according to Doty as we will see below).

### **The Plot of the Moore-Pratt-Doty Book “The Aquarius Project/MAJIK-12”**

Pratt explained the history of his book project with Moore and Doty in a February 20, 1989, letter to the late Robert Todd, a government document researcher in Ardmore, Pennsylvania:

“When Bill Moore and I were writing the book, it was my understanding that AFOSI agent Richard Doty was a silent third partner in the book and that he would have certain veto rights over the manuscript. One of the early drafts allegedly was given to him to read and it came back with a number of interesting technical details added, such as weaponry, code words, etc....

“The original idea behind the book was Project Aquarius. In January 1982, I happened to be in Houston and flew out to Phoenix to visit Bill at his request. He wanted to talk to me about something he couldn’t discuss on the phone. He was in bed with a bad back at the time, and as I sat in a chair and took notes he told me about Project Aquarius, MJ-12 and a number of other things. He said he had a Deep Throat source, and either then or later, as I worked on the book, I understood his source to be Richard Doty, the AFOSI agent.

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<sup>50</sup> Bennewitz letter to Capt. Harris, ACSI, Dec. 2, 1981, p. 1. This “milestone” event supposedly witnessed by Maj. Edwards is nowhere mentioned in Bishop’s book and the date frame around Jan. 1980 is a blank in his chronology (cf. *Project Beta*, p. 14, no mention). Bishop does not explain this omission.

<sup>51</sup> Bishop, *Project Beta*, p. 2.

“We couldn’t see any way we could prove Bill’s claims in a non-fiction book, so we agreed we would write a novel and pass these ‘facts’ off as fiction. For some reason, Bill wanted me to write the book. His contribution would be the raw information. I threw in some of my own UFO investigations to help pad it out.”

So at this point either the MJ-12 Aquarius documents did not exist or were not available to the participants to use as “proof” for the book. The book was to be modeled on the life of AFOSI agent Doty himself:

“Our ‘hero’ was an AFOSI agent who scoffed at UFO reports, etc., but comes to believe because he has to investigate what you call the ‘infamous Ellsworth AFB incident’ and later has his own UFO encounter. Because he realizes UFOs are real – knowledge most AFOSI agents don’t have – he is assigned to keep tabs on people and things in the UFO world from his new posting at Kirtland. To give him a thorough understanding of the phenomenon, the Air Force sends him to Bolling Field in Washington, DC, where he is given access to a number of secret UFO files, and it is there that he first learns of Project Aquarius.”

The intent of the novel was to present Richard Doty as a good soldier, enforcing government policy about this incredible secret. But as Pratt’s letter describes further:

“Somewhere in doing all of his dirty deeds, the hero’s conscience takes over and he finds himself rebelling against official policies (‘the people have a right to know ...’). He winds up a dead hero, his body shipped off to planets unknown on a UFO operated by aliens in cahoots with the government.”

Thus Doty becomes a martyr in the cause of seeking the truth and resisting the establishment in its execution of reprehensible deeds. This is all described years before any of the MJ-12 documents ever became public.

Doty has told various stories about the purported Ellsworth AFB battle with aliens, which story was sent in a fake document to the National Enquirer in 1978. Pratt investigated and found it to be a hoax. Pratt published his investigation in the *MUFON UFO Journal* for January 1984. Doty slyly worded his comments to Moore suggesting the whole story was real (because it was not a hoax “at all”), But when you study his actual words it dissolves into ambiguity, since he was personally involved in only “parts” and he mentions it was a “leak.” A leak of a true event or a leak that was manufactured as a disinformation training exercise? The following is quoted from Moore’s account of his Doty meetings of December 1981 given to Pratt<sup>52</sup>:

(16) The recent "Ellsworth Humanoids Hoax" recently written up by Larry Bryant in MUFON Journal 164 (Oct. '81), p.16, was not a hoax at all but an actual leak that was well covered by the AFOSI and AFINTEL [AF Intelligence], Doty says that he was personally involved in parts of this one and that "there were some

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<sup>52</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Jan. 2, 1982, p. 4.



real unexplained things in that one". This is something we will go into at a later date when we have time for it.

In 1990, Moore and Shandera concluded that the Ellsworth Document was “officially fabricated as part of a government counterintelligence/ disinformation operation” and “clearly associated with either AFOSI Detachment 1302, the 44th Security Policy Group [sic], or one of three people from Washington, D.C. ... involved with a counterintelligence/ disinformation training exercise being conducted at Ellsworth AFB during late 1977 and early 1978.” It was supposedly designed to plug a security leak at the base. They say that Doty admitted to them that he was “aware” of the disinformation operation but was only “peripherally involved” and had nothing to do with fabricating the document sent to the *National Enquirer*. They also claim that it was at this time that Doty’s name came to the attention of a “shadowy figure in Washington” later known as the “Falcon.”<sup>53</sup>

At their December 30, 1981, meeting Moore asked Doty if he knew where the aliens came from. Doty said there were possibly three distinct alien civilizations that have visited Earth in the last several thousand years. One of these came from a star system 9-10 light years away.<sup>54</sup> Today Doty has coauthored a book with Robert Collins claiming the aliens are from the so-called Planet Serpo, or Planet Sieu, in the Zeta Reticuli star system 37 (or 39 or 40) light-years from Earth.<sup>55</sup>

Why all this blizzard of bizarre claims from Doty? Is it possible that Sergeant Richard Doty had such an extraordinary access to apparently top-level secret information? Is it merely government disinformation to make Moore look bad? Or is there actually anything to it?

In taped conversations between Moore and Pratt from July 7-9, 1982, the idea of how to present MJ-12 in a fictional context is explained. Additional details that were planned for this book can be found Moore’s notes of contacts with Doty in 1981, only a portion of which can be quoted here.

The book’s plot line stars Richard Doty, as “Mr. D,” the primary character. He is painted as a disgruntled Vietnam veteran who returns to the USA as an intelligence agent engaged in normal work. One day he comes across a “Dr. Berkowitz,” a thin disguise for Paul Bennewitz, whose story prompts Mr. D to become involved in a high level UFO drama.

Pratt suggests that the drama would begin with the “South Dakota” incident, a play on the Ellsworth AFB incident, where Mr. D, the hero of the novel, is brought in to investigate. He discovers that a missile silo was the subject of tampering. As the investigation

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<sup>53</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, pp. 2-6. Ellsworth Document was a disinformation training exercise according to Bishop (*Project Beta*, p. 80). Various Doty claims on the Ellsworth incident (ibid. pp. 79-80, 204).

<sup>54</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Jan. 2, 1982, p. 5.

<sup>55</sup> Collins-Doty-Timothy Cooper, *Exempt From Disclosure* (2005) pp. 70, 76, 81, 186, passim; Doty article, *UFO* magazine, Feb. 2006, pp. 32-34.

develops, “higher authorities” intercept the hero, warning him “What you are dealing with is not human.”

Pratt then suggests to Moore they use another incident where the hero would be in an aircraft on his way to Kirtland AFB when a UFO appears nearby. The sighting causes the pilot to send a radio transmission reporting it under “Angel Fire,” one of the alleged code names for reporting UFO sightings claimed by Doty. All of this suggests to the hero that an in-place UFO monitoring program is underway. This is further confirmed in the story by a plan by Moore and Pratt to include the UFO runway landing cited in Moore’s notes. This landing is a deciding factor in convincing the hero that UFO’s are real. From this point he is briefed by superiors on UFO’s and in the process hears about something called “Aquarius.”

Moore and Pratt in their planning explore the issue of why the hero would be disillusioned. It seems that Doty told Moore that during his tour of duty in Vietnam (in 1969-70) some of Doty’s friends were killed at a listening post in either Laos or Cambodia. Enemy forces overran the post. Moore speculated that Doty perceived the incident as a letdown by the government in not supporting the base. Although unhappy with the government, the hero does his job, leading up to his UFO experiences.

Pratt describes the how-to of this as beginning with Bennewitz and moving along to being given the job of discrediting a character based on veteran UFO researcher Leonard Stringfield. The latter was a long time UFOlogist and compiler of crashed UFO stories who made headlines in 1978 by presenting a litany of such stories to that year’s MUFON symposium in Dayton, Ohio. In Moore’s and Pratt’s plot line the research by Stringfield is taken as valid and must be debunked as part of the government’s suppression of UFO reality.<sup>56</sup> However, Moore’s notes on Doty’s revelations do not support the large number (dozens) of crashed UFO’s reported by Stringfield.

Returning to their earlier dialogue on “Aquarius,” Pratt refers to historical figures like Jesus Christ, Mohammed and Hitler hearing “voices” which put those individuals in the direction that they went. Commenting on Hitler, Pratt speculated that “Maybe he did hear voices because he was being programmed to do what he did.” Moore agreed and thought that the element of hearing voices should be in their plot line. History has become what it is because aliens have influenced important figures of the past, like Christ or Mohammed, much like modern UFO abductees have claimed to hear voices and been given messages to pass along to the rest of humanity.

And why are aliens here at all now? Moore explained to Pratt that there are three alien civilizations more or less in degrees of cooperation and conflict with one another, which is a direct echo of Doty’s claim of “three” alien civilizations, at the December 30, 1981, meeting with Moore. They work here on earth with different motivations and attitudes towards humans. One of these civilizations is not so concerned about us as much as they are interested in our natural resources. Moore expresses the opinion that they are involved in mining underneath the ocean, taking what they need from the planet.

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<sup>56</sup> Pratt-Moore transcript, July 7-9, 1982, p. 6.

Occasionally we encounter them through a UFO incident as they actively search for our resources. A UFO flap occurs when they find resources and remain in an area for a longer time. The government is aware of this activity but, as Moore says, “how do you explain to the citizens that your planet is being systematically pirated and there isn’t a damned thing you can do about it?”

### **Moore’s Investigations of Doty**

Moore apparently had a lot of misgivings and even outright suspicions of Doty, which he alluded to in these conversations with Pratt. Even while collaborating with Doty, Moore was also investigating Doty, noting a lot of personal data on Doty, height, weight, appearance, etc. This is hardly the behavior one would expect from someone willingly conspiring in a hoax with Doty, as Moore is sometimes accused of doing.<sup>57</sup>

For example Moore noted Doty’s New Mexico license plate numbers at their meetings in 1981. Then he ran the plates through private services, which came back on written reports as “No Record” (or “no such plate number” according to Moore’s later characterization) and gave Pratt a copy of two of the reports (a private citizen could still run checks of DMV records like this in 1981). Law enforcement and intelligence personnel routinely have their private automobile licenses de-listed and unavailable to the public or other government agencies except under special circumstances or a very determined court subpoena.

### **Doty’s Aquarius MJ-12 Revelations in 1981**

At the January 1982 meeting, Moore gave Pratt several lengthy memos of his many conversations with Doty plus some copies of documents supplied by Doty. One 10-page Moore memo with numbered paragraphs was typed October 18, 1981, and revised by Moore by hand on or just before the date of his Pratt meeting.<sup>58</sup> This was supplemented with a 5-page memo with numbered paragraphs and addendum all concerning Moore’s two recent meetings with Doty, and dated January 2, 1982.

These are too lengthy of course to quote here in full but some important statements about the Aquarius/MJ-12 hoax and AFOSI disinformation operations against UFO researchers and groups include the following from the October 18, 1981, memo by Moore (all underlinings are as in the original, current author comments added in square brackets [ ] and emphasis added in bold italics, here and in other quotes):

#### **PRATT SENSITIVE**

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<sup>57</sup> Doty’s independence from Moore to the point of subverting, undermining and opposing Moore, argues against them being co-conspirators. Doty leaked the MJ-12 EBD through an intermediary to Tim Good in the UK when Moore would not publicize it, forcing Moore to grudgingly release it in stages in April-May 1987. Doty and the “Falcon” Colonel included the Zechel’s Texas-Mexican crash in the EBD, which Moore would never have done after his falling out with Zechel in 1980. Clearly Doty and the Colonel did not coordinate the contents of the EBD with Moore. And if Moore had hoaxed the EBD he could have avoided including Zechel’s December 1950 Texas-Mexico case by just dating the purported Presidential briefing prior to December 1950. No need to date it in 1952. It could have been say, a 1949 or early 1950 “TBD” Truman Briefing Document.

<sup>58</sup> Assuming the date on Moore’s memo, Jan. 2, 1982, was also the date he met with Pratt, though the Pratt meeting might have been a day or two later.

typed 10/18/81 [handwritten]

01/02/82 CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO ORIGINAL NOTES  
INDICATED IN GREEN [handwritten]

Source of the following information is Richard C. Doty, Special Agent, United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Doty's office phone is (505) 844-2911. His home phone is (505) 255-1076. License number of his official car is DFH 894 (New Mexico). According to the New Mexico State Department of Motor Vehicles, there is no such plate number. License number of his private auto is CZT 875 (New Mexico). Doty's description is about 5'9", 165-170 pounds, black hair, dark complexion, given to wearing sun glasses, moustache. He holds a military rank which he says is "classified". I have never seen him in uniform. Meetings took place 9/80, 2/81, 8/81. Also several phone conversations, most notably one on 5-8-81.

...

3. Govt. (President + NSC) UFO project is Aquarius, classified Top Secret with access restricted to MJ 12. (MJ may be "magic"). This project begun about 1966, but apparently inherited files of earlier project. Many AF classified files maintained by OSI, Bolling AFB, D.C. in several filing cabinets.

...

14. Regarding the Paul Bennewitz affair, NASA was actively watching him and monitoring activities. (Refer to Jim Lorenzen of APRO for more detail on this.) Apparently Bennewitz is on to something but doesn't realize it. Bennewitz was gullible, and they discredited and neutralized him by feeding him **disinformation** and letting him hang himself with it. He never did know what it was he was on to, and neither do I. NASA got copies of all his photos and much of his instrument data. Doty has urged me on a couple of occasions to get in touch with Bennewitz, but I have resisted this. Documents and communications regarding this case are classified Top Secret. I have seen one.

...

27. More on Paul Bennewitz: He was onto something UFO related which attracted interest of "government" people who thought he might have more than he did. Had he kept up his work, he would have made a "significant discovery", but he was gullible type and they used this to discredit and discourage him.

Notice that the infamous AFOSI disinformation scheme against AF contractor Paul Bennewitz is already revealed by Moore to Pratt here in 1982, seven years before Moore's controversial public "confession" to his role in such a plot, made at the 1989 MUFON Symposium in Las Vegas, Nevada.<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> Moore, MUFON 1989 Symposium MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Nov. and Dec. 1989.

Additional information comes from the fruits of Moore's 3½ hour meeting with Doty at an Albuquerque restaurant on Dec. 29, 1981, as reported in part from the following Moore memo dated Jan. 2, 1982, given to Pratt, the second memo previously mentioned (emphasis added as before, etc.):

Information obtained via Special Agent Richard C. Doty, AFOSI, 17th Dist., Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, NM, at a meeting between myself and Doty which took place in a restaurant on Central Ave. about two blocks east of Girard Ave. in Albuquerque. Meeting took place the evening of December 29th, 1981 between 7:00 PM and 10:30 PM.

...

(6) More details about "Project Aquarius":

The "MJ Twelve" in the **classification restriction** refers to access by the President, members of the National Security Council, and other individuals designated by this group. The **total number of people** who have access to the "Aquarius document" is **twelve** (the "Magic Twelve").

The Aquarius document is about 6" thick, is compartmentalized to include separate sections on structural analyses, metallurgical analyses, autopsy reports on recovered aliens, etc. Names, dates, and places are cipher coded with the code key kept under separate classification. **President Eisenhower** ordered all copies but one "incinerated" during his administration. The material that would have been designated "Project Blue Book Special Report No. 13" has been incorporated into this document as a special section. (The person who was responsible for the foul-up in the numbering system which led to "Report 14" without a "13" was disciplined for this embarrassing [sic] oversight.)

The Aquarius Document contains "philosophy" as well as technical data. In the section which deals with the philosophy behind the need to maintain a "Top Secret" posture for as long as possible with respect to the Aquarius data, are the following two startling conclusions which have been arrived at by the US government with respect to UFOs:

(A) The events surrounding **Jesus Christ** and the establishment of the Christian religion were manipulations affected [sic] by beings of an advanced civilization from another world. This was done as part of a sociological experiment of some sort with human beings playing the part of the "guinea pigs". At least some of the subsequent visitations of UFOs to planet Earth over the past 2,000 years have been for the purpose of monitoring this experiment.

(B) Release of this data to the public would not only severely cripple the ability of the government (indeed any government in

the Western world) to effectively govern, but would also severely damage the very fibre [sic] of Western civilization as we know it.

The figure "a million years in advance of our own" has been used to describe this alien civilization.

Doty received most of the above information concerning Project Aquarius from Scott Doorman, former intelligence assistant to President Carter's former National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brezinski [sic]. Doorman is now an executive in a private firm and lives in Virginia near Washington, D.C. Doty has requested that Doorman not be contacted by me.

...

- (9) Lt. Col. Wendelle C. Stevens (USAF ostensibly retired) is in reality an active agent for AF Intelligence. He is part of the government's "**disinformation**" program with respect to UFOs and civilian efforts. Doty advised me in strong terms to "Forget about it and Leave him alone!" He says he has known this for some time, but waited to see how much I knew before telling me.

Note that Aquarius is directly linked with MJ-12 and Eisenhower, and that "MJ Twelve" is specifically designated the "classification restriction" – which means that it is something more than the infamous hoaxed one-page Aquarius AFOSI teletype message, with the fake date of November 17, 1980, which Doty gave to Moore at their meeting on December 30, 1981. In that one-page message "MJ TWELVE" is mentioned in the text but it is not a "classification restriction" like we see stamped at the tops and bottoms of each page of the Eisenhower Briefing Document, as Top Secret "MAJIC."

Already we see here the claim that there are 12 members of the MJ-12 access control list who have access to the "Aquarius document," according to this story of Doty's in 1981. This foreshadows the 12-member MJ-12 committee whose members are numbered MJ-1, MJ-2, etc., which is the story heard after the documents showed up in Shandera's mailbox in 1984 naming the twelve MJ-12 members.

Also note that the William English hoax story about a supersecret Grudge Report No. 13 of 600+ pages with alien autopsy results is tied into this mélange of twisted data centering on MJ-12. Other telltale signs of the Aquarius/MJ-12 connection and further details tie it into the English's Report 13/Renegade Vietnam War Military-Scientist UFO Committee. This supplied the original seed of the idea of a Scientist & Military Officer committee like MJ-12 which controlled the UFO coverup after an alleged alien UFO crash.

Numerous other subjects of sensational interest originating with Doty and seemingly designed to attract the attention of UFO researchers such as Moore and Pratt, are covered at varying length in the Moore-Pratt material, which represent the results of the first year or so of Moore's contacts with Doty (and the AF Colonel) such as:

- Roswell (Doty's interview of the FBI agent Percy Wyly, etc.),
- Socorro - Lonnie Zamora case (alleged radar trackings and new witnesses)
- Cash-Landrum case (alleged NASA-USAF nuclear vehicle)
- Wilbert Smith memo
- MIB's
- Alleged wiretapping of Moore's and Doty's own phones

And there are various purported crashed saucer stories, etc. Spurious accusations against various UFO groups and researchers such as MUFON's John Schuessler, APRO's Jim Lorenzen and Robert Todd are spun out falsely accusing them of hoaxing or being "CIA agents" or even AFOSI spies in an effort to discredit them. Doty calls James Oberg an unwitting debunking agent.

Doty (via Moore) names various seemingly phony classified "project" codenames apparently concocted to get UFO researchers to waste their time and energies pursuing fruitless FOIA requests on nonexistent or deliberately misidentified "projects." Most codenames were not heard of before and not seen again.

### **The Disinformation Feedback Loop**

Moore set himself and Friedman up for having his own Roswell investigative data fed back to him by Doty and AFOSI in the form of (faked) government documents that spectacularly "confirmed" what they had previously found. Practically every major thing they turned up on Roswell was recycled into a (fake) government document, as Friedman admits (we will quote him later). To Moore and Friedman when their Roswell "facts" turned up in a document it looked like a confirmation of their investigation, when it was nothing but a feedback loop of their own research coming back to haunt them. As Pratt said years later in a 1989 letter to Bob Todd the MJ-12 Eisenhower Briefing Document (EBD) was too convenient, it wrapped up everything UFO believers wanted to believe all in one package – the Roswell crash recovery, dead aliens, autopsies, top scientists, secret agencies, Presidential orders, cover stories.

Moore shared all of his and Friedman's research on Roswell and other related subjects with Doty on a continuing basis. The secret Pratt tapes give us a peek at the kind of conversations Moore must have been having with Doty in the same time frame, based on Moore's meeting reports and on the way he conveyed information conversationally with Pratt – on a book project between Moore, Pratt and Doty as the third partner (through Moore since Pratt never met or conversed with Doty apparently).

Here is how this disinformation feedback loop worked: What Moore and Friedman were thinking about was continually relayed to Doty, as Moore indicated to Sparks. Then over the next few months their thinking would be turned into the content of faked government documents (or a false story passed on orally), apparently forged by AFOSI. Below are some examples of the kind of thing that was on Moore's mind (and Friedman's) in the early 1980's, as Pratt recorded it (and as Sparks also remembers it from numerous meetings and phone conversations with Moore and Friedman in that time frame).

### **Example of Disinformation Feedback Loop – the Ike Transition of November 1952**

Immediately after Moore explained how Eisenhower allegedly got involved with the Aquarius briefing document at the end of 1952, Pratt asked him how the CIA Robertson Panel fit into all of this since that was in the same time period (typos in this July 7-9, 1982, meeting tape transcript corrected as before, etc.):

Moore: I've done a lot of thinking about that. I'm not sure. There is a clear indication that the CIA in 1952 was convinced something should be done, that there should be a national policy, and you could view their role in a lot of different ways, depending upon what assumptions you made as to what they knew. If Roswell occurred as described then one has to assume that they knew quite a bit from the beginning because Vandenberg was one of the first heads of what was called the Central Intelligence Group, later called the CIA, and maintained connections with them, so you have to assume they had some.

But there are clear indications in the Freedom of Information documents from the CIA that they were attempting to influence the National Security Council to promulgate a policy and that they felt that this had to be accomplished because of the potential danger that UFO's could present to national defense if there was a – if they got in the way of actual communications and whatnot, which is essentially what the Robertson Panel came up with. I can't believe that the panel came up with that on their own. I've got to believe that they were led to that conclusion, that the whole concept of exploring what we knew about UFO's and then concluding that the UFO's weren't the threat but the reports were –

Pratt: What about Julius Stratton, president of MIT [Massachusetts Institute of Technology]?

Moore: I don't know anything about him.... Stan [Friedman] has been spending time going into those MIT people, and he'd be the guy to ask about Stratton. I don't know. There is a very curious [CIA] document – that says a number of things. It talks about the Stork Project and it's the one that indicates that the AACS was involved in investigating (UFO's) and at the end of it says that the two books that have come out this year [of the memo, 1953], Keyhoe's book, and Adamski's, take – make liberal use of the Air Force's involvement in UFO's but it pointed out Adamski's book as being a prime example of being obviously fraudulent but being a prime example of the problems of the present policy. Well, that was '53, fully 11 months after the Robertson Panel, and there were all sorts of doings and goings-on between the CIA and the NSC where the CIA was attempting to – it's not clear which way it was going, whether the NSC was attempting to get the CIA to take over things [on UFO investigations] or whether it was vice



versa.<sup>60</sup> I've never been quite clear on who was trying to influence whom, but if you read that message it is very confusing. And especially when a lot of those documents make reference to attachments which aren't there.

So I have just sort of conjectured that the NSC got control of it at the point in time where Truman was ending his administration and Eisenhower was beginning his. If you stop and think about the point in time of the Robertson Panel, it happened just on that transition phase. See, Truman had not run for reelection in '52, *in November*. Eisenhower wins and takes office in January, January 20 [1953], and you've got the Robertson Panel deliberating in there, and it could well be that somebody was trying to determine how to go on with the change in administrations, which would have presented a problem for that sort of a thing, especially if it had gotten highly developed and the decision had already been made that this has got to be kept locked tighter than a drum. How then to deal with it with an incoming president whose reaction is not certain. And that's a point that nobody's ever brought up that I've heard in discussion. Nobody's ever noticed that that date is a very interesting –

Pratt: The CIA has taken advantage of other changes of administration to take control of things.

Moore: Of course – and so it is entirely possible that there is more to this business than meets the eye and that the Robertson Panel was sort of a front to hide activities behind.

With all this intense thinking about that critical transition period between the Truman and Eisenhower administrations in November 1952 - January 1953, which Moore and Friedman had been researching for some time even before Moore disclosed this to Pratt (and told to Doty long before) it is no wonder that the November 1952 date was fixated on by AFOSI/Doty. All Moore's and Friedman's research on Presidential meetings got relayed to Doty and then converted into manufactured documents bearing their research. Time passes and voila! November 1952 becomes the alleged briefing date of Eisenhower in the Eisenhower Briefing Document that turned up in Jaime Shandera's mailbox in December 1984.

### **Doty's AACS Story – Another Example of Disinformation Feedback**

Notice Moore's July 1982 comment to Pratt about the Air Force agency AACS supposedly "investigating UFO's." He had been thinking about the CIA UFO documents for a long time, since 1979 in fact, and had dwelled on one particular CIA memo from December 17, 1953, which mostly recapped the AF's efforts on UFO's since the

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<sup>60</sup> Flatly not true, the documents are crystal clear that CIA was driving the effort to try to take over the AF investigation of UFO's in 1952 but failed to wrest control away, having been opposed by the AF and their own CIA Director who was an Army general and friend of the AF.

Robertson Panel. Moore's thoughts had no doubt been relayed to Doty along with every other bit of UFO research data and thinking that Moore could pass on in late 1980 and early 1981. Then some time passes and Doty feeds back Moore's own thoughts about AACS being involved in investigating UFO's, but in the form of a greatly exaggerated story.

The AACS (Airways and Air Communications Service) was then the AF's air traffic control agency, it had no role or function in investigating UFO's, which belonged to AF Intelligence.

AACS as an organization was not engaged in "investigating UFO's" any more than any other AF agency was, beyond what AF regulations required from everyone in the AF in submitting UFO reports. Moore uncritically accepted an erroneous statement in the CIA memo, which made out AACS's limited role to be more than it was and this misinterpretation was passed on to Doty who seized the advantage. The CIA Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI) memo of December 17, 1953, which Moore was discussing with Pratt, had misinterpreted the AACS's limited role in hosting the Videon cameras in 1953 supplied by Project Blue Book's parent organization, ATIC (Air Technical Intelligence Center) at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio.<sup>61</sup>

The Videon project was a widely publicized initiative by the AF designed to prove to the public that it was seriously investigating the UFO phenomenon and attempting to use instruments (special cameras). The project put special Videon cameras in 74 AACS air traffic control towers and ADC air defense radar sites to be used to take stereo pictures of UFO's, and try to get spectra using a diffraction grating to determine the chemical composition of the UFO's. The stereo effect would enable vital distance and size data to be obtained on the UFO's. The Videon project was a total fiasco, the cameras did not work right, some 90% had to be withdrawn because the special filters deteriorated (which did not work even when intact), and the project folded in 1954.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> The CIA memo mistakenly stated: "ATIC personnel no longer conduct field investigations of UFOB sightings (these are requested from USAF intelligence officers [primarily Air Defense Command and Airways and Air Communications Service] nearer to the sightings)...." (Todos M. Odarenko, Chief, Physics & Electronics Division, OSI, CIA, memo to Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell, Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence, CIA, Dec. 17, 1953, p. 2 (bracketed comment [ ] in original.) In fact ATIC Project Blue Book requested field investigations from the ADC 4602nd Air Intelligence Service Squadron by formal arrangement, not from AACS which was only involved because of the Videon cameras distributed to AACS's Air Force air traffic control towers.

<sup>62</sup> David M. Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America* (1976 rev.) p. 86; Odarenko-Chadwell CIA/OSI memo, Dec. 17, 1953, p. 2; Blue Book Status Report 12, Sept. 30, 1953, p. 7. The Videons were stereo dual lensed cameras, which were intended to provide the distance to the UFO by the stereo imaging. Distances are very difficult or impossible to determine in most UFO cases. The design made no sense. One lens was covered with a diffraction grating and the other uncovered. But the grating ruins the stereoscopic effect and is useless in daytime. It can only be used at night on extremely bright light sources. The gratings were supposed to obtain spectra of UFO's, which could reveal the chemical composition of the UFO. But this idea was a colossal scientific mistake based on thinking that if gratings could be used to obtain spectra in astronomical observatories, which reveal the chemical composition of distant stars and galaxies, then the same thing could be done with cheap gratings fitted over **hand-held** camera and so obtain the spectra and chemical composition of UFO's. But hand-held cameras are nothing like sturdy observatories, which take long time exposures to get good spectra, free from vibration. The slightest vibration of the hand or

But Moore's misinterpretation of the failed Videon project has been translated by Doty into an elaborate story of the AACS as engaged in high-powered secret investigations of UFO cases using mobile and airborne "monitoring equipment" to track UFO's. Notice how slyly the hand-held (therefore "mobile") Videon camera has been transmuted into more sophisticated-sounding mobile "monitoring equipment." Doty made up a story that the AACS "investigated" the Wanaque Reservoir sightings in New Jersey (in 1965-6). This is Doty's story as reported in Moore's October 1981 memo in Pratt's files:

(12) The Airways Air [sic] Communications Service (AACS) was involved in UFO investigations to the extent that they monitored areas where high concentrations of UFO sightings had been reported. They had mobile and airbourne [sic] monitoring equipment on call for this purpose. Some of their people were active during the Wanaque Reservoir flap in New Jersey in the mid '60s.

This agency was later incorporated into the Defense Communications Agency (DCA), which now has custody of the old AACS files.

This last comment was evidently designed to get UFOlogists to waste their time and energies pursuing a red herring, by filing FOIA requests with the Defense Department agency DCA for the nonexistent AACS files of its purported "investigations" of UFO's — and thus not file FOIA's with the AF. In fact Doty's information is completely false. The AACS was *not* "later incorporated into" the DCA. The AACS was renamed the *Air Force* Communications Service on July 1, 1961, and is currently called the *Air Force* Communications Agency. Neither the files or the agency ever went to the DCA.

Had AFOSI succeeded with this dirty trick in drawing UFOlogists into a long, drawn-out and fruitless FOIA attack on the DCA, the course of events would have been quite predictable. UFOlogists file FOIA's with DCA for its old AACS files of alleged UFO investigations, UFO monitoring and tracking equipment, and its Wanaque investigation report. DCA responds back saying it has very few old AACS files (the agencies did interact), denies that it inherited the AACS agency, says it cannot find any indication that AACS had any investigations of UFO's or any UFO tracking equipment, and refers the requesters to the AF. UFOlogists shoot back that the DCA must be lying and covering

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movement of the object (UFO) being photographed smears the spectral lines and ruins them, thus time exposure spectra are not possible (the Videons were fixed at 1/20 second in any case). Also, the astronomers' spectra come from small point sources, or slits over larger images, so that the spectral "lines" from the slits or points will be sharply imaged, something not possible with the Videon cameras or the typically uncooperative and large or even fuzzy UFO images. Numerous overlapping spectral lines from multiple chemical elements even if sharp will be ruined due to the overlap, Battelle Memorial Institute also pointed out (Stork Status Report 6, Oct. 10, 1952, p. 3). The Videon camera idea originally came from astronomers who should have known better. They misapplied something from their own field, which cannot work outside it. The Wright Air Development Center (WADC) Photographic Reconnaissance Lab already discovered these fundamental defects when they tested cameras and diffraction gratings in July 1952 yet they were ignored and the AF went ahead with the Videon camera project anyway. This suggests the AF knew this camera project was not going to work but did it anyway as a PR gimmick to satisfy the public and impress other government agencies that the AF had the UFO situation under control.

up, citing for “proof” the Videon project (ignoring the fact it was an ATIC project) and demand that DCA release its files on the Wanaque case of 1965. DCA replies with more denials, UFOlogists threaten FOIA lawsuit, etc. In the meantime the AF escapes scot-free while UFOlogists become embroiled in acrimonious controversy with the DCA.

It is so damned predictable. How many times does this pattern actually have to occur before UFOlogists finally blow the whistle and call a halt to the farce? How long before UFOlogy stops buying into the AFOSI farce in the first place?

### **Doty’s Elaborate Stories About a NASA Coverup**

The Pratt files record a mass of alleged information (actually disinformation) from Doty and AFOSI purporting that the civilian space agency NASA was heavily involved in secret investigations of UFO’s. Doty/AFOSI went to great lengths to fabricate bogus NASA “intelligence” units and scientist officials, which he accused of covering up UFO’s. Doty charged that NASA was covering up astronaut encounters with UFO’s in space and had falsified photographs to do so, as well as using secret radio communications with astronauts. This was interestingly timed since Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin had just sued Moore and Berlitz for libel for claiming in their Roswell book that Aldrin had had a UFO encounter on his famed lunar landing mission. Now Doty seemed to be trying to support the phony astronaut UFO story with a NASA conspiracy story that would have been legal suicide if Moore had used any of it to defend himself against Aldrin.

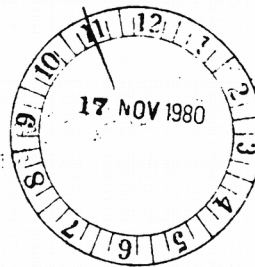
Doty also managed to shift his agency AFOSI’s keen interest in Bennewitz onto NASA, claiming that it was not the AF. Rather “NASA was actively watching him and monitoring [his] activities” and “NASA got copies of all his photos and much of his instrument data.”<sup>63</sup> This is the first time NASA has been accused of putting people under surveillance as if it was a counterintelligence agency. Seems like Doty tried to make everyone else but AFOSI into a counterintelligence agency and culprits in nefarious anti-UFO activities so that his precious AFOSI would evade scrutiny.

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<sup>63</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Oct. 18, 1981 (rev. Jan. 2, 1982) p. 4.

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FM HQ AFOSI BOLLING AFB DC//IVOE

TO RUWTFBA AFOSI DIST 17 KIRTLAND AFB NM//BID

INFO 7602 AINTELG FT BELVOIR VA//INSR

SECRET FOR AFOSI ONLY

REF: REQUEST FOR PHOTO IMAGERY INTERPRETATION YOUR MSG 292030Z OCT 80.

SUBJECT CASE NR: 8017D93-126 HQ CR 44

1. SUBJECT NEGATIVES/FILM WERE ANALYZED BY HQ IVT AND 7602 AINTELG/IT AND THE FOLLOWING RESULTS WERE FOUND:

A. NEGATIVE #1: DEPICTING C-5A AIRCRAFT ON APPROACH AND STREAKING UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT IN LOWER RIGHT PORTION OF FILM. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. SIZE DIFFERENTIAL WAS NOT CONSISTENT WITH SIZE OF AIRCRAFT. CONCLUSION: INCONCLUSIVE

B. NEGATIVE #2: DEPICTING CYLINDER SHAPED UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT IN UPPER LEFT PORTION OF PHOTO. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. FILM SHOWED OBJECT TO BE CONSISTENT WITH FIELD DEPTH AND CONSISTENT WITH RELATIVE SIZE OF FIXED OBJECTS. CONCLUSION: LEGITIMATE NEGATIVE OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT. BOLTON/REINFELD METHOD DID NOT REVEAL VISIBLE MARKINGS ON OBJECT.

C. NEGATIVE #3: DEPICTING IRREGULAR SHAPED UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT IN SEVEN FRAMES OF 8MM FILM. BECAUSE OF THE SIZE AND APPARENT SPEED OF OBJECT NO FURTHER CLASSIFICATION OR CONCLUSION COULD BE DRAWN. FILM SHOWN TO BE UNALTERED.

D. 34 INCHES OF 8MM FILM: DEPICTING APPARENT COLORED OBJECT MOVING IN FRONT OF STILL CAMERA. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. SPECTROGRAPHY REVEALED COLORES TO BE BASIC PRISM FEATURES. DEPTH ANALYSIS REVEALED OBJECT TO BE WITHIN 152MM OF CAMERA. OBJECT WAS NOT CONSISTENT WITH RELATIVE SIZE OF FIXED OBJECTS OBSERVED FOR SEVERAL SECONDS IN FILM. CONCLUSION: INCONCLUSIVE.

E. ORIGINAL NEGATIVE DEPICTING UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. BECAUSE OF A LACK OF FIXED OBJECTS IN THE FILM, NO DEPTH ANALYSIS COULD BE PERFORMED. BOLTON/REINFELD METHOD REVEALED OBJECT TO BE SAUCER SHAPED, APPROXIMATE DIAMETER 37 FEET. OBJECT CONTAINED A TRILATERAL INSIGNIA ON THE LOWER PORTION OF OBJECT. CONCLUSION: LEGITIMATE NEGATIVE OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT.

2. REF YOUR REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING HQ CR 44, THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED: CAPT GRACE 7602 AINTELG, INS CONTACTED AND RELATED FOLLOWING: (S/WINTEL) USAF NO LONGER PUBLICLY ACTIVE IN UFO RESEARCH, HOWEVER USAF STILL HAS INTEREST IN ALL UFO SIGHTINGS OVER USAF INSTALLATION/TEST RANGES. SEVERAL OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LEAD BY NASA, ACTIVELY INVESTIGATES LEGITIMATE SIGHTINGS THROUGH COVERT COVER. (S/WINTEL/FSA) ONE SUCH COVER IS UFO REPORTING CENTER, US COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY, ROCKVILLE, MD 20852. NASA FILTERS RESULTS OF SIGHTINGS TO APPROPRIATE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS WITH INTEREST IN THAT PARTICULAR SIGHTING. THE OFFICIAL US GOVERNMENT POLICY AND RESULTS OF PROJECT AQUARIUS IS STILL CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET WITH NO DISSEMINATION OUTSIDE OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CHANNELS AND WITH RESTRICTED ACCESS TO "MJ TWELVE". CASE ON BENNEWITZ IS BEING MONITORED BY NASA/INS, WHO REQUEST ALL FUTURE EVIDENCE BE FORWARDED TO THEM THRU AFOSI/IVOE.

4. REF YOUR REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. BECAUSE OF A CHANCE OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, NO KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSONNEL WITH SPA WILL BE PROVIDED. CONTINUE TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM INDIVIDUALS MENTIONED IN YOUR MESSAGE, MILLER, FUGATE. BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF CASE, REQUEST THEY BE THOROUGHLY DEBRIEFED AT REGULAR INTERVALS.

BTS

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SECRET

**Aquarius Teletype 1980 (fake)**

**TOP SECRET**

**EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE**

EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

SUBJECT:

PROJECT AQUARIUS (TS)



ATTENTION

THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY MJ12 MJ12 IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS SUBJECT MATTER

DOCUMENT CONTROL ECH 0001

CLASSIFIED BY: MJ12-EO/34012  
DECLASSIFY ON: EXEMPT CAT 10

REC/770004

**TOP SECRET**

**Aquarius Executive Briefing of Carter 1977 (fake) – cover page**

# TOP SECRET

(TS/ONCON) Most governmental documents pertaining to UFO sightings, incidents and governmental policies including Project Blue Book, have been released to the public under FOIA or under various other release programs. MJJ felt the remaining documents and information (not relating to Project Aquarius) relating to technological facts regarding Aliens medical matters, the fact that an Alien was captured alive and survived for three years under secrecy; can not be released to the public for fear the information would be obtained by SHIS. There was other information obtained from EBE that was deemed sensitive and not releasable to the public. Notably, Project Aquarius Volume IX, which pertains to tracing the Aliens first visitation of earth back some 5,000 years. EBE reported that 2,000 years ago his ancestors planted a human creature on earth to assist the inhabitants of earth in developing a civilization. This information was only vague and the exact identity or background information on this homo-sapien was not obtained. Undoubtedly, if this information was released to the public, it would cause a worldwide religious panic. MJJ has developed a plan that will allow release of Project Aquarius, Volumes I thru III. The release program calls for a gradual release of information over a period of time in order to condition the public for future disclosures. Atch 5 of this briefing contains certain guidelines for future public releases.

**Aquarius Executive Briefing 1977 (fake)**  
**(Jesus Page mentioning alien planted 2,000 years ago)**

Right off the top this “blame NASA” theme would seem to immediately draw attention away from the AF’s role in covering up UFO’s and onto NASA instead. Since NASA was not in fact involved with UFO’s, all such efforts to force NASA to reveal its nonexistent UFO secrets were naturally doomed to failure. This is the impression of Greg Bishop who investigated the Bennewitz story, after interviewing Doty, Moore and other principals:

“This is a good example of the disinformation technique of misdirection applied to the UFO community: The AFOSI trick [of falsely referring to NASA in the Aquarius Teletype as investigating UFO’s] had the effect of deflecting inquiries away from Kirtland and to an agency (NASA) who could plausibly and rightfully deny that they had any interest. It also annoyed NASA officials who had to field calls from pesky UFO researchers and assorted crazies.”<sup>64</sup>

The Pratt files indicate Doty claimed that NASA was “actively involved with UFOs.” Reports of UFO’s with military or national security implications were allegedly funneled through AFOSI or the Foreign Technology Division at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, then to “D.C.” and from there to “the NASA people.” All reports were classified and nothing was to be released to the media. UFO skeptic James Oberg, former AF captain then working at NASA Johnson Space Center, was supposedly being used by NASA for this secret UFO operation without his knowledge.<sup>65</sup>

Doty made a bewildering array of bogus claims about NASA’s supposed control of a vast investigation program on UFO’s, quoted here from Moore’s memos to Pratt in 1981-2:

4. NASA currently heavily involved through a covert operation headquartered in the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey building in Maryland. The A.F. is currently funnelling data to this operation through OSI. NASA project's name is Gold Chariot. Highly classified. Have used the USCGS address since about '74. Prior to that, they operated out of a Manhattan [sic] address.<sup>66</sup>

23. Project "Sky Spot" (NASA/CIA) involves use of classified satellites which monitor UFO activity. Info is relayed to NASA receiving station in Australia, then on to Langley.

(NOTE) Former CIA agent Jim Sweet of Scottsdale, Arizona, has confirmed the existence of this project. He says it was a '60s effort which "has undergone several stages of evolution since then". Name is no longer Sky Spot.<sup>67</sup>

(15) A "Project Milky Way" was a joint USAF/NASA project involving use of satellites to monitor UFO activity. This one was leaked in at least one civilian

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<sup>64</sup> Bishop, *Project Beta*, p. 129.

<sup>65</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Oct. 18, 1981 (rev. Jan. 2, 1982) p. 2.

<sup>66</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Oct. 18, 1981 (rev. Jan. 2, 1982) pp. 1-2.

<sup>67</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Oct. 18, 1981 (rev. Jan. 2, 1982) p. 7.



UFO publication or book, but the AF covered it [up] effectively with false information.<sup>68</sup>

29. Doty suggests check of NASA orginazational [sic] chart. There is, he says, a NASA Intelligence division, and a NASA Special Projects division. It is these areas which are into UFO investigations, among other things. Note on chart that these two units do not list a location or a department head.

Deputy Dir [Director] of Research & Development (apparently for Spec. [Special] Projects) is a Dr. Uhleison, PhD (physics) who was former major or captain in old ATIC. His name does not appear on unclassified register, but there is also a classified register.<sup>69</sup>

There is no Uhleison listed in any of the D.C. area phone books (8-81).

(11) Dr. Uhleison, mentioned in previous notes, is with NASA Scientific Intelligence. He is also possible CIA, and lives in Roslyn, Fairfax County, VA. It is unlikely that he would appear on a NASA employee roster [according to Doty].<sup>70</sup>

(17) Regarding the NASA involvement; most of the activity is at Patrick AFB in Florida. The Geodetic Survey Office in MD is a cover for the UFO data collection system.

NASA's debriefing for astronauts is composed of four parts, three of which are unclassified and the fourth of which is classified. UFOs are covered as a part of part four.

Doty said that he had heard from a friend of his that some of the astronauts did have encounters in space and that NASA altered film to hide this. Doty also said that NASA employed a "two-sided tape" system in their radio communications link with astronauts in space. This means that what the public hears may not actually be what is being transmitted at the time. (Perhaps some kind of [a] "sideband" system involving a signal which must be "split" upon reception by sophisticated equipment. WLM-idea [William L. Moore-idea] only based on conversation at this point. Doty seemed aware of the system but did not seem to quite understand how it worked.)<sup>71</sup>

According to Doty, NASA was purportedly investigating UFO's covertly by means of "Project Gold Chariot" (connected with Aquarius) headquartered in the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey building in Maryland since 1974. Except for the project name, this same absurd claim appeared also in the Aquarius Teletype, the forged AFOSI message talking about Bennewitz's claims. The AFOSI hoaxer, possibly Doty, goofed badly

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<sup>68</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Jan. 2, 1982, p. 4.

<sup>69</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Oct. 18, 1981 (rev. Jan. 2, 1982) p. 8.

<sup>70</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Jan. 2, 1982, p. 4.

<sup>71</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Jan. 2, 1982, p. 5.

because the USCGS had ceased to exist years earlier, in 1970, having been merged into the new National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Doty told Moore that President Carter requested a full UFO briefing in April 1977 from NASA. A second briefing supposedly occurred on June 2, 1977, a date that Moore later changed to June 3 as discussed previously. Doty claimed that at this second Presidential briefing “The decision was to maintain the status quo and tell the public nothing.”

Doty claimed that the Cash-Landrum UFO encounter of December 29, 1980, was actually an experimental craft of both NASA and the Air Force. This helped spread the blame to NASA since previous speculation had centered only on the AF among government agencies possibly having responsibility for the incident and operating the UFO-like vehicle. Now suddenly NASA was thrust into the story and given major blame. Even where the AF would normally be implicated, NASA was still inserted into the picture. Doty alleged that the radioactive vehicle was “under development” at an Air Force Base, specifically naming Ellington AFB, Houston, Texas, but that the AF base was actually “**a NASA support base**” thus neatly turning the AF into NASA by disinformation sleight of hand.<sup>72</sup>

Indeed if these kinds of allegations had gone public NASA could have drawn more public recriminations than the AF because it was a civilian agency that was not supposed to conduct secret and dangerous military tests. Doty alleged the NASA/USAF vehicle went awry when its navigation system failed, followed by the failure of the nuclear propulsion system, thus implying that Cash and the Landrums had been exposed to nuclear radiation (an impossibility).<sup>73</sup> The affair was covered up to conceal the accidental intrusion of the damaged nuclear vehicle in a civilian area. Doty said that the chief civilian investigator of the case, John Schuessler, then a MUFON and APRO investigator (later MUFON Director), was an active CIA agent.

Based on all the Doty data, Moore asserted his firm belief about NASA’s UFO involvement. Note this exchange with Pratt in July 1982:

Pratt: “Gold Chariot is the UFO operation itself, of NASA?”  
Moore: “It’s NASA’s data collection operation.”  
Pratt: You are very, very definite in NASA’s being involved in all this?”  
Moore: Yeah, as far as I can tell it is good information.”

But it soon becomes evident from where this came:

Pratt: “The business of Carter being briefed on June 3, 1977, comes from B [Brzezinski]’s aide?”  
Moore: “Yeah, through D [Doty], but he says that’s where he got it.”

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<sup>72</sup> Moore memo in Pratt files, Jan. 2, 1982, p. 2, emphasis added.

<sup>73</sup> If Cash-Landrum had been exposed to ionizing radiation the rapid onset of severe gastrointestinal symptoms within just ½ hour would have meant they all had received *fatal doses* and would have been dead within weeks, which is not what happened.

In other words, Doty is Moore's source for NASA's involvement via Project Aquarius/Gold Chariot in controlling the UFO coverup and briefing Carter, though conveniently attributed to an alleged third party source, Brzezinski's aide.<sup>74</sup>

### **The Strange Avoidance of Faking AF Documents**

One subtle indicator of AF involvement in forging government UFO documents is the virtual absence of any **Air Force** documents being faked. Faking AF documents seems to be off limits to AF disinformation agents (until they read this and get authorization to prove us wrong by surfacing a flurry of fake AF MJ-12 documents or whatnot).

Forged UFO documents are made up to look like they were written by other agencies, such as the NSC, CIA, White House, even the Army, but not the AF. The Eisenhower Briefing Document purports to emanate from a Navy admiral supposedly in charge of a secret MJ-12 committee apparently connected with the NSC if we believe the CT memo, or maybe the White House if we believe the Truman-Forrestal letter. Not from the AF, not by the AF, and not on AF letterhead. The Cutler-Twining memo of course purports to come from Robert Cutler of the NSC and is addressed to the AF chief of staff but is not an AF document. The Special Operations Manual states it is promulgated by the Majestic-12 Group "directly responsible only to the President of the United States." But no mention of the AF.

The closest one comes to AF documents being faked are some of the Timothy Cooper era MJ-12 forgeries in the 1990's now promoted by the overly accepting Woods (who have apparently never met an MJ-12 document they did not like and could declare for certain was a forgery). Some of these forgeries are made up as **Army** Air Forces documents before the AF became an independent branch of the military on September 18, 1947.

A few such badly botched fakes are allegedly **Army** intelligence documents such as the egregiously blundered Army "Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit" (IPU) directive to investigate Roswell, supposedly signed or initialed by the "G-2" chief Major General Chamberlin in July 1947 – when **G-2 did not even exist** and Chamberlin never served as "G-2" ever.<sup>75</sup> The IPU was not created until 1958 and did not stand for such a preposterously sensational and revealing unit designation as "Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit" despite the mistaken recollection of a veteran intelligence official decades later (FOIA research turned up what "IPU" actually stood for, which happened to be the UFO report processing unit among its other duties, and traced its organizational history).<sup>76</sup> Very few forgeries seem to be fake AF documents and these few are mostly from late 1947 (maybe the hoaxers forgot the date when the AF came into being).

But the vast majority of the hundreds of pages of questionable documents that have been floated by the forged UFO document mills have been of non-AF agency papers. This

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<sup>74</sup> Pratt-Moore meeting transcript, July 7-9, 1982, pp. 18-19.

<sup>75</sup> Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Chamberlin never served as "G-2" at all. He was made the very first Army Director of Intelligence on June 10, 1946, when G-2 was abolished and the vastly enlarged agency, created by merger of multiple agencies, became the ID or Intelligence Division of the War Dept. (Army) General Staff, not G-2.

<sup>76</sup> Forthcoming research by Sparks.

strong avoidance of faking AF documents suggests an official policy. It may be that AFOSI policy frowns upon their disinformation specialists faking AF documents because of the confusion it might create for AF operations, and perhaps there are other reasons as well. But everyone else is open season apparently for the document forgers. A similar policy of avoidance generally avoids implicating the AF in UFO-related intelligence activities in the contents of these fake UFO documents, and the rare exceptions generally finger the AFOSI, which is quite capable of taking the heat. It's like giving burglars the address of the police department to rob.

A somewhat related issue is why are there so many active and retired AF personnel coming forward with crashed saucer and alien body recovery stories that are dead ends, that lead absolutely nowhere, no paper trails going anywhere, no physical evidence?? The crashed saucer onslaught began in 1977 and we will examine the NASA and AF connections to the events of that year.

“Beware of Greeks bearing gifts,” is the old saying from the story of the Trojan Horse. To their bitter regret the people of Troy in the legend welcomed the gift horse inside their city walls with the invading Greek soldiers hidden within. “Beware of Air Force blues bearing saucers.” UFOlogy would do well to think about that long and hard before accepting every crashed saucer story that comes along and reversing the rules of science to demand that skeptics prove the stories wrong first.

### **NASA, Carter and the Rise of Crashed Saucers in 1977, the Seeds of MJ-12**

Why did Doty go to such obsessive lengths to invoke, even entrap, NASA into a UFO coverup? Why did he fixate on the year 1977 and Carter being briefed on UFO's instead of earlier years and Presidents like say Johnson, Nixon, or Ford – or later years with Carter or even Reagan? And why bring up Steven Spielberg? Why the Ellsworth hoax in January 1978?

There is a very simple answer that connects all these elements – as characters in the AF and AFOSI paranoid vision of UFOlogists. This requires an historical overview of the AF's clandestine warfare against the UFO field, which will put the pattern of AF hostility into a clear context for AFOSI fixation on NASA, Carter, Spielberg and 1977. Before that we will first review the UFO-related events of 1977 and 1978.

It was widely reported in the media on November 26, 1977, that Jimmy Carter's White House had asked NASA to reopen the government's UFO inquiry. Project Blue Book had closed for good in 1970 and at least on the surface it had appeared that the government was out of the UFO business. Use of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) had shown that on matters of national security there were UFO incidents still being investigated quietly. Not so quiet was the revelation that for three weeks in the Fall of 1975, the airspaces of numerous military bases along the northern U.S. border with Canada were violated by unknown aircraft, strange glowing objects, and formations of colored lights, tracked on radar but elusive to interceptors. The incidents sent a chill

through the Pentagon since some of the bases that were violated had nuclear weapons, in fact some UFO's demonstrated "clear intent" on the nuclear weapons storage bunkers.<sup>77</sup>

With such renewed UFO attention when it was thought that the issue was put away, coupled with the President's own UFO sighting and campaign pledge to release all UFO information in government hands, a new approach was taken. President Carter believed that NASA was the appropriate agency to conduct a new UFO study. If UFO's were extraterrestrial, who else ought to do the fact finding but the government's space agency? Except that NASA was not fond of the idea of putting a monkey on its back that the Air Force had rid itself of years earlier. NASA's assistant for special projects, David Williamson, told the Associated Press that:

"We are not anxious to do it because we're not sure what we can do. There is no measurable UFO evidence such as a piece of metal, flesh or cloth. We don't even have any radio signals. A photograph is not a measurement."

Nevertheless, Williamson was charged with heading a panel of technical experts who would recommend what NASA should do. Ultimately, there were no recommendations to take on a new study. But here is where the NASA/White House exchange begins to influence the subsequent creation of a wild tale called MJ-12. In the wire service story, NASA's disdain for a UFO study is clear and attributed to the lack of solid evidence. Williamson explained, "Give me one little green man, not a theory or memory of one, and we can have a multimillion dollar program."

This was in late 1977. Prior to that time crashed saucers and alien bodies were not on the list of credible subjects in UFO research. Roswell was briefly known to the public for a few days around July 8-9, 1947, in newspapers across the country and even overseas but not as much more than a crashed weather balloon. In 1950, Frank Scully had written about a similar but not very credible Aztec, New Mexico, saucer crash in his notorious book *Behind the Flying Saucers*, widely lambasted as a hoax, and which interestingly was based on the Roswell incident if one digs into the details.<sup>78</sup> As the late pioneer of crashed saucer research, Leonard Stringfield, recounted it: "So completely was Scully's retrieval story put down that some researchers today wonder, in retrospect, if the book and/or its exposure were **contrived**."<sup>79</sup>

Radio broadcast commentator Frank Edwards lectured on the Roswell case circa 1955-6 and put the story in somewhat garbled form in his 1965 bestseller, *Flying Saucers—Serious Business!* The 1965 Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, crashed UFO incident (most likely the meteor fireball seen in the exact area at the exact time) created a brief flurry in the media but was just as quickly forgotten.

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<sup>77</sup> Larry Fawcett and Barry Greenwood, *Clear Intent* (1984).

<sup>78</sup> Contrary to erroneous assertions that there was no connection between the Scully hoax and the Roswell incident (Moore, MUFON 1985 Symposium paper, pp. 154, 176; reversing previous conclusion in MUFON 1982 Symposium paper, p. 102, that Scully story of the alleged Aztec, NM, crash "is really a grossly distorted version of the Roswell incident"). Forthcoming research by Sparks.

<sup>79</sup> Stringfield, MUFON 1978 Symposium Crash/Retrieval paper, p.79, emphasis added.

In 1974-5 Robert Spencer Carr publicized his “Hangar 18” claims that the AF held a recovered UFO and preserved alien bodies at that hangar or building at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Carr alleged he had five main “sources,” some possibly imaginary, including some that seem to resurface years later in the revived Roswell saga, such as the “surgical nurse” at the alien autopsy. The nurse supposedly assisted in the military autopsy of an alien body recovered in a saucer crash in New Mexico. But the nurse story has never been substantiated nor the nurse ever even positively identified in either Carr’s version or the Glenn Dennis Roswell-version.

Another Carr story appears to be that of Barney Barnett of Socorro, NM, which started Carr on his crashed saucer odyssey when he heard it in 1961.<sup>80</sup> Barnett’s story was a rehash of Scully, first told to friends in February 1950 right after the Scully story attracted national attention in *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines and other media in January 1950. Barnett recited his alleged discovery of burned alien bodies and a hole in the spaceship – just like Scully’s informants claimed. Later the Barnett story was mistakenly linked by Moore and Friedman to the Roswell incident, though Barnett’s site was located over 150 miles from the Roswell site on the wrong side of the State of New Mexico, and they eventually admitted the linkage to Roswell was probably a mistake.<sup>81</sup>

In 1977, Stringfield began to receive increasing numbers of crashed saucer reports, mostly from AF-related personnel, till it reached the point where he decided this was a phenomenon in and of itself, which needed special investigation. He coined the new term “crash retrieval” or C/R and started collecting and publishing C/R reports on a frequent basis.<sup>82</sup>

The point is that aside from these scattered references, which came and went, the idea of crashed saucers was not the cultural phenomenon for the three decades before that it became for the three decades after 1977-8. But the seeds were planted for MJ-12.

On February 9, 1978, the Ellsworth AFB hoax document arrived at the *National Enquirer*, Richard Doty’s first foray into UFO’s as far as we can tell. Though Doty denies he forged the Ellsworth document he admits he was in some way involved because he was approached by two AFOSI agents at Ellsworth in December 1977. Doty was an AF security policeman and seems to have begun AFOSI agent training in January 1978, according to indications in his somewhat confusing military records.

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<sup>80</sup> Forthcoming research by Sparks. Cf. Stringfield, MUFON 1978 Symposium Crash/Retrieval paper, p. 101; Mike McClellan, *Official UFO* magazine, Oct. 1975. Research showing that Carr must have heard the Barnett story in 1961 will be published later.

<sup>81</sup> Moore, MUFON 1985 Symposium paper (p. 176): “... the evidence ... is admittedly insufficient to support connecting it [Barnett] to the Brazel ranch [Roswell] events.... Admittedly, this is a major retrenchment of the position taken in earlier writings.... there is presently insufficient evidence to substantiate it [Barnett] or to justify connecting it (beyond circumstance) to the rest of the Roswell case.... we freely admit that earlier attempts to tie it [Barnett] to the Roswell Incident were somewhat overzealous and definitely premature.” Note that “we” refers to Moore and Friedman, the latter endorsing the 1985 Moore paper. According to Friedman the 1985 Moore paper “covers findings of Friedman and Moore after 1980.” (TS/MAJIC, p. 256.)

<sup>82</sup> Stringfield, MUFON 1978 Symposium Crash/Retrieval paper, p. 79, passim.

On February 20, 1978, Stanton Friedman first heard of retired AF Major Jesse Marcel through a TV station manager to whom Marcel spoke. Marcel was the base intelligence officer at Roswell Army Air Field in 1947 and probably the most high profile of all the Roswell crash witnesses. He gave Friedman the first bits of the modern legend of Roswell as evidence of extraterrestrial visitation. This was a mere three months after the NASA statements. Marcel lived in Houma, Louisiana. The New Orleans *Times-Picayune* had carried the NASA statements on November 26 of the previous year. Friedman later partnered with Bill Moore after this and continued the original Roswell investigation through 1979.

In July 1978 Stringfield presented the results of his research into crashed saucer rumors at that year's MUFON symposium. Oddly enough, Roswell was not in his first list although some of the rumors can be interpreted as faintly related to Roswell, such as stories of bodies at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Roswell was soon added by Stringfield in an update of his C/R (crash retrievals) work.<sup>83</sup> Stringfield's speech received extensive press coverage. Recall that Stringfield was cited as a potential subject of the Pratt-Moore-Doty MJ-12 fiction novel.

In August 1978 Todd Zechel revealed a new "old" incident, the Texas-Mexico crashed saucer story (later dated by Zechel to December 1950) and reported in his article in the CAUS newsletter *Just Cause*. This incident was one of the two crashes later mentioned in the MJ-12 Eisenhower Briefing Document.

In the space of a few months in 1978, crashed saucers went from an odd sideline of UFO research to national news coverage. And as we know, the Roswell story rose to the top of the list as the premier crashed saucer tale of all. All following the NASA story in the relatively short time of a year or so.

Despite NASA's public skepticism, there were plans on the table to carry through a UFO investigation in the event that a study was approved. According to the November 1977 wire service coverage:

- 1) NASA would ask the private UFO community to supply the five best cases for detailed study.
- 2) NASA would urge the public to send it everything they had on UFO's.
- 3) NASA would hold a national symposium on UFO's.
- 4) NASA would perform laboratory analysis of UFO physical evidence.

The fact that NASA took UFO's seriously enough to suggest it would do lab tests on UFO physical evidence in its own government labs lent real credence to the very concept that there just might be serious physical evidence of crashed UFO remains and perhaps even alien bodies. So it is no wonder that tales of physical evidence in the form of alien bodies or artifacts began to flow like a river after such statements and promises by

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<sup>83</sup> Stringfield, Crash/Retrieval Update, July 20, 1978, pp. 44-45. This update was available at the MUFON Symposium in addition to the printed original version in the bound *Proceedings* volume also available.

NASA. In fact just one of those stories, Roswell, eventually turned into a multimillion-dollar cottage industry, and it still has not provided any proof, either bodies or artifacts.

There were some later attempts by Bill Moore mentioned in the Pratt files to suggest that Doty had actually meant “NSA,” or National Security Agency, the intelligence agency in the Defense Department charged with electronic spying, instead of the civilian space agency NASA. The abbreviations NASA and NSA are very similar and perhaps easy to confuse. This would make some sense of course since Bennewitz claimed he was receiving radio signals from the aliens and signals intelligence was the NSA’s domain. NSA was known to have UFO records, albeit highly classified, and it was the subject of a FOIA lawsuit from 1980 to 1982 over those records (nothing on Bennewitz or Kirtland AFB turned up so far as is known). But was a trained AFOSI Special Agent such as Doty, trained in counterintelligence and the basic structure of the US Intelligence Community, really so clueless that he did not know the difference between the space agency NASA and the intelligence agency NSA?? This is just not credible.

And in light of the 1977 NASA story, there is no need to suspect a confusion of NASA and NSA in the budding MJ-12 story. NASA would be the correct agency and its response to the White House could have been the model for the fictional Project Gold Chariot/Aquarius as well as the Aquarius Carter Briefing. From the time the first Roswell witness came forward in February 1978, to the Ellsworth hoax, to the dawn of crashed saucers as a major theme of UFOlogy, to Zechel’s Texas/Mexico story we can see the birth of MJ-12 during 1977 and 1978.

The proposal for a fiction novel between Pratt, Moore and Doty always suggested that the alleged real information that Doty had been relaying to Moore had serious problems. If as Doty suggested the MJ-12 documents were authentic and from authentic sources, it would have been far more effective and even lucrative to go public with them to a respectable news outlet like the *New York Times* or one of the TV networks, which could lend their reputation to the story, gaining it validation and acceptance.

But that assumes that the actual purpose was to gain widespread belief in the MJ-12 “information” by society at large, instead of what seem to be determined efforts to attract attention and mocking *disbelief* in the MJ-12 story, as with previous crashed saucer tales. Such a document release through the major media would have had a colossal impact and make those who leaked it into celebrities or historic figures. Instead the secret of the century is revealed through a *fiction novel*? It makes the leakers look like they graduated from the Chicken Little School of Journalism.

However, if the idea was to implement an official disinformation program against UFO proponents and UFO organizations, conducted by the government through AFOSI, then what Doty, Moore and associates did becomes plausible. Because of the way Paul Bennewitz approached Kirtland AFOSI in 1979 with his claims of having monitored unusual aircraft and signals from the base, it would have been prudent for AFOSI to investigate Bennewitz’s claims. But their actions turned dark when it was apparent that AFOSI Special Agent Doty had partnered with an outsider, Bill Moore, to feed false



stories to Bennewitz with the intent to mentally destabilize him. When this was done it should have been the end of disinformation on the matter if it was prompted solely by concerns about Kirtland base security.

Yet at some point AFOSI man Doty and cohorts had decided that a much larger effort should be made to promote Doty's bizarre claims of insider UFO knowledge, going far beyond the assault on Paul Bennewitz. The real question is whether or not there was a conspiracy guided by official policy, or whether a small group of government employees acted on their own, using their positions to project an image of doing the federal government's bidding. But what could possibly be the motivation for such alleged "rogue agents" to pursue such career-threatening activity – if truly unauthorized?

Doty and company in AFOSI evaded big money deals that might have been pursued if for instance Doty had insisted on working through Moore's friend and Hollywood producer Jaime Shandera. Instead Doty seemed uninterested in seeking after such opportunities and never bothered even to meet with potential money-source Shandera until June 1982, after already almost two years of Doty's and the "Falcon" Colonel's meetings and contacts with Moore and without Shandera.

There is a much better explanation and it requires that we look at the situation from the point of view of an AFOSI counterintelligence official or other official US disinformation planner, not from the limited perspective of a narrowly focused UFO investigator or seeker of alien evidence. There is a definite pattern to US Government disinformation campaigns against UFOlogy going all the way back to 1949 or earlier, and it clearly cannot be explained as "rogue agent" activity when it spans decades.

And as we will see, an active duty AFOSI agent engaged in the disinformation operations against UFOlogy admitted it to CAUS attorney Peter Gersten. Unlike a second- or third-hand hearsay recollection years after retirement this admission came from someone involved first-hand in the midst of active duty covert operations. Indeed he seemed to be trying to warn Gersten that he was engaged in passing off disinformation to Gersten himself, perhaps because he found it was "distasteful" (as he did with the Bennewitz disinformation<sup>84</sup>) and he was nevertheless having to carry out his orders.

### **AF vs. UFOlogy – or Us vs. Them**

We need to see it from the AF's perspective – that does not mean agreeing with it but knowing what that perspective is. UFOlogy has great difficulty doing that because it is so obsessed with seeking proof of alien visitation. Most everything is viewed through this narrow lens of the alien evidence hunt and the "coverup of alien evidence." All governmental action on UFO's is viewed in those one-dimensional terms by UFOlogy. According to most UFOlogists, the CIA (or "MJ-12" for some) is the sinister and all-knowing conspiracy group controlling the UFO coverup, etc. etc.

Even within UFOlogy's own dogma this vast government-wide conspiracy makes no sense and is wracked with contradiction, because it is also hammered on over and over

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<sup>84</sup> Bishop, Project Beta, p. 82.

again about how supersecret the US Government's proof of aliens must be, how closely guarded, how much security precaution and need-to-know access restriction is imposed, etc. Well if it is so restricted to so few within the Government then the vast majority of the US Government must "act normally" since it is not "in on the alien supersecret." But UFOlogy does not then study the *normal* interactions, functions and dysfunctions of the government bureaucracy dealing with UFO's, it just keeps searching for alien proof and lambasting the evil conspiracy. No one in the hunt for aliens seriously studies military history and culture, or intelligence history and culture, all of which is of powerful relevance to UFO history.

From the AF's perspective as a military force, the world is viewed in aggressive black-and-white terms of enemies and allies. Enemies are to be subdued or destroyed ("adversaries" is the more politically correct term used). Air supremacy is the central doctrine of the AF. Air supremacy requires that the USAF control the air and space environments to support national policy and prevent the neutralization or interference with its mission by any and all adversaries in order to maintain its supremacy.

Well guess what folks. UFOlogy is what is called in today's intelligence parlance a "single-issue extremist group" – something like, say, Greenpeace or the ACLU, ranked just below the level of a terrorist group. In the AF's point of view, UFO groups, activists and researchers oppose the AF, impede its operations, and tie up its resources. To the AF the field of UFOlogy is an opponent to be subdued, disrupted or neutralized. To the AF "the enemy" is the UFO investigator."<sup>85</sup> UFOlogy groups and investigators are seen as a threat to AF activities and overall mission, and to particular missions of specific commands and activities such as AF Intelligence.

### **The Long AF Battle Against UFOlogist Enemies**

The AF has a long history of controversy and disputes with UFOlogists, which has institutionally made the AF in effect tacitly declare war against UFOlogy. Look at it from the AF's paranoid mindset.<sup>86</sup> In 1949 a Navy man, Donald Keyhoe, who was a respected retired major in the Marines (which were part of the Navy), started intruding into AF intelligence matters on UFO's, threatening to dig up and expose AF secrets. Remember, the AF and Navy were and still are enemies in bitter interservice rivalry. Earlier in 1949 the Navy had the "Admirals' Revolt" against the AF. The Navy claimed the AF was gobbling up too much of the shrinking postwar military budget and forcing public support of dangerously defective weapons systems such as the B-36 at the expense of the Navy's aircraft carrier ambitions.

Now this Navy guy, Keyhoe, comes along to cause the AF trouble over an embarrassing air intelligence matter, UFO's, and he is joined by another Navy man, active duty Cdr. Robert McLaughlin, USN. Both Keyhoe and McLaughlin of course are now famous in

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<sup>85</sup> Collins-Doty-Cooper, *Exempt From Disclosure*, p. 5. Collins and Doty have long experience in the AF and Doty specifically in AFOSI counterintelligence. This candid admission that "the enemy" is the UFO investigator" is quite a departure from the wild alien disinformation riddling the whole book and deserves more credence.

<sup>86</sup> Cf. Bishop, *Project Beta*, pp. 7, 48, on official "paranoia" and "constant public-relations headache" of UFO's.

UFO history as they were shortly to publish groundbreaking sensational articles in *True* magazine claiming UFO's were from outer space and implying or stating outright (in Keyhoe's case) that the AF knew it but was not saying so publicly.<sup>87</sup>

At this same time in 1949 just before the two bombshell articles, McLaughlin earned the everlasting ire of the AF. McLaughlin gave AFOSI an enormous bad headache by officially releasing highly sensitive AF UFO secrets to the press. McLaughlin got away with this in his role as official tri-service spokesman at the Army-Navy-AF White Sands Proving Ground – meaning technically he could speak for the AF and release AF information – as well as being head of the Navy unit there. There was an extraordinary and extensive “leak” investigation by AFOSI which even today over a half century later makes for some amazing reading.

The AF tried to get McLaughlin court-martialed but found it could not touch him because he was in a different military service the AF could not control (the Navy). He was protected by his unquestionable role as public information officer at White Sands with authority to release information. The Navy ended up promoting McLaughlin to destroyer command of the *Bristol*, a notable achievement after running a desk job in the desert for over three years. This indicates to those with eyes to see that the Navy was pointedly thumbing its collective nose at AF demands for disciplinary action to be taken by the Navy against McLaughlin.<sup>88</sup>

Historian David Jacobs summed up the long-ranging impact of the Navy articles on the AF UFO controversy:

“The Keyhoe and McLaughlin articles were the first in a national magazine to present a case for extraterrestrial explanations for UFOs and to **contradict official Air Force findings**. The articles set the stage for a **battle** [between the AF and UFO groups] that was to rage for the next **twenty years**.”<sup>89</sup>

To the AF all this must have looked like a Navy plot to humiliate the AF, one way to get payback for the Navy losing the Admirals' Revolt.<sup>90</sup> Naturally then, when Navy man Keyhoe kept popping up again and again year after year to pester the AF over UFO's the

<sup>87</sup> Donald E. Keyhoe, “The Flying Saucers Are Real,” *True* (Jan. 1950) published Dec. 26, 1949; Robert B. McLaughlin, “How Scientists Tracked A Flying Saucer!” *True* (March 1950) published Feb. 22, 1950.

<sup>88</sup> Interestingly, and so typical of UFOlogy today and yesterday, the pro-ETH contingent could not grasp any of this bitter interservice warfare between the AF and Navy or understand what was really going on behind the scenes, other than the stereotypical “conspiracy to hide the truth!” The saucer enthusiasts revealed their ignorance by complaining that McLaughlin's promotion was actually a *demotion* designed to punish him for expressing his outspoken pro-UFO pro-ETH views in his *True* article, and to perpetrate a coverup by getting him out to sea and away from reporters who could ask more questions to embarrass the establishment. But McLaughlin got the destroyer command *before* his *True* article came out (the news is printed in the article itself), so it had nothing to do with his article. At the same time as the McLaughlin controversy began to burn the AF, the Revolt of the Admirals was coming to a head. In a parallel to the AF action attempted against McLaughlin, Navy Rear Admiral Daniel V. Gallery wrote a series of articles in *Saturday Evening Post* ending with one that especially angered the AF. The pro-AF Secretary of Defense tried to have Gallery court-martialed but failed, though they did ruin Gallery's chances at advancing to Vice Admiral rank.

<sup>89</sup> Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America* (1976 ed.) p. 50, emphasis added.

AF saw this as a continuation of the Navy plot to get back at the AF. There is no way the AF could not see this trouble as Navy, Navy, and more Navy.

When Keyhoe took over the helm at NICAP in January 1957, the AF saw more trouble brewing than ever before. Keyhoe brought in friends, prominent retired Navy admirals including the former CIA Director, to chair the NICAP Board. This must have been an ominous development for the AF. Keyhoe also had been agitating for a Congressional hearing for some time to haul up the AF in front of cameras and beat it over the figurative head for its UFO policies. Now Keyhoe had an organization at his command to launch a public campaign to press for Congressional hearings. Again, this had to look to the AF like a "Navy plot."

The AF pulled out all the stops to stymie, harass and ruin NICAP under Keyhoe, including apparently siccing the IRS on NICAP in 1958 to deny it the desperately needed tax-exemption on phony grounds that NICAP's anti-AF efforts were a prohibited political activity. The AF even attempted to have Keyhoe brought up on bogus criminal charges of unauthorized possession of classified information in 1960.<sup>91</sup> NICAP for its part succeeded in getting the AF dragged in front of Congressional hearings but only in closed-door meetings. The AF suffered many traumatic close calls in averting public hearings, and NICAP was probably instrumental in making possible the one public hearing that did occur in 1966, an historic event.

The AF eventually got its way in destroying NICAP and firing Keyhoe, just in time to coincide with the AF's closure of its public relations nightmare, Project Blue Book, announced on December 17, 1969. The AF did not want NICAP under Keyhoe to gloat over some victory against the AF with the demise of Blue Book. The three AF-affiliated men who constituted all three of the members of the Executive Committee of the NICAP Board of Governors peremptorily fired Keyhoe on December 3, 1969.

The NICAP Ex Com troika was led by an AF reserve officer with a clandestine background who was formerly the No. 1 CIA official in charge of covert political and psychological warfare. He was the pioneer leader in psychological operations, an expert in the infiltration and destruction of adversary organizations by clever psych war tricks and manipulation of financial weaknesses. And NICAP had a major Achilles heel vulnerability in its finances and troubled management, easily exploited using standard CIA techniques developed by the pioneer himself, who had left the CIA in disillusionment to go over to the AF, transferring his allegiance to the AF. Keyhoe was blamed for NICAP's mismanagement and thrown out, no one at the time could argue with

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<sup>90</sup> The Secretary of the Navy (SecNav) John L. Sullivan had to resign, his Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Louis E. Denfeld was dismissed for testifying in Congress, in the wake of the failed Admirals' Revolt. The Navy never got its supercarrier, and a pro-AF Secretary Defense (SecDef) Louis Johnson replaced the pro-Navy SecDef James Forrestal. Forrestal himself was a strong Navy man, a former SecNav, who was instrumental in setting up the SecDef position, the NSC (National Security Council) and the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) as counterbalances to offset the increasing power of the anti-Navy alliance of the AF and Army. The Navy supported the creation of the CIA and was an ally of the CIA against the AF and the Army. The AAF (now AF) and the Army had opposed the CIA and continue to do so down to the present in varying degrees.

<sup>91</sup> See AFOSI and FBI FOIA files. Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 15.

the mismanagement – because no one knew the highly alarming fact that the AF reserve Colonel who took Keyhoe's job as head of NICAP was the former top CIA expert in covert warfare. Not a low-level agent or case officer but the original senior CIA official and expert who invented many of the techniques of covert operations used for decades thereafter worldwide.

In view of this brief history of aggressive AF UFO paranoia, it is safe to say then that AF hates UFOlogy, has a long-standing vendetta against perceived Navy threats to its dominance as the largest and politically most powerful military service, and will stop at nothing to prevent another humiliating Congressional hearing to disgrace the AF over UFO's. AFOSI serves as the AF's bodyguard of professional dirty tricksters, and functions within a web of defense regulations that actually authorize and spell out the kind of questionable tactics used against UFOlogist organizations and individuals in the United States (see below).

### **Why the AFOSI Fixation on NASA and Carter and the Year 1977 ??**

So why NASA, Carter, Spielberg and 1977? One must think like a paranoid AF counterintelligence planner. The AF feared the rekindling of a massive UFO sighting wave like 1973, this time triggered by the release of Steven Spielberg's blockbuster movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, on November 16, 1977, which set all-time records for box office attendance.

The media soon afterward reported rather sensationalistically that the movie had provoked a flood of UFO sighting reports to various agencies, civilian and governmental.<sup>92</sup> Debunker Martin Gardner smugly predicted in the January 26, 1978, issue of the *New York Review of Books* the imminent "1978 UFO flap expected as a consequence of the movie" (which never materialized but the AF could not know that in advance).

At this very same time, NASA was considering the Carter White House request that it reopen a UFO study.<sup>93</sup> The press reported that the "White House has asked NASA to **look at the saucer data** collected through the years by the **Air Force** and others."<sup>94</sup> This published assertion in the national media must have greatly alarmed the AF, which had enjoyed a decade of relative peace without having a Project Blue Book as a sitting-duck target for all sorts of inquiries and criticism. Now it looked like the AF's UFO actions in the past were going to be subjected to NASA scientific review and possibly get the AF

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<sup>92</sup> *Time* magazine (Jan. 30, 1978) reported that CUFOS had been experiencing a massive increase of UFO sighting reports, which skyrocketed from the usual 50 per day to almost 800 per day since mid-December 1977. *Time* did not mention that almost all of this additional reporting was from old sightings months or years past, not current cases (*IUR*, Feb. 1978, p. 8). Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics stated that their normal less than half a dozen UFO calls per day had jumped to 18 per day in the past month, all attributed to the release of the Spielberg *Close Encounters* movie. The White House was flooded with UFO mail as a direct result of the movie as well as publicity from President Carter's campaign promise to release UFO data (*Time*, Dec. 12, 1977, etc.).

<sup>93</sup> Even after the public NASA rebuff on Dec. 21, 1977, to the White House request NASA privately continued to pursue the matter internally, into 1978. Jerome Clark, "NASA and UFOs," *UFO Encyclopedia* (1998) vol. 2, p. 665.

<sup>94</sup> *Time*, Dec. 12, 1977, emphasis added.

raked over the coals (again) for the numerous shortcomings in its past handling the UFO phenomenon – cataloged in ugly detail by Hynek in his classic 1972 textbook of UFO science, *The UFO Experience*. It must have seemed as if the new Navy-man President in the White House was out to “get” the AF.

The Spielberg movie’s name itself was derived from a scientific UFO sighting category devised by former AF UFO scientific consultant on Project Blue Book, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, and published in the aforementioned textbook.

The Hynek connection was a bright red flag to the AF, which viewed Hynek as a traitor who spilled the AF’s UFO secrets in his stinging tell-all book (tell-all from the standpoint of an insecure aggressive AF bureaucracy). The AF considered the very publication of Hynek’s book as pure treachery, a backstab by a man the AF considered it treated very well over two decades (remember this is how the AF would have seen it, not the objective facts of the situation). No AF scientist had ever published a book highly critical of his paid sponsor ever before. It was unprecedented. The AF did not like it one bit. Think about that.

Hynek was a highly respected astronomer who had many contacts in the scientific community who could join together to challenge the AF on UFO’s. Moreover, Hynek supported Congressional hearings on the UFO problem, which would certainly subject the AF to the feared public scrutiny the AF wished to avoid at all costs. AFOSI had already targeted Hynek with multiple disinformation operations to try to discredit him when his much-feared book, *The UFO Experience*, finally came out in 1972 and even afterward (space does not permit discussing this here).<sup>95</sup>

So Hynek’s direct relationship to the Spielberg movie was bad news to the AF (to rub it in, Hynek even has a cameo appearance in the movie). Then just after the movie’s opening in theaters it was announced that the science adviser to the ex-Navy man and Annapolis grad who had just taken office in the White House in 1977, President Jimmy Carter, had asked NASA to reopen the investigation of UFO’s, which had been abandoned by the AF (at least as far as the public was concerned) since 1970. The AF thought it had killed off its PR nightmare, UFO’s, for good and yet here was this Navy man on Pennsylvania Avenue trying to resurrect the hated saucer monster once again.

The letter from Carter’s science adviser Dr. Frank Press to NASA was dated July 21, 1977, but not released publicly for several months. Meanwhile the AF found out about the threatening initiative and took steps to put an end to it even before it became public. The AF may have learned about it from AF personnel serving within NASA, who were in effect spies for the AF within NASA. Soon there was a remarkable letter from the AF public relations chief, Col. Charles Senn, to AF Lt. Gen. Duward L. Crow then serving as a top NASA administrator, on September 1, 1977.

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<sup>95</sup> Forthcoming research by Sparks.

Colonel Senn revealed the sense of alarm the AF was feeling over a possible NASA venture into UFO investigations by acknowledging with relief the fact that Gen. Crow was working from inside NASA to try to stop the UFO initiative:

“I sincerely hope you are successful in preventing a reopening of UFO investigations.”

Thus, there was a powerful convergence of potential and real threats to the AF and the AF’s position on UFO’s in November-December 1977, from the White House, NASA, the media, the public, the scientific community and from its own turncoat scientific adviser Hynek who was now seemingly backed by a highly successful and influential movie producer (Spielberg).

Given the historical background reaching to 1949 which we briefly reviewed above, it is no wonder that suddenly in late 1977 a new AFOSI disinformation operation against UFOlogy would be hatched, in the form of Doty and the Ellsworth AFB hoax at first and growing in scope for years to come. Why Ellsworth? The nightmarish Ellsworth story of aliens and US military shooting it out was a perfect reversal of and a slam on the Spielberg *Close Encounters* movie in which the peaceful aliens meet humans at the finale. Ellsworth AFB is just across the state border from Devil’s Tower, Wyoming, the scene of the climactic end of *Close Encounters*. The Ellsworth alien-shootout theme would be recycled again in the hallucinations evidently planted on Bennewitz, where once again the alien/human cooperation at a secret base of operations breaks down into armed battle, this time at Archuleta Peak, Dulce, NM.

It is no wonder that the AF began an intense obsession with discrediting NASA with bogus stories of NASA UFO coverups and such, including the Bennewitz saga. The AF was thoroughly rattled by the threat of an official NASA scientific investigation of UFO’s, which could put the AF in a very bad light, especially if Hynek helped advise NASA.

It is no wonder that AFOSI focused on dragging Navy man Jimmy Carter into its fraudulent UFO documents such as the Aquarius Carter Briefing of purportedly June 1977 (there is that critical year again so hated by the AF for years to come).

### **AFOSI Has Regulations to Justify its Targeting of UFOlogy**

Many UFO organizations in the US such as MUFON have a large contingent of “foreign representatives” and foreign branches and affiliate groups, which make for easy paperwork justifications of counterintelligence surveillance, investigation and “neutralization” of such foreign-linked domestic “US persons” (a broad term including both people and organizations, yes an “organization” is legally a “person”).

Such “US persons” who can be targets of AFOSI operations “include corporations and other commercial organizations, academic institutions, clubs, professional societies, associations, and any other group whose existence is formalized in some manner or

otherwise functions on a continuing basis.”<sup>96</sup> In other words, the ***targeted US persons do not have to be foreign agents or terrorists.***

AF policy directives define one of AFOSI’s main duties as investigating and reporting any “threats” to DoD or AF “mission” or “activities.”<sup>97</sup> Such threats to military missions and activities are treated more broadly than just threats to life and property, which are mentioned separately in the directives. A UFOlogist who files 1,000 FOIA requests with the AF might be seen as posing a “threat” to the AF “mission” by interfering with the orderly functioning of the AF commands that are overwhelmed and burdened with responding to the FOIA’s. Even though each request alone may be perfectly legal, it is the aggregate effect of filing so many that may be viewed as a “threat” to “mission” functions (somewhat analogous to a “denial of service” attack on a computer system). Again we are looking at it in the way the AF sees it, not the way a civil libertarian might see it with all the trampling of Constitutional rights obviously involved in the AF’s heavy-handed tactics.

Maybe a UFOlogist that networks with other UFOlogists in organizations such as MUFON and communicates with active and retired AF personnel to seek out secret AF data on crashed saucers and alien corpses – such as our Bill Moore and Bob Pratt – is seen by AFOSI as soliciting the unauthorized release of classified information or even **unclassified** so-called “controlled information” (such as For Official Use Only). Either category of supposed unauthorized release might trigger, or further justify an already ongoing, AFOSI counterintelligence investigation under AF regulations.<sup>98</sup>

### **AFOSI Counterintelligence Aims to “Neutralize” AF Enemies Such as UFOlogy**

AFOSI’s “counterintelligence investigation” does more than just collect information, it can “neutralize” and “counter” the targets of those investigations even if they are “US persons.” Pursuant to high-level directives, the AF “will conduct counterintelligence activities ... to detect and neutralize threats against the Air Force” and AFOSI “Assesses threats and develops programs to counter them.”<sup>99</sup>

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<sup>96</sup> Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 5240.1R “Procedures Governing the Activities of DoD Intelligence Components That Affect United States Persons,” Dec. 1982, Procedure 10, sec. B.2; AF Instruction (AFI) 14-104, “Oversight of Intelligence Activities,” 16 April 2007, subsec. 11.10.1, *passim*.

<sup>97</sup> AF Instruction (AFI) 71-101V4, “Special Investigations: Counterintelligence,” 1 August 2000, subsec. 2.5.2;

<sup>98</sup> All AF personnel are required to “immediately” report to AFOSI “A request by anyone (regardless of nationality) for ... unauthorized access to classified or unclassified controlled information.” (AFI 71-101V4, subsec. 2.7.2.) When for example a retired AF officer is interviewed for oral history purposes by UFOlogist Roswell investigators he cannot “authorize” access or disclosure because he is no longer active duty. Therefore any request for information of uncertain classification or control status also **might** be a request for “**unauthorized access**” or disclosure by definition since the retired officer cannot “authorize.” This is enough to justify an AFOSI investigation even if woefully inadequate as evidence of any wrongdoing. The retired officer is still a person “associated with Air Force activities” in some way and hence “all” such persons are “encouraged to report” such solicitations to AFOSI as “counterintelligence incidents” — meaning AFOSI is thus authorized to investigate even when the matter is baseless or trivial or unfounded. (AFI 71-101V4, subsec. 2.6.)

<sup>99</sup> AF Policy Directive (AFPD) 71-1, “Special Investigations: Criminal Investigations and Counterintelligence,” 1 July 1999, subsecs. 3 and 7.4.2.



The Defense Department has coined a new euphemism for infiltrating undercover spies, agents provocateur, disrupters and saboteurs into organizations, called “Undisclosed Participation in Organizations.” Such so-called “undisclosed participation” in US organizations conducted by DoD agencies such as AFOSI includes:

“... serving as a representative or agent of the organization; acquiring membership; attending meetings not open to the public, including social functions for the organization as a whole; carrying out the work or functions of the organization; and contributing funds to the organization other than in payment for goods or services.”<sup>100</sup>

But in the clever world of intelligence such regulations are shot through with so many loopholes they hardly mean much other than as a tipoff of the kinds of activities the agencies are squeamish about, and themselves think may be legally questionable and require official-looking justifications in regulations such as these. So they devise such regulations as legal fig-leaves to cover themselves. The biggest loophole in the “Undisclosed Participation in Organizations” regulation is that it ***only applies to AF or DoD career employees.***

If AFOSI wants to infiltrate a US organization such as MUFON it can dodge these regulations entirely just by sending in a ***non-AFOSI employee*** to infiltrate. Someone like a Bill Moore, who was not an AFOSI employee but admittedly carried out assignments for AFOSI. Even active duty AFOSI employees can still infiltrate a US organization “if their affiliation with the intelligence component concerned is disclosed to an appropriate official of the organization.”<sup>101</sup> In other words, like AFOSI Special Agent Doty who disclosed his AFOSI agent affiliation to Peter Gersten before asking Gersten to hire him onto Citizens Against UFO Secrecy.

Another massive loophole is that AFOSI employees can secretly attend “meetings or social gatherings which involve organization ***members*** but are ***not*** functions or activities of the ***organization*** itself,” as that “does not constitute” the restricted intelligence activity called Undisclosed Participation in Organizations.<sup>102</sup> Thus Doty could have personally attended meetings of, say, MUFON or APRO members in their homes or at parties, or after the formal MUFON or APRO meetings were over, and it would not violate these regulations and he would not even be required to disclose his AFOSI agent status.

What kinds of counterintelligence-related activities might these AFOSI infiltrators engage in within US organizations such as MUFON that might be infiltrated? They can “include collecting information, identifying potential sources or contacts, or establishing and maintaining cover.” They may also infiltrate “for the purpose of ***influencing the activities*** of the ***organization*** or its ***members.***”<sup>103</sup> Think about that. That is tantamount to taking over the organization or disrupting it to destroy its effectiveness.

<sup>100</sup> DoD Directive 5240.1R, Procedure 10, sec. B.4; cf. AFI 14-104, subsec. 11.10.1.

<sup>101</sup> DoD Directive 5240.1R, Procedure 10, secs. C, D; cf. AFI 14-104, subsec. 11.10.1.

<sup>102</sup> DoD Directive 5240.1R, Procedure 10, sec. B.4, emphasis added; cf. AFI 14-104, subsec. 11.10.1.

<sup>103</sup> DoD Directive 5240.1R, Procedure 10, secs. B.5 and C.1.d, emphasis added; cf. AFI 14-104, subsec. 11.10.1.

AFOSI counterintelligence goes far beyond just collecting information even as extensive as that may be with the vast array of electronic surveillance, mail covers, satellite recon, “remote monitoring,” and other intrusive techniques used and listed in the regulations. AF Information Operations (IO) include Influence Operations (IFO)<sup>104</sup> which in turn “include counterpropaganda operations, psychological operations (PSYOP), military deception (MILDEC), operations security (OPSEC), *counterintelligence* (CI) operations, and public affairs.” Such influence operations seek to “*influence, disrupt, corrupt or usurp*” an adversary or an adversary’s information and decisionmaking.<sup>105</sup>

As we have seen briefly above, there is a whole track record of AF disruption and disinformation operations against UFOlogy since at least 1949 (disinformation being a technique used in military deception, psyops and counterintelligence). There is the ultimate question as to why the AF exhibited such hostility to UFOlogy, which will be considered in the Conclusions section at the end. Was it because the AF was hiding a supersecret, such as recovered alien spaceships and alien bodies, and UFOlogists posed a risk of uncovering this greatest secret of all time? Or were there other more mundane reasons, or could it even be both?

### **The Doty-Gersten Meetings, January 10-11, 1983**

On January 10 and 11, 1983, Doty met with Peter Gersten, lawyer and founder of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), a private organization devoted to pursuing government UFO data through the FOIA. Gersten had flown out from NYC to Albuquerque to meet with Doty. Also at the first day’s meeting were William Moore and San Francisco television reporter Ron Lakis.

Doty revealed further sensationalized UFO information at the meeting. This included information on the truthfulness of crashed UFOs and Roswell aliens. Doty said he was called on the carpet for a FOIA request regarding a document about a UFO encounter at Ellsworth AFB, SD. The document described a wild gun battle between base security guards and aliens. Pratt’s investigation concluded that the document was a hoax.

We now know for the first time, from Pratt’s detailed notes, that AFOSI agent Doty told attorney Gersten at their January 11 meeting that AFOSI was engaging in a disinformation operation against UFO groups and UFOlogists. Doty indicated to Gersten he was part of the operation and that he was passing on such misinformation to Gersten, without specifying which of it was false. This startling revelation came at the very end of his two days’ meetings with Gersten, suggesting it was a reluctant admission.<sup>106</sup>

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<sup>104</sup> Yes that is the official AF abbreviation for Influence Operations, “IFO” (instead of, say, INO) perhaps signaling a subtle hostility to “UFO,” and ironically employing IFO (Influence Operations) in the execution of that hostility. Maybe the psyops planners who concocted that abbreviation had a good laugh among themselves and joked “Now we use IFO to defeat UFO!”

<sup>105</sup> AF Policy Directive (AFPD) 10-7, “Information Operations,” 6 September 2006, paras. 1.2, 2.1, pp. 18, 21, emphasis added.

<sup>106</sup> Pratt notes of telephone conversation with Peter Gersten, Jan. 25, 1983. See also Bishop, Project Beta, pp.

Moore's collaborator Stanton Friedman also must have heard something similar a few months before because he wrote the then MUFON director Walt Andrus on September 26, 1982: "I am intrigued by the notion that there are government agents monitoring the civilian UFO scene, putting out disinformation, thoroughly muddying the waters."

Why did Doty make such a surprising admission to Gersten, an attorney no less, and thus one trained to seize on such slips when they are sometimes made by a witness? Doty had been saying that he disagreed with the government's UFO coverup policy, as a way to explain why he was revealing what he was revealing. Doty admitted to Moore and Greg Bishop that the use of disinformation to maintain the UFO coverup was "distasteful" to him,<sup>107</sup> such as the notorious AFOSI disinformation he planted on AF contractor Paul Bennewitz to exploit his mental imbalance to drive him over the edge (which we now see was already known to Pratt in 1982 long before Moore's so-called confession at the 1989 MUFON Symposium).

Maybe Doty's conscience bothered him after he did his official duty in these two meetings to try to discredit Gersten who was suing the USAF (over the Cash-Landrum UFO case injuries),<sup>108</sup> or to try to infiltrate Gersten's office (he asked Gersten for a job working for CAUS after Gersten would not take the bait for what Gersten saw as a document entrapment). Perhaps Doty wanted to send a tipoff or warning to the victims of AFOSI disinformation through Gersten, who as an attorney could be entrusted with confidential matters requiring discretion.

This is the first time that such an admission of anti-UFOlogy covert operations was made by an AFOSI official ***while he was an active duty special agent engaging in the operation***, not something stated years after the fact, after retirement, or by someone with no firsthand knowledge. One can disbelieve him but the fact remains this is an admission made by someone in the U.S. Government with direct firsthand knowledge and involvement with the promotion of the MJ-12 hoax that such a disinformation op was being conducted by AFOSI. This is factual evidence, not speculation. The weight and credibility to be accorded to this evidence is an entirely separate issue from its categorization as factual evidence, i.e., a statement made by a witness participating in the act, and not speculation or theory. The Pratt files make this an evidentiary matter for the first time.

Conversely there has never been any active or retired AFOSI agent who has ever leaked any claim asserting a *non*-disinformation explanation such as the "rogue agent" theory. There are no witnesses, no government documents, and no evidence claiming a "rogue agent" scenario. While an official AFOSI statement denying Doty's operation might be too much to expect, given the sheer volume of MJ-12 babble that has been published surely by random statistical chance one would think that we would have at least heard a *rumor* from retired AF personnel that "Doty was just hoaxing documents to make money

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<sup>107</sup> Bishop, Project Beta, p. 82.

<sup>108</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 11: "Certainly the government had motives of its own in wanting to discredit Gersten, since at the time [late 1982] he was causing them [the AF] considerable headaches with his continuing efforts to take the government to court on F.O.I.A. matters and his plans to make a federal case out of the Cash-Landrum incident."

in a 6-figure Hollywood movie deal” or something like it. But no such rumors are known. Someone seems to have more control over the *apparent* MJ-12 “chaos” than meets the eye.

Moreover there is no known precedent in AFOSI history or U.S. intelligence history or world intelligence history of an active duty intelligence officer forging documents for sale or for profit. That makes it very difficult to plausibly suggest that Doty led the first and only instance of active intelligence officers faking documents for money. In fact, there seem to be no known instances of active duty intelligence officers faking government documents for private unauthorized purposes, period.

Whereas, *official* disinformation operations including document forgeries are a staple of world intelligence operations, a fact not disputed by any knowledgeable observer or scholar, documented in numerous Congressional reports, official statements, etc.<sup>109</sup> Indeed, **AF regulations** lay out a vast array of such covert warfare operations that are authorized for AFOSI to carry out, even against law-abiding U.S. citizens and organizations.

### **How the AFOSI Disinformation Against UFOlogy Works**

But the purposes had been previously revealed by Doty to Moore, then to Pratt in the taped Moore-Pratt meetings on July 7-9, 1982, where Moore explained how the disinformation operation against UFOlogy works (from Pratt’s 25-page transcript, with typos and contracted words corrected, bold italic emphasis added):

Moore: How many people would it take working full time to sow confusion, [to] keep the UFO groups off balance? ... It wouldn’t take too many people to keep us off track ... one in each of the three major organizations and one for the smaller ones that were deemed to be worth the trouble, and you might have a few other people whose jobs are associated therewith, and really they could quite effectively keep everybody off balance by feeding ***disinformation*** or feeding little bit of truth to get somebody off on another track pursuing something that isn’t deemed to be too important.

It ***wouldn’t ... be a major operation***, and that, accompanied with the concept of having the people who have to deal with the press simply maintaining an attitude of debunking and of the concept that there isn’t really anything there anyway and that the Government isn’t interested in doing anything, they have found nothing in all of its investigations –

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<sup>109</sup> The term “disinformation” was originally coined by the Soviet KGB intelligence service (First Chief Directorate now the Russian SVR) as *dezinformatsiya*, when a special section was set up for strategic deception and disinformation in the KGB in 1959 (FCD Service A). Originally “disinformation” was defined as false, deceptive, provocative and subversive information, documents and actions designed to *mislead the opponent intelligence agencies* at the strategic level, *not* deceive just anyone or a non-intelligence agency such as a military service or the public. The definition of disinformation has become so corrupted and broadened it is now defined in the U.S. as synonymous with deception operations of all types, strategic and tactical, targeted at anyone including the public.

the standard press statements – and ***those [disinformation] people wouldn't have to know there was anything to hide.*** They could simply be told well there's nothing to hide, we're telling the people the truth, it's all of these UFO nuts running around trying to make liars out of us when in fact there is nothing there. And the press tends to take the government pronouncements ALL TOO FREQUENTLY AS GOSPEL without questioning and at the same time requiring extraordinary evidence from anybody privately who makes a statement to the contrary.

It just wouldn't take that much and [yet] the money that would be spent to keep it [the disinformation operation] going in the space of a year's time would be more ... for those few [disinformation] people in just paying their salaries than all the UFO groups could fund for research in ten years instead of one, just completely overwhelm them.... I think that's what we're experiencing here, that's why we've never been able to get off the ground [in UFOlogy].

When ***NICAP really began to get threatening to the Air Force***, beginning to have an undue influence in the government sector, that ***they [NICAP] were simply derailed at that point.*** And now all of a sudden we find out that their Board was riddled with CIA people and the guy who replaces Keyhoe as director [Col. Joseph Bryan III, USAFR] has questionable connections and the fellow who takes over for him even more questionable connections. Who knows how many people in the other organizations aren't in the same boat?

Pratt: Are the civilian organizations important enough to disrupt? Do they pose enough of a threat to uncover any of the secrets or cover up or whatever? ...

Moore: Yeah, I guess in a sense they present not a threat but a possible threat. The idea is not to allow them to get to the status of threat but to keep them off their balance before they ever get that far. And I think that's a good strategy.

Pratt: There are enough bona fide nuts in the field to—

Moore: Of course – you encourage an Adamski here, a Richard Andolucci [Orfeo Angelucci] there, you encourage a Wendelle Stevens here, you encourage any number of those people ... they don't take much encouragements [to do what they do]. All they need is a little attention, so you show them how to get it and they do the job for you ***without you ever having to pay them.*** The same sense with Phil Klass. They ***don't have to put him on the payroll.*** They just need to encourage him to continue what he's doing. So, any time he flags in

his effort they dump a little more seemingly bona fide debunking information on him that “it couldn’t be so because” – and he takes it from there. Why pay him?

In Moore’s infamous 1989 confession to the MUFON Symposium in Las Vegas, Nevada, he presented more specifics of how the rumor mill aspect of UFO disinformation works<sup>110</sup>:

“Disinformation is a strange and bizarre game. Those who play it are completely aware that an operation’s success is dependent upon dropping [dis]information upon a target, or ‘mark’, in such a way that the person will accept it as truth and will repeat, and even defend it to others as if it were true. Once this has been accomplished, the work of the counterintelligence specialists is complete. They can simply withdraw in the confidence that the dirty work of spreading their poisonous seeds will [now] be done by others. Those who want proof of how well the process works need only look at the Bennewitz case, or the Aztec case.

“Every time *one of you* repeats an unverified or unsubstantiated bit of information without qualifying it as such, you are contributing to that process; and every time you do it, somebody in a need-to-know position sits back and has a *horse laugh* at your expense.”

Moore and Shandera chillingly describe the neutralizing effects of the anti-UFOlogy disinformation, which<sup>111</sup>:

“... bury public interest in UFOs by confounding the curious with an array of increasingly outrageous and incredible tales which sap their strength, drain their resources and strain their reputations to the point where they will either stop digging or dig only in carefully fenced-off, perfectly harmless places.”

### **Short History of the MJ-12 Stories and Documents**

“MJ-12,” “Majestic 12,” “Majic Twelve,” or other variants have been with us for over a quarter century. In that time newcomers to UFO research may not know the background to to controversy. A brief history will help.

In September 1980, Roswell investigator Bill Moore was contacted by the AF Colonel and AFOSI agent Doty, beginning a series of strange meetings and contacts over the next five years, as already described. The Bennewitz saga begins in this time frame.

Beginning in 1981, rumors began to surface about the existence of a super-secret group of military and scientific leaders charged with studying crashed UFOs, and particularly the Roswell incident of 1947. The group was called “MJ-12,” referring to the elite, or Majestic, panel of twelve. As early as June 1981 at James Moseley’s National UFO

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<sup>110</sup> Moore, MUFON 1989 MJ-12 statement, *MUJ*, Dec. 1989, pp. 9c-10a, emphasis added, except the pure italics were in the original.

<sup>111</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 105.

Conference, Moore and Moore's contacts circulated stories about President Carter having been briefed in 1977 about a UFO-related project called "Aquarius." This was the first public trial balloon of the Aquarius hoax and the reaction was disbelief, no one was buying it.<sup>112</sup>

More documents surfaced through 1983, namely the so-called "Aquarius Executive Briefing" or Carter briefing paper, and the "Hilltop Document." More bogus projects are described in the Aquarius Carter Briefing. One that was not entirely fake was nevertheless wildly distorted: "Project Pounce" was named in the purported Carter briefing as created in 1968 to study space technology of alien ships but was in fact a real UFO project proposed in 1952 never carried out. It was a plan by the Air Defense Command's 34th Air Division based at Kirtland to use fighters to pursue UFO's with special equipment and was cited in the 1953 CIA Robertson Panel report.

On December 11, 1984, Jaime Shandera received a 35 mm roll of film containing the main MJ-12 documents, the subjects of the greatest controversy. The envelope was postmarked December 9, 1984, from Albuquerque, NM, the location of Kirtland AFB. This one document, the Eisenhower Briefing, solidified the hold that MJ-12 would increasingly have on fringe UFOlogy in the late 1980's until Roswell investigations eclipsed the document with more credible evidence probed by mainstream UFOlogy.

In 1984 Richard Doty transferred to AFOSI Germany. Then on July 15, 1986, he was reportedly decertified as an AFOSI agent due to "unauthorized" activities while stationed at Lindsey AFB, Wiesbaden, West Germany.<sup>113</sup> He said it was unrelated to his UFO involvement. Doty returned to Kirtland as a career service specialist and subsequently left government service on October 1, 1988, thereafter becoming a New Mexico state policeman (Doty now claims he retired in November 1988).<sup>114</sup>

In January 1985, Stan Friedman was told of the MJ-12 film that Shandera received the previous month. In March Friedman told Moore and Shandera of AF records being reviewed for subsequent declassification at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Both Moore and Shandera later traveled to the archives to examine these records, July 15-18, 1985.<sup>115</sup> It was at this time that they reported finding the Cutler-Twining, or "CT" memo dated July 14, 1954. This document mentions MJ-12 and is distinguished from the other MJ-12 documents in having been found at the archives, lending an official-looking origin or provenance to one but only one of the disputed MJ-12 papers – it was as if that was its whole purpose, to try to validate all the rest which had not come from official archives.

Nevertheless, there were problems even with the unearthing of the CT memo. The memo was found in between file folders instead of inside one and it did not have a serial number connecting it to the surrounding papers or files. The file series belonged to the AF

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<sup>112</sup> Sparks telecons with Prof. Benton Jamison and Jerome Clark, Aug. 1981.

<sup>113</sup> Kevin Randle, *Case MJ-12* (2002) pp. 217-8.

<sup>114</sup> Collins-Doty-Cooper, *Exempt From Disclosure*, pp. 66, 96.

<sup>115</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 94.

Directorate of Intelligence not Chief of Staff Twining's office, the designated recipient.<sup>116</sup> Jo Ann Williamson of the National Archives issued a ten-point set of problems with the memo, which had aroused archivist suspicions as to its authenticity.

In May 1985, Moore showed the MJ-12 documents on the roll of film to Lee Graham, a technician with the Aerojet Electrosystems company in California and a friend of Moore's. Graham began to spread word of MJ-12, at the behest of Moore, through prodigious letter writing and FOIA requests to government agencies. Eventually he related this information to Barry Greenwood, who was then editor of the newsletter of CAUS, *Just Cause*. The December 1985 issue of *Just Cause* was the first publication to describe MJ-12 in some detail, naming its alleged members, and presenting thumbnail biographies.

In January 1987, researcher Brad Sparks studied a genuine FOIA-released UFO report by Richard Doty from AFOSI and some MJ-12-related documents, the Aquarius Teletype and the suspect Kirtland radar "frequency jamming" report. He concluded that, based upon the typewriter irregularities, typeface and writing style all were written by the same person, evidently the same agent Doty in the legitimate AFOSI document.

In May 1987, Moore finally released self-redacted copies of MJ-12 documents through his newsletter *Focus*.<sup>117</sup> From this point on the team of Moore, Shandera and Friedman engage in heavy, and often acrimonious, debate over the legitimacy of the documents with other UFO researchers and skeptics.

A TV broadcast called "UFO Cover Up – Live" was aired on October 14, 1988, and it is most notable for the preposterous claim that aliens are fond of strawberry ice cream and Tibetan music (the latter a throwback to the Chinese music in the Scully hoax<sup>118</sup>). Included in the show are disguised interviews with two of Moore's mysterious "Aviary" group informants, "Falcon" and "Condor." They were later identified or misidentified as Richard Doty and Robert Collins, respectively (Doty was deliberately labeled as "Falcon" just for the purposes of this show, to create confusion, according to Moore). Collins was an AF captain stationed at Kirtland working as a plasma physicist for Sandia National Laboratories who was keenly interested in UFO's. Afterwards the TV show was widely panned as ridiculous, that it brought the UFO field down to new lows of absurdity and farce.

Jumping ahead to 2005, Doty actually still defends the strawberry ice cream and Tibetan music loved by aliens, as well as Project Aquarius!<sup>119</sup> Collins and Doty (with Timothy Cooper) published a book with many such extraordinarily wild claims, and a whole host of new wacko assertions.

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<sup>116</sup> Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 98.

<sup>117</sup> Though the *Focus* newsletter with the sanitized EBD was dated April 30, 1987, it was not actually mailed until May 27, 1987. (Moore-Shandera MJ-12 Report, p. 72.)

<sup>118</sup> Frank Scully column, *Variety*, Nov. 23, 1949.

<sup>119</sup> Collins-Doty-Cooper, *Exempt From Disclosure* (2005) p. 79.



On July 1, 1989, Moore lectured before an audience for the annual MUFON Symposium in Las Vegas, Nevada. He described himself as an unpaid government agent who willingly participated in an AFOSI operation that fed false information about aliens to Paul Bennewitz to discredit him (see our previous quotes of his speech text). Already mentally unstable to begin with, Bennewitz was by Moore's admission pushed over the edge because of the fake UFO data.

Moore shocked his audience of fellow UFO researchers by revealing that he had spied on them and passed along data about them to AFOSI. Moore claimed that four other UFOlogists he refused to name were performing a similar service for AFOSI. Some "people even stumbled out of the lecture hall, gripped by a combination of shock, anguish and tears."<sup>120</sup> Moore refused to answer questions after the talk and quickly left the audience in a tumult from his revelations.

In 1989-91 a number of lengthy investigations of MJ-12 were published by UFOlogists Robert Hastings, Moore and Shandera (who split with Friedman by this time), Friedman, and MUFON researchers T. Scott Crain and Grant Cameron. Entire books on MJ-12 were published in the subsequent decade by Friedman (1996), the skeptical Kevin Randle (2002), Bishop (2005), and Collins and Doty (2005), without ultimately resolving the tangled web of lies and confusing array of issues, and without authenticating a single page of MJ-12 documentation in question.

## Discussion by Barry Greenwood

What are we to make of all this? Was it all part of a disinformation campaign sponsored by the U.S. Government to hide the truth about UFO's from an ever-curious public? Was even part of it true? Or was it all a scheme to create a fictional UFO world controlled by a small group of zealous believers hoping to find fame and fortune playing to a conspiracy-hungry audience?

My own view of conspiratorial UFOlogy has been one of measured skepticism. There certainly has been conspiratorial behavior by the U.S. Government on numerous occasions. I was deliberately misinformed when I was told back in 1975 that all government UFO paperwork had been released with the opening of the Project Blue Book records at the National Archives. From then to 1984, over 4,000 pages of newly released documents appeared from more than a dozen different government agencies.

The Condon Report, the Air Force's excuse for closing down Blue Book, concluded in 1969 that there was nothing to UFO's. Yet the body of the report itself showed that roughly 30% of the total number of their case investigations were listed as unexplained, a percentage about six times higher than the Air Force's own total of unknowns. There are many more examples. The public had good reason to believe that official dismissals of

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<sup>120</sup> Dennis Stacy, article on MUFON 1989 Symposium, *MUJ*, Aug. 1989; Jerome Clark, *UFO Encyclopedia* (1998) vol. 1, p. 316; cf. Bishop, *Project Beta*, pp. 72-73.

UFO's were at least inaccurate and at most deceptive. Even the most ardent skeptic would be forced to admit to this.

On the other hand it is not necessarily true that all conspiratorial behavior by government representatives should be viewed as part of an official policy. Otherwise one would have to believe that all of them play their roles to perfection and never break policy. So was MJ-12 an execution of official policy or a violation of it? If it was an execution of official policy, then why didn't other UFO disinformation flow from other AFOSI units across the country to substantiate MJ-12? Was it policy for Kirtland AFB to become known as the false document capital of the military? It seems like there was a game in progress that we could call the "Six Degrees of Richard Doty" in which every bit of MJ-12 information could be traced back to Doty in six steps or less.

Richard Doty claimed to be leaking inside UFO information but not a single piece of paper seeming to support MJ-12 has been verified as authentic, including the Cutler-Twining memo that was allegedly discovered at the National Archives. Doty's stories to different UFO researchers had changed numerous times. It is fair to say that Doty has a credibility problem as a document source and relay of accurate information.

We are now twenty years into the future. The idea of MJ-12 influenced a number of popular television shows including NBC's *Dark Skies* and Fox's award-winning *X-Files*. It provided Whitley Strieber with a novel, *Majestic*. It gave the UFO community thousands of pages of speculation. Too many people asked too many hard questions for the tale to soar. As disinformation, MJ-12 should have passed into history with the decline of UFO interest in recent years.

But this did not happen. Two of Moore's "Aviary" members, Richard Doty and Robert Collins, wrote a book along with Timothy Cooper called *Exempt From Disclosure* (Peregrine Communications, 2nd edition, 2006). Long after they reportedly retired from government service, the two dusted off and expanded the alleged MJ-12 into a hugely influential segment of the U.S. intelligence community that supposedly controlled massive amounts of UFO information. It appears to be a blend of old MJ-12 disclosures with a far more detailed addition of "new" MJ-12 data, which their third co-author Timothy Cooper had promoted during the 1990's with equally dubious documentation (and flunking a polygraph test on his role).

The newer material includes "Project SERPO," which according to, you guessed it, Richard Doty, was a human exchange program with aliens at Area 51 in Nevada.<sup>121</sup> There are hundreds of pages of more MJ-12 documents, which now must be considered to be the least top secret of all the government's "Top Secret" programs, if you believe they are real. Of course none of the newer releases have been verified as authentic either.

I once used the term "Big Lie" to describe MJ-12. It was a term used during World War 2 to define Hitler's technique that if one tells a lie long enough and loud enough, eventually it will attract a following. Bob Pratt was involved with MJ-12 early on as an outsider

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<sup>121</sup> Collins-Doty-Cooper, *Exempt From Disclosure*, pp. 8, 78-79, 98-99, passim.

looking in. He was not impressed with the strange revelations and was soon passed over for more pliable and willing believers. I wish I had had the foresight to thank Bob before he passed on but let this paper serve as an appreciation to his family of his lack of willingness to be taken for a ride on MJ-12 starships, most of which seemed to have crashed anyway.

## Conclusions by Brad Sparks

There is the ultimate question to consider now: Why has the AF demonstrated such a long-running pattern of animosity towards UFOlogy? Is it because the AF is protecting a supersecret? Is it the “holy grail” of a recovered alien spaceship and alien bodies? Do UFOlogists pose a threat to the AF’s coverup of this greatest secret of all time by their efforts to penetrate the veil of secrecy?

Or was the AF hostility to UFO activists because of Cold War fears that the Soviets could exploit UFO reports? The Soviets, it was feared, could claim UFO’s to be Soviet secret weapons flying over American cities – perhaps carrying Soviet atom bombs they might say – which the American AF was impotent to stop. TOP SECRET Air Force documents tell of AF worries that the US nuclear advantage actually could be wiped out by a clever Soviet propaganda campaign along those lines.<sup>122</sup> There is a policy document trail supporting the existence of such Cold War fears in 1947-1950 and their presentation for action to highly sensitive intelligence and covert operations agencies.<sup>123</sup>

If the subject of UFO’s could be discredited in the public mind with the “giggle factor” secretly promoted by AF disinformation agents in laughable crashed saucer and little green men stories, then if and when such Soviet propaganda claims were ever made the American public would laugh it all off. Soviet saucer claims would be dismissed by everyone as silly season stories and shoved under the “ridicule curtain” (just as much of UFOlogy is dismissed today). But UFOlogists would then have to be squelched because they could upset the applecart, piercing through the ridicule curtain by crediting UFO’s in the public mind instead of discrediting them.

An initially Cold War-inspired series of independent AF and CIA disinformation operations against the UFO subject seems to have gradually transformed into operations to protect bureaucratic missions against interference by UFO groups and activists.<sup>124</sup>

Could it be all of the above? It is unlikely in the extreme that holders of supersecret proof of alien visitation would share that all-important secret with security agencies such

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<sup>122</sup> Since nuclear weapons cannot actually be used without plunging the world in WWII, it is the *perception* of who was stronger, the US or the USSR, that mattered. If the Western world’s perception could be manipulated into **believing** that the Soviets were flying atom bombs in Soviet saucers that could be dropped in a moment without any warning right over US and European cities – something the US Strategic Air Command could not do with its clunky B-29’s over Soviet cities – then the Soviets would have won without firing a shot.

<sup>123</sup> Forthcoming research by Sparks.

<sup>124</sup> Forthcoming research by Sparks.

as AFOSI (as Moore recognized in his discussions with Pratt). It would be a gross violation of every principle of security and compartmentation to protect secrets by sharing the secrets with low-level security people.<sup>125</sup> AFOSI had no “need to know” such a supersecret and could perform its job of protecting it without knowing it. It could simply carry out orders from above without questioning why. Security officers guarding the wartime Manhattan project, for example, did not need to know the secret of the atomic bomb in order to carry out their duties to protect that secret.

Thus one cannot in general infer the existence of a supersecret merely from such efforts as AFOSI’s to protect the AF’s turf against UFOlogist challengers. That said, however, I (Sparks) must admit from my highly skeptical research that in 1949 AFOSI was almost certainly responding to Roswell – for very compelling reasons I cannot get into here – and there is in fact some weak, circumstantial evidence suggesting that it was a classic Roswell coverup scenario not a Cold War counter-Soviet operation. I am not at all happy to admit this but I am forced to do so because that is how I see it, looking at it fairly and objectively, even though I personally do not “believe” it. If I find UFO or other evidence for ETH even though I do not believe it, I will still report it, to be fair. I say this as a lifelong UFO skeptic of ETH and as the original Roswell skeptic. The evidence convinces me that UFO’s represent an unexplained phenomenon yet to be defined scientifically. I am open to solid scientific evidence for ETH, I just have not been convinced by any that has been put forth, for reasons too lengthy to go into here.

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<sup>125</sup> The extreme exception of the WWII Double Cross Committee is in a different category of action, the conduct of a world war, requiring close coordination of a wide range of specific actions to successfully deceive a resourceful and dangerous enemy over *a very short period of time only, a matter of hours or a few days*. None of those conditions apply here to peacetime and the protection of an immense secret *over decades*.