UFOs Crashes: An On-Going Problem

An Oregon MUFON Presentation by Keith Rowell Assistant State Director Oregon MUFON

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Introduction

- Sources.
- Researchers.
- Table of world-wide crashes.
- Maury Island Hoax (debris?, Arnold as investigator, airplane crash); Roswell Incident (crash debris, bodies, coverup); Kecksburg Incident (crash recovery, coverup); Shag Harbour (monitoring, coverup); Bentwaters (landing, communication?, coverup).
- Military recovery teams.
- Conclusion and References.

Sources I

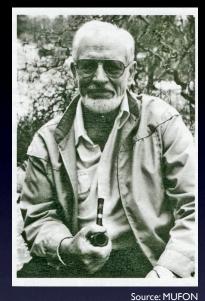
- FOIA documents.
- Eyewitness and hearsay evidence.
- Research of Leonard Stringfield.
- Ryan Wood's book: MAJIC Eyes Only.
- Frank Feschino's work and books.
- Kevin Randle's A History of UFO Crashes and Project Moon Dust.
- Clifford Stone's UFO's: Let the Evidence Speak for Itself and U.F.O.s Are Real.

Sources 2



 These books document crashes and the U.S. military's responses to crashes, including recovery efforts and shoot down attempts and successes.

Primary Crash Researchers





Leonard Stringfield

Clifford Stone

Kevin Randle

Source: The UFO Encyclopedia



Source: MAJIC Eyes Only

Ryan Wood

- Stringfield compiled crash stories in the 1970s and 80s.
- Stone discovered Project Moon Dust through FOIA requests.
- Indefatigable Randle elaborated and corroborated Roswell and explored further crashes.
- Wood started the UFO Crash conferences and compiled a UFO crash list book.

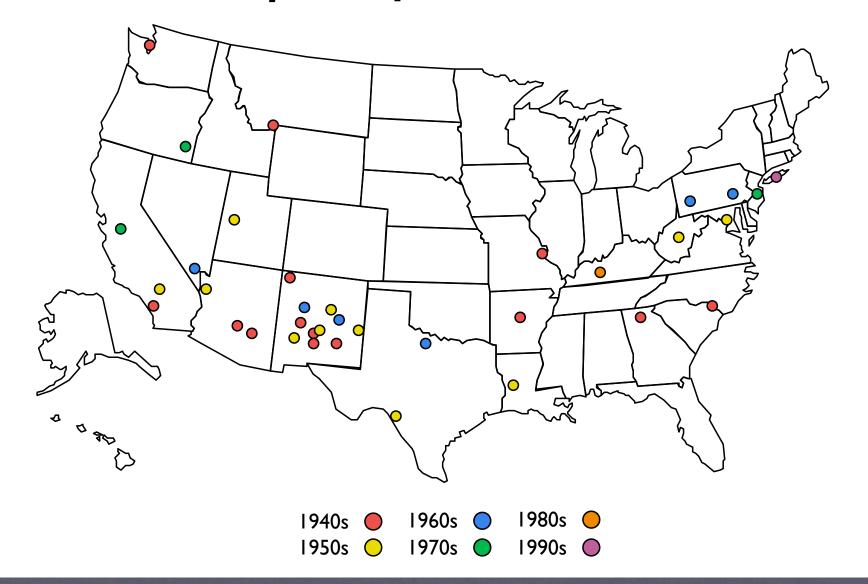
Main UFO Crashes Worldwide I

Name	Place	Date	Significance
Aurora	Texas	April 1897	Could be Texas tall tale; maybe not.
Cape Girardeau	Missouri	1941	Preacher is primary source.
L.A.Air Raid	Los Angeles	2/25/42	Documented in L.A.Times.
Maury Island	Washington	6/21/47	First crash/debris investigation; first(?) UFO covert operation; disinformation?
Plains of San Agustin	New Mexico	July 1947	Sparse evidence; possibly real.
Roswell	New Mexico	July 1947	Massive documentation and disinformation. Roswell is REAL.
Aztec	New Mexico	March 1948	Initial information in later discredited book; new documentation implies real.
Spitsbergen	Norway	Early 1952	Sparse evidence; possibly not real.
Flatwoods	WestVirginia	Sept. 1952	Now well documented landing.

Main UFO Crashes Worldwide 2

Name	Place	Date	Significance
Kingman	Arizona	May 1953	Some documentation, but sparse.
Ubatuba	Brazil	Sept. 1957	First lab analysis of UFO fragment.
Las Vegas	Nevada	April 1962	New documentation by Kevin Randle.
Kecksburg	Pennsylvania	Dec. 1965	Many witnesses; covert gov. involvement; military recovered object.
Shag Harbor	Canada	Oct. 1967	Most well documented crash from government documents. No remains.
Berwyn Mts.	Wales	Jan. 1974	Some research, but disinformation, too.
Rendlesham Forest	U.K.	Dec. 1980	Very well documented with weak government rebuttal; no crash, however.
Varginha	Brazil	Jan. 1996	Living entity case; good documentation and witnesses; gov involvement.

Reports of Crashed UFOs



Data source: MAJIC Eyes Only

Maury Island: A CIA Operation I

- When and where: June 21, 1947, in Puget Sound near Tacoma, WA.
- Evidence: Interviews at the time with witnesses. No photos. No public debris. No government documentation.
- **Description:** Harold Dahl and son were patrolling in their fishing boat with two others when they saw six flying "donuts with port holes" at 2000 feet with one in "trouble." It descended to about 700 feet and ejected some white, "newspaper-like" metal and some blackish "rocks." A small "rock" hit his son and one killed their dog, and they made the water steam. An AF team recovered some of the debris, but their plane crashed in south central WA. The crash site was found in 2007.
- **Investigation:** Soon after the event, Kenneth Arnold was "dispatched" by scifi/fantasy publisher Ray Palmer to investigate. Arnold wrote up his investigation in *The Coming of the Saucers* (1952) and in magazines.

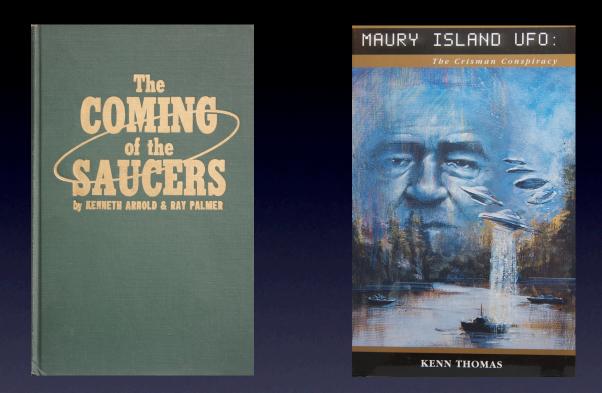
Maury Island: A CIA Operation 2

 Investigation (cont.): Other researchers did cursory investigations over the years. Then in 1999 Kenn Thomas published *Maury Island UFO*. This established beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was a CIA covert operation perhaps intended to discredit Kenneth Arnold.

CIA operative Fred Crisman, who is well established by Kennedy Assassination researchers as being involved in the killing of Kennedy, shows up as the **boss of Harold Dahl in 1947**!! Another Kennedy Assassination-involved FBI counter-intelligence agent/operative, Guy Bannister, recovers a bogus small "flying saucer" out of Idaho in July 1947!

It seems over the years the same cast of characters stays involved in the various covert operations run against UFOs and anything else our government doesn't like. A Pentagon intelligence staffer Col. Richard Weaver shows up in various AF responses to UFOs through the 1970s, 80s, and 90s, including the Roswell response.

Maury Island: Documentation



- The Coming of the Saucers (1953) is Kenneth Arnold's own account of his activities in the UFO field after his famous sighting. It includes his revelations about his Maury Island investigation.
- Kenn Thomas is a "conspiracy/deep politics" researcher. His *Maury Island UFO* describes in some detail the surprising(?!) connections between CIA covert operators and various UFO-connected events like the Maury Island hoax. The CIA was all over UFOs.

Roswell: Mother of All Crashes I

- When and where: July 2, 3, or 4, 1947, northwest of Roswell, NM. Probably two sites.
- **Evidence:** Hundreds of witnesses interviewed. 15 firsthand military with about half officers. No FOIA. No public debris or bodies. No photos.
- **Description:** A low-flying UFO (or two?) crashed and left a large debris field. Another site was an impact site with damaged craft and (injured and dying?) alien bodies. *Roswell Daily Record* published an official RAAF press release: "disc was picked up ... inspected ... and loaned to higher headquarters." The military carried out successful retrieval operations at both sites. It also succeeded in covering up these operations.
- **Investigation:** At the time of the crash(es), Roswell townspeople do some "snooping," but are threatened with death in some cases. No reporters pursue the story because of the successful cover-up.

Roswell: Mother of All Crashes 2

 Investigation (cont.): Scattered brief (and inaccurate) descriptions appeared in UFO books and magazines till 1978. UFO researchers William Moore and Stan Friedman compared notes on two interviews (Major Jesse Marcel and KOAT radio station secretary Lydia Sleppy). They put two and two together.

Moore (with Charles Berlitz) published the Roswell Incident. Friedman and Moore found and interviewed 90 more witnesses by 1985.

In the late 1980s at CUFOS, Kevin Randle and Don Schmitt began archival and interviewing research and found eventually a couple of 100 *more* witnesses.

In 1991, Randle and Schmitt published UFO Crash at Roswell and the AF got worried.

In 1992, Friedman published *Crash at Corona* and the AF got even more worried.

Roswell: Mother of All Crashes 3

 Investigation (cont.): In 1994, Randle and Schmitt published their second book, The Truth About the UFO Crash at Roswell, and NM constituents were talking to their Representative in Congress, Steven Schiff. The AF was now really, really worried because Schiff was asking questions.

In July 1994, after giving Schiff the run-around, the AF issued a lame 32 page Roswell "explanation" paper by intelligence operative AF Col. Richard Weaver.

But Schiff wasn't satisfied and ordered the GAO to investigate.

Fearing the worst in 1995, the AF issued an about 1000 page (unnumbered) compilation of irrelevant Project Mogul technical data. (UFO researchers had long since known about and dismissed this as an explanation for Roswell. But the major media were awed and took the bait.)

Roswell: Mother of All Crashes 4

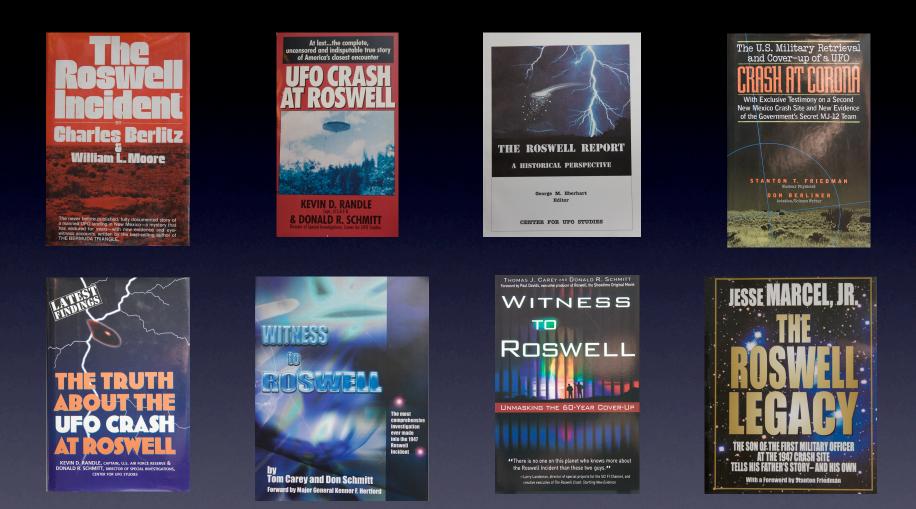
 Investigation (cont.): In July 1995, the GAO issued Results of a Search for Records Concerning the 1947 Crash Near Roswell, New Mexico. It explained that no records for RAAF in July 1947 could be found. They were destroyed against regulations 40 years earlier.

In 1997, three debunking books and the AF's last Roswell response (*The Roswell Report: Case Closed*) appeared. The story was kaput for the mainstream media, so the AF and debunkers were by now beating a dead horse.

More pro Roswell books appeared in the late 1990s and 2000s with Don Schmitt and Tom Carey publishing *Witness to Roswell* and Jesse Marcel, Jr., publishing *The Roswell Legacy* in 2007. Proof way beyond a reasonable doubt now languishes in the public record while major media and elites ignore the story.

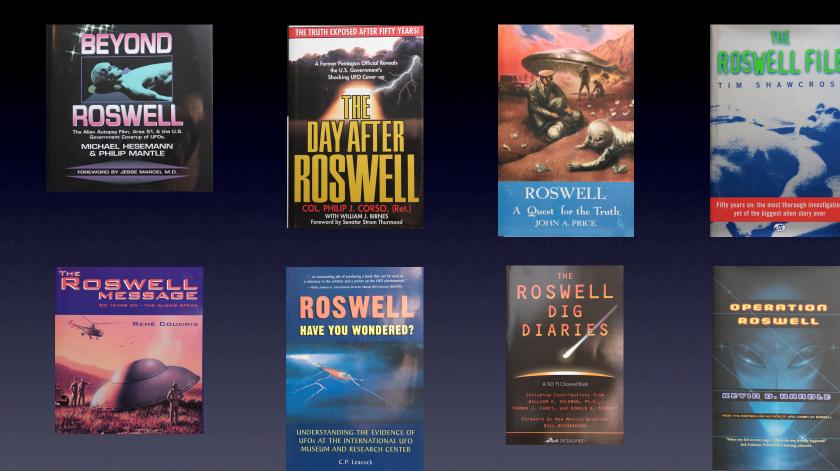
And the coverup continues . . .

Roswell: Primary Docs



• The truth is dug out by the Roswell researchers: Moore, Randle, Schmitt, & Friedman. 1000s of hours of research. *Roswell Incident* starts it off in 1980. Randle & Schmitt caused AF to respond in middle 1990s.

Roswell: Secondary Docs



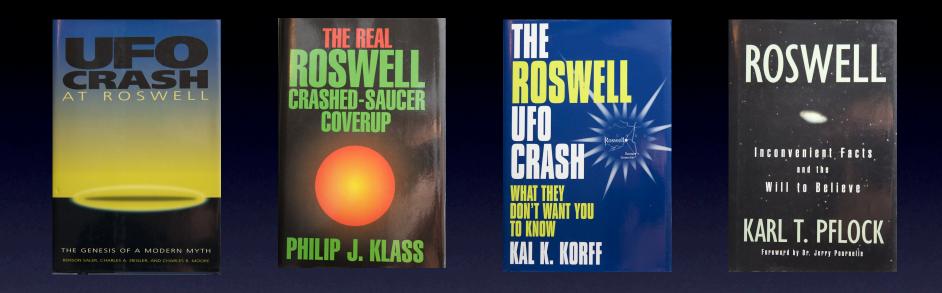
• All valuable to read, but not much original research here. Corso may be disinformation. *Dig Diaries* are of archeological dig at Roswell site. *Operation Roswell* is Randle novel.

Roswell: Government Docs



- Results of a Search for Records ... tells the truth about the GAO's search for Roswell 1947 records. No surprise: they found none. The Roswell reports (*Fact vs. Fiction* and *Case Closed*) are AF lies about Roswell.
- Fact vs. Fiction is nearly 1000 pages of irrelevant Project Mogul information.
- Case Closed introduces the ludicrous notion that test pilot dummies dropped from high altitude starting in 1954 account for the many consistent stories about recovered alien bodies during the 1947 Roswell event. And the major media bought it ...

Roswell: Debunking Docs



- All published in 1997 except Pflock's book in 2001. All in response to UFO researchers' efforts to get at the truth about Roswell.
- All published by Prometheus Press except UFO Crash at Roswell. Prometheus Press is a debunker publishing outfit affiliated with CSI (formerly CSICOP).
- Klass, Korff, and Pflock are well-known debunkers. UFO Crash at Roswell written by two anthropologists and Charles Moore, an atmospheric physicist having prior military/UFO event connections.

Kecksburg: More Covering Up I

- When and where: December 9, 1965, close to Kecksburg, PA, near Pittsburgh.
- **Evidence:** Journalist and UFO researcher interviews at the time. No photos. No public debris. No government documentation. Later UFO researcher interviews.
- Description: On December 9, 1965, 4:45 PM, witnesses saw a "bolide" crossing the sky over Canada, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsyvania trending northwest to southeast. The object landed in a wooded ravine. Thinking distressed aircraft, the Kecksburg fire department arrived at the scene. A military unit already at the scene ordered the local police and fire department out of the area. Later they and the public were told nothing was recovered. The object was a "bolide." The military left around 2 AM the next day. Newspaper, TV, and radio stories died off. Military activity was not clearly reported.

Kecksburg: More Covering Up 2

• **Investigation:** In 1966, Ivan Sanderson closely compared many news stories and found the "bolide" had changed course over PA. Also, noise, smoke, and duration (7 minutes) were not diagnostic of a bolide. The public story was disinformation. In 1980, Clark McClelland interviewed Kecksburg fire department witnesses. They saw a large (6 x 7 x 17 feet), intact object imbedded somewhat in the ravine soil. They saw an Army flatbed truck with a tarp covering a similar-sized object leave 2 hours later. They were advised not to talk at the time.

In 1987, Stan Gordon interviewed another fire department witness. He said the object was acorn or conical in shape and had "hieroglyphics" on the bottom edge. He knew Russian and swore they were not cyrillic characters. In 1985, Ray Boeche pried loose 30 pages of low level FOIA documents clearly describing the Kecksburg event. Among them was a memo from a Project Blue Book AF officer saying a 3-man team was sent to "pick up an object that started a fire." Other errors in the memo showed that Project Blue Book was not "in the loop" of serious UFO military activity.

Kecksburg: More Covering Up 3

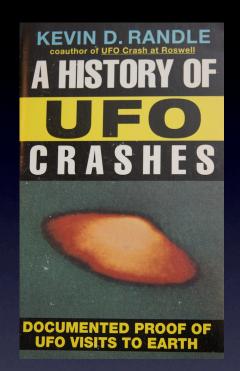
 Investigation (cont.): Later investigation showed the "pick up team" came from the Aerospace Defense Command linked to NORAD. Debunkers floated the idea the Russian Cosmos 96 re-entry was the answer. Eventually, NASA released exact data showing the re-entry timing was incorrect for the Kecksburg object.

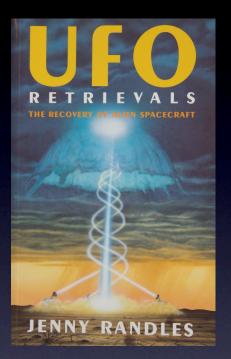
In 1990, TV's Unsolved Mysteries aired a Kecksburg story. This brought forth new witnesses. They placed the object at Wright-Patterson AFB. A trucker delivering a load of special bricks to W-P AFB saw the object in a warehouse on the base.

In 2002, the Sci Fi channel and the Coalition for Freedom of Information, a group formed by John Podesta, former chief of staff to Bill Clinton, started an initiative to find the truth about Kecksburg. Journalist Leslie Kean and CFI eventually pursued a long, drawn-out FOIA lawsuit against NASA. CFI won. Many docs were released with no smoking gun, of course!

The cover up continues . . .

Keckburg: Documentation





- No single book documents the Kecksburg UFO event at this time. Documentation is buried in a number of books, however.
- Kevin D. Randle's A History of UFO Crashes is perhaps the most detailed. Randle highlights the work of WHJB news director at the time John Murphy. He ran head-on into military cover-up and disinformation campaigns meant to silence him. They won and he lost.
- Jenny Randles' UFO Retrievals is a good shorter rendition of the story.

Shag Harbor: Official Docs I

- When and where: October 4, 1967, in the harbor of Shag Harbour, Nova Scotia, Canada.
- **Evidence:** Officially released Canadian government documents. Newspaper accounts. Eyewitness (RCMP, CN, citizens) accounts.
- **Description:** Late in September, UFOs were spotted over the ocean off Nova Scotia. Then on October 4, two separate sightings of orange UFOs maneuvering out over the ocean near Shag Harbour. First one then finally four flashing, orange UFOs formed a line and entered the ocean at a 45° angle with a faint whistling or hissing noise.
- Witnesses and an RCMP officer saw one UFO floating on the water a half mile away. It sank before a Canadian Coast Guard boat got there. They saw bubbles rising and yellowish foam on the water. The next day other witness said they saw "a dark object, approximately 60 feet long, with a string of lights along its side. It had descended to the surface, floated for a short time, then disappeared into the water."

Shag Harbor: Official Docs 2

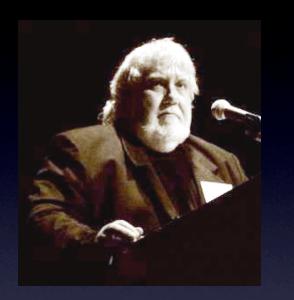
• **Description (cont.):** Canadian navy divers scoured the bottom of the harbor at the site and beyond. Nothing was apparently found. The search was terminated October 8.

On October 11, witnesses reported similar UFOs. They were about 60 feet long, around 500 feet altitude and 3/4 mile off shore around Shag Harbour. The UFOs maneuvered around for 8 minutes or so, changed colors from yellow to orange to red and took off.

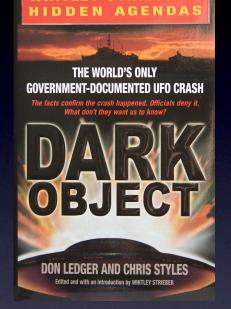
 Investigation: Newspaper reporters extensively reported on the activities of the time. Norman Levine of the Condon Committee UFO Project in the late 1960s investigated (Case 34), and concluded the RCMP and Canadian Navy had done a thorough investigation.

In 1990s, Chris Styles and Don Ledger began a long-term investigation, interviewing navy divers and military personnel. They "FOIA'd" official Canadian government docs saying a UFO had crashed into Shag Harbour. **And the cover up continues . . .**

Shag Harbor: Documentation



Chris Styles





Don Ledger

- The only book length documentation of Shag Harbour so far.
- They have documented high strangeness during and after the public events. For example, apparently a "rescue" UFO visited a submerged, crashed UFO, repaired it, and all flew away. All this was monitored by the U.S. and Canadian militaries. This is not documented in official docs, of course.

Bentwaters: High Strangeness I

- When and where: December 27-29, 1980, outside gate at Bentwaters RAFB in Rendlesham Forest near Ipswich, Great Britain.
- Evidence: Officer's (Col. Charles Halt's) audiotape, notes, testimony. Numerous other enlisted men's testimony. No photos. No artifacts. Some physical evidence claimed in possession of military.
- **Description:** Early in the morning radar operators and MP observed a UFO just outside the base in Rendlesham forest. Three soldiers were dispatched to check for a crash. They saw a brightly lit, 8 to 10 feet sized, triangle-shaped object, hovering near the ground.

One soldier either got very close or touched it. It rose up slightly and maneuvered through the trees. The soldiers followed and saw it fill the forest with light and shoot upwards, panicking cattle in a field. The soldiers apparently lost consciousness in the field.

Bentwaters: High Strangeness 2

• **Description (cont.):** The next day in the evening UFOs were seen again. A much larger group, led by Deputy Base Commander Lt. Col. Charles Halt, found radiation, tripod landing impressions, etc., at the landing sight. A second separated group (couple hundred yards away) encountered a strange pulsating "fog," spooked animals, and a red "dancing" light. Halt's group then encountered the object (light).

Both saw the now rainbow-colored object pouring off light as it maneuvered in the trees. A huge flash then revealed a glowing object with a dome on top. The translucent, weirdly glowing "flying saucer" seemed to have movement of "people" inside. Other lights seemed to shoot off from the object.

Halt and the group spent over an hour enduring this strange display. Eventually the "saucer" and its weird effects left the area. Halt took notes and made a recording during the experience.

Bentwaters: High Strangeness 3

• Investigation: Local UFO investigator Brenda Butler talked to a local Bentwaters AFB American airman six days after the incident. He said that a UFO having flight difficulties came down in Rendlesham Forest. He was on security patrol that night and witnessed a meeting between the disc's occupants and Base Commander Gordon Williams. Local inhabitants told her of strange lights, damage to tops of forest trees and to runway lights on 30-foot poles on the base, animal disturbances and deaths, and military patrols in the forest around the UFO activity.

In 1983, a British tabloid played up the case as a UFO landing. Butler, Dot Street, and Jenny Randles documented the story in *Sky Crash* in 1984. Also in the 1980s, British science writer/debunker, lan Ridpath, spun a preposterous tale that all the evidence was explained by the rotating light beams of a local seacoast light house. He interviewed no witnesses. Randles eviscerated his debunking effort. Even the MoD distanced itself from Ridpath's irrational explanation.

Bentwaters: High Strangeness 4

• Investigation (cont.): Randles continued investigating and published *From Out of the Blue* in 1991. A CNN investigation in the 1990s determined that photos and film were taken by the military along with other investigation data. Alerted by researcher Ray Boeche, Senator James Exon "became obsessed" with the case and conducted closed door sessions with American military personnel, not allowing even staff to attend.

UFO researcher Peter Robbins worked with Bentwaters witness Larry Warren to research and write his part of the affair as *Left at East Gate* in 1997.

UFO researcher and P.I. Georgina Bruni published the most extensive investigation in 2000 as *You Can't Tell the People*, the title quoted from former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher when Bruni briefly questioned her about the UFO situation. Bruni interviewed over 50 principal witnesses and consulted U.S. and U.K. officials and archives.

High strangeness did happened. The coverup continues . . .

Bentwaters: Documentation



- Butler, Street, and Randles put Bentwaters on the UFO map with *Sky Crash* in 1984 four years after the event.
- Randles, a prolific UFO writer/investigator, added two more books (1991 and 1998) with additional details.
- Larry Warren wrote his personal involvement account, *Left at East Gate*, in 1997.
- Georgina Bruni, a journalist, gave the fullest account in 2000, You Can't Tell the People the title from words to Bruni by Margaret Thatcher (UK Prime Minister, 1979-1990).

UFO Retrieval Teams I

- Clifford Stone discovered how the military does it: "Project Moon Dust." He asked Senator Jeff Bingaman to confirm the military's UFO retrieval team(s) via the Pentagon's Congressional liaison office. Lt. Col. Madison at first lied: "Those missions have never existed." Bingaman showed him Stone's FOIA docs suggesting otherwise.
- Madison's boss Col. Mattingley wrote back "Upon further review ... we wish to amend the [previous false] statements ... [USAF] in 1957 [had retrieval teams] to investigate reliably reported UFOs within the [U.S.] ..."
- He also said Project Moon Dust recovered downed space vehicles. Project Blue Fly recovered Russian aircraft.

UFO Retrieval Team 2

- Mattingley said these projects were discontinued due to lack of use. Another lie. Robert G.Todd in 1987 received an official letter from AF Col. Phillip Thompson stating "[Project Moon Dust] has been replaced by another name ... not releasable. [FTD at W-P AFB's] duties are listed in a classified passage in a classified regulation that is being withheld [from FOIA] because it is currently and properly classified."
- Kevin Randle interviewed General Arthur Exon, a former base commander at W-P AFB in 1960s. Exon said he received calls from the Pentagon about downed UFOs. Exon provided logistical support for UFO recovery teams sent by the Pentagon (from usually Fort Belvoir,VA). They extracted UFOs and crash artifacts from anywhere in the world. **The mission continues today...**

Conclusion

- UFO crashes are probably once a year or so affairs.
- The U.S. and other militaries are greatly concerned.
- Recoveries of crashes are always of the highest secrecy and controlled by the military with disinformation campaigns usually instituted after recoveries.
- Since WWII, the U.S. has recovered artifacts, saucers, and bodies from all over the world without regard to national borders except for Russia and China, perhaps.
- The State Department, NSA, CIA, and U.S. military are all deeply involved.
- No subject has higher on-going national security status.

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