

SEPTEMBER 11, 1987

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEBUNKERS IGNORE KEY EVIDENCE ABOUT GOVERNMENT UFO DOCUMENTS.

LOS ANGELES, CA: The controversy over alleged "Top Secret" government UFO documents which were released to the news media in late May, 1987, continues. On the one hand, a considerable body of hard evidence has been amassed by independent researchers who contend that these documents may very well be authentic. On the other is a recent (August 20th, '87) news release by a group of well-known debunkers calling themselves "The Committee for the Scientific Investigations of Claims of the Paranormal", which contends that this story "represents one of the most deliberate acts of deception ever perpetrated against the news media and the public." Both claims have been widely publicized in the U.S. and world media, including the New York Times, Washington (D.C.) Post, London (U.K.) Observer, and ABC Television's popular "Night Line" program.

At issue is whether the U.S. government secretly recovered a crashed UFO (or "flying saucer") and the bodies of dead alien occupants near Roswell, New Mexico, during the summer of 1947; and whether President Truman, by secret executive action, undertook to create a covert, high-level panel of scientific consultants and military intelligence experts, known as Majestic 12 (or MJ-12) to take charge of the matter.

According to a team of independent researchers comprised of author William L. Moore of Los Angeles (The Roswell Incident, NY: Grosset & Dunlap, 1980), nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman of Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, and TV producer-director Jaime Shandera, also of Los Angeles, there is overwhelming evidence to suggest that such an event did in fact occur in 1947. There is also compelling evidence to suggest that a set of anonymously sent documents (on 35mm. film) which purport to be Top Secret 1952 White House briefing papers on the Majestic 12 subject for then President-elect Eisenhower, may well be authentic. In support of their position, they point to nearly ten years of research by Moore and Friedman (Shandera joined the team in June of 1982) on the 1947 crash near Roswell, New Mexico, and over two and one-half years of work on the purported Eisenhower briefing documents. Included in this body of research are interviews with over 100 individuals (31 of whom were first-hand witnesses to events surrounding the 1947 Roswell crash), a large number of declassified government documents, and a considerable amount of peripheral information both documentary and testimonial in nature. (All of this is totally ignored by Mr. Klass in his recent press release.)

According to Moore, "THESE DEBUNKERS HAVE FAILED TO RAISE A SINGLE ISSUE WHICH CANNOT BE EXPLAINED BY FURTHER EXAMINATION OF THE EVIDENCE AT HAND. THEIR CHARGES OF "HOAX", "FORGERY" AND "DECEPTION", ARE NOT ONLY PREMATURE, BUT, IN MY OPINION, CONSTITUTE AN UNSCIENTIFIC, HIGHLY EMOTIONAL APPROACH WHICH SEEMS COMPLETELY UNWARRANTED AT THIS POINT IN TIME. Mr. Philip J. Klass (chief spokesman for the debunkers) and his supporters have spent only a few short weeks in their assessment of this matter, have