

"It's your New York!"

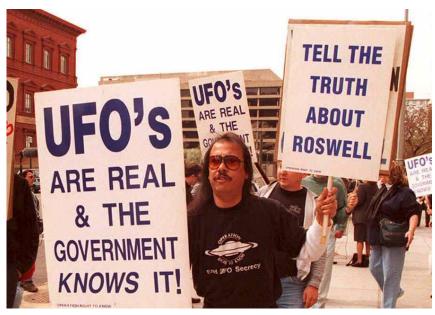
The Rondout Reader



ROSWELL THAT ENDS WELL

By Kevin Ahearn





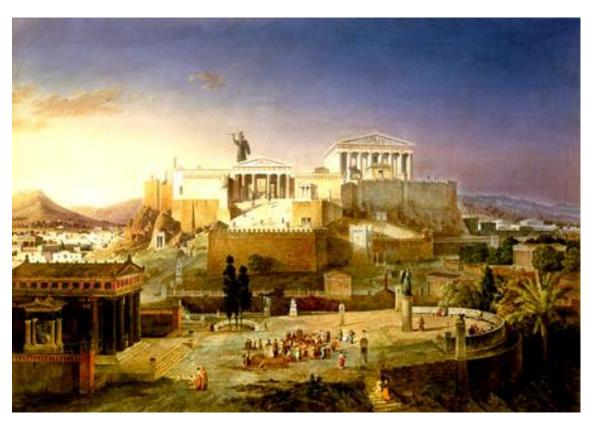
Dr. ROSWELL



Or How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love UFOs

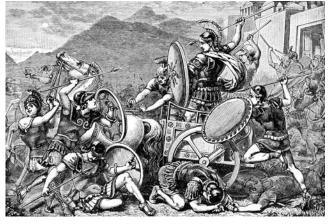
For Erica

Inspired by **Stanley Kubrick**



Once upon a time, earth was ruled by 'city states', sovereign centers of political, scientific and military power.

Rivalries throughout history led to countless conflicts.





In the last world war, many of the great 'city states' were bombed, burned or obliterated.





Time marches on, often in a controversial direction. In July, 1947, the most powerful city on the face of the earth was *not*...









But a small town very few had ever heard of. A minor city in the middle of nowhere had suddenly risen to the pinnacle of earthly power.



Not because of its size or population, culture or religion -- only Roswell, New Mexico possessed the most fearsome weapon humanity had ever created.



And with the US Army Air Corps, Roswell had the means to deliver it.



But who would deliver Roswell? Born of Indian and cattle wars, the town had barely survived through the years, and current events had taken an ominous turn.

On that fateful July morning, the city fathers were called for an emergency meeting.



Taking to the podium, the new mayor minced no words...



"Gentlemen, our beloved Roswell faces a crisis that could soon turn our lovely community into a ghost town!

"This new 'jet age'...once Roswell was a welcome stopover for horsemen on cattle drives, railroad passengers on their way West and motorists and truckers shipping goods all around the country...but not in the future! "Soon, very soon, giant jet aircraft will transport the needs of America, making us all 'flyover people'. Unless we take drastic action, Roswell is doomed to ultimate and permanent oblivion!"

His warning was met with severe skepticism.



"A Roswellian twisting of unreliable data."



"Patent exploitation of disconnected facts."



"Misinterpretation of Disputable forecasts."

Undeterred, the mayor introduced his special guest...



"Roswell city fathers, unless the lot of you grow up, you all are gonna be forgotten orphans. "I am the commander of the bravest, most loyal patriots this country has ever produced, the fighting crews of the United States Army Air Corps!



"That's right, the Air Corps. We fought and sacrificed to win the war against Germany and end the one with Japan!"





"And our immortal spirit was born at Roswell field where thousands of the best pilots, bombardiers, and navigators were trained to kick ass around the world. A war-winning, liberty-preserving, heroic organization is going to be tossed into the dustbin of trivia, officially renaming us the United States Air Force!"









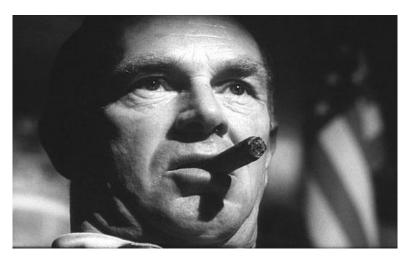




"Well, general, we could study the problem."

"Alert the newspapers."
A mail-in campaign."

"Give vital lectures. Warn the country."



"Listen to me. This 'Air Force' is the just the beginning of an anti-Roswell conspiracy. The days of our base and its B-29 atomic bombers are numbered. The new gentrified 'Air Force' won't want its personnel stationed in the desert, but in golden California and sunny Florida. Once the exclusive home of the Bomb, the Army Air Corps will be left behind and abandoned.

"I'm not surrendering my identity, my heritage without a fight.

"He who controls the Bomb controls the state, the country, the world. That power will be Roswell's forever!"



"But that's rebellion!"



"Revolution!"



"High treason!"





"I have a full wing and four Bombs. Around the clock, one will be in flight, its payload armed. Anybody tries to interfere with my Army Air Corps and..."

Not that far away...





"Those earthlings! Monitoring them for ages. We had hoped..."

"Agreed. If humanity is truly a potential danger..."

"We will take steps



"Didn't they learn anything from their horrible war?"

"A burst of 'ball lightning', Roswell will disappear."

"When?"



"Our patience is at an end. Roswell must be destroyed!"

"Wait! Are we to be as inhuman as they are?"

"Now!"



While in Roswell...

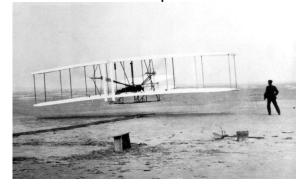


"Now, general, please. Our town is in dire need, but you wouldn't really drop one of those bombs on America, would you?

"Maybe we can talk about this, come to a reasonable agreement. What is it you want?"



"You think I'm doing this for myself, my own patriotic zeal? Then none of you understands the meaning of Roswell. America treasures 'Kitty Hawk' as the 'Birthplace of Aviation'...



"But our new 'Air Force' would wipe the unique heritage of Roswell off the map. More heroes were trained at Roswell Field and died in combat than grateful citizens living here in peace. Roswell is the very lifeblood of the US Army Air Corps atomic bomber command. And must be so forever.



"I want the permanent new headquarters of the Air Corps to be here in Roswell, a monumental tribute to the men and machines who saved America. Bombers today, bombers tomorrow, bombers for all time!"

Suddenly...



"General, sir! There's a UFO coming. No, sir. It's not a weather balloon."



"And it's going to land, right here in Roswell."





Silently, the alien spacecraft lands. Its occupants quickly de-saucer and join the meeting.



"People of Roswell. You forced us into this to unprecedented Interruption."



ou "We come here not in peace, but to insure that peace reigns on planet earth."



"Roswell must be becomea symbol of hope for humanity, not its destructive hubris."



"My God, you speak English!"



"As do you. How hard can it be? Chinese was a challenge."



"Red Alert! Red Alert! Get every bomber in the air. Hello, hello!"



"Technology you cannot imagine has severed all communications."



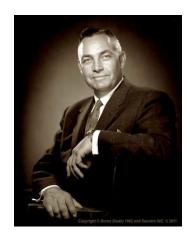
"An invasion force...you're here to conquer the earth!"



"Alien beings among us. What kind of encounter will this be?"



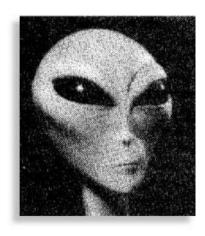
"We will *not* decide the fate of Roswell and earth. *You* will."



"Do you call your craft a 'flying disc' or would you prefer 'flying saucer'?"



"Roswell, the city that would save humanity from...itself?"



"All the same color and gender. No more diverse than we are."



"Seems the best this world has produced is incapable of improving."



"That's not true. Under my administration, taxes will decrease as services increase."



register to vote?"



"Your honor, you think they'll "All men are equal, but not to us. We'd have to reverse-evolve ourselves millions of years to qualify."



"Roswell will serve as an example, depending on your earthly actions."



"What is it we should do?"



"No atomic bomb from Roswell will ever be used in your future insane wars."



"No! Nobody tells us how to fight and win our wars."



"We do not make war. "A meter Our technology can town a effortlessly solve this situation."



"A meteor will vaporize your town and bomber base."



"Or a guided comet to eradicate the earth."







"Please, I'll pass a new law granting 'space aliens' equal rights in Roswell."



"I'll retire and write a book. America and the world will know that Roswell is the heart and soul of the US Army Atomic Air Corps!'



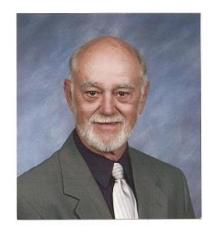
As the visitors prepared to leave...



Did you kill the dinosaurs? Help us beat Hitler? And why didn't you save the Titanic?



"This isn't your first time, is it? "Nothing you can do will stop us from finding out. It is Man's destiny to explore and discover the impact of intelligent life in the universe."







"We will seek the truth." "Investigate every sighting."



"Collect masses of data."



"Earth is but a speck in our space odyssey.
Our universal purpose is peace and
understanding."



"Fantastic! A mindaltering experience that will direct my life."



"Before you can hope to comprehend our civilization and take part in the greater purpose of a million galaxies, humanity must first reach out to its many 'alienated' peoples. Only by recognizing and respecting every aspect of your planet will you ever achieve the power to reach the stars."





they will forget us. That flying gas bag,

knock it down."



"We'll meet again, don't know how, don't know when." If only we could forget Roswell as completely as



"Give Roswell an 'incident'. attention to a little town desperate to be a part of the national culture."





"Our nanotechs, invisibly inserted into each Roswellian's mind. will block out their memories of our visit."



"But not permanently. In 25 or 30 years, witnesses may experience flashes of the past."



"Then our secret will be revealed? The greatest event in human history and all the earth will know of our presence? The impact..."









"Calibrate your consciousness. No earthling will ever find out what really happened at Roswell!"



TOP SECRET DINAR



ROSWELL Rescues America!





In the invisible war of electronic intelligence-gathering versus the Soviet Union, US surveillance missions got 'cover stories' --'weather reconnaissance', 'navigational training' or 'mapping reconnaissance'.

Over the years, fifty Americans were killed, shot down by Russian MiGs.

Their loved ones got 'cover stories.'

Experiments had begun in 1947. When an unforeseen 'incident' threatened to compromise the operation, America and the world got a 'cover story'.

Seventy-five years later, it is still in effect.

1



"This is the biggest story since the parting of the Red Sea! You can't cover it up!"

'Scotty', the newspaper reporter, to the USAF in 'Thing from Another World' (1951)



If UFOlogy had a 'Moses', he'd have come down from the Mount bearing copies of the July, 8th, 1947 *Roswell Daily Record* for the multitude.

The Roswell Army Air Force had captured a 'flying saucer!' To be exact, the Air Corps Intelligence Officer said 'flying *disk*' a termed coined only weeks before by a pilot who'd spotted a string of nine, shiny, disk-like objects flying past Mount Rainier--the first post-War II sighting in the United States that garnered nationwide news coverage.



As reported by the *Record*, there had been two witnesses.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wilmot were sitting on their porch at 105 South Penn. last Wednesday night at about ten o'clock when a large glowing object zoomed out of the sky from the southeast, going in a northwesterly direction at a high rate of speed.

Wilmot called Mrs. Wilmot's attention to it and both ran down into the yard to watch. It was in sight less than a minute, perhaps 40 or 50 seconds, Wilmot estimated.

Wilmot said that it appeared to him to be about 1,500 feet high and going fast. He estimated between 400 and 500 miles per hour.

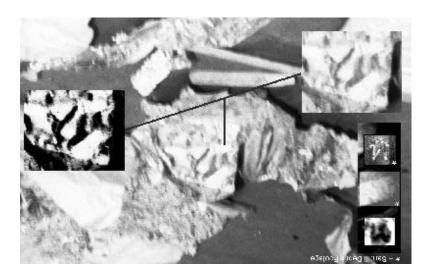
In appearance it looked oval in shape like two inverted saucers, faced mouth to mouth, or like two old type washbowls placed, together in the same fashion. The entire body glowed as though light were showing through from inside, though not like it would inside, though not like it would be if a light were merely underneath.

From where he stood Wilmot said that the object looked to be about 5 feet in size, and making allowance for the distance it was from town he figured that it must have been 15 to 20 feet in diameter, though this was just a guess.

Wilmot said that he heard no sound but that Mrs. Wilmot said she heard a swishing sound for a very short time.

The object came into view from the southeast and disappeared over the treetops in the general vicinity of six mile hill.

Wilmot, who is one of the most respected and reliable citizens in town, kept the story to himself hoping that someone else would come out and tell about having seen one, but finally today decided that he would go ahead and tell about it. The announcement that the RAAF was in possession of one came only a few minutes after he decided to release the details of what he had seen.



The rancher who discovered the debris told the *Record* that he and his son saw a "large area of bright wreckage made up of rubber strips, tinfoil, a rather tough paper and sticks."

The 'incident' hit the media like an A-Bomb. Roswell was flooded with inquiries from all over the world. But no mention was made of an 'alien spaceship' or 'alien bodies.' The term 'UFO' had yet to be uttered.

But the very next day...



'Not a grounded flying disk, but a harmless, high-altitude weather balloon."



The Army Air Corps invited reporters in for a look. Close examination revealed that the balloon carried neither weapons nor technology. Attached was a 'kite', an aluminum reflector to *attract* radar, dispelling any notion of a secret surveillance device.

In short order, the excitement was over. Strangely, no Roswell residents sought any further explanations and would be silent about the 'incident' for more than thirty years. They would blame 'government agents' who threatened them with jail if they spoke up. Later this shadowy sect would be known as...



On September 18th, the Roswell 'incident' all but forgotten, the Army Air Corps officially became the United States Air Force.





Later that year...



In an "exhaustive account," of UFOs in the 1940s by Frank *Scully* (Later honored by 'X-Files), the Roswell 'incident' was *not* mentioned.

Thirty years later, when Scully's book had shown to be full of 'hoaxes' and 'con jobs', UFOlogists tracking down the Roswell 'space aliens' speculated that 'Behind the Flying Saucers' was published 'as a subterfuge aiding to discredit the initial reports', 'gray propaganda,' a specialty of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

In 1951, a UFO 'flap' began with the release of the film 'Day the Earth Stood Still' which opened with a 'flying saucer' landing in Washington DC. When the 'space alien' stepped from the saucer, a seismic shift occurred; from that moment on, more people would be *watching* science fiction than reading it.



"We have come to visit you in peace and with goodwill."

Generations later, more than a billion screens would be *playing* science fiction.



"Watch the skies, everywhere! Keep looking. Keep watching the skies!"

Such was the mission of the US Air Force. Project Blue Book began in 1952, the second revival of its UFO study (after Projects Sign and Grudge) to determine if UFOs were a threat to national security, and to scientifically analyze UFO-related data.

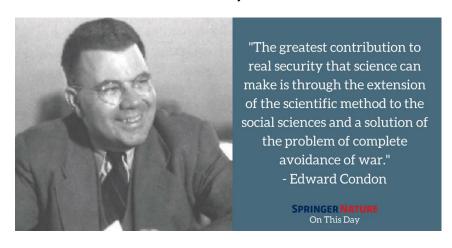


In 1957, the Soviet Union launched *Sputnik*, stunning the Free World and adding fuel to the UFO fire. If the Soviet Union could put an artificial satellite in orbit, then surely an advanced alien civilization could send a spaceship to earth.

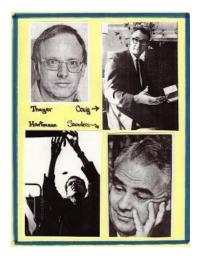
UFO 'sightings' zoomed up during the 1960s, but the vast majority turned out to be conventional aircraft. Some were misinterpretations of American and Soviet rocket launchings. Many were crude hoaxes that UFOlogists would champion for years.

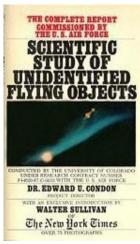


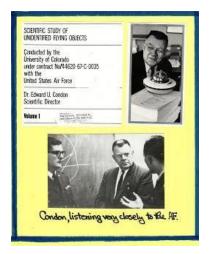
In 1966, facing up to a growing 'public relations dilemma,' the Air Force funded the 'University of Colorado UFO Project' under physicist Edward Condon, a 'name' scientist who'd worked on the Manhattan Project to build the A-bomb.



For two years, a committee of scientists examined hundreds of UFO files from the Air Force's Project Blue Book and from the civilian UFO groups National Investigations Committee On Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) and Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) which did *not* mention Roswell in their lists of "most important UFO cases".







"...Nothing has come from the study of UFOs in the past 21 years that has added to scientific knowledge. Careful consideration of the record as it is available to us leads us to conclude that further extensive study of UFOs probably cannot be justified in the expectation that science will be advanced thereby."

In 1969, the Air Force closed down Project Blue Book.

The UFOlogists were outraged, calling the report 'biased' and 'incomplete' and blaming a 'government conspiracy' run by the CIA.

The CIA *had been* interested in UFOs, but by 1953 concluded that there was no evidence of a direct threat to national security or that the objects sighted might be extraterrestrials. UFO *reporting* might threaten a working government by clogging the channels of communication with irrelevant reports and by inducing "hysterical mass behavior". Could a potential enemy contemplating an attack on the United States exploit the UFO phenomena to disrupt US air defenses? (Soviet KGB was working on it.)











At the height of McCarthyism, CIA recommended that the National Security Council debunk UFO reports and institute a policy of public education to reassure the public of the lack of evidence behind UFOs. It suggested using the mass media, advertising, business clubs, schools, and even the Disney corporation to get the message across. CIA also advised that private UFO groups, the Civilian Flying Saucer Investigators in Los Angeles and the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization in Wisconsin be monitored for subversive activities. (Commie spies?)

Back and forth it went in the name of 'science' and 'national security', pitting the scientific method against the public's imagination.

In 1984, UFOlogists claimed 'definitive evidence' with the release of the 'Majestic 12 (MJ-12)' documents detailing White House and Pentagon actions to cover- up UFOs dating back to the Roswell 'incident'.







Classified 'MAJIC EYES ONLY' *above* Top Secret, a select committee of political and scientific VIPs was formed to exploit recovered alien technology. The documents named names. Every member of the MJ1-12 committee, from the Truman administration to Kennedy's had one thing in common: he was dead.

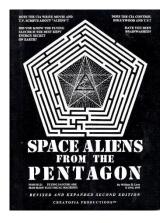




As for the reams of documentation... "Completely bogus" reported the FBI forensic team that thoroughly examined them, but Hollywood would option the screen rights anyway.

"Government disinformation!" railed the believers, "Yet another layer in the ongoing conspiracy to discredit the UFO 'phenomena'."

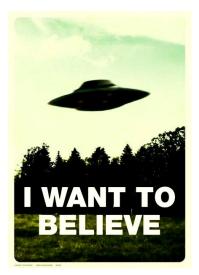
In 'Space Aliens from the Pentagon', self-published in 1993, the author believed the creatures recovered after the crash near Roswell were 'rhesus monkeys killed in a rocket-sled or early rocketry experiment, shaved so their "g-suits" would fit.'





'They changed from rhesus monkeys to chimpanzees after that,' the author went on. 'The rhesus monkeys were too hard to handle. They were violent. ... They probably cut (the monkeys') fingertips off because they had these claws.'





Fox premiered *The X-Files* on September 10, 1993. Channeling Americans' distrust in their own government, and embracing conspiracy theories, especially about UFOs.

After a long and tireless push by UFOlogists, in 1994, the Air Force Official Report concluded that the recovered material in 1947 was a radar tracking balloon.





"...The disc is hexagonal in shape and was suspended from a balloon by a cable, which balloon was approximately twenty feet in diameter. ...the object found resembles a high altitude weather balloon with a radar reflector. ...disc and balloon being transported..."

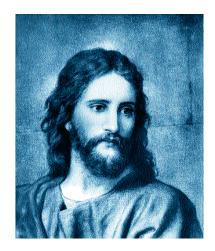
Then the USAF revealed Project Mogul which involved high altitude balloons meant to detect sound waves generated by Soviet atomic bomb tests.





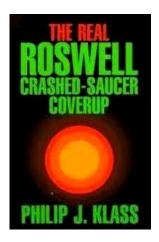
"It is very probable that this TOP SECRET project balloon train (Flight 4), made up of unclassified components; came to rest some miles northwest of Roswell, NM, became shredded in the surface winds and was ultimately found by the rancher ten days later. This possibility was supported by the only living eyewitness to the actual debris field and the material found who described a small area of debris which appeared, "to resemble bamboo type square sticks one quarter to one half inch square, that were very light, as well as some sort of metallic reflecting material that was also very light ... I remember recognizing this material as being consistent with a weather balloon."

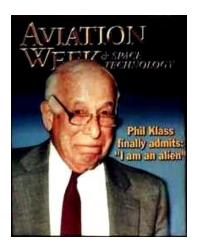
Concerning the initial headline, "RAAF Captures Flying Disc": research failed to locate any documented evidence as to why that statement was made.





"A photograph of Jesus Christ might be a comparable story to the first real photo of an extraterrestrial," boasted the publisher of *Penthouse*, who paid nearly \$200K for a candid pose of a plastic prop in the Roswell UFO Museum.

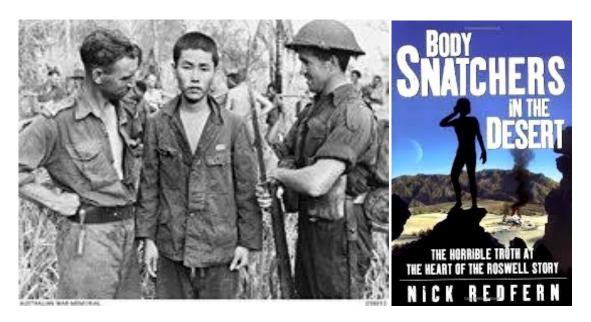




In 1997, a longtime aviation editor and UFO investigator confirmed the conclusion of the Government Accounting Office: not one shred of evidence in the archives of the federal government lends any credence to the supposed alien crash at Roswell (or any other locale) and that the Roswell 'incident' was due entirely to misidentification of weather equipment.

Nearly 50 years since the Roswell 'incident', a new CNN/Time poll showed that 80 percent of Americans think the government is hiding knowledge of the existence of extraterrestrial life forms.

Published in 2005...



The 'incident' was disinformation to cover up Japanese POWs mistreated in experiments from WWII. Transferred to Roswell to study effect of radiation and high altitude exposure, something went wrong. When the 'flying disk' hit the news, the government created a convincing retraction. Or so it was thought.

In late 2009, Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Sciences held its first major conference on astrobiology. "There is no conflict between believing in God and in the possibility of extraterrestrial civilizations perhaps more evolved than humans," declared the Catholic Church's chief astronomer.



"What does Pope Benedict know and when did he know it?"

A 2011 best-seller, citing 'an unimpeachable source': What crashed in New Mexico more than 60 years ago was a remotely-piloted German-designed 'disc-shaped' aircraft sent by Soviet Premier Stalin containing 'midget mutants' created by the Nazi 'Angel of Death' Dr. Mengele.



"The Truth is Out There," preached the X-Files.

'The truth shall make you free.' (John 8:32) is chiseled in stone at CIA Headquarters.

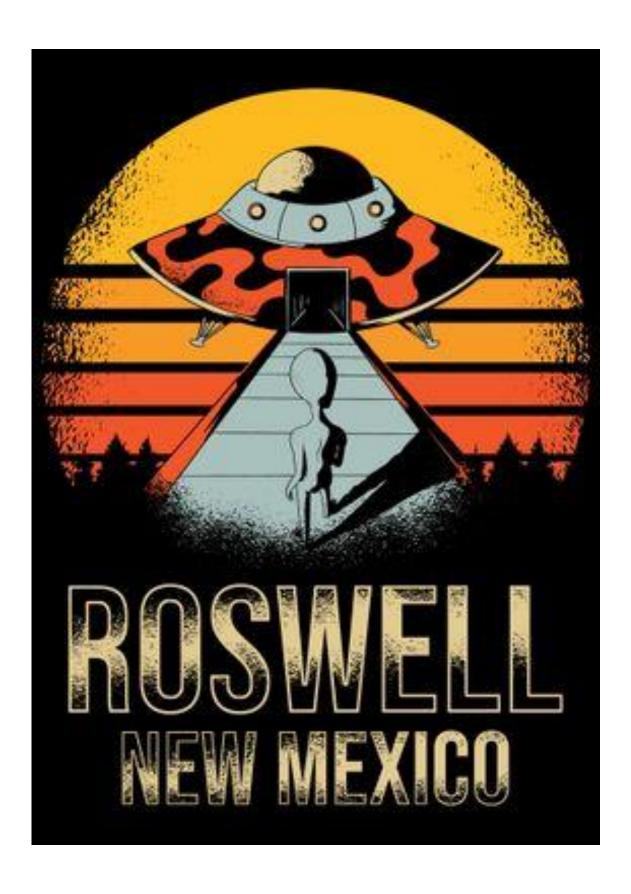


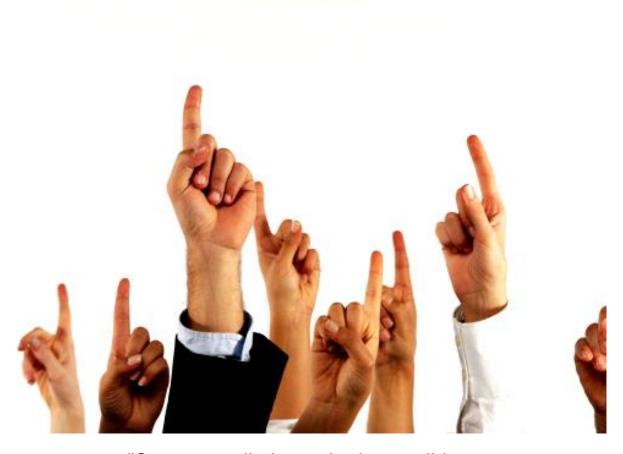
CIA director Allen Dulles once advised, "If you want to keep a secret, then pretend to share it."

Unable to discern the *authentic* Roswell artifact, skeptics and believers, scientists and UFOlogists, the Air Force and the media...



"They're digging in the wrong place!"





"Once you eliminate the impossible, whatever remains, no matter how improbable, must be the truth."

Sherlock Holmes



Just three miles from the 'Plains Theater', the future home of *The International UFO Museum and Research Center*, Roswell Army Air Field had begun operations in 1941 to train thousands of bomber pilots, navigators and bombardiers--the largest, most successful flight school in aviation history.

World War II had ended with two bangs; the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki had killed nearly 150,000 people and almost as many future Air Force jobs. Gone were the thousand-plane bombing raids that destroyed Nazi industry, then burned Japanese cities to the ground. Woefully unprepared at Pearl Harbor, the Army Air Corps had become the most powerful destructive force ever known, but the fighting done, the 'Greatest Generation' went home and boomed babies.

Not to worry. We had the B-29 *Superfortress*, the biggest, most advanced, most beautiful four-engine bomber ever to fly.



The B-29 was the world's first 'Atomic Bomber', and the second.

During missions over Japan, three damaged *Superfortresses* made emergency landings in the Soviet Union. The crews were interned and the planes shipped to Russian aircraft factories for 'reverse engineering'. In May of 1947, the Red Air Force rolled out its first long-range strategic bomber, the Tupolev Tu-4 (NATO codenamed 'Bull'), a near bolt for bolt copy of the B-29.





Half the Pentagon flew into a panic; the Russians had a bomber that could hit Los Angeles, Washington, New York, even Chicago!

Cooler heads prevailed. Untouched by war, the United States was the world's lone superpower. No nation on earth would dare attack us. We had the atomic bomb!



"The Atomic Bomb is for people with weak nerves."

Stalin did not have weak nerves. After beating the German Army back from the gates of Moscow all the way to Berlin, the Red Army 'liberated' and then occupied Poland, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Albania. Together with East Germany, the future Warsaw Pact would serve as 'buffer zone', protecting the Soviet Union from another invasion by the West.

Or was Stalin planning...an attack?



George Patton didn't trust 'the Ruskies'. With the Nazis beaten, 'Blood n' Guts' wanted to keep going east.



"Do not destroy the German planes. You may need them."

"If I were president," said one of the scientists who had worked on the Manhattan Project, a Jew who saw Stalin as anti-Semitic as Hitler. "I would drop the Atomic Bomb on Moscow right now!"

Easier said than done. Western Europe, still in ruins, had garrisons of American, British and French troops, but the Red Army outnumbered the soon-to-be-called NATO soldiers, 5 to 1. Their air force had the West down 3 to 1 and in tanks, 10 to 1. If the Reds mounted a massive blitz, they'd reach the Channel almost as fast as Hitler's panzers had.

Thousands of US bombers and fighters had been stationed in Britain during WW II, but to deploy even a couple of B-29s with atomic bombs overseas would have been unthinkable, a victory only for Communist propaganda.



The entire American atomic arsenal was six 'Fat Boy' bombs. And only one squadron in the country that could drop them: the 509th Bombardment Group (Very Heavy), at Roswell Air Field in New Mexico.

If the Russians started World War III, a formation of six loaded B-29s and six spares would first fly to a base in upstate New York. How many would then fly to Newfoundland, Iceland and finally England would be up to the Joint Chiefs and finally the president. But we couldn't show the Soviets we were fighting them halfway!

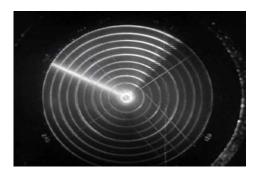
On 21 March 1946, the 509th Composite Group was assigned to...



'Peace is Our Profession'

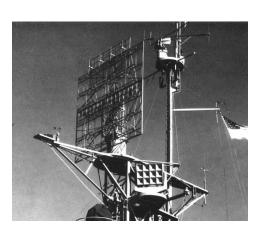
For a war Pentagon 'hawks' believed had been 'imminent' for years, how would the 509th nuke the Soviet Union? The missions against Japan were 'milk runs'; no enemy fighters, no flak. The crews took naps on the way home.

Would the US pin its hopes on one B-29 'sneaking' into Russia to bomb Moscow or Leningrad or Kiev? Or three strikes simultaneously? Americans by the score would be dying in Western Europe. How to end this quickly with a mushroom cloud?



Flying across the continent with a full fighter escort was a good beginning, until they reached the 'Buffer Zone'. Churchill's 'Iron Curtain' had descended across the Continent from Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic', and an *electronic* one, the Red radar defense network boasting the finest tracking technology in the world--The 'SK Air Search', operational since 1944 on a 150 cm wavelength with a range of 175 miles. Of course, it was the best. The 'SK' was made in America and shipped to Russia as Lend-Lease.

As they had with the B-29, the Soviets would copy the SK radar sets and position them throughout the 'Buffer Zone.' Linked to Red interceptor aircraft, the Soviet National Air Defense Force would soon be known as *PVO Strany*.





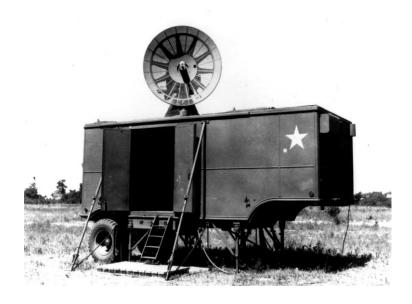
Without a detailed map of the USSR radar network complete with the 'signal signatures' of every site, the B-29s would be sitting ducks. If one were shot down and crashed, the Russians would get a fully-operational A-Bomb. And if it exploded when the *Superfortress* hit, what could America say to the loved ones of 50,000 vaporized Eastern Europeans?

We had given the Russians our radar. They had copied our bomber, and their spies had stolen the secrets of our Atomic Bomb.



"We are the Communists' superior in every way...except espionage!"

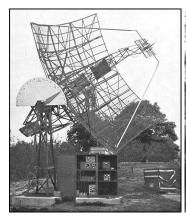
At Roswell in late spring 1947, the Americans finally began playing catch up.



On June 4th, winds were blowing at a moderate 10-20 mph. Had a news reporter or a scientist or an historian been in the communications hutch of the 509th at Roswell Field, none would have seen anything out of the ordinary.

Roswell Field had *no* long-range radar. White Sands Proving Ground had two, the second, a modified SCR-584, was undergoing separate testing for missile tracking by the Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories. Army Air Corps personnel, radio intercept operators wearing earphones, were clicking off the Morse Code as they

eavesdropped in on the 'SK' radar stations at White Sands, Alamogordo Army Air Base, and Corona tracking a Roswell weather balloon. When the target had run its course, the collected scripts were passed to the Radio Intercept Analysts.





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The messages were Standard Operating Procedure: Time (Always in Greenwich Mean or 'Zulu' Time), 3-digit 'raid' number, first and second four-digit grid, and last, a 3- digit 'remarks' code.

1051Z 632 1498 6432 378

Piece of cake. But given only the flight path of the balloon and the weather conditions, how many 'fly-bys' would it take a Radio Intercept Analyst who knew *nothing* of the radar system to break the grid code, locate the radar stations and map out their capabilities?

'Tracking-back-the-cat' would become CIA tradecraft.



No one knew exactly when the 'radar train' from the Mogul balloon touched down on an open field 75 miles outside of Roswell. The debris had been found and bundled up for nearly a week before the rancher brought it in.





That's when the 'flying disk' hit the fan. The 509th knew nothing about Mogul which had been launched by the University of New York and was intended 'to produce

a reliable "constant level balloon" to act as an equipment platform, originally for sensitive microphones to 'listen" for the sound traces of Soviet Atomic explosions but later to carry equipment taking air samples again checking for the signature of Atomic Explosions.'

Mogul was a desperate dream-scheme. When the Reds got the A-bomb they'd explode it and broadcast to the world how powerful it was. The 509th could soon be up against *PVO Strany* and needed real help now.

At first, the 'Captures Flying Saucer' headline had spooked the 509th, but it might kill two birds with one balloon--to prove that the Air Corps had nothing 'secret' going on and a propaganda show. The weather balloon revealed to the media appeared as pure and as innocent as a Disney princess wearing a 'train'---aluminum boxes, strung out like beer cans behind the honeymoon coupe. The 'train' *attracted* radar, but nobody picked up on that.





The Roswell tests got a codename: ULTIMATE. For good reason. This would be no 'cloak 'n dagger' caper, no 'black bag' job, but the largest intelligence-gathering operation in history.







PVO Strany wouldn't know what hit them!

When the Air Force was officially created in September, it came with a special branch: the Security Service, the future Radio Intercept Operators and Analysts. Plus linguists and technicians from the 'best and the brightest' airmen and officers who would staff the new 'electronic tripwire' along the Soviet Union 'Buffer Zone'. Running the show would be the newest 'company' in the government: the **CIA**.

The US already had monitoring sites in West Germany, but these would have to be upgraded and the network expanded. Under the code name Project ULTIMATE.







"We have developed an effective method of penetrating the Iron Curtain with the use of high level balloons."

CIA's Special Procedures Group began stockpiling surplus WW II weather balloons, but the operation had only begun to come together when the Russians made their move.





Germany had been divided into four zones, as was its former capital, Berlin, in East Germany, the Soviet Zone. Stalin had had enough of the 'open city'. On July 27th,1948, he ordered the Red Army to cut off land routes used by the Allies to supply the city. Without trucked in food, the Russian dictator expected Berlin to surrender to Soviet rule.







The US Air Force had other plans and began flying in supplies. Surviving a harsh German winter, the 'Berlin Airlift' carried over two million tons of supplies in 270,000 flights.

The blockade of Berlin was finally lifted by the Russians on May 12th, 1949, becoming a symbol of the United States' 'resolve to stand up to the Soviet threat without being forced into a direct conflict.'







The US had just begun to fight. By 1951, the Air Force had set up a chain of listening posts manned by highly trained USAFSS personnel, more than 90% enlisted men, unheard of in the rest of the Air Force. The 'Berlin Airlift' had been only a warm-up.

The Roswell radar tests were about to bear fruit. The CIA needed only a 'cover story.'







'The National Committee for a Free Europe (NCFE), later the Free Europe Committee, was established in 1949 to find work for the democratic émigrés from Eastern Europe, put émigré voices on the air in their own languages; and carry émigré articles and statements back to their homelands through the printed word.' These objectives were realized through the establishment of a publishing division, Free Europe Press, and a broadcast division, Radio Free Europe (RFE).

Founded, funded and run by the CIA, the NCFE maintained a public identity as a private corporation of freedom-loving American citizens.

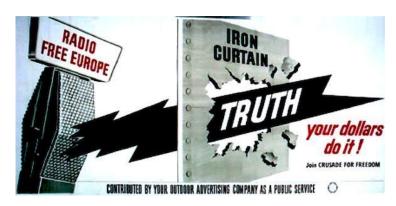






"The **Crusade for Freedom** will provide for the expansion of Radio Free Europe into a network of stations. They will be given the simplest, clearest charter in the world: 'Tell the truth.'"

NCFE marketing raised millions. At no time did anyone working with **'Crusade For Freedom'** ever suspect that they were helping NSA and the AF Security Service execute an intelligence-gathering operation.



On May 27, 1949, the Chairman National Committee for a Free Europe wrote potential members...

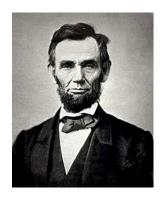
'An advertising campaign of a suitable tone and dignity will start ...The enterprise touches so closely upon the instinct of survival, and the need is so clear, that substantial contributions have already been assured from a number of sources, and adequate funds are in hand for some time to come."



Aug. 29, 1949 'Joe-1', the Soviet A-Bomb

The **Crusade for Freedom** got a trademark and an endorsement.





"That this world under God shall have a new birth of freedom."



The 10-ton bell got a ticker tape parade in New York City. then visited 21

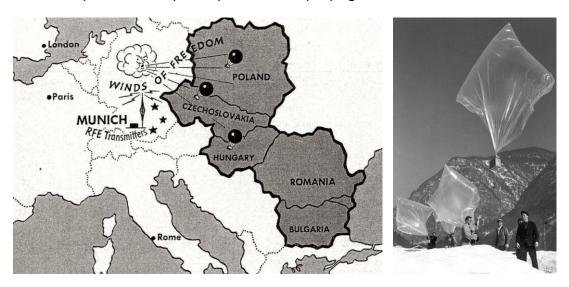
American cities, and people in every state were encouraged to sign Freedom Scrolls and contribute money for RFE. More than a million dollars was collected.



"This is a struggle, above all, for the minds of men."

And to map out the *PVO Strany* radar network. After nearly four years of building and training and political maneuvering, the CIA and the AF Security Service were up and ready. Psychological warfare, 'PSYOPs' at its pinnacle was about to take flight...the grandest, noblest airborne invasion the world would ever know.

The first 'weather research balloons', about four feet in diameter, were launched in August 1951 from an open field three miles from the Czechoslovak border. A 'test operation', independent of Radio Free Europe. The Free Europe Committee had used the Free Europe Press to print up millions of propaganda leaflets.



In part they read, 'A new wind is blowing. New hope is stirring. Friends of freedom in other lands have found a new way to reach you...Millions of free men and women have joined together and are sending you this message of friendship over the winds of freedom...There is no dungeon deep enough to hide truth, no wall high enough to keep out the message of freedom. Tyranny cannot control the winds, cannot enslave your hearts. Freedom will rise again.'





Each balloon carried about 3000 leaflets, and when the weather was favorable, about 2000 balloons were launched each night. Over 11,000,000 leaflets in two weeks..



'When dawn comes, the scene overhead is something out of science fiction,' wrote the executive vice-president of the Crusade for Freedom. 'The sky to the east is literally filled with balloons on their way to Czechoslovakia.



'The crews go back to work again at 7:30 a.m. and the launchings continue through noon. During the past ten hours nearly 3,000 balloons and over 4,000,000 messages have been sent...It is 7:00 p.m. before the last truck pulls back into the courtyard in Munich. Except for naps on the road, nobody has slept for 36 hours.'

PVO scrambled their new MiG fighters to intercept the invaders. When the jets proved too fast to get an accurate bead on their floating targets, slower, propeller-driven Messerschmitts, captured Nazi fighters, were sent up and antiaircraft guns fired at the balloons as they crossed the border.





Project ULTIMATE quickly outgrew CIA. In November, 1952, a new agency was created 'to collect, process, and disseminate intelligence information from foreign signals for intelligence and counterintelligence purposes and to support military operations.'







Under NSA command, from sites in West Germany, the USAF Security Service listened in. Not only mapping out the radar net, but by intercepting voice communication to Russian pilots, determined their reaction times and state of readiness.







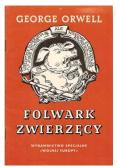


Among them, a gifted Morse intercept operator, staff sergeant John Cash.

Mission classification required a *codeword* security clearance:

Top Secret DINAR

The FEC had gained valuable practical experience in balloon launching, but the leaflets needed an upgrade.



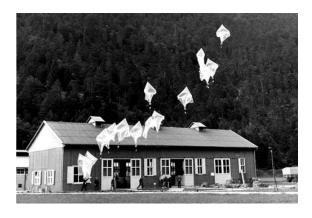




"All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others."

Next time around, George Orwell took to the sky. Other material urged readers to "insist on workers' rights today, demand concessions—tomorrow, Freedom." Police cars in Prague and elsewhere used loudspeakers, ordering citizens to turn in all the leaflets.





Helium and hydrogen filled different types and sizes of balloons, from round to pillow shaped. Cartons filled with leaflets were attached to the bottom of the hydrogen-filled pillow balloons. The loosely-covered cartons were held upright by envelopes containing dry ice. As the dry ice evaporated, the cartons tipped over, thus dropping the leaflets. To try and hit an intended population target, the balloon launchers calculated the weight of the dry ice, the amount of hydrogen, weight of the leaflets, direction and velocity of the wind. FEP estimated that 500 balloons carrying 2 to 7 pounds of leaflets could be filled and launched hourly at the stations.

The Radio Free Europe balloon launchings were backed up by a theme song "The Iron Curtain Does Not Reach the Sky." Three major launching sites were constructed in Bavaria to launch the balloons in round-the-clock operations in good weather.

ULTIMATE was more successful than even the CIA had planned. Combining radio and the printed word had pioneered a new frontier in political warfare---the *media blitz*! (And perhaps, the first *grande continental* UFO 'flap')





The Korean 'Police Action' had the USAFSS listening in from posts in Japan and Taiwan. Intel gathered on the Red Air Force's role would save American lives, but against Soviet MiGs, the B-29 was fatally vulnerable.

5 March 1953





"He fought barbarism with barbarism, but Stalin was a great man!"





Five months later, USAFSS Headquarters moved from Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, to "Security Hill" at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, and renamed the Air Force Special Communications Center.



The B-52 *Stratofortress* joined the Air Force in 1954. The gigantic eight-engine bomber would be America's sole atomic deterrent for the rest of the decade. Safeguarding the nation, the 509th pilots made less than the NY Yankees' batboy.

While in America...







ULTIMATE went on. By 1956, over half a million balloons, some as tall as 60 feet, carrying over 300,000,000 leaflets, posters and books had 'invaded' Eastern Europe provoking official Communist fury and profanity, and ultimately, an issue before the United Nations.

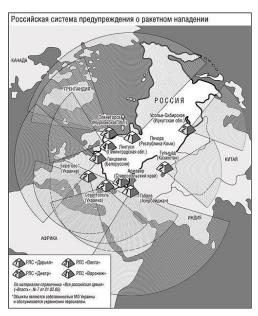
RFE ended the balloon-leaflet campaigns when huge antennas and powerful transmitters had finally constructed to more efficiently reach its East Europe audience. Communist European propaganda blamed the fatal crash of a Czechoslovak airliner on balloons crossing its flight path.





Impact brought an even higher human cost. In 1956, encouraged by ULTIMATE, the Hungarians revolted and were brutally crushed by the Red Army. More than 2,500 were killed and thousands more imprisoned.





Through Project ULTIMATE, the USAF Security Service had revealed *PVO* Strany's radar defense to be a vulnerable patchwork and its pilots so unskilled that they often had to follow railroad tracks to fly from one city to another.

Thanks to Roswell, America was ready for World War III.

Linked to the manned bomber, USAFSS would continue to upgrade and expand with sites in Turkey, Pakistan, and Iran (We wanted the intel even more than the oil.) Linked by teletype (the first e-mail), faster than UPI or AP, the Security Service had created a DOD internet that could relay a 'critic' message to the President's desk in mere minutes.





On May 1, 1960, *PVO Stany* SAMs shot down a U-2 spy plane. If Homer had told this tale, CIA pilot Francis Gary Powers would have been 'The face that launched a thousand spy satellites.'



The Air Force soon launched the 'Discoverer' series, described as a 'satellite technology development effort', but like 'The Crusade for Freedom' balloons, was a cover for CIA espionage. The first 'Discoverer' satellite mission revealed that Soviet ICBM deployment had barely begun. A mission in late 1961 confirmed that there were no Soviet ICBMs filling vast areas of unexplored Siberia. Not only was the US still in the lead, but the Red Air Force had greatly reduced its reliance on manned bombers.



The North American Aviation XB-70 could fly Mach 3+ at an altitude of 70,000 feet. But newly operational high-altitude surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) had suddenly made the manned nuclear bomber vulnerable and the *Valkyrie* was cancelled in 1961.



During the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962, USAFSS was able to give President Kennedy accurate and timely intel on the state of the Red Air Force and the Soviet Supreme Rocket Forces.

In 1950, President Truman had backed French colonialism in Indochina with a military mission and military advisors. When the Vietminh kicked out the French in 1954, the 'Domino Theory' took root





"No other challenge is more deserving of our effort and energy...
Our security may be lost piece by piece, country by country."

On 23 November 1963, the AF Security Service reported that *PVO Strany* had been as shocked as we were by JFK's assassination.



In 1969, the USAFSS had peaked at 28,637 personnel, but the Radio Age of intelligence-gathering had evolved into 'electronic warfare' and intercept sites aimed at the Warsaw Pact began shutting down. In 1979, the Security Service was renamed Electronic Security Command, and given new missions via digital technology. Another reorganization a few years later resulted in the Air Intelligence Command, subsequently downgraded to the Air Intelligence Agency (AIA). Continued re-organizations within the USAF have completely absorbed the various missions into different sub-groups. The latest iteration: the Air Force Information, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency (AFISR).

For more than thirty years, USAFSS had served as a 'tripwire', protecting America from Communist attack. And then disappeared under **Top Secret DINAR**. USAFSS veterans felt ignored, frustrated, and dismissed, not unlike the Roswellians, that forgotten town where their original mission had begun. Something had to be done.





Founded in Roswell in 1891, the New Mexico Military Institute, a state-supported four-year high school and two-year junior college has been a vital training ground for America's future leaders, military and civilian, including Heisman Trophy winner, Vietnam vet and Super Bowl champion Roger Staubach.



The parade ground was packed. Graduating cadets in dress uniforms stood at attention while their parents beamed proudly.

After the color guard and National Anthem, the principal speaker was playing no game.



"I believe in American heroism, that honor and courage and sacrifice in defense of the United States should not be concealed, covered up or classified **Top Secret DINAR**.

"You all need to know that right here in Roswell the Air Force began its electronic intelligence gathering crusade against the Soviet Union. Beyond 'harmless weather balloons' and Project ULTIMATE, we were conducting 'ferret' missions, recon flights along the border of the Soviet empire, from the Iron Curtain to the Siberian coast.'





"Whoever it was, Pentagon, CIA, coming up with that 'Capture Flying Disc' headline pulled off the greatest military deception since 'Operation Fortitude' Patton's fake D-Day army.





"Think of the press as a great keyboard on which the government can play."

"A lie told often enough becomes the truth."

The audience grew silent with anticipation. The general hesitated for only a moment.



"American volunteers flying in harm's way, skirting the Soviet border to 'spook' PVO Strany, vital defense data to insure our freedoms...





"The flights cost us dearly. There were shoot-downs, our people killed by Russian MiGs. But 'national security' turned our heroes into victims. Families were told that their loved ones were dead, but not how, where and why.

"Let us be 'silent warriors' no more. The hell with **Top Secret DINAR**! It's about time we recognized and honored our fallen heroes. Let's hear it for the United States Air Force Security Service!"

A split-second of silence, then...

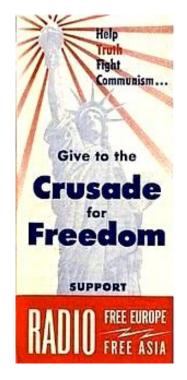


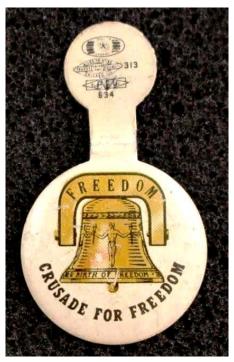
For the first time since June of 1947, Roswell was back in the headlines. Reaction ignited a spark of entrepreneurism that had founded the town. Within a year, with contributions from Radio Free Europe, the **Crusade for Freedom Society**, the 509th Memorial Group, and the National Balloon Preservationists, the 'ULTIMATE Museum' was born.





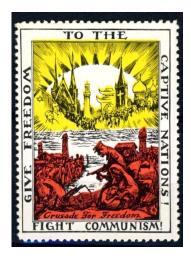






The historic exhibits of 'harmless weather balloons' and 'pillow balloons' backed by political posters in a 'Buffer Zone' of languages around the original 10-ton bell. Its message to the world still rang.

'A new wind is blowing. New hope is stirring...There is no dungeon deep enough to hide truth, no wall high enough to keep out the message of freedom. Tyranny cannot control the winds, cannot enslave your hearts. Freedom will rise again.'





Not only had Roswell been "The 'Kitty Hawk' of the Greatest Airborne Invasion in History", but "The Birthplace of the Media Blitz

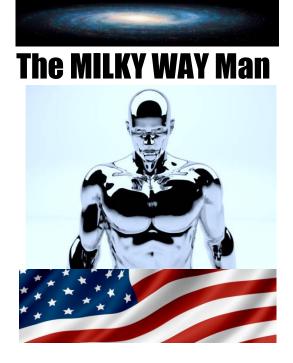
Displayed prominently in the museum foyer is a framed memorial...



With the names of the heroes who gave their lives for their country.

Big corporations became ULTIMATE sponsors, testing their latest commercials on site and giving out exclusive samples. The museum committee then bought the Roswell movie theater on Main Street, turning it into a showcase. Hollywood movies big and small would no longer premiere in New York or Beverly Hills, but at The ULTIMATE Theater. The annual ULTIMATE Film Festival continues to be a great success.

Every year since 1984, during the Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends, The Roswell Museum reenacts 'Project ULTIMATE' launching helium-filled balloons filled with valuable leaflets that will drop from the sky into the center of town.



'HE WHO DEMANDS THE FUTURE, COMMANDS THE FUTURE!'

This year's events will be sponsored by yet another Hollywood 'alien invasion' epic. More than 5,000 free movie passes, T-shirts and action figure 'leaflets' will float over the huge crowd. Over the years, as valuable as the 'leaflets' have been, most are never redeemed, but treasured as ULTIMATE souvenirs.







A Madison Avenue ad man gave America a new adjective. "Our new marketing campaign...it's gonna be *Roswellian*!"

Not until 1997 did the Department of Defense declassify the USAF Security Service. None of that ever happened in Roswell.

Something else did.

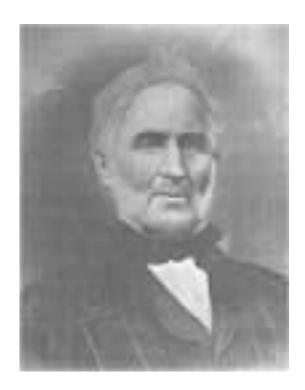






"How quickly our differences worldwide would vanish if we were facing an alien threat from outside this world."

President Ronald Reagan



'Roswell' was Mr. Smith's *first* name. His son, Van C. Smith, a professional gambler, filed a claim in 1871 and named the settlement to honor his father. 'Billy the Kid', the Lincoln county War, and raids by the Mescalero Apaches colored the 1880s.

In 1890, not gold, but a vast artesian water supply was discovered beneath Roswell. Irrigation turned the arid land into vegetable fields. The 'Chisum Trail' began nearby for driving longhorn cattle to the railhead at Las Cruces. The First National Bank was established, and in 1891, the town was incorporated. *The Roswell Dispatch,* now the *Roswell Daily Record*, began its storied history, as did the Goss Military Institute, later renamed the New Mexico Military Institute.

During the Great Depression of the 1930s, many small towns in the Heartland had been abandoned as their citizens sought work elsewhere. FDR's 'Works Projects Administration' created jobs and hope in Roswell, but in the 1970s Walker Air Force Base closed and half the population moved out. Many worried that Roswell would become yet another New Mexico 'ghost town'.



In the nick of time, the town was saved by a 'close encounter'



"If ya wanna see 'flying saucers'," Dr. J. Allen Hynek quoted a wag, "'Goose the waitress.'"

Like Mark Twain, Hynek had lived and died by a 'cosmic clock'. Twain was born with the appearance of Halley's Comet in 1835 and died when it came back blazing in 1910, the year Hynek was born. When Halley returned feebly in 1986, Hynek was barely able to see it before he passed away.

An astronomer trained in the scientific method, for more than thirty years, the dapper Hynek, with a cool beard, eyeglasses and a pipe, was the voice of integrity in the UFO Community, an honest straight-talker who never came on like 'The Voice of Authority'.

A professor at Ohio State University, Hynek was contacted by Project Sign in 1948 to be a scientific consultant for their investigation of UFO reports centered at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, a quick commute.

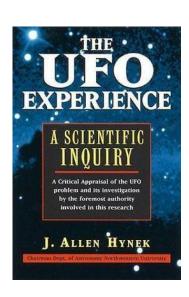


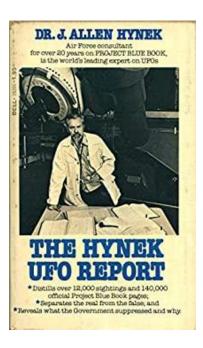
"The whole subject seems utterly ridiculous. A fad that would soon pass."

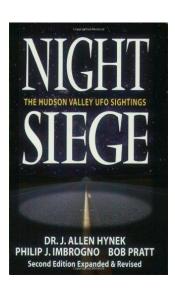
Just the kind of 'respectable scientist' the Air Force wanted to debunk UFO reports.

For the first few years of his UFO studies, Hynek thought that a great many UFOs could be explained as prosaic phenomena misidentified by an observer. But beyond such fairly obvious cases, Hynek often stretched logic to nearly the breaking point in an attempt to explain away as many UFO reports as possible.

In his 1977 book, **'The Hynek UFO Report'** he admitted enjoying his role.







But the astronomer's take on UFOs began to change after examining hundreds of reports, including those by astronomers, pilots, police officers, and military

personnel. He was also distressed by 'the dismissive or arrogant attitude of many mainstream scientists towards UFO reports and witnesses.

For the April 1953 issue of *Journal of the Optical Society of America* titled "Unusual Aerial Phenomena," Hynek wrote, 'Ridicule is not part of the scientific method, and people should not be taught that it is. The steady flow of reports... raises questions of scientific obligation and responsibility. Is there ... any residue that is worthy of scientific attention? Or, if there isn't, does not an obligation exist to say so to the public—not in words of open ridicule but seriously, to keep faith with the trust the public places in science and scientists?'

That same year, Hynek was an associate member of the Robertson Panel, which concluded that there was nothing anomalous about UFOs, and that a public relations campaign should be undertaken to debunk the subject and reduce public interest.

The reports kept coming. Hynek concluded that some were deeply puzzling, even after considerable study.

"As a scientist I must be mindful of the past; all too often it has happened that matters of great value to science were overlooked because the new phenomenon did not fit the accepted scientific outlook of the time."

What prompted Hynek's change of heart? "Two things, really," he'd later say. "One was...the Air Force. They wouldn't give UFOs the chance of existing, even if they were flying up and down the street in broad daylight. Everything had to have an explanation. I began to resent that, even though I basically felt the same way, because I still thought they weren't going about it in the right way. You can't assume that everything is black no matter what.





"Secondly, the caliber of the witnesses began to trouble me. Quite a few instances were reported by military pilots, for example, and I knew them to be fairly well-trained, so this is when I first began to think that, well, maybe there was something to all this."



"One of the most impressive scientists I met while working on the UFO project. Hynek didn't do two things that some of them did: give you the answer before he knew the question; or immediately begin to expound on his accomplishments in the field of science."



In 1977, Hynek spoke to a packed house. "What I really believe about UFOs is that the phenomenon as a whole is real, but not necessarily just one thing.

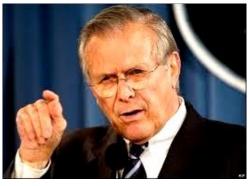
"There is sufficient evidence to defend both the Extraterrestrial Intelligence (ETI) and the Extradimensional Intelligence (EDI) hypothesis," Hynek continued. "...I hold it entirely possible that a technology exists, which encompasses both the physical and the psychic, the material and the mental.

There are stars that are millions of years older than the sun. There may be a civilization that is millions of years more advanced than man's. We have gone from Kitty Hawk to the moon in some seventy years, but it's possible that a million-year-old civilization may know something that we don't ... I hypothesize a technology encompassing the mental and material realms. The psychic realms, so mysterious to us today, may be an ordinary part of an advanced technology."

But Hynek didn't know. Finding out had become the quest of his life. Soft-spoken, conservative and cautious, Hynek was accused, by UFO fringe groups, of being a CIA "mole" to sabotage the movement.

Donald Rumsfeld had been Hynek's congressman and introduced J. Allen Hynek at the 1968 Symposium on UFOs. When Rumsfeld became Secretary of Defense under President Ford (Also for W. Bush), after twenty years working for the Pentagon, Hynek demanded to be told the whole truth about UFOs.







"You have no right to know."

Hynek's final days were spent in a hospital.

"Why can't they tell me now?" he asked again and again. "Why can't they tell me the truth even now?"

Hynek waited for that telephone call from the White House, the Pentagon or the CIA. None ever came. It was the ultimate disappointment.



But Hynek had left an indelible mark on UFOlogy. His 1972 book "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry", had set down the three kinds of 'close encounters.'

First: visual within 500 feet.

Second: Physical trace of its presence

Third: *Direct interaction*

Steven Spielberg hired Hynek as a consultant and insisted on a cameo in 1977's 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind,' a fantasy the 'Grand UFOlogist' must have wished had been real.



The 'Grand UFOlogist' of the New Millennium started his UFO crusade in 1958, and since 1967 has lectured at more than 600 colleges and 100 professional groups in all 50 states, 9 Canadian provinces and 16 other countries. He has published more than 90 UFO papers and has appeared on hundreds of radio and TV programs and many documentaries, and twice at the United Nations.



Then came Stanton Friedman, a nuclear physicist with multiple degrees. Friedman had spent 14 years working in highly advanced, and highly classified programs, including nuclear aircraft, fission and fusion rockets, and compact nuclear power-plants for space and terrestrial applications.

Like Hynek, Friedman wore glasses and had a beard. But brazen and outspoken, he would boldly take 'flying saucers' where no UFOlogist had gone before.

Even while involved with 'Close Encounters', Hynek had avoided describing UFO occupants as "aliens" or "extraterrestrials"; there was not enough evidence to determine if beings associated with UFOs had an objective physical reality or to confirm their origins or motives.

Near the end, Hynek was critical of the popular extraterrestrial hypothesis. "I have come to support less and less the idea that UFOs are 'nuts and bolts' spacecraft from other worlds. There are just too many things going against this theory. To me, it seems ridiculous that super intelligences would travel great distances to do relatively stupid things like stop cars, collect soil samples, and frighten people. I think we must begin to re-examine the evidence. We must begin to look closer to home."

Throughout his tenure as 'Grand UFOlogist,' Hynek had been frustrated and belittled by the Air Force's logic on 'flying saucers': "It can't be, therefore it isn't."

Stanton Friedman took a new tack: It could be, therefore it is.



'Problem' or 'phenomena', UFOs had become a *market*, but lacked a brand name, a flagship and a Mecca. Friedman would change that in 1978, when he called up the Air Corps intelligence officer who handled the 'wreckage' at Roswell.

"It was *not* a weather balloon," said the retired officer

Friedman found himself in the right mind-set at the right time. In 1964, the Warren Commission submitted its final report to put the JFK assassination to sleep; instead it awakened a spate of 'conspiracy' books blaming the Mob or the Russians. One 'theorist' had the CIA killing JFK because the president demanded to see its complete UFO files, which, of course, could not be permitted.

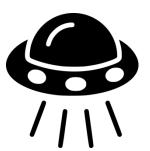
The 'Pentagon Papers' made the front page of the *New York Times* in 1971, detailing how the Johnson Administration had systematically lied, not only to the public but also to Congress, about US involvement in the Vietnam War.



In September 1977, Ground Saucer Watch (GSW) a UFO group, filed a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the CIA requesting all UFO documents. A search conducted by the Office of General Counsel produced approximately 900 pages. On 14 December 1978, the Agency released all but 57 documents of about 100 pages, on 'national security grounds'. GSW then sued for the release of the withheld documents, claiming that the Agency was still holding out key information.







"Are we in UFOs?" asked CIA Director Stansfield Turner who would be assured that "No organized Agency effort to do research in connection with UFO phenomena nor has there been an organized effort to collect intelligence on UFOs since the 1950s." The CIA held only "sporadic instances of correspondence dealing with the subject," including various kinds of reports of UFO sightings.

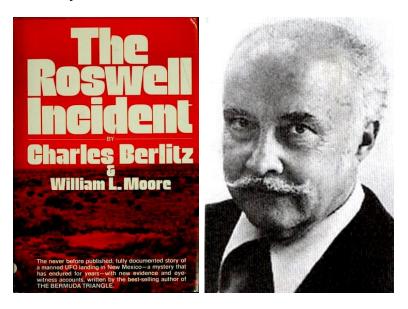
The country, it seemed, couldn't trust Congress, the President, the Pentagon or the CIA.

So why did so many Americans believe a retired Air Force Lt. Colonel who wasn't even a pilot who claimed that a 'flying saucer' had crashed at Roswell more than thirty years before?



Because we *wanted* to believe. That wasn't the Air Force that lost the Vietnam War, but the Army Air *Corps*, the heroes whose courage and sacrifice had won WW II.

Plus, there were eyewitnesses!



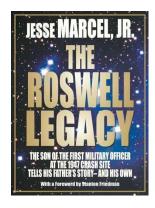
Published in 1980 with uncredited help from Stanton Friedman, the 'Roswell' trademark cleared the launch tower and took off.

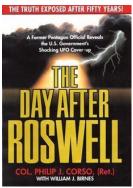


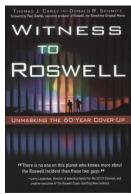
That same year, the courts dismissed the GSW lawsuit versus the CIA, finding that the Agency had conducted a thorough and adequate search for UFO files 'in good faith'.

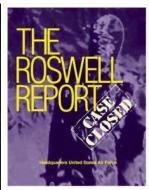
But Friedman was just warming up, proclaiming a 'Cosmic Watergate', charging the 'ship' and 'alien bodies' had been hidden at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, where so many years before, Dr. Hynek had gotten his start.

What was the truth? Back in 1947, the intelligence officer who started it all with the 'flying disk' was allegedly told by his superiors, "Just be a good soldier for a few more years and it will all come out."



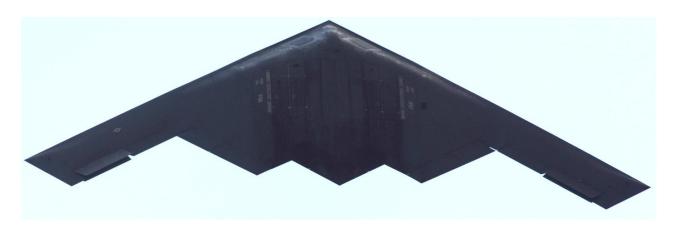






What did come out over the years were dozens of Roswell books claiming 'definitive proof' and 'Top Secret revelations.' Evidence that a *second* spaceship and then a *third* had crashed sold thousands of copies. 'Little green men' had become 'grays' and the 'alien body count' rose to near 17, the number of USAF Security Service personnel killed by the Russians during the Cold War.

The ultimate manned bomber program had begun in 1981. The Air Force was granted approval in 1987 for 132 operational B-2 aircraft, principally for strategic bombing missions. Each would cost \$1.2 *billion*. Its first flight was July 17, 1989. Tested at Edwards Air Force Base, California, the bat-like bomber would generate scores of UFO 'sightings.'



In 1989, the Berlin Wall came down. Soon after, the Soviet Union disappeared.

Would Roswell? Once called "the Pearl of the Pecos" and by Will Rogers "the prettiest little town in the West", the early 1990s brought an economic slump. The downtown area was nearly half-vacant and in need of architectural and structural repairs. Yet again 'space aliens' came to the rescue.

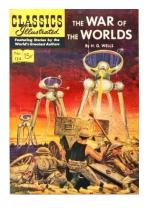


Opened to visitors in 1992 to educate the general public to all aspects of the UFO phenomenon, the *International UFO Museum and Research Center'* was created to bring back the feeling of 1947 – a newsroom, a government "cover-up" room with a fake alien corpse from the 1994 Showtime movie 'Roswell: The UFO Cover-up', and also a room dedicated to providing information about "sightings". Also under the same roof - crop circles, Area 51, the paranormal, alien abductions. and a replica of the Mayan sarcophagus lid found in Palenque, Mexico that shows a man blasting off in a spaceship. The Research Center offers books, records, and other research materials galore. On the museum board are the best-known and most influential UFO experts on earth.



The 'Area 51' and 'Galaxy' Movie Theaters, a 'flying saucer'-shaped McDonalds,

'Alien' street lamps, the annual Roswell UFO Festival with carnivals, trade shows, alien costume contests, UFO lectures...





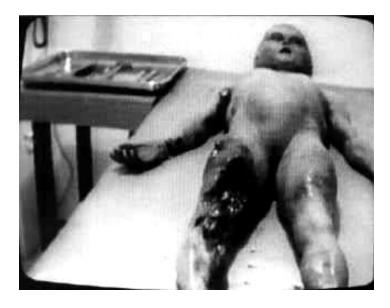


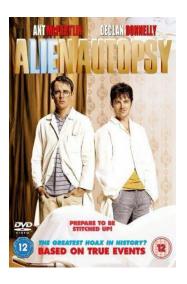
"Advertising is legalized lying."

"To promote business prosperity by assisting business development and fostering community pride and spirit," declared the Roswell Chamber of Commerce.

In 1995 London-based film producer presented a few minutes of grainy black and white film footage that purported to show a dead alien (supposedly from the Roswell crash) undergoing an autopsy. First hailed as authentic by many in the UFO community, a number of discrepancies soon popped out (spotted by forensic experts). After the hoax had been thoroughly debunked, *that* story made for a 2006 comedy.

After the hoax had been thoroughly debunked, *that* story made for a 2006 comedy.





Was the Roswell UFO Museum a target for a CIA disinformation campaign? In 1997, the museum director claimed he was contacted by a man who said he had pieces of wreckage from the 'flying disk' that crashed in 1947 given to him by his recently-deceased father. A meeting was arranged in which the fragments were to be handed over.

However, when the museum director arrived, he found a CIA agent waiting, who told him that the telephone call had been monitored, and that the wreckage had been confiscated and the informant arrested and taken to a secret location.

CIA tradecraft comes into question; if the informant had been apprehended and evidence suppressed, why did the CIA agent keep the rendezvous? Had the agent not shown up, yet another crank call would have been forgotten.

Despite alleged CIA interference, the 50th Anniversary of the 'UFO crash' brought nearly 200,000 people to Roswell. Held annually over the 4th of July Weekend, the UFO/Alien Festival is a joyous event that's out of this world.



On October 22, 2002, the SCI FI Channel joined with John Podesta, President Clinton's former chief of staff, to call for more declassification of government UFO records.



"It is time for the government to declassify records that are more than twenty-five years old and to provide scientists with data that will assist in determining the real nature of this phenomenon."



The network's president added, "For the past decade, SCI FI programming has explored the often-blurred line that separates science fiction from science fact. But when credible scientists conclude that 5% to 10% of UFOs cannot be explained by natural or artificial causes, we think it is worth taking a much closer look at what is clearly a real and ubiquitous phenomenon."

SCI FI commissioned a report by independent journalist Leslie Kean to document the government's failure to carry out systematic scientific research into the UFO phenomenon.



"The fact is that scientists who have spent time studying, classifying, and analyzing these phenomena agree that they are real and that it will require a sustained research effort to determine their cause.

"The public has a right to know what is being observed in our air space, once it has been determined it is not a foreign or domestic aircraft."

A poll paid for by SCI FI Channel showed that 56% of Americans believe that UFOs are real and that 72% believe that the government isn't telling everything it knows about UFO activity.

Programmed hype for the latest SCI FI Channel documentary: 'The Roswell Crash: Startling New Evidence' - "Working under top-secret conditions, archaeologists from the University of New Mexico, in partnership with SCI FI Channel, set out to uncover conclusive physical evidence to help prove whether the claim of an extraterrestrial craft crash is science fiction or science fact."

Was this it? Had the 'secret' of Roswell finally been unearthed?



Backed by a series of books "The Roswell Dig Diaries," the mini-series had the original crash site ('The wrong place!' some said later.) excavated and the soil examined. "Curiouser and curiouser'; at the climax came the 'smoking gun'. Not an authentic artifact of alien origin or other-worldly DNA evidence, but a 1947 photograph of an Army officer holding a *memo*, a piece of paper at the Roswell press interview. Enhanced by computer technology, the words 'flying disk' and 'victims' could *almost* be read.



In 2004, ten years after the U.S. Air Force closed its books on the claim that a UFO crashed in Roswell, Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico, wrote in his foreword to a new book that "the mystery surrounding this crash has never been adequately explained -- not by independent investigators, and not by the U.S. government...There are as many theories as there are official explanations.



"Clearly, it would help everyone if the U.S. government disclosed everything it knows," wrote Richardson, who served as Energy secretary under President Bill Clinton. "The American people can handle the truth -- no matter how bizarre or mundane... With full disclosure and our best scientific investigation, we should be able to find out what happened on that fateful day in July nineteen forty-seven."

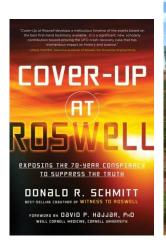
Internet technology usurped UFO magazines and almost every UFO author. Stanton Friedman, the 'Grand UFOlogist', is still marketable. "Flying Saucers and Science" was published 2008 and "Science Was Wrong" with Kathleen Marden, in 2010. Thousands of Roswell and 'UFO community' sites populate the web with more coming.

Sci Fi Channel's "UFOs: The Secret" aired in 2010, told the story of how "leaked" government documents proved that the US has been recovering crashed unidentified flying objects, often known as flying saucers, since 1941, and has been successful in keeping this information from the public. Examined using forensic techniques, the documents were declared genuine.

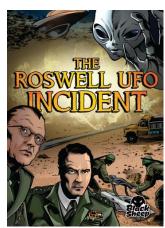


Advocates included a former astronaut, Skeptics noted that as no 'authentic artifact' had been revealed, the 'secret' of Roswell remained undiscovered.

At last, the "Smoking Gun"!







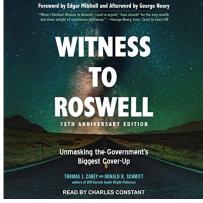
A collection of authenticated Kodachrome slides from the 1940s revealed a recovered alien body from the 1947 Roswell, New Mexico UFO crash?









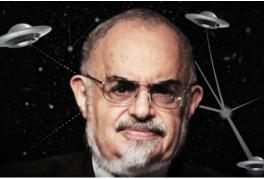




The "Roswell slides" were hyped shamelessly, promising to reveal a "smoking gun"! Not at a news conference or in reputable laboratory, but in a stadium in Mexico on May 5, to be part of the holiday celebration.

The Roswell "Old Guard" were skeptical of claimed "smoking gun" photos of unknown origin and content. The body with the "unreadable placard" seemed set in a museum, not in a TOP SECRET secure area.

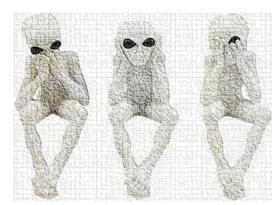






About 6,000 tickets were sold priced between US \$20 and \$100. Some accounts claim that up to \$350 per ticket was paid. Thousands paid \$15 or \$20 to watch the bilingual event on streaming Internet video (which did not work well.). The Twitter feed (#RoswellSlides) was overwhelmingly negative, and mercilessly mocked.

As for that "unreadable placard", the "Slide Team's" experts could not decipher...



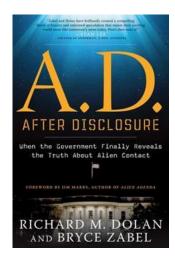


In two minutes using a trial copy of Smart Deblur...

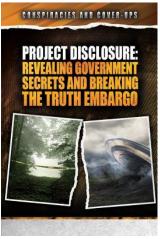
"MUMMIFIED BODY OF TWO YEAR OLD BOY,"

[A mummified Native American child once displayed in a museum in the American southwest.]

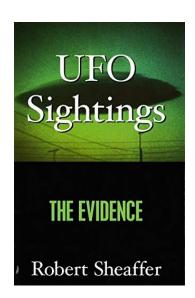
The Roswell Slides Fiasco" led skeptics and "skeptical believers" to agree that the UFO field is filled to the brim with rubbish. The latter group expects that, when the rubbish is cleared away, there ill be a signal in the noise, while the former expects that nothing will be left.



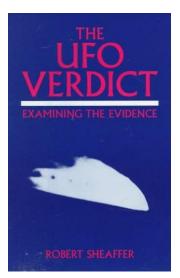




"My real sadness is that after twenty plus years of reading on the subject, I'm convinced that what crashed in Roswell was probably extraterrestrial. That doesn't mean that this photo proves it or that it is what people think it is. I put Roswell being a crash of something outside of earthly origin at 60% or above. I put the slide that's just been released being a photo of one of the Roswell bodies at 0%."







"The real fault line in UFOlogy lies between "UFO realists" skeptics and skeptical proponents who are willing to look for weaknesses and prosaic explanations for UFO claims and the "unrealists" who are ready to accept practically any exciting UFO claim on very little evidence."

Does Roswell have a relevant future?



Plans to build a big new UFO museum in Roswell have been on hold for a dozen years. The non-profit museum attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year, pumping millions of dollars into the local economy, but times are tough and the five-year project could take even longer or it might not happen at all.



"Our new building is on temporary indefinite, time frame I don't know, it is on hold, we still have the whole block and we still have all the plans."

For more than 30 years, the Roswell phenomenon has been the wellspring of dozens of Hollywood revenue streams, movies and TV shows that have grossed billions.



"It's payback time!"

Turnabout being fair play, let the studios invest in 'the whole block' with models and miniatures of 'flying saucers', and spaceships, the latest 'animatronics' and sci-fi video game prototypes...



...The Roswell International UFO Museum and Research Center would become what it's been all along: The ULTIMATE science fiction Museum.







This tiny town in the middle of nowhere, yet in the center of everything, beyond Wonderland and Neverland, OZ and Shangri-la, Roswell makes us *imagine...*by a dictum from 'Moses' himself...



"There has to be something out there, better than Man. Has to be!"



In May of 2011, the Czech Republic celebrated the 60th birthday of the launch of Radio Free Europe broadcasts and the 'Crusade for Freedom' across and over the Iron Curtain. For 5 years, a total of nearly 600,000 balloons carried more than 300M leaflets, posters, books, and other printed matter to nearly a dozen different countries.

In this Roswellian Age, one can send more propaganda to more people the world over in five minutes from a cell phone.

From that 'acorn', the unlimited branches of a mighty 'oak tree' loom 'round the world'.

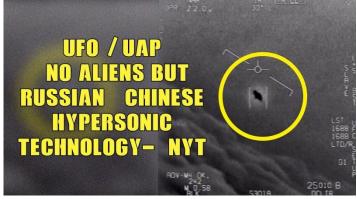




Project ULTIMATE lives on!

Unidentified Flying Objects are now termed Unidentified Ariel Phenomenon.





"Whistleblower" engages and amazes Congress!



"We have crashed alien spaceships and alien bodies!"



"Second-hand BS! Not a scintilla of evidence!"

The Roswell *International UFO Museum and Research Center* is open seven days a week from 9AM to 5PM. General Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children 5-15. Military (Must have ID Card or be in uniform) and seniors over 65, \$3.



NSA and CIA thank you for your patronage.



We vets of **USAF Security Service** salute you!

National Vigilance Park

Fort Meade, Maryland

A memorial to the military servicemen who participated in aerial reconnaissance during the Cold War.







USAFSS/ESC/AFIC/AIA/AF ISR Agency KIA/MIA

Fifty (50) members (48 flyers and two non-flyer) became KIAs or MIAs

16 separate incidents between 27 July 1953 and 31 March 2005

2 Sep 1958 C-130 17 total/11 USAFSS Det 1, 6911RGM Shot down over Soviet Armenia

MSgt George P. Petrochilos

TSgt Arthur L. Mello

A1C Robert J. Oshinskie

A2C Archie T. Bourg, Jr.

A2C Joel H. Fields

A2C James E. Ferguson, Jr.

A2C Harold T. Kamps A2C Gerald C. Maggiacomo A2C Clement O. Mankins

A2C Gerald H. Medeiros

A2C Robert H. Moore

Eighteen of the losses occurred in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War

9 Mar 1967 EC-47 6994SS Vietnam

TSgt Raymond F. Leftwich A1C Charles D. Land A1C Daniel C. Reese

7 Nov 1967 Gnd Attack 6994SS Vietnam

TSgt Frederick Sebers

5 Feb 1969 EC-47 6994SS

Vietnam

TSgt Hugh L. Sherburn
TSgt Louis J. Clever SSgt
Rodney H. Gott SSgt
James V. Dorsey A1C
Clarence L. McNeill

5 Jun 1969 RC135 6985SS Alaska Bering Sea

TSgt Eugene L. Benavides

SSgt Roy L. Lindsey SSgt Richard J. Steen, Jr. Sgt Douglas Arcano

Sgt Sherman E. Consolver, Jr.

Sgt Lucian Rominiecki

8 Oct 1969 EC-47 6994SS Vietnam

SSgt Elmore L. Hall

Sgt Michael L. Stiglich

8 Apr 1970 Rocket Attack 6924SS Vietnam

Sgt Paul Wayne Anthony

22 Apr 1970 EC-47 6994SS

Vietnam

SSgt Michael R. Conner

21 Nov 1972 EC-47

Thailand

MSgt John Ryon

5 Feb 1973 EC47, 6994SS Laos SSgt Todd M. Melton Sgt Peter R. Cressman Sgt Joseph A. Matejov Sgt Dale Brandenburg

16 Mar 1981 Cobra Ball RC135

Shemya AB, Alaska

SSgt Harry L. Parsons III SSgt Steven C. Balcer

22 Sep 1995 AWACs, 381IS Elmendorf AFB, AK

TSgt Ernest Parrish

7 Aug 2002 MC-130H, 25 IS Puerto Rico

SSgt Shane H. Kimmett

31 Mar 2005 MC-130H, 25 IS Albania

TSgt Glenn P. Lastes

20 May 2009 IED, AFISRA Afghanistan 1st Lt Roslyn Schulte

18 February 2012, Djibouti, Africa

"All my stories are free to read and they always will be."

The Rondout Reader



Americanathologies.wordpress.com



Kidblackhawk.wordpress.com