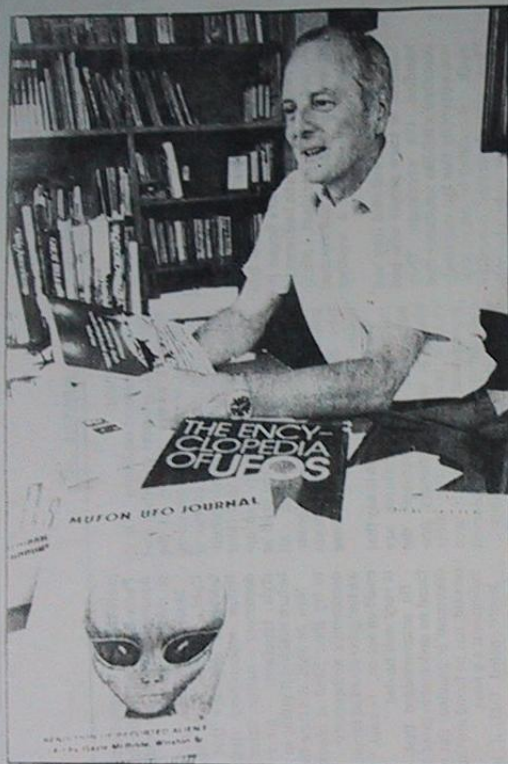




DON WARE AT HIS DESK, SURROUNDED BY UFO BOOKS

...he is convinced the Majestic-12 document is authentic

'Secret' UFO paper sparks controversy

FWB researcher backs 1947 crash report

■ First of two parts

By LEE FORST

Daily News Staff Writer

Forty years ago, military officials recovered a crashed flying saucer from the New Mexico desert.

Or did they?

Don M. Ware of Fort Walton Beach thinks they did, and he has seen documents that he says prove it.

The documents are an alleged top secret briefing paper, dated 1952, and an array of supporting papers, memos and reports. These documents have ignited a controversy among UFO enthusiasts. Many view the papers as proof of a government cover-up.

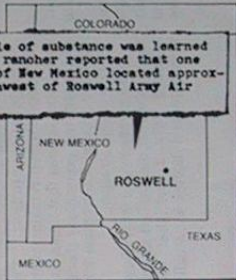
Others, however, consider the documents a hoax — perhaps the most elaborate hoax since the forged Hitler diaries.

Ware, Florida state director of the Mutual UFO Network Inc., sides with the former group.

Ware thinks the 1952 briefing paper, which describes the crashed spaceship and a secret recovery effort called Operation Majestic-12, is supported by other research.

In spite of these efforts, little of substance was learned about the objects until a local rancher reported that one had crashed in a remote region of New Mexico located approximately seventy-five miles northwest of Roswell Army Air Base (now Walker Field).

Part of the Majestic-12 document (above) pinpoints an alleged flying saucer crash in New Mexico (right).



Special to the Daily News: MOORE-SHANDERA-FRIEDMAN RESEARCH PROJECT INTO U.S. GOVERNMENT UFO POLICY

"Right now, a very large percentage of the people who've studied it (the UFO field) for 20 or 30 years have accepted it," Ware said. "Obviously, though, a large percentage will not accept that document as proof."

If the Majestic-12 document can be verified to everyone's satisfaction, he said, "it may be time to reassess what information the government might talk about concerning extraterrestrial life."

This much is known about the

New Mexico incident:

On July 8, 1947, the Army Air Forces — which later became the Air Force — announced that a "flying disc" had landed on a ranch near Roswell, N.M., about a week before. An AAF news release said the object had been inspected and loaned to "higher headquarters."

Less than 24 hours later, the AAF reversed itself. Officials said the "disc" was nothing more than

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Stanton T. Friedman