

# MUFON Minnesota Journal

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**Note: This issue concentrates mainly on the Disinformation Phenomenon within Ufology – Ed.**

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### **Real UFOs and Real Disinformation**

**Nick Redfern, March 19, 2014**

<http://mysteriousuniverse.org/2014/03/real-ufos-and-real-disinformation/>

My recent article on how the UFO subject (and specifically the issue of “alien bodies on ice”) has been used as a tool of disinformation has provoked a lot of people to email, Twitter and Facebook me on this thorny, controversial issue. And many of those same people seem to be missing the point. Hardly surprising, since disinformation is a murky mixture of fact and fiction. It’s chiefly designed to confuse the targeted individual or group – whether the Nazis during the Second World War, the Soviets at the height of the Cold War, or, in today’s world, maniacs who want to provoke terror.

But, to what extent has the UFO phenomenon been used and manipulated to confuse both enemy targets and the UFO research community? The answer is: to a huge extent! If you read my latest article on this very subject (as linked to above), you’ll know it focused on claims that, in the mid-1950s, the U.S. Air Force secretly commissioned the creation/manufacture of a number of very lifelike “dead alien bodies.”

Supposedly, they were used in a strange operation to (A) try and smoke-out Soviet agents/sympathizers in the United States; and (B) confuse the Russians regarding the true extent of U.S. knowledge of the UFO phenomenon. Indeed, convincing the highest echelons of the Kremlin that the U.S. had acquired alien bodies and extraterrestrial technology might very well have been perceived as a great way to frighten and unsettle the Reds.

But, when it comes to UFOs, things didn’t start in 1955.

According to a Technical Report prepared by the Air Force’s UFO study-program, Project Grudge, way back in August of 1949: “Upon eliminating several additional incidents due to vagueness and duplication, there remain 228 incidents, which are considered in this report. Thirty of these could not be explained, because there was found to be insufficient evidence on which to base a conclusion.”

Certainly the most notable entry in the document appears in the Recommendations section. It states, and I quote: “...that Psychological Warfare Division and other governmental agencies interested in

psychological warfare be informed of the results of this study.”



### **Minnesota Mufon Meetings**

**Sat., Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> & Sat., Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>  
2pm - 5pm**

**New Brighton Family  
Service Center  
Room 224  
400 - 10th St. NW  
(located 1/4-mile S.W.  
of Hwy 694 and 35W.)**

**PARK FREE! The building is  
designated as non-smoking.**

### **See map on back cover**

**(Note: The building has no  
special security, so you can  
come and go as you please  
and smoke outdoors. There  
is also an elevator.)**

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It's important to note that psychological warfare is an integral part of disinformation. Thus, we see a connection between disinformation, UFOs and psychological warfare as far back as the 1940s.

Moving on, a 1952 document from CIA director Walter B. Smith to the Director of the Psychological Strategy Board, titled *Flying Saucers*, reveals: "I am today transmitting to the National Security Council a proposal in which it is concluded that the problems connected with unidentified flying objects appear to have implications for psychological warfare as well as for intelligence and operations. I suggest that we discuss at an early board meeting the possible offensive or defensive utilization of these phenomena for psychological warfare purposes."

Then there is the matter of the infamous, alleged UFO crash at Aztec, New Mexico in March 1948. It's a story made famous in Frank Scully's 1950 book, *Behind the Flying Saucers*. Many researchers of the UFO phenomenon (although certainly not all, such as Scott and Suzanne Ramsey) dismiss Aztec as nothing but a hoax, one perpetrated by a shady businessman named Silas Newton.

There is an interesting aspect to the Newton/Aztec story worth noting: by his own admittance, and after the Aztec story surfaced, Newton was visited by two representatives of "a highly secret U.S. Government entity" (as the late Karl Pflock worded it). Those same representatives told Newton, in no uncertain terms, that they knew his Aztec story was a complete lie, but, incredibly, they wanted him to keep telling the tale to just about anyone and everyone that would listen.

This led Pflock to wonder: "Did the U.S. Government or someone associated with it use Newton to discredit the idea of crashed flying saucers so a real captured saucer or saucers could be more easily kept under wraps?"

And this is where disinformation becomes a tricky area to fathom: just because officialdom may spread a spurious story about crashed UFOs and dead aliens, doesn't mean there aren't real crashed UFOs and dead aliens hidden somewhere! In that sense, it's not necessarily an "either/or" situation.

For many years, rumors have circulated to the effect that in the early 1950's a UFO crashed on the island of Spitzbergen, Norway. And that under circumstances similar to those that allegedly

occurred at Aztec, New Mexico, the unearthly craft was recovered along with its deceased alien crew. It transpires that a reference to this case can be found in a UFO-themed document that surfaced under the terms of the U.S. Freedom of Information Act from the National Security Agency.

The NSA's copy is slightly different to copies of the same document that have been declassified by the Air Force, the Department of State, and the Army. Someone in the NSA – unfortunately, we don't know who – identified the Spitzbergen story in the document as a "plant." As to who seeded the story and why, that's another matter entirely, one that is probably now lost to the fog of time.

And if you think such things were merely the work of spy-masters in the early years of the Cold War, you're dead wrong.

In June 2001, Britain's Independent newspaper noted that Richard Tomlinson, formerly of Britain's MI6, had revealed that: "...during the run-up to the 1992 [United Nations] Secretary General elections, [MI6] mounted a smear operation against the Egyptian candidate, Boutros Boutros-Ghali..." Although the operation failed, reported the newspaper, one of the ways that MI6 tried to make Boutros-Ghali look "unbalanced" was by planting stories "claiming that he was a believer in the existence of UFOs and extra-terrestrial life."

So, where does all of this leave us? I'll tell you where: massively confused! And that's the point: ensure that whoever is the target of the disinformation operation in question is used and manipulated according to the rules of those running the show.

Now, a lot of people in ufology get all hot and bothered and defensive when a discussion of UFO disinformation surfaces. They assume, quite wrongly, that if someone says there is massive UFO disinformation afoot, it somehow implies the person is saying the phenomenon has zero merit outside of the world of psychological warfare – which is nonsense! Clearly, there is a real UFO phenomenon. There are way too many reports – and highly credible reports, I should stress – for the entire mystery to be born out of the minds of disinformation strategists.

The problem, however, is that where the disinformation has succeeded is in sowing the seeds of doubt over this case, or over that case. And,

sometimes, that leads people to then wonder about the merits (or the lack of merits) of other cases. So, what we end up with is (A) the UFO research community confused and unsure about what's real and what isn't, and (B) those manipulators behind the scenes eagerly rubbing their hands together and congratulating each other on a job well done.

So, yes, there is UFO disinformation – and a hell of a lot if it. But, here's the important thing: there are real UFOs, too...

### **Ex-CIA chief admits to UFO disinformation**

**posted on Feb, 14 2015 @ 10:23 AM**

<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread1055512/pg1>

I decided to write this thread in response to a recent thread about comments one of Obama's advisers recently made about UFO's here .

People keep on demanding "proof". Can you prove that your great great great grandfather ever lived?

If ET controlled UFO's DO exist, it is obvious the government has heavily covered it up. Witnesses are threatened, intimidated and sometimes killed, physical evidence taken, photos and videos used to be confiscated but now just given ridiculous explanations...so hard proof can be difficult to produce if it has been taken from you or you have been threatened.

Of course some kind of evidence is needed. So what we have is literally hundreds of thousands of witnesses over the past seven decades, from just about every country on Earth, and a significant percentage of them highly credible. Witness testimony is accepted in court, why is it held to a higher standard for UFO testimony?

Here we have an Ex-CIA chief and navy admiral saying the government has engaged in a disinfo campaign with UFO's (from the New York Times, see source link below):

**"BUT THROUGH OFFICIAL SECRECY AND RIDICULE, MANY CITIZENS ARE LED TO BELIEVE THE UNKNOWN FLYING OBJECTS ARE NONSENSE"**

See that, OFFICIAL SECRECY AND RIDICULE

If an ET race or races is interacting with our planet, it is probably the most important event to happen to humans in human history. It needs to be investigated and discussed openly. Please move past the "sham" of demanding proof, I believe that is just another part of the "OFFICIAL RIDICULE", or just ignorance.

Scientists and investigators will investigate and research a topic if they think it worthwhile, they know the investigation and research comes first. It is sheer idiocy to demand "proof" before an honest and open investigation has taken place. And yes, Bluebook was a sham, but that is a topic for another thread. Anyway, Hillenkoetter obviously knew about Bluebook, and for him to make the comments above proves that Bluebook was a psy-op, just like SETI.

Admiral Hillenkoetter said that **"behind the scenes, high-ranking Air Force officers are soberly concerned about the UFO's."** **"But through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense,"** the retired admiral said. He charged that **"to hide the facts, the Air Force has silenced its personnel"** through the issuance of a regulation.

<http://www.wanttoknow.info/600228nytimes>

As a footnote I wanted to add this - posters keep asking why people draw the non-human conclusion from genuine UFO reports.

Well, as it says above in the article, some high-ranking Air Force officers are SOBERLY concerned about UFO's. Do you think they would be concerned if they thought UFO's were just space debris or swamp gas? No, they are concerned because of the extra-terrestrial implications. If what they have seen is enough to concern high ranking Air Force officers, why isn't it enough to concern the ordinary public? Posters on here? Do people on here know more than Ex-CIA directors and high ranking Air Force officials?

## How Disinformation Experts Spread Fear About UFOs - Anne Strieber

<http://www.ufoevidence.org/documents/doc1538.htm>

Summary: Bill Moore, UFO investigator and author, has learned a great deal about the government coverup of UFO information over the years. A large part of this coverup has to do with what intelligence agencies, such as the CIA, refer to as DISINFORMATION.

Bill Moore, UFO investigator and author, has learned a great deal about the government coverup of UFO information over the years. A large part of this coverup has to do with what intelligence agencies, such as the CIA, refer to as DISINFORMATION.

In his speech to the MUFON convention in LAS Vegas on July 1, 1989, Mr. Moore had this to say about the subject: "Disinformation is a strange and bi-zarre game. Those who play it are completely aware that an operation's success is dependent upon dropping false 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. One of the key factors in any successful disinformation scheme is that it must contain some elements of truth in order to be credible. Once the information is believed, the work of counterintelligence is complete. They can simply withdraw in the confidence that the dirty work of spreading their poisonous seeds will be done by others."

Some of the most frightening and bizarre stories about UFOs and visitors may well be lies that originated with disinformation experts and are innocently spread by gullible people who do not bother to check facts, but who love a good story. And some of the people telling these tales may not be so innocent- they may be disinformation experts themselves.

While there is no final proof that the U.S. government has sponsored disinformation programs concerning UFOs, the circumstantial evidence is growing stronger every day. It is a matter of record that at least one individual spread disinformation in this field while working as a government employee in an intelligence-related job, and the revelations of Bill Moore and others indicate that false stories have been planted among UFO researchers for years.

Certainly something strange happened outside of Roswell, New Mexico in July of 1947, when Air Force officials retrieved some debris with properties that did not fit any known technology. According to Colonel Jesse Marcel, who gave a number of videotaped interviews before he died, and who was responsible for the recovery of this debris, the fact of its extreme strangeness was covered up by the Air Force.

This coverup took place when the cold war was just starting and America was entering a period of near-paranoia over the issue of Soviet expansionism. America's obsession with secrecy began when President Truman created the Central Intelligence Agency in 1947 in order to obtain information about the threats being made by the Communists after the second world war. Ever since then, Americans have been told less and less about what is really going on in our government. As Norman Thomas, who unsuccessfully ran for President many times, said, 'Where the secrets start, the republic stops.' We may live in a democracy, but we cannot have an effect on policy which we know nothing about.

When Bill Moore became a director of the now dormant APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization) in 1979, he became acquainted with the work being done by Paul Bennewitz and Dr. Leo Sprinkle with a young woman who remembered being abducted and witnessing cattle mutilations. Bennewitz had become convinced that aliens had implanted some sort of communication device in the woman's head, and that they were using this device to control her actions.

Since Paul Bennewitz was a physicist, he had a certain amount of electronics equipment at his disposal, and he set out to determine whether he could detect the electromagnetic signals he believed aliens must be using to exercise control over their alleged victims, and to try to devise a way to shield victims from the control of these signals. He told APRO in late '79 that he believed he had succeeded in detecting low frequency signals from UFOs and had begun to make calculations about the sort of electronic and propulsion technology employed by the aliens. He also began to take pictures of strange lights maneuvering in the vicinity of the Manzano Nuclear Weapons Storage Facility, which is located to the east of Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. Bennewitz had a perfect view of the weapons base from his home in the Four Hills section of the city.

Bill Moore says, "In early September, 1980, I was approached by a well-placed individual within the intelligence community who claimed to be directly connected to a high-level project dealing with UFOs. This individual told me that he spoke for a small group of similar individuals who were uncomfortable with the government's continuing cover-up of the truth and indicated that he and his group would like to help me with my research into the subject in the hope and expectation that I might be able to help them find a way to change the prevailing policy and get the facts to the public without breaking any laws in the process. The man who acted as liaison between this group and myself was an Air Force Office of Special Investigations agent named Richard Doty. I knew I was being recruited, but at that point I had no idea for what."

It soon became apparent to Bill that he was expected to supply information to this individual about the activities of Paul Bennewitz and APRO in exchange for being given 'sensitive' (or presumably classified) information on UFOs. Bill realized that, whatever it was Bennewitz was involved with, he was the subject of considerable interest on the part of not one but several government agencies, and that they were actively trying to defuse him by pumping as much disinformation through him as he could possibly absorb. Bill decided to play along with these government agents so he could learn more about the disinformation process by witnessing it firsthand.

Bennewitz, for his part, continued to make what seemed to be increasingly bizarre claims, most of which gave every appearance of having been influenced by a heavy blanket of disinformation mixed with a small, but significant, amount of truth. The problem was always one of keeping a level head and trying to sort the fact from fantasy - something which Paul Bennewitz was having a hard time doing.

"By 1981", according to Bill, "Paul was gathering data from a variety of sources and amalgamating it with information being fed to him by a number of government people in whom, for some reason, he seemed to have an implicit and abiding faith. The story that emerged from this melange of fact, fiction, fantasy, here-say, hard data and government disinformation was absolutely incredible! Yet somehow, Paul believed in it and set out on a one-man crusade to tell the world that malevolent aliens from space were in league with our government to take over the planet. What had

begun in 1979 as an effort to learn whether the behavior of a woman who claimed she had been abducted by UFO aliens was being influenced by some sort of radio remote control had, in the space of less than three years, blossomed into a tale which rivaled the wildest science fiction scenario anyone could possibly imagine."

Bennewitz continued with his experiments regarding the radio signals he was receiving and the film footage he was getting of unusual lights. Both of these phenomena seemed to be largely connected to activities within the Kirtland AFB Sandia National Labs complex just south of the city of Albuquerque. Bill feels that Bennewitz definitely was receiving some sort of low frequency electromagnetic signal on his equipment, and is equally certain that his photos and films depicted unusual lights, most of which were filmed while hovering or maneuvering over the Kirtland/Sandia complex. The real question is whether this evidence was sufficient to conclude that either of these phenomena was directly related to UFO activity, or whether, in fact, the strange things he was witnessing had to do with some classified government research project going on nearby. Either reason would be a good explanation for the government's counter-intelligence activities in this case.

Bill reports that government surveillance of Paul's activities, some of which Paul was astute enough to detect and some of which Bill learned about but Paul seemed unaware of, included wire taps and even break-ins. "Paul took these activities as proof positive that he was onto something big. Unfortunately, he seemed largely unaware that the same people who would go to such lengths to spy on him also had the capabilities to mount an effective disinformation campaign."

In any case, by mid-1982, Paul's story contained virtually all of the elements found in the current crop of rumors being circulated around the UFO community by people such as John Lear. There were two groups of aliens, one malevolent, one more friendly. The malevolent ones, which he referred to as the 'greys', were really in control, and they were the ones responsible for the cattle mutilations, for human abductions and the implanting of sinister control devices in humans, for having first made and then broken a secret treaty with the U.S. government, for maintaining a secret underground base in Dulce, New Mexico, and for having supplied the U.S. government with alien

space hardware and weapons which ultimately proved defective or which were caused to crash, thus leaving human civilization virtually defenseless against invasion.

Bill Moore says, "I know that this whole body of information is false, because I was in a position to observe much of the disinformation process as it unfolded. And I can tell you 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. He had guns and knives all over his house, had installed extra locks on his doors, and he swore that 'they' (meaning the aliens) were coming through his walls at night and injecting him with hideous chemicals which would knock him out for long periods of time. He began to suffer increasing bouts of insomnia. I knew at that time that he was not far from an inevitable nervous collapse. His health had deteriorated, he had lost considerable weight, his hands shook as if from palsy, and he looked terrible. I tried to counsel him to drop the entire UFO thing before his health was completely destroyed. Not long afterward I heard he had been hospitalized and was under psychiatric care."

The disinformation campaign was also effective because it insured that no one in the mainstream media or scientific or scientific community would pay any attention to the outlandish claims that Paul Bennewitz made. Thus the elements of truth that were contained in his experiments became lost to the public forever.

Were UFOs ever actually involved with all of this? Bills says we may never really know. Perhaps Bennewitz had merely stumbled upon signals generated from some sophisticated, high-level government project whose security people hit upon UFO-related disinformation as the ultimate cover. Or perhaps he discovered a real government UFO project which elected to disinform him to protect what they were really doing. The one thing that Bill does know from first-hand experience is 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. "The current crop of disinformation is really nothing new; it's just that a different crop of people are spreading it this time around," says Moore.

From this experience, and from his other research, Bill has come to the conclusion that the U.S. government counterintelligence people have conducted an on-again, off-again campaign of deception and disinformation against the American public about the UFO phenomenon for more than 40 years. He feels that the people who have been responsible for the operations are highly placed individuals within the intelligence community. There are several possible explanations for this situation. One, the disinformation could be a security cover for a real UFO project which exists at a very high level and is known only to an elite few. Two, it could be a security process designed to divert attention away from real, but non-UFO related, high tech research and development projects. Three, it may be a manipulation by UFO aliens themselves as part of a long term plan to gradually make human society aware of their presence here. Bill's position is that the truth is best described in terms of a combination of all of the above.

It's a fact that somebody powerful is spreading disinformation about UFOs. It would be foolish to believe any story on the basis of too little evidence. On the other hand, those people who have experienced the visitors first-hand need not allow themselves to be convinced that their experiences were mere hallucinations.

People who have encountered the visitors know the very real fear that comes from confronting the unknown. There is no reason why they should have to endure the additional terror of being inundated by sensationalized rumors about aliens that began ten years ago with a government disinformation campaign against one individual.

## **UFOs, DISINFORMATION AND DECEPTION**

**Simon Harvey-Wilson**

<http://greyfalcon.us/restored/UFOdeption.htm>

Many ufologists claim that the US and UK governments are doing secret research into UFOs while telling their citizens that they do not exist. If this is true, an understanding of deception and disinformation techniques may make us less vulnerable to being fooled. For obvious reasons few governments publish much information about such techniques. However, deception is frequently used during wars, so by studying some historical examples we might learn about what is happening

today. Because official disinformation is not the only source of confusion about UFOs, this article will also discuss other sources

### Misleading information

Deception is to create a misleading impression in your target audience by your actions. It is something that you do to mislead whoever may be observing you, either on a small or large scale. Deception might be directed at the intelligence services of a country that you are at war with, or at your own citizens during peacetime. Most intelligence services see little difference between war and peace time, and unfortunately if you wish to fool the international community you generally have to mislead your own citizens as well. Deception techniques take advantage of the fact that people tend to think that information they had to ferret out is more likely to be true than if it were handed to them on a platter.

An example of deception was revealed in an article in the Sunday Times entitled "Germ war reports exposed as hoax" (1998). The report tells how released Russian intelligence files had revealed that in 1952 the North Koreans had deliberately infected a couple of their own citizens with plague bacilli, and then used tissue samples from their bodies to convince the world that the Americans were using germ warfare in the Korean conflict. The United States had unsuccessfully denied the claims because, as the article says, "Historians had questioned whether the Koreans and Chinese could have mobilized thousands of people and faked evidence from scores of doctors, scientists and officials. But the new papers show they did exactly that." This illustrates that some governments will occasionally go to inordinate lengths to mislead.

Disinformation is the release or leaking of misleading information. I think it was Churchill who claimed that to keep something secret sometimes one needed "To surround the truth with a tissue of lies." By releasing three parts disinformation to one part truth you can confuse and mislead your target audience. This is especially important with the UFO phenomenon because, unlike technical secrets, which can be kept locked up, UFOs appear in public so a completely different technique is needed to keep them secret.

UFOs were probably first noticed by Western governments soon after WW II. It is not within the scope of this article to discuss why the authorities

decided to keep them secret, but once that decision had been made, the best way to do it was obvious. If they could not make UFOs disappear physically, the solution was to make them disappear psychologically using perception management or what the military calls psy-ops (psychological operations). Regardless of what many people were seeing, they simply decided to define UFOs out of existence, and ridicule the minority who did claim to see them. I believe that it will eventually be shown that the UFO cover-up has been the most successful deception campaign in human history. Ironically, it continues to be so effective that those in authority may be concerned that the public will refuse to accept the truth even if concrete evidence is presented to them. In other words, the continued UFO secrecy may partly be a result of the effectiveness of the earlier secrecy.

For ease of recall, the categories used in deception and disinformation involve five verbs beginning with the letter D. These are: to deny, distract, demean, deceive, and divide, and it is not hard to think of examples from the history of ufology that illustrate each of them. These techniques are also frequently used in politics, especially around election times.

### Military History

Some might challenge the suggestion that a UFO deception campaign could succeed to the extent that many ufologists claim. However there have been several historical precedents that demonstrate how to keep a secret under difficult circumstances. Michael Lindeman (1999) gives us the example of the US government concealing the fact that German U-boats were attacking merchant ships off the eastern American coast during the early years of WW II. "Today few Americans have even the slightest notion that between December, 1941 and September, 1942, 292 vessels were torpedoed and hundreds of merchant seaman lost, most within sight of American beaches". Wreckage and bodies that washed up on the shore were impounded by the military, newspapers were persuaded not to publish stories about it, and "those who were in the government information loop on this policy were strongly informed that any breach of security would be considered treason, a crime punishable by execution". Not surprisingly the information was not made public. There is every reason to suspect that a similar policy exists today about UFOs. The question we need to ask is, when is it going to end?

There are a few interesting books about deception that I would recommend. None of them mention UFOs, but they give numerous historical examples which reveal the imagination, cunning, ruthlessness and audacity that exponents of deception and disinformation employ. The first is *The Deception Planners: My Secret War* (1980) by Dennis Wheatley who was a famous best-selling author at the outbreak of WW II. He describes how he became a deception planner in the offices of the British War Cabinet, and reveals how important such planners were to the war effort. They had access to all War Cabinet documents and came up with some amazing ideas to mislead the Germans into sending troops to places where they would do the least harm. Wheatley clearly sets out the basic guidelines of deception and illustrates them with examples. It does not take much imagination to see that those rules could easily be used today in misleading the public and other governments about what the USA really knows about UFOs. This is an important point. For example, Stanton Friedman claims that by spreading convincing cold war rumors that they had mastered UFO technology, the USA might have deterred other governments from using that same technology to attack them (Lindeman, 1991, p.26).

A more recent book on deception is *The Art of Military Deception* (1997) by Mark Lloyd which gives an historical overview of the subject from ancient times to the present. Some of his examples should be of interest to ufologists. During WW II the British set up propaganda radio stations that, while actually based in England, pretended to be German stations transmitting from Europe. One of them was specifically aimed at German U-boat crews. It played the latest German dance music, had request programs and, "contained dedications for genuine birthdays and anniversaries gleaned from censored mail passing between German navy prisoners of war and their families". Among the music, news stories and highly detailed reports of bomb damage in Germany was, "slipped subversive information, morale-sapping innuendo and highly accurate details of the situation on the home front". As Lloyd points out, "The effect on U-boat crews, cramped, in constant danger and thousands of miles from home in the mid-Atlantic, can well be imagined". As this example reveals, rather than simply disseminating false information, a deception source may aim to become a trusted organ of influence with the purpose of gently guiding their target audience's views in a desired direction. To do this they do have to publish some accurate

information. Conspiracy theorists generally assume that the US government monitors UFO researchers, and may at times wish to divert their attention away from areas of higher national security significance towards less threatening topics. One way of doing this would be for them to have secretly funded a public UFO research organization or magazine whose covert intention would have been to centralize the attention of ufologists, keep them distracted and amused with low level, narrowly focused 'scientific' information, while actually discussing very little of genuine relevance. In other words, ufologists perhaps need to pay attention not to what some of today's UFO magazines are getting excited about, but rather what it is that they consistently do not discuss. We also need to realize that there is every chance that a few leading ufologists are not as dedicated to revealing the truth as they might appear. We need to distinguish however between what we could call double-agent ufologists and those who publish misleading information in order to help sell their books or promote themselves, although pretending to be the latter would be ideal cover for those who were actually the former.

Another book that reveals the high level of secrecy and planning that goes into covert deception activities is *Op JB: The Last Great Secret of the Second World War* (1996) by Christopher Creighton, which describes how British Intelligence secretly smuggled Martin Bormann, Hitler's private secretary and executor, out of the ruins of Berlin at the end of the war and gave him a new identity in England, despite the worldwide manhunt for him. This was done in exchange for Bormann giving them access to the vast fortune that the Germans had looted from across Europe. The book also reveals the absolute ruthlessness used to keep vital information secret. For example, Creighton claims that, as an undercover British agent, he was required to blow up a Dutch submarine and all its crew just to prevent them from revealing that British and US Intelligence had been forewarned of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. This suggests that, as a last resort, people might be killed ('terminated with extreme prejudice') to protect important enough UFO information, provided that it could be done in a deniable fashion.

A final recommendation is the book *By Way of Deception: The Making & Unmaking of a Mossad Officer* (1990) by Victor Ostrovsky & Claire Hoy. Once again UFOs are not mentioned, but I believe that anyone that is serious about ufology needs to



read a few such books to learn, firstly just how little they previously knew about deception, and secondly how imaginative, ruthless, cynical, well-trained and well-funded the professionals who work in such fields really are. Unfortunately, and with no disrespect intended, this means that, in comparison to those managing the UFO cover-up, the average ufologist is an absolute amateur, and we need to realise that if the authorities really want to mislead us, there is probably very little we can do about it.

## Examples

Let us look at a few examples of possible UFO deception.

In his book *Above Top Secret* (1989) Timothy Good describes a 1962 incident where some US navy aviators, who were temporarily at Wright-Patterson Air Force base, entered a hanger looking for sports equipment to use during their daily fitness workout. Once inside they were stunned to find a flying saucer-shaped object about four metres wide suspended by two engine test stands. It was roped off and surrounded by eight guards. They were promptly told to leave “by an air police sentry with a sub-machine gun”, and later the senior pilot was reprimanded by his general for breaking security.

There are several points to be made about this incident. If the story is true, we could ask why something that is so secret that it warrants eight guards is kept in an unlocked room. Surely a better means of security would have been to lock the door and put the guards outside, thus ensuring that they too did not see what was inside? Secondly, if one didn't want people to see the UFO, why rope it off? A screen would have been far more effective. The standard of security in this example was so incompetent that whoever was supervising it should have been promptly court-martialed, unless it was deliberately designed that way.

I do not know if this scenario was actually an example of deception, but we could ask what purpose the incident might have served if it was? By ‘accidentally’ allowing the pilots to see the craft surrounded with armed guards, and then accentuating the importance of the situation with a security reprimand from their general, the whole incident probably became indelibly etched in their minds. Timothy Good writes that, once outside, the pilots “had reassured each other that the good old US had developed, or had all along, flying saucers in service”, and the story then found its way into his

best-selling UFO book for anyone to read. So much for secrecy! Perhaps the whole episode was carefully designed to reassure US servicemen, and later the public, that the Pentagon had the UFO situation under control, even if it didn't.

Even if various government are involved in UFO deception, their motives and methods may vary considerably. The apparent abduction of Franck Fontaine at Cergy-Pontoise on the outskirts of Paris in November 1979 is a good example. The story is quite complex and is described in several UFO books.

Franck and a couple of his friends were loading their car with clothes to sell on their stall in a market about sixty kilometers away. They had got up before dawn and, while the others brought the clothes down from their flat, Franck remained in the car to stop it stalling. They then saw a brilliantly shining UFO and several smaller lights near the car and, after some confusion, Franck was found to be missing. The incident was reported to the police and received nation-wide publicity. One week later Franck reappeared near where he had disappeared and was amazed to discover that he had been missing for so long.

Most books that mention it leave the case open, however in Jacques Vallee's book *Revelations: Alien Contact and Human Deception* (1991) we get quite a different story.

Vallee quotes an unnamed official from French Air Force headquarters who, in November 1980, admitted that the Cergy-Pontoise abduction had actually been carried out by the French government in order to observe the reactions and behaviour of the police, media, scientific investigators and the public. The abduction had been authorized by a member of the French cabinet and no more than fifteen people knew what had happened. Franck Fontaine had been grabbed, kept drugged in a secure place for a week and then returned to where he had been abducted without knowing what had really happened to him.

Vallee advises that, to eliminate such official deception in future, abductees should be promptly checked for syringe marks and given blood and urine tests to check for any knockout drugs. If Vallee's report is true, we have the ironic situation of a leading Western government trying to fool the public into thinking that UFO abductions do exist, rather than their usual denials. The question that

ufologists may need to ask themselves now, is whether other countries carry out similar fake abductions to assess public reactions, and if so, how often do they do it?

In 1997, Sydney engineer and inventor Ted Roach published a small book entitled *The Physics of A Flying Saucer*. Roach believes that the propulsion of UFOs involves discoveries about a unified field theory and the nature of time. He describes how he had submitted several patent applications to the Australian Industrial Property Organization (AIPO) for, "ten inventions for machines in gravitational, electric and magnetic fields" and claims that, "The pending patent comprised the physics of flying saucers and other applications using the Unified Field Theory and six dimensions of space time".

In reply to his application Roach received a letter from the AIPO which said that, "due to the nature of the invention and the possible military interest, the applications have been forwarded to the Department of Defense and the Australian Safeguards Office for a determination as to whether or not a publication prohibition order should be placed on the inventions" (p.116). In the meantime Roach was told not to reveal details of his invention. A couple of months later his application was cleared by both those authorities, and a copy of the relevant letter appears in the back of his book.

Most people would probably have never heard of the Australian Safeguards Office, however it is well known to many ufologists and 'free energy' researchers, that patent applications in most Western countries can result in a new invention being confiscated by the authorities and an information blackout being placed on the subject. This generally only happens if the Safeguards Office believes that the invention has genuine national security implications, otherwise there is no point in classifying it.

So what are we to conclude from Roach's case? If Roach is telling the truth, can we assume that he was allowed to proceed with his patent application because someone decided that his invention wouldn't work, or was of no relevance? As Roach points out, if UFOs don't exist why should anyone be interested in his invention? Are we to conclude therefore that the Australian Department of Defence and the Australian Safeguards Office do know that UFOs exist? Or should we be cautious and suspect that someone behind the scenes saw Roach's patent application as an ideal opportunity

to muddy the waters a bit more by pretending to be interested in his inventions, confiscating them for a few months, and then handing them back knowing that he would probably write about the incident in a book? I do not know the answer to these questions, but it may be possible that, if UFOs do exist, the authorities do not want any information about their propulsion systems to be made public for reasons of national security, and so are obliged to intercept patent applications such as Roach's, just in case they are on the right track.

There are numerous examples where misleading UFO-related information appears not to have been generated by disinformation experts. Plenty of magazines and Internet sites publish suspect UFO information. An example of a misleading UFO-related photograph can be found in the February 1996 edition of *Encounters* magazine. The cover photo, described as a 'World Exclusive', showed two jet fighters accompanying a black triangular craft that is being refueled in midair. The photo seems to have been taken towards a bright yellow sunset so that all four craft are just black silhouettes. The article inside (p.68) claims that the photo was taken from the ground by a man on holiday in Cornwall, and reveals that the military has been concealing their connection with such craft. However, an article in the March/April 1996 edition of *UFO Magazine* by Bill Rose claimed that the details in the *Encounters* story were completely fictitious, and that the arial refueling photo is actually a, "simulation photograph of an Aurora Project aircraft" created by him to illustrate a sighting of such a craft being refueled by a KC-135 tanker over the North Sea in 1989.

Bill Rose's *UFO Magazine* articles are very informative and well-referenced. He appears to be a mine of information on modern military aircraft and it seems reasonable to believe his account of the photo's origins. So here we have a simulated B&W photo, created with good intentions to illustrate a genuine sighting report, which ends up being superimposed onto a color photo of a sunset on the cover of a rival UFO magazine to illustrate a fictitious conspiracy theory article about the air force. Ironically, Bill Rose's article also suggests that the original triangular craft sighting helps prove that the US or British air force have secretly developed such a craft. It would be hard to invent a more confusing scenario that does so little to enhance the credibility of UFO research.

The UFO literature increasingly contains revelations by people who claim to have had something to do with UFOs or aliens while working for their governments. Examples are Bob Lazar (1991); Nick Pope (1996, 1997); Col. Philip Corso's book *The Day After Roswell* (1997); Dan Sherman's *Above Black: Project Preserve Destiny* (1997); Michael Wolf's *The Catchers of Heaven* (1996); and Ingo Swann's *Penetration* (1998). Dr Steven Greer who runs the Centre for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence ([www.cseti.org](http://www.cseti.org)) claims to have numerous US government insiders prepared to testify before an official UFO inquiry, if given permission to break their security oaths. Some insider leaks may be because these people are no longer worried about breaking their security oaths because they are old and sick, while others may have been persuaded to take part in one last disinformation project.

So, how much insider information should we believe? It is a standard security practice to compartmentalize highly classified research, meaning that top secret information is only given to those with a need to know. Christopher Creighton claims that, of the dozens of people involved in smuggling Martin Bormann out of Germany, only three or four actually knew who he was. The rest were only told he was someone important. This suggests that few insiders would be able to leak the full picture about government UFO research, even if they wanted to.

An example of an insider not being given the full picture is Michael Wolf who claims to have been the head of a friendly US team profiling the various alien groups visiting earth, while another branch of the military (which he says he wasn't supposed to know about) was using futuristic energy-beam weapons to attempt to shoot them down. This duplicitous state of affairs, simultaneously friendly and hostile, sounds so ridiculous that one is tempted to believe that it might be true. However, a good disinformation planner would obviously attempt to create plausible scenarios.

Some leading ufologists warn us to be extremely suspicious of insiders offering convincing UFO information. Such a scenario might be a deception set-up in which the ufologist, if sufficiently naïve, publishes the information using his or her credibility ("Trust me, I'm a ufologist!"), only to have it convincingly refuted some time later. Not only does this sabotage his or her credibility, and that of ufology in general, but it also helps persuade others

that might in future be leaked genuine inside information, not to believe it, or to abandon the field all together out of sheer frustration.

#### Disinformation or Education?

In this vein we need to ask ourselves whether the Majestic 12 documents (which supposedly describes a top secret UFO briefing given to President-elect Eisenhower in 1952) or the Alien Autopsy film are genuine? (A copy of the MJ12 documents can be found in the appendix of Timothy Good's *Above Top Secret*.) Could a sophisticated disinformation game be being played here? Those in charge of the UFO cover-up, assuming that someone is in charge of it, probably have contingency plans ready in case, for example, a UFO landed in the middle the Olympic Games, or a football grand final. They would hopefully also know that one day they must reveal at least part of the truth about UFOs, so they might be preparing us for such a revelation by feeding us genuine UFO information in a semi-fictitious but entertaining form. It has even been suggested that popular films such as *Men In Black* are part of that educational program.

When one considers the Pentagon's increasingly unlikely Roswell explanations, parachute test-dummies indeed!, we could be excused for suspecting that they are implying that the Roswell story does have some validity, but that it is still too early for them to admit it out loud. Let us be aware therefore that any future US president's 'full and frank admission' about UFOs has every probability of being only a self-serving part of the whole picture.

Following on from the 'Are we being educated?' question, what are we to make of the US space agency NASA and a majority of its astronauts acting as if UFOs do not exist? How could NASA not know about UFOs? Is their behavior just a public deception? Although a civilian agency, NASA is still subject to national security restrictions, regardless of how much its employees might dislike it.

In his book *Unconventional Flying Objects: A Scientific Analysis* (1995), NASA rocket scientist Paul Hill points out that, while he worked there, NASA's policy was that, regardless of the evidence, UFOs do not exist. He was not happy with this situation, but could do nothing about it. Unlike the military, scientists tend to see scientific discoveries as transcending national boundaries. So we could have some sympathy for those NASA scientists who

might dearly wish to make what they know about UFOs public, but are perhaps reluctantly obliged either to keep silent or make misleading statements about them. However, even if not actively engaged in spreading disinformation, such silence does contribute to misleading the public.

That brings us to the various Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) projects, which are now funded largely by private enterprise. How is it possible for millions of dollars and hours of valuable radio telescope time, which includes Australia's Parkes radio telescope, to be spent listening for alien radio messages while some of those very aliens appear to be flying over our heads. An article in *Flying Saucer Review* by Jorge Martin reports that numerous UFOs, including some very large ones, have been seen near the radio astronomy observatory at Arecibo in Puerto Rico, which is involved in SETI.

There are not many researchers employed by SETI (computers do most of the listening) so is it possible that they too have been misinformed about UFOs? In an end-of-the-millennium article in *Scientific American* (Dec, 1999) entitled "Is There Life Elsewhere in the Universe?" SETI scientists Jill Tarter and Christopher Chyba write that, "Despite tabloid reports of aliens and artifacts everywhere, scientific exploration so far has revealed no good evidence for any such things". It is hard to know whether such comments are the product of ignorance or deception. It is clearly untrue that UFO information comes only from tabloids, and Tarter and Chyba neglect to mention which 'scientific exploration' it was that 'revealed no good evidence' for UFOs. Had they been more honest, they might have admitted that there was plenty of good scientific evidence for the existence of UFOs, but that they were either unwilling or not permitted to mention it.

Could SETI have a covert purpose apart from listening for aliens? As Terence McKenna writes, "To search expectantly for a radio signal from an extraterrestrial source is probably as culture-bound a presumption as to search the galaxy for a good Italian restaurant." Even if we did pick up an alien message from a planet that was, let's say, twenty-five light-years away, what are we then going to do? It would be a very tedious conversation if we answered it, and then had to wait another fifty years (twenty-five years there and twenty-five back) for their reply.

While keeping a few computer engineers, software designers and astronomers in gainful employment, perhaps SETI actually serves the more important purpose of introducing the public to the idea that there are almost certainly aliens out there somewhere. Rather than listening for aliens, SETI's main function may be to send a non-threatening message about aliens to the public here on Earth, as a prelude to informing them that those aliens are already here. Most SETI scientists might be unaware of this covert motive, which would make the whole project a masterpiece of deception.

Many ufologists had hoped that (FOI Freedom of Information) legislation would provide access to numerous revealing UFO related documents. However this has not generally proved to be the case. For a start, all FOI legislation has exemption clauses preventing the release of documents that might jeopardize national security, and the bureaucrats are not silly enough to give the game away by saying "Sorry we cannot release those documents on the grounds of national security". Instead they adopt more frustrating tactics. They may take ages to answer your letter, or deny having the documents, or ask exorbitant fees for copying them (Fawcett & Greenwood, 1984). Some of the documents that have been released suggest that the US and British governments do take UFOs seriously. Nevertheless FOI documents provide an ideal deception opportunity, and so we should be cautious in interpreting them. An Internet site that contains a large number of UFO-related US government documents is The Black Vault ([www.blackvault.com](http://www.blackvault.com)).

It has been claimed that when the US government started to research UFOs in the late forties they set in place a security system the likes of which had never been seen before. That system has no doubt been redesigned numerous times since then, but would still appear to be working effectively. Col. Corso (1997) claims that some UFO debris was handed over to trusted defence contractors to reverse-engineer. Even if this is not true, it is still possible that a significant proportion of UFO research has been conducted by private enterprise where the paperwork is protected by commercial secrecy and beyond the reach of FOI legislation. In Ingo Swann's book *Penetration* (1998) he claims to have worked briefly for a US organization which was so secretive that it left no paper-trail at all. It would obviously be impossible to obtain documents from an organization that does not have any.

## Religion

Another category of deception is the sensitive subject of self-deception. There are some people with strongly held religious views who are convinced that UFOs and abductions are the work of the devil, designed to fool humanity into straying from the path of righteousness. Such people seldom consider that it may be they who are misled, and their dogmatism does not compensate for their lack of concrete evidence, or disregard for the basic principles of science. It is bad enough that our governments appear to be deceiving us about UFOs without various religious groups adding more confusion to the subject.

As an example, consider the following information that was e-mailed from Alex Ruxton to about fifty UFO ufologists and research groups worldwide in January 2000. Ruxton claims that there are “200 million reptilian devils that are now in a state of hibernation underneath the pyramids of Egypt and Mexico! They are scheduled to resurface very soon. They already have their battle plans prepared. The majority of their troops will be sent to invade the leading industrialized nations. We do not have much time left.... If you think that I am kidding then please find the hole in my story.”

Ruxton’s evidence comes largely from the Book of Revelation, and his website describes his theory in detail. Unfortunately, there are so many holes in his story that most people would probably not even bother replying. However, to be fair, we should acknowledge that much of the information supposedly provided by aliens to abductees over the last few decades is fairly garbled. Are aliens also trying to mislead us, or are our technical and cultural differences so great that we would be incapable of understanding them whatever they told us?

Thankfully, some students of religion are more rational. Timothy Paul Prevett claims to have completed an honors thesis in 1998 at Regents Theological College on the ‘Demonic Eschatological Hypothesis’ (DEH) which claims that “ETs are a demonic deception heralding the approach of the return of Christ”. After reviewing the available literature, Prevett concludes that UFOs, “should be seriously and calmly investigated by the full power of science” because, “the DEH is unsatisfying and theologically questionable. There are too many possibilities, and little ground for dogmatism”.

To justify the belief that we are being deceived about UFOs, it helps to believe that a well-funded, well-informed, top secret UFO research project does exist. However, the assumption that an ubiquitous, all-powerful, unknowable, superior authority, has the disturbing matter of UFOs under control could itself be seen as a type of reassuring religious belief. We therefore need to be careful that we are not deceiving ourselves into believing that ‘the authorities’ know more than we do about UFOs, because deep down we are frightened that they really know very little. Could they be using UFO disinformation to reassure us while they desperately try to work out what to do? After all, a military mentality is probably the least appropriate mind-set to research a phenomenon that appears to be a combination of nuts-and-bolts, paranormal and spiritual ingredients. Or have we also been misled about that?

To illustrate that UFO disinformation does occasionally have its lighter side, a short article in the MUFON UFO Journal (‘509th’, 1999) describes how that magazine had been sent a shoulder patch supposedly now used by the 509th Bomb Wing whose members were formerly stationed at Roswell (and recovered the July 1947 crash debris), but who now fly B-2 stealth planes from Whiteman Air Force Base. The circular patch displays the Latin phrase ‘Gustatus Similis Pullus’, which means ‘tastes like chicken?’ and shows an alien’s head above a delta-winged craft. So, do the 509th really eat aliens for breakfast? The MUFON UFO Journal editor contacted Whiteman AFB and was told that, although ‘pretty funny’, the hoax patch did not belong to the 509th.

This article has only been able to address a small proportion of the questionable information about UFOs available to the public, but it is nevertheless obvious that we have to be careful about what we choose to believe, because there are those out there who seem determined to mislead us for one reason or another, while others may actually be trying to educate us. Unfortunately, the situation is likely to get even more confusing as some new air force planes appear to be modeled on genuine UFOs, and rumors exist that the US government may one day stage a fake alien attack in order perhaps to justify the subsequent militarization of space (Hayakawa). Helmut Lammer even believes that US military involvement in some abductions may be related to mind control research on their own citizens. It is claimed that the second most popular type of Internet sites are UFO related ones. Unfortunately,

this means that an ever increasing number of people are available to be misinformed. Let us hope that one day soon someone in authority, human or alien, has the decency and courage to begin telling us what is really going on about UFOs.

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## **William Moore: UFO opportunist or agent of disinformation**

**Posted by: Don Schmitt July 23, 2014**

<http://www.openminds.tv/william-moore-ufo-opportunist-agent-disinformation/29056>

It was just about a year after J.Allen Hynek had passed away and I was serving as the Director of Special Investigations for his namesake, the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) in Chicago, Illinois. I also served on the board of directors at that time. It was seven years since the book *The Roswell Incident* had sparked a fair degree of interest on the American UFO scene and I, for one, was not impressed. In fact, I would not even acquire a copy of the book for another year. Nonetheless, many throughout the UFO community were taking the case seriously. The very notion that the U.S. government had in their possession the actual remains of a crashed flying saucer was within the scope of possibilities for many of my colleagues. The problem for me was that I just could not conceive that an event of such magnitude could be kept a secret for all those years. As a result, I was very dismissive of such a fairytale. Little did I know that my entire life was about to be completely engrossed by the very subject.

Come February of that time in 1987, I received a phone call from my good friend and fellow CUFOS board member, Jerome Clark. 'Jerry' was cautiously excited about a fast developing situation within our field of ufology. So fast, that he immediately asked me to strictly take his word, due to the fact he had yet to see that for which he was about to describe to me. "Don!" exclaimed Jerry. "We may be on to a smoking gun situation here. Now, I've talked to Mark (Dr. Mark Rodeghier, successor to Hynek) and he agrees with me that we should go ahead with this. We'd like you to contact Paul Harvey and see if he'll break the story of what I'm about to confide to you." The late Paul Harvey was a famous radio news commentator with ABC network out of Chicago for over fifty years. After Hynek had passed away, I was selected by the CUFOS board to continue briefing this highly influential newsmen on the subject of UFOs. "Tell me what you have," I asked Clark. He replied, "If this is genuine, it will break the entire UFO field wide open..."

William Leonard Moore was a most prominent ufologist during the late 1970s up until the end of the 1980s. Somehow, for which remains a mystery to this day, he either stumbled upon or orchestrated, one of the most controversial topics both in and outside of the subject of UFOs. To

some, he remains an enigma, both misunderstood and willing participant. To others, his name and actions are considered “Judas-like” in their implications. Therefore, we will examine how a high school teacher found himself engulfed in the middle of either an early attempt at disclosure or a multi-tiered game of disinformation possibly intended to take down the entire UFO community.

From 1966 through 1978, he taught French and Russian in Pennsylvania public schools. It is interesting to note that given his second language was Russian, that has suggested he would become a primary candidate for American espionage. In 1979, Moore moved to Minnesota where he took on a new profession of teaching drama and English at a high school outside of the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. Before teaching, he was primarily employed as a union arbitrator and mediator. In any event, he was most proficient with his language skills and was destined to become a writer and lecturer. Among other interests, he had also been into the subject of UFOs and had investigated a number of minor reports for the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) of Washington, D.C. during the 1960s. It came as no surprise that with his background, he would eventually write a book on the topic. However, his first attempt was not quite on target.

Hardly related to the subject of UFOs, in 1979, Moore co-authored *The Philadelphia Experiment* with world famous linguist Charles Berlitz. The book recounted the alleged 1943 U.S. Navy cloaking experiment of the USS Eldridge at the Philadelphia Naval Yard. Based on pure hearsay and no eyewitness testimony, the tale of the ship disappearing from its dock and reappearing off Norfolk, Virginia, has become the fodder of pure fantasy believers.

It was while publicizing his first book that Moore renewed an acquaintance he had with Stanton Friedman while he was lecturing in Minnesota. As it turned out, they both shared a number of witnesses related to the Roswell incident of 1947. Moore tracked down original newspaper accounts about the case and by mid-1979; the two researchers were discussing a book on the forgotten event. However, there was one glitch. Moore’s original publisher, Grosset and Dunlap insisted that as in the previous book, Berlitz would again write the final draft. Friedman and Moore would provide all of their investigative notes and send them off the much more popular author in New York. Frankly,

Friedman conducted most of the interviews with potential witnesses, and received only a mention in the acknowledgements when the book was released in 1980.



From left: William Moore, Jamie Shandera, and Stanton Friedman. (Credit: Antonio Huneus)

To limited fanfare, *The Roswell Incident* received mixed reviews from the critics, but did bring the case once again to the forefront of UFOlore. Others, like me, had a most difficult time accepting the very premise of the book. Just as Moore’s previous writing, this book read in many ways like the pages of a checkout stand tabloid. Years later, Moore himself regaled the book as a “disgraceful hodgepodge of fact and fiction.” He would deny writing any part of it. This would become quite evident in the update papers that he would present over the next few years. Conversely, they were demonstrative of Moore’s keen eye and prowess as an investigator; his reports not only presented the Roswell case as factual, but also appeared to harden his determination to solve the occurrence. Alternatively, so it appeared in the first five years of his investigation of the New Mexican mystery.

Promoting the book was rather limited in comparison to today’s outlets. Still, as Moore would describe, opportunity knocked while doing just that. “I got a phone call after appearing on a radio show from a man who said ‘you’re the only person we’ve heard talk about this subject, who seems to know what he’s talking about.’ He convinced me that he was a government intelligence agent and wanted to begin disseminating some information about UFOs to the public.” In exchange for providing the researcher with new information, Moore was to observe specific individuals within the UFO field. Whether out of curiosity or anxiousness to finish his own investigation, Moore jumped at the opportunity. The question remains, was he set up to fail and ruin his reputation, or was he part of the very disinformation scheme he claimed to be enlisted. In any event, who would be the first ufologist on their ‘hit list?’

The late Paul Benowitz was an investigator with the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) of Tucson, Arizona. A most controversial figure, Benowitz was of the belief that there was a serious plot involving an extensive network of underground UFO bases connected to an alien colonization and control scheme to subjugate the human race. He also claimed to have uncovered evidence of aliens controlling people using electronic devices, and furthermore, claimed UFOs were frequently observed near Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, which was connected to secret tunnels into the mountains of nearby Manzano Nuclear Weapons Storage Facility and Coyote Test Range. How did Benowitz come to suspect all this? He was convinced he was intercepting electronic communications originating from a secret underground UFO facility located outside of the town of Dulce, New Mexico.

Unable to contain himself, Benowitz proceeded to sound the alert openly, much to the consternation of officials at APRO. Moore just happened to sit on the group's board of directors during this episode and they immediately labeled the bizarre claims as delusional and paranoid. However, unknown to Benowitz, Moore and his 'new friends' outside of the UFO community, plotted to not only discredit him, but psychologically destroy him.

On December 29 and 30 of 1981, Moore would meet for the first time with the anonymous caller as mentioned previously in this article. The meetings took place at a restaurant in Albuquerque with one Sgt. Richard C. Doty, then stationed at Kirtland AFB. Doty would claim he was a special investigator with the Air Force Office of Scientific Information (AFOSI) and displayed three documents – one being the fraudulent 'Aquarius Teletype.' The stage was being set to slowly but surely, provide the UFO community with either the document proof it had sought since 1947, or the most elaborate hoax ever perpetrated on the subject.



Picture of Richard Doty from the documentary *Mirage Men*. (Credit: [www.miragemen.com](http://www.miragemen.com))

The first thing that the two agreed to was to finish the discrediting of Paul Benowitz. It would appear that this 'whistleblower' was becoming more dangerous to himself and hardly needed to be pushed over the edge. Still, that is precisely what Moore and Doty did. Moore started to feed him pure misinformation on the subject with the full intent he would repeat such nonsense publicly. He would. Next, they started playing mind games with their victim. For example, Moore personally described to me how they would go to Benowitz's home on occasions and slowly move the furniture around. When one's concept of their immediate environment begins to change, we start to lose touch with reality. Sadly, it all had a most negative impact on both the physical and physiological health of Benowitz. During that time, he was committed three times to a mental health facility and treated for severe delusional paranoia. The question still remains, was Paul Benowitz becoming dangerous for someone else? We will address that question later.

In June of 1982, Moore teamed up with television producer Jaime Shandera after moving to Burbank, California. Along with Friedman, they had worked together in 1980 on a UFO documentary. Together, they would have clandestine meetings with a growing number of shadow characters who would become known as the "Aviary." A majority of these contacts were actually figures within the UFO community. Two others were Doty and another enlisted man at Kirtland Robert Collins, who were dubbed 'Falcon' and 'Condor' presumably by Shandera. Whether to add to the intrigue or just to maintain a level of anonymity, others were named 'Sparrow,' 'Blue Jay,' and 'Hawk.' Throughout the 1980s, more birds would join the fold totaling twelve, each one promoting a special insight into UFO intelligence and a staged attempt at slowly releasing the truth to the public. On the other hand, so Moore and Shandera were telling us. The grand scheme was about to commence.

Shandera, who was virtually unknown in UFO circles, received a 35 mm black and white roll of film in plain brown paper wrapped envelope on December 11, 1984. There was no return address, except that it was postmarked in Albuquerque. As though the delivery was anticipated, he immediately called Moore and they had the film processed. The developed film contained two documents, the more important being the seven-page Eisenhower Briefing Document, which has since been referred to the "MJ-12" documents.



Moore and Shandera would next make a trip to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and on a tip in the form of a postcard, would go to a specifically numbered box of documents and claim to discover a carbon copy of a memo from Robert Cutler (Special Assistant to President Eisenhower) which mentioned the existence of MJ-12. Allegedly, they would spend the next two years meeting with other members of the aviary while doing all they could to substantiate the documents.

July 14, 1954

~~TOP SECRET RESTRICTED  
SECURITY INFORMATION~~

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL TWINING

SUBJECT: NSC/MJ-12 Special Studies Project

The President has decided that the MJ-12 SSP briefing should take place during the already scheduled White House meeting of July 16, rather than following it as previously intended. More precise arrangements will be explained to you upon arrival. Please alter your plans accordingly.

Your concurrence in the above change of arrangements is assumed.

ROBERT CUTLER  
Special Assistant  
to the President

#### The Twining Memo

This is what Jerry Clark was calling me about in February 1987. Moreover, with an assurance that everything “looked good,” I contacted Paul Harvey to break the story. Thankfully, Mr. Harvey was much more reserved and needed more than copies of documents on film where no pedigree could be established. Still, he was willing to broadcast a request that anyone who could verify the documents should contact him and maintain confidentiality. The offer was made to his national audience of tens of millions of listeners. Now, all we could do was try to protect ourselves at CUFOS and investigate the situation ourselves. I was assigned to represent the organization and extend a helping hand of cooperation to Moore, Shandera, and Friedman with the hope of proving the documents as genuine or fakes. However, Shandera was the unknown in this entire affair. He would be my contact. Over the next couple of weeks, we spoke over the phone for no less than ten hours. In addition, after each conversation, I would report to my scientific director, Dr. Mark Rodeghier. The one element that Shandera emphasized repeatedly was that they were promised a “truck-load” of additional documents. UFO believers were about to have all of their dreams come true. Shandera would end each conversation with a remark made specifically by either Falcon or Condor as though

they were calling all the shots. I believe he also wanted CUFOS to think this was a rapidly developing story and there was little time for substantiation.

In the same token of urgency, it was immediately requested that I arrange for either Moore or Shandera to meet with Paul Harvey in Chicago. That was my one mistake and it would cost me any further association with such a prominent figure in the media. Harvey had agreed to meet with Shandera, mainly for the fact that no whistleblowers had stepped forward to endorse the MJ-12 papers. He felt a meeting with the recipient might advance the process before presenting his findings in a closing newscast. To say that Shandera was a disappointment would be an understatement. He traveled to Chicago and met with the legendary reporter in a leather motorcycle jacket, t-shirt, blue jeans, and cowboy boots. Nevertheless, what truly upset Harvey, was Shandera’s claim that according to his “inside sources,” organized religion, specifically Christianity, was concocted by the aliens. Harvey, a deeply religious man, was personally offended and was close to calling security to have this “charlatan” removed from his office. I had never met Shandera, took the word of my associates, and it cost me my association with Paul Harvey.

For the very fact neither Moore, Shandera, Friedman, nor anyone else for that matter were able to provide any substantiation, for the documents, Paul Harvey’s “rest of the story” on MJ-12 and UFOs in general was less than tepid. We all had lost a major ally within the American press – and I could only blame myself. Now it was my turn. I was heading to California to meet the two people who were still claiming the proof was right around the corner.

Over the course of the next two years, I would meet in Los Angeles at the home of Shandera. I would meet privately with Moore and Shandera during other visits. At this stage they were both aware we were investigating more than their personal claims – we were now investigating them. The questions grew beyond the authenticity of the MJ-12 documents and the supporting papers. We now focused on who could have created, “forged” such documents and for whose benefit. Through years of follow-up investigation, we have arrived at specific conclusions.

From the very first time I talked with Jamie Shandera in 1987 until the last time I saw him in July 1997, he gave me the same assurance each time. "We expect to have many more supportive documents in the near future," became a stuck record from Moore's partner. On other occasions, Shandera would go so far as to suggest that a "truckload" of documents was about to be turned over to them. All, with the plan to prove that the U.S. Government has physical proof of the existence of UFOs since 1947. As of 2013, twenty-six years after the promises that disclosure was imminent – still nothing – including the complete disappearance of Moore and Shandera from the UFO field. Consider the following:

During 1982, Moore and Doty attempted to get UFO journalist Robert Pratt to assist them to publish a book focused on the Aquarius and MJ-12 documents. Doty went under the pseudonym of 'Ronald L. Davis.' This was after Moore related to Doty a story of a famous UFO hoax. Doty and his colleagues used this story to provide details to create the Aquarius Executive Briefing. This was the document, which Doty attempted to pass off as genuine to UFO researcher Linda Howe in April 1983. Howe was negotiating with the HBO television network, about a UFO documentary. According to Friedman, "...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 the receipt of the [MJ-12] film." Moore, himself would admit, "Some months later, in early 1983, I became aware that Rick [Doty] 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 D.C., in playing an elaborate disinformation game against a prominent UFO researcher [Howe], who at the time, had close connections with a major film company [HBO] interested in doing a UFO documentary."

On October 14, 1988, a two-hour TV special called UFO Cover-Up Live! was broadcast simultaneously to both the United States and oddly enough, the USSR. This connection will make more sense at the close of this article. Hosted by actor Mike Farrell of the MASH TV series, the program originated from Washington, D.C. This would become the highly promoted Moore and Shandera introduction of two of the mysterious Aviary, "Falcon" and "Condor." The two inside shadow figures were presented as U.S. Intelligence agents but were electronically disguised so they were only seen in silhouette and their voices were altered. Among some of the

unbelievable claims the two "agents" made were that America was hosting alien visitors who liked strawberry ice cream and ancient Tibetan music. In reality, the two inside sources were none other than Doty and Robert Collins continuing their disinformation campaign. It attracted a huge audience but unfortunately, legitimate witnesses to legitimate UFO cases were left waiting, uncalled in their motel rooms, while Moore and Shandera exploited their own brand of disinformation. An opportunity that has left a bad taste in the mouth of ufology for all these years.

Friedman would continue to champion the MJ-12 documents even though most within the American UFO community dismissed them as just elaborate hoaxes. All through the first half of 1989, while his research partner Friedman performed due diligence, Moore and Shandera ducked all the slings and arrows by maintaining a low profile. Something was about to break and many expected delivery of all that was promised over the past two years. However, even Friedman appeared to be in the dark...or he too realized it was all about to fall apart.

On July 1 and 2, 1989 Las Vegas, Nevada hosted the annual Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) symposium. The keynote speaker for Saturday evening had yet to arrive at the Sands Casino Hotel for the conference. It had been previously arranged that he would stay elsewhere. His presentation was slated for an hour and a half...it would go on for two hours. There were no questions and answers to follow...the speaker would exit immediately through a rear door to avoid any confrontation. There were outcries of derision and threatening remarks throughout the lecture, which caused MUFON Nevada State Director John Lear, to call repeatedly for order. William L. Moore was giving his "swan song" to his colleagues within the field of ufology.

Clearly, to insure the accuracy of every word he uttered Moore read from a prepared speech. "...when I just ran into the disinformation operation... being run on Bennewitz...it seemed to me...I was in a rather unique position. There I was with my foot... in the door of a secret counterintelligence game that gave every appearance of being somehow directly connected to a high-level government UFO project, and judging by the positions of the people I knew to be directly involved with it, it definitely had something to do with national security. There was no way I was going to allow the opportunity to pass

me by without learning at least something about what was going on. I would play the disinformation game, get my hands dirty just often enough to lead those directing the process into believing that I was doing exactly what they wanted me to do, and all the while continuing to burrow my way into the matrix so as to learn as much as possible about who was directing it and why.”

Moore would confess to the assembled crowd that they had been “...had by elements of United States counterintelligence.” The audience’s reaction was that they had been “had” by Moore. Friedman acted as though he was flabbergasted and just as shocked as was everyone else in the banquet room. He had only talked over the phone with Moore just before the introduction to his speech. Moore had agreed to meet with both of us at another location following what has become the most controversial presentation ever given to a UFO assembly. It was sad in many ways to watch someone publicly destroy himself. Sadder, still, that Moore later declined our planned meeting. If not a government agent as some had suspected, he was used to spy and discredit his colleagues, and more importantly, spread disinformation about UFOs to the American media. He had no new documents to prove or substantiate all the empty promises he had made to not only Paul Harvey and me, but also to all of his friends and colleagues. Moore had sold his soul to the devil, a devil that he, Doty, and Shandera had created for exploitation, profit, and their own bemusement at pulling off such an elaborate hoax on the entire UFO community.

Today, Moore lives in Pennsylvania and still occasionally writes, but not about UFOs. He writes an infrequent editorial for a local newspaper and has been researching the “Book of Mormon.”

He now claims that he believes that “Falcon” was the late high-ranking CIA official Henry Rositzke. Rositzke worked 25 years for the agency and was a director of operations. After retiring, he authored *The CIA’s Secret Operations: Espionage, Counterespionage, and Covert Actions*, along with *The KGB: The Eyes of Russia*. Rositzke was a Soviet Intelligence specialist and personally considered the KGB the world’s best intelligence operation. Moore would assert that upon the agent’s retirement, he also claimed to represent a group of government insiders who wanted UFO disclosure. Moore would never meet with Rositzke who passed away in 2002, but long inferred that he had spoken with the former CIA official who also spoke fluent

Russian as did Moore. Originally from Brooklyn, New York, Rositzke spoke with a heavy Brooklyn accent throughout his life so it now would appear odd that according to Moore, Doty, who has an American southern accent, took on the role of “Falcon” to protect the true identity of the real one. To date, there exists no evidence that beyond Moore, Shandera, Doty, and Collins, there was anyone else even remotely associated such as Rositzke.

Even the very “core” elements of their UFO story was nothing beyond what others had already promoted; That extraterrestrials have been visiting the earth, there was a crash recovery in New Mexico with one survivor, and that the government was having a lot of trouble back-engineering the advanced technology – nothing earth-shaking here.

Another possibility for motive comes to mind when one ties in Moore’s knowledge of the Russian language and his claims of noted CIA agent Rositzke. When one discovers that Paul Bennewitz had befriended a Soviet scientist and started to secretly correspond with him, this would have soon made him a target for KGB counter intelligence. Did Moore become aware of this and fancied himself to become a “spy for a day.” Were there visions of taking credit for the apprehension of a Soviet spy? Keep in mind that Moore studied Russia about the same time he took interest in the subject of UFOs.

William Moore had once confided to close friend Jerry Clark, that he fully expected “Roswell to make him a million dollars.” One thing remains abundantly clear, there is no evidence that Moore ever was paid for his alleged services as any intelligence agent would have been. In spite of dreams of fame and financial gain, William L. Moore now leads a life of a recluse and continues to work modest jobs such as a public school custodian. Handsomely rewarded for services rendered he certainly was not. Or was it because he failed in his participation in some form of conspiracy to fool the public with phony UFO documents? If so, the powers that be underestimated us...as most did not fall for this ruse. The late Paul Harvey was correct. We continue our own research wiser for the experience and forever vigilant of the next “stranger bearing gifts.” For that life lesson, unlike most of my colleagues, I will thank Bill Moore – which is more than his “Aviary” ever did. For more on this topic read: [Majestic 12: A UFO Disinformation Scandal](#)

[\(Video\), Open letter to the U.S. Air Force regarding allegations of UFO disinformation](#)

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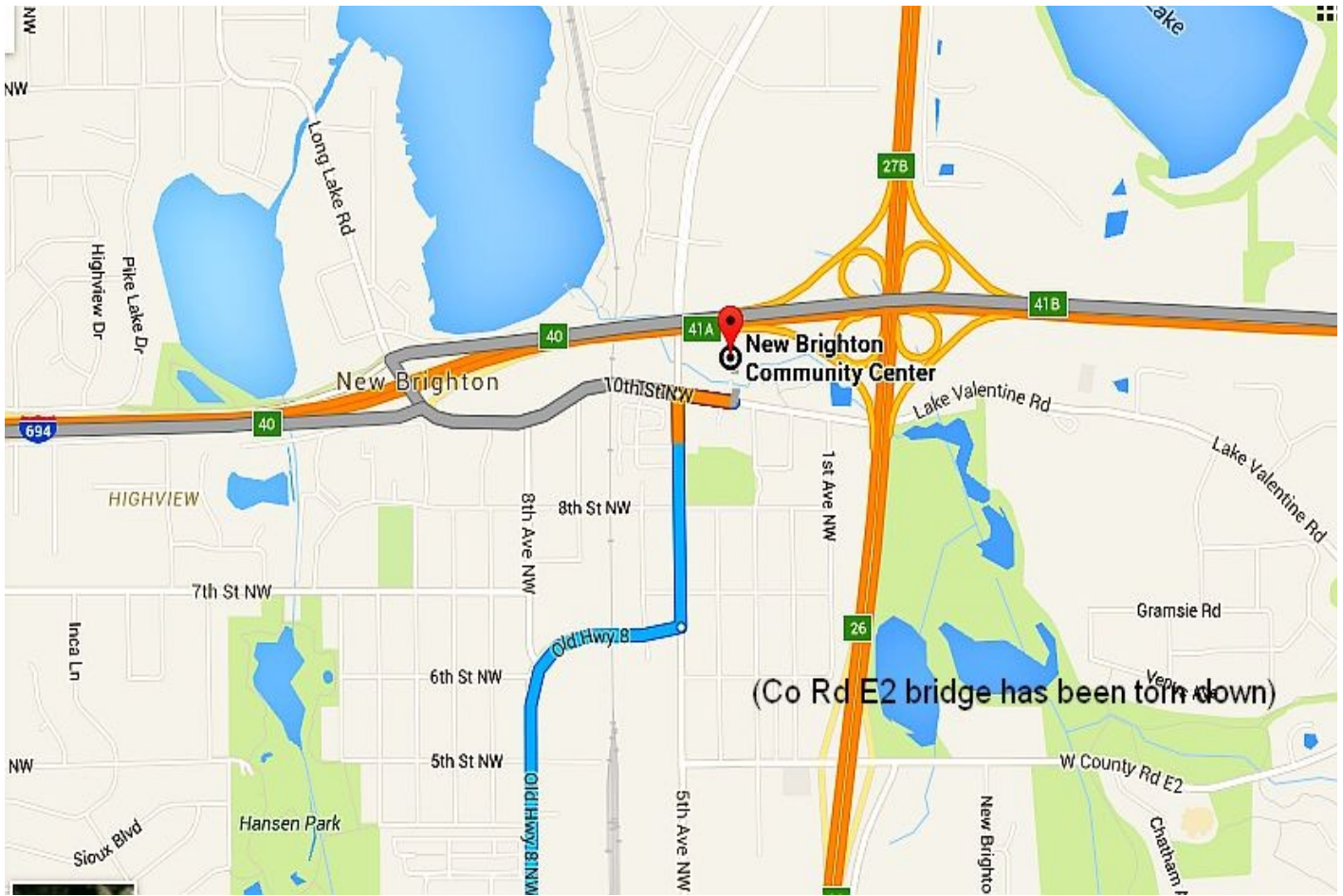
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