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1. DO. TITLE	2. COLOR HAIR	3. COMPLEXION	4. SEX	5. DOB	6. WEIGHT	7. HEIGHT	8. IDENTIFYING MARKS (Tattoo, etc.)				
9. DRESS (Military or civilian, and condition of clothing)							10. UNDER INFLUENCE OF: <table border="1"><tr><td>ALCOHOL</td><td>(Explain in item 12)</td></tr><tr><td>OTHER</td><td></td></tr></table>	ALCOHOL	(Explain in item 12)	OTHER	
ALCOHOL	(Explain in item 12)										
OTHER											
11. INCIDENT/COMPLAINT (Specify type and location) HELPING HAND (SECURITY VIOLATION)/COVERED WAGON (SECURITY VIOLATION) Site Lima 9 (68th SMSq Area) 7 Miles SW of Nisland, SD							12. HOUR 2100 DATE 16 Nov 77				
13. RECEIVED BY (Typed or printed name, grade, and position) PAUL D. HINZMAN, SSgt, USAF Comm/Plotter, Wing Security Control							14. BY <table border="1"><tr><td>IN PERSON</td></tr><tr><td>BY TELEPHONE</td></tr><tr><td>BY MAIL</td></tr></table>	IN PERSON	BY TELEPHONE	BY MAIL	
IN PERSON											
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15. DETAILS OF INCIDENT (Who, what, when, where, how? Include activity at time of apprehension and give details if uncooperative. Attach statements of medical personnel.) At 2059hrs., 16 Nov 77, AIC PHILLIPS Samuel A., Lima Security Control, telephoned WSC and reported an OZ alarm activation at L-9 and that Lima SAT #1, AIC JENKINS & AIC RAEKE were dispatched. (Trip #62, TA 2135hrs.) At 2147hrs., AIC PHILLIPS telephoned WSC and reported that the situation L-9 had been upgraded to a COVERED WAGON per request of CAPT STOKES, Larry D., SO. Security Option II was initiated by WSC and Base CSC. BAP (Backup Security Control).											
16. EVALUATION ☒ UNFOUNDED ☐ MISDEMEANOR ☐ FELONY ☐ MILITARY OFFENSE ☐ TRAFFIC											
17. PERSONS RELATED TO REPORT (Insert category of relationship letter opposite name)											
COMPLAINANT	B. VICTIM	C. SUSPECT	D. WITNESS	E. NP/SP/AP	F. INVESTIGATED BY	G. APPREHENDED					
NAME		GRADE		SSN	ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.						
JENKINS, Kenneth C.		AIC		571-13-9597	44 MSS (68-3)						
RAEKE, Wayne E.		AIC		305-68-7556	44 MSS (68-3)						
STEWART, Robert E.		TSgt		211-28-7556	44 MSS (68-3)						
STOKES, Larry D.		Capt		329-40-9406	44 MSS (88-3)						
18. POSITION OF INCIDENT/COMPLAINT 19. AFOSI 20. EVIDENCE (List and describe, or summarize as appropriate) All evidence retained by AFOSI and FBI											

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE 'ELLSWORTH CASE'

The anatomy of a hoax

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE 'ELLSWORTH CASE'

By BOB PRATT

Editor, MUFON UFO Journal

A story gaining credence among some UFO researchers concerns the reported landing of a UFO near a missile site in South Dakota on November 16, 1977, with the UFO's occupants stealing the missile's nuclear components and wounding a security policeman.

It has come to be known as the "Ellsworth Case" because the missile site is under the command of Ellsworth Air Force Base near Rapid City, South Dakota.

As one of those who investigated the alleged incident, I can say positively that it never happened.

Unfortunately, some people choose to believe otherwise. Let me explain some of what I know about the "Ellsworth Case" and perhaps we can lay it to rest.

The background

On February 9, 1978, when I was a

Schuessler, Continued

As a result, I was attacked by the debunkers because Stan Deyo is on that magic list of people that they say to avoid. On the other hand, I was accused by some pro-UFO people of giving credence to his work because I mentioned what I saw. Neither side really cares about the details; they simply want to be the censors. I resent this.

Over the years I have communicated with people on all sides of the UFO controversy and I believe I have gained worthwhile information as a result. I have duplicated and mailed large piles of information, not because I agreed with the content; but because it was part of the data base and I felt it should be considered by those knowledgeable in the field. I hoped new ideas would germinate and grow as a result of this free flow of information. It is a challenge I will not abandon, but I must admit my hopes for success are

staff reporter for the National Enquirer, we received an anonymous letter at our Florida offices that was mailed from Rapid City. Because it apparently involved UFOs, it was turned over to Bill Dick, then an articles editor responsible for most UFO stories.

It contained what appeared to be a carbon copy of an official U.S. Air Force incident report, plus a brief, unsigned, typewritten note. The report was stamped FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY at top and bottom.

Supposedly from the commander of the 44th Missile Security Squadron, it described the incident as a *Helping Hand (security violation)/Covered Wagon (security violation) at Lima 9 (68th SMSq Area), 7 miles SW of Nisland, SD, at 2100 hours on 16 Nov. 77.*

The person identified as receiving the report was *Paul D. Hinzman, SSgt, USAF, Comm/Plotter, Wing Security*

dwindling.

The common thread found in the reasoning of people dropping out may be summarized as follows: They dislike intimidation and unprofessional treatment, petty bickering upsets them, censorship or the withholding of information makes them feel left out, and they would like to see strong, but thoughtful leadership in their organizations.

Ufologists are finding themselves at a turning point. Many are yielding to outside pressure and some are dropping out. Others are playing the game of "gotcha" with their fellow ufologists. If someone does not rise above petty organizational politics and the senseless attacks on the workers to lead this army of volunteers, then the present organizations will become ineffective little clubs at best. The ultimate solution to the UFO puzzle will never be realized and the countless victims of UFO encounters in the future will suffer needlessly.

Control. It stated that two security policemen were involved, identified as Airmen First Class Kenneth C. Jenkins and Wayne E. Raeke (pronounced RAY-Key, we learned later).

It also said the incident was investigated by Captain Larry D. Stokes and TSgt. Robert E. Stewart. The identity numbers and squadron assignments of all these men were also given.

An OZ alert

Briefly, the report (see illustrations) said that at 10:59 PM on November 16, 1977, an OZ, or Outer Zone, alarm had been activated at Lima Nine missile site (meaning the missile compound had been penetrated) and that Jenkins and Raeke had been dispatched as a Security Alert Team (SAT) from the Lima Launch Control Facility, some 35 minutes away by road.

Upon arriving at Lima Nine, Raeke went to the rear fence line, where he encountered an individual dressed in a glowing green metallic uniform and helmet, who fired some kind of weapon, disintegrating Raeke's rifle and burning his hands and arms.

Jenkins radioed for help, carried Raeke back to the SAT vehicle and then returned to the rear fence line himself. There, he saw two similarly dressed individuals, ordered them to a halt and when they didn't he shot them both, one through the shoulder and the other through the helmet. However, within seconds both rose up and disappeared over a hill. Jenkins followed them and saw them enter a 20-foot-diameter saucer-shaped object, which immediately took off and vanished over the horizon.

Investigators later found that the missile's nuclear components were missing. Meanwhile, the injured Raeke was air-evacuated to an undisclosed location.

(continued on next page)

June 13, 1987

Dear Grant:

Good to hear from you. Yes, I'm still active with UFOs, but only on my own, as an independent investigator and writer. I left the Enquirer six years ago and have been to Brazil twice on investigative trips. I've written three and a half books about UFOs, but only one has been picked up by a publisher so far.

This one is called NIGHT SIEGE: The Hudson Valley UFO Sightings. It is by (the late) Dr. J. Allen Hynek and Philip J. Imbrogno with Bob Pratt. They did the investigating and I did the writing. Ballantine Books is publishing it in soft cover (slightly larger than paperback size) and it will be in the bookstores in October. It's about the series of sightings of a large boomerang-shaped object in the New York and Connecticut counties immediately north of New York City that began on New Year's Eve 1982. Our book covers the three-year period (1983-85) in which sightings were heaviest. We estimate at least 5,000 people saw the thing, many of them excellent, professional witnesses. Our chronology lists sightings well into 1986 (the manuscript was sent to the publisher on January 2 this year), but the sightings have continued, the latest being night before last (June 11) in Danbury, Connecticut.

I've also written a book that I've called Zapped! as a working title. This details some of the many cases I've looked into in North and South America and the Philippines. I like this book. I first wrote it in 1981 when I left the Enquirer but no publisher took any interest in it. I've since revised it, cutting it down from 400 pages to about 280. I had to leave out some good cases, but it's still a good book and maybe one day soon someone will pick it up.

John Schuessler and I also collaborated on Fire in the Road, a book about the Cash-Landrum case, but the proposal on that has been kicking around in the publishing field for five years now and nobody is interested. The latest rejection came from Ballantine, my publisher on Night Siege. The reason: "This is far from an uplifting treatment of the UFO experience. And tragic as Betty Cash's encounter was, it just doesn't make an attractive mass market book." I guess UFO books have to be upbeat.

I wrote only the first half of that book because I'd worked so hard on the original version of Zapped!, and at that time didn't feel like spending any more time on it until we had a commitment from a publisher.

The other book was one I co-authored with Bill Moore, a UFO novel about the government's cover-up. We finished that three

or four years ago but it didn't go anywhere either. Neither of us had written a novel before, and I'm sure it could stand a good re-writing now if anyone was interested. The purpose of the book, however, was to try to reveal some things we were certain had happened but couldn't prove. Among them was the MJ-12 committee, Project Aquarius and similar projects. The source for all this was Bill and he said he had sources he couldn't identify. We started working on this in 1982, so you can see how long these things have been kicking around. Even the IACs, or Identified Alien Craft, which has shown up in some allegedly secret documents.

I don't know where the current documents came from nor how valid any of the material we worked with was. I haven't talked or corresponded with Bill in a couple of years now, but I understand he's going to reveal some similar documents at a UFO conference in Burbank this month. Bill runs something called the Fair-Witness Project Inc., and publishes a monthly newsletter called FW Focus. It costs \$20 a year and the latest issue contained photocopies of a number of documents that, if they are authentic, are quite interesting. If you're interested in getting the newsletter, write to Bill at 4219 W. Olive St., Suite 247, Burbank, CA 91505. Phone (818) 506-8365.

I don't have the Twining memo, but maybe Bill or Stan Friedman has.

I spent three weeks in Brazil last September and I'm enclosing a report similar to one that I gave to a number of other people after returning. You may find it interesting.

I'm surprised nothing has happened UFO-wise in your area since 1977. I sort of cut my UFO teeth in Manitoba, doing much of my early investigating there, and have always felt a little kinship to that area. As you will see from my Brazil report, there have been at least ten years of continued sightings in much of Brazil, and probably for a much longer time. There is one area north of Belo Horizonte where one investigator has worked continuously, going there every other weekend for 35 years.

Keep in touch.

Best wishes,



June 13, 1987

I spent most of the month of September, 1986, in Brazil. It was a successful trip in that I got to do most of the things I wanted to do, but it was tiring and frustrating in many ways. The people I worked with, however, were magnificent, very generous of their time and hospitality and even money. Jean (pronounced Zhay-AWN, with the second syllable nasalized) Alencar, a lawyer in Fortaleza, even took a whole week off from his practice to take me to various places in his home state, Ceara, and shared many of his cases with me.

Although I went to only a relatively few areas in Brazil, it was enough to show me that virtually all the things that were going on back in 1977 and 1978 (which took me to that country on the first of half a dozen visits) are still going on, and have been virtually non-stop through the years.

People in the interior are still being terrified by UFOs. They're still being panicked by the sudden appearance of a brilliantly lighted object just over their heads as they walk in country areas at night. And, as they run in fright, they are still being "chased," if that is the proper word. Maybe they're simply being "followed" out of curiosity or for some other reason, although in at least one case there was a prolonged, deliberate attempt to get at a witness-victim in his hiding place.

Some people are still being injured (usually the mild-burn type of thing). Some are definitely being persecuted in the sense that a UFO will persist over a period of time in trying to do something (what?) to them. And I believe several more deaths can be attributed to the UFOs, although the deaths may have been an unfortunate "byproduct" of the encounters.

Perhaps most fascinating of all is that virtually the same things that happened in the 1977 "Crab Island case" near Sao Luis (in which one man died and two were badly burned) have occurred again, in the same place and under almost identical circumstances nine years and one week later. This time one man died and a second was injured somehow and two others became ill and fell unconscious for at least 15 hours. Again, there is no explanation. It is possible that neither Crab Island case is a genuine UFO case, because the link to UFOs in the first case was tenuous at best and in the second there appears to be nothing whatsoever tying it to a UFO. But in both cases something truly inexplicable happened and if a UFO wasn't responsible, then some equally baffling phenomenon is at work. (More on this later.)

Briefly this is what I learned from the trip:

1. In Rio, Irene Granchi brought me up to date on 27 sightings that had occurred in different parts of Brazil

between March 19 and June 15. These included the Brazilian air force (FAB) jet chase on the night of May 19.

Also included was a sighting at 3:30 A.M. May 18 in the Jardim Botânico district of Rio by a woman psychologist currently living in New York. She told Irene she had watched a group of seven to ten small objects and one large object moving from north to south and take up five different formations over a 15-minute period.

Irene also told me about a case that occurred on the night of May 23-24 in Rondonópolis involving a man named Edivaldo who was driving in a truck when he saw a lighted object off to one side of the road. He then saw a flash of light and was unconscious for 72 hours. He has no recollection of what happened to him. Irene hopes to have a psychologist in São Paulo hypnotize the man.

Irene had another case involving five persons who had close encounters on two consecutive nights (while fishing at a beach south of Rio) with an object the size of a two-story house coming down and hovering within 30 meters of them. On the second night, they saw a plane apparently chasing the UFO and one of the witnesses, an Air Force veteran, said it was a FAB jet.

2. In Rio I also talked with Cynthia Luce, who gave me details on the same three cases she sent to you. I had a chance to see interviews with the witnesses because Mauro Costa, a philosophy professor from Rio, had gone with her to re-interview the witnesses and he videotaped the interviews. Since you already know the details of these cases, I won't go into them. I did find the use of a video camera quite interesting, and I can see great possibilities for it (plus a number of disadvantages).

3. Since May, UFO sightings and encounters have been occurring in and around a small village named Conceição do Mato Dentro in Minas Gerais. This is in the Valley of the River of the Old Women, which is four or five hours' drive north of Belo Horizonte and is where Hulvio Aleixo (in my estimation one of the world's best, most thorough researchers) has been investigating cases for the past 35 years or so. I was in Belo Horizonte September 9, 10 and 11, and the most recent sighting in the Valley had been on September 2. This information came from Albert Eduardo, a young man about 30 who is a member of AMPEU in Belo Horizonte and is one of the editors of Jornal UFO-LOGICO. Hulvio has also investigated some of the same sightings and he gave me a number of details. Just a few days before I met with Albert Eduardo, he had gone to Conceição do Mato Dentro with another young man and they videotaped their interviews. I saw the tape, with Alberto Do Carmo (a physics teacher and veteran investigator) interpreting for me. Among the cases:

(a) A shy 18-year-old was returning to his home on the night of September 2 when a big reddish light suddenly turned on above his head. It frightened him and he ran and hid under a tree, injuring his arm as he scrambled for a hiding place.

(b) A middle-aged man returning to his home was riding a donkey and leading another that was loaded with goods of some kind. An enormous light appeared as he neared his mother's house and "chased" him. The light then turned off and he didn't see it any more. He was temporarily blinded. His cargo mule ran off and the other refused to walk. The man described the object as a "flying refrigerator" with four red and yellow spots on it and said it made a buzzing sound.

(c) On the same night, a young man who used to mock people who said they saw flying saucers was himself chased by a UFO and had his "clothes torn off." He said the UFO had "abused" him, but I don't know the details of this case. Now the young man will not walk alone at night any more.

(d) A woman and two small boys walking in the dark saw a UFO come over the top of a hill and they hid under a tree. The UFO approached the tree and they ran on to grove of bamboo trees, crawling in on their hands and knees to hide. A woman living nearby saw all this happen from her house (she could see the people running because they were illuminated by an electric light in the street). She said the UFO flew very low, was silent and looked like a "fire torch." This woman said: "Everybody runs away from the light. Everybody's afraid of it." She also said a peasant claimed to have seen a UFO land on a field behind his house; he felt heat, got scared and locked the door. She also said the UFO was being seen almost every night.

(e) On the night of May 15, 1986, a 70-year-old farm worker named Joaquim watched as a UFO hovered about 50 paces away from his house, maybe 10 to 15 meters above the ground, for a half hour. He said it was flashing a beam of light all around the hills and occasionally shined it on him. He was standing in a doorway, with the lower half of the door closed, looking at it. He shielded his face with his left arm, holding it up to cover his eyes. But on one occasion his right eye was exposed, and he lost about 80 percent of the vision in that eye and his left arm was burned (like a sunburn). He said he heard voices, but couldn't understand the language. When the UFO finally lifted off and went away, it hit some electricity lines, breaking one of them. Repairmen for the power company came out some days later to fix the wire and one of the repairmen reportedly saw an unusual light in the distance.

(f) Many people began carrying guns and one such man, 22, said he saw a UFO shaped like a "refrigerator" land one night about 20 meters away from him. He said an occupant descended on a stairway. The witness was carrying a .38 revolver and he fired twice. Apparently he didn't hit the object nor did he

hear any ricocheting sound. He became frightened and ran home.

4. In Belo Horizonte, Alberto do Carmo told me that Albert Eduardo had talked to a policewoman and a pilot who were among a number of people who saw about a dozen objects flying figure eights and in triangular and square patterns near the airport at Monte Claros in north-central Minas Gerais in May. The objects appeared to be in an intelligent formation and one looked bigger than the others. Some of the smaller ones were seen entering bigger ones. All this lasted for about two hours. I did not get a chance to talk to Albert Eduardo about this. (A similar sighting was described to me by two night watchmen in a suburb of Mendoza, Argentina, in 1978; they said that before dawn one day in July of that year, a large number of small objects--one witness said 25 to 30, the other said hundreds--were flying figure-eights in and out among the light pylons of Mendoza's new soccer stadium.)

5. I went on to Fortaleza, and Jean Alencar took me to Paraipaba, a small city near the coast west of Fortaleza, where we stayed overnight in a peasant's house on a farm (quite an experience: Manuel and Adelaide, our hosts, were poor but kind and generous with what they had. Manuel, Jean, another guy and I walked to the beach, four miles away, almost all of it over huge sand dunes. It was like trekking in the desert, but before reaching the dunes we had to walk 60 to 70 yards through an ankle-deep swampy area. Fortunately for me, someone loaned me a pair of rubber-soled sandals).

In Paraipaba and the area of Adelaide's farm, we talked to nearly a dozen people who had had UFO sightings or encounters as long ago as ten years before and as recently as 7 o'clock the night before, the latter just a few miles from where we were staying. In one incident, a man and his grown son had a close encounter that left them both feeling burned and suffering from headaches.

On the third day, Jean and I then went to another small coastal village called Pecem, where there were several serious cases:

(a) One involved a farm worker, now 52, who had gone fishing one night in 1983 at a place on the beach where he had fished for 30 years. At 2 A.M. a bright light suddenly appeared over his head and he ran and hid under the nearest tree. For the next four hours, he said, the UFO stayed above him and every few minutes shined a beam of light down on him and his hiding place. He was terrified and every time the light went off he felt frigid cold. When dawn broke, the UFO disappeared and the man ran home. He hid under a bed at first and was sick and nauseated for weeks. Ever since then he has refused to go out at night and will not stay home by himself. He no longer fishes and his family says he now has "mental problems."

(b) We then talked to two women, one 34 and the other 28. Four years ago, they and a third woman (a sister of the 28-year-old) and two children had been gathering wood in the sand dunes near the beach a short distance east of Pecem. This was at dusk, and suddenly a big orange light appeared above their heads and they ran. The wood they were carrying slowed them down so they threw it away. They ran 500 meters before reaching some trees where they could hide, and the UFO chased or followed them all the way and then passed on out of sight.

All of them were sick and nauseated and had headaches for more than a week, and nine days after the incident, the 34-year-old woman, who was then seven months pregnant, gave premature birth. I saw her baby, Keltia, who is now 4 years old and is a sweet, good-natured child. She smiles a lot and chatters a bit, but she doesn't walk and she has heart problems. The third woman, who was two months pregnant, aborted and lost her baby. You could argue that any pregnant woman who runs 500 meters risks losing her baby regardless of the circumstances, but if the UFO had not appeared, these women would never have run. So, in that sense, the death, and perhaps the premature birth of a child who may never walk, can be blamed on a UFO.

6. On my fourth day in Fortaleza, Jean, another investigator named Reginaldo Athayde, who owns a pharmacy, and I went to Quixada (a two-hour drive south of Fortaleza), where we first interviewed Antonio Moreira Megalhes, a physician who, 10 years earlier, had treated Luiz Fernandes Barros, then 52, a well-to-do Quixada businessman and ranch owner, after Barros had a UFO encounter. At about 7 A.M. on the morning of April 23, 1976, a vaquero found Barros dazed and sitting in a two-wheel carriage behind a donkey, several kilometers from his ranch (16 kms from Quixada).

When Barros became coherent, he said that about two hours before daybreak a big lighted object came down and hovered just above him and the donkey. A door of some kind opened on the bottom and a beam of light was projected down on him and the donkey. He didn't know what happened after that. Barros complained of being very sick, suffering from nausea, diarrhea, headaches and vomiting. (The donkey appeared to be in a sort of stupor for about a week, but then recovered.)

Barros' wife, Teresina, took him to Quixada to see Dr. Megalhes, who was then 40 and had known Barros nearly all his life. The doctor listened to Barros' story and gave him medicine to alleviate his sick feeling. However, the medicine didn't help, and the doctor sent Barros to Fortaleza to see a psychiatrist. Teresina (most of these details came from her and the rest from Dr. Megalhes) told us she had her husband in Fortaleza for two months and he was seen by 12 psychiatrists and psychologists, and the only conclusion they came to was that he had a brain lesion. He was sent home.

In the meantime, Barros had stopped telling his story about the UFO because almost no one believed him, other than his wife and Dr. Megalhes (who was ridiculed by his fellow physicians for believing the story). Further, Barros' speech began to deteriorate and three months after the incident his hair turned white. By the end of six months, he had lost all of his mental faculties and had regressed to the age of a one or two-year-old child. And ever since, the only words he says are "Mamae," Medo" and "Da," (which I think mean Mama, danger and give). He recognizes only his wife and needs a fulltime nurse to take care of him. He reacts to no stimuli, except that when someone takes a picture of him with a stroke light, he screams when he sees the flash.

We went to see Barros, who lives in a large, well furnished and expensive home in Quixada and he simply sits staring, occasionally moving his eyes but apparently seeing nothing. Dr. Megalhes, who seems to be a very sensible, intelligent man, showed us that Barros has control of his arms and legs and did not suffer a stroke.

This is one of Reginaldo's cases. Apparently there have been many UFO happenings in the Quixada area, and some residents refer to the city as the "UFO capital of the northeast." We had lunch and after leaving the restaurant we ran into a radio announcer friend of Reginaldo's who said he had seen a UFO on the airfield at Quixada in 1985. We had intended to see him in the afternoon to get the details but we ran out of time and didn't get back to see him.

7. In the afternoon, we attempted to check out a report published in the Rio newspaper O Dia several years ago that the village of Jaburu, near Quixada, was being terrorized by UFOs. We drove off in search of Jaburu but never got there. Some distance east of Quixada, we turned off the paved highway onto a one-lane dirt road and followed that for at least 17 kms before giving up because the road became impassable. We stopped from time to time to get directions (Jaburu was always just "three or four kilometers" farther down the road) and usually heard some reference to strange lights being seen in the area. Near the end of our search, we stopped at a peasant's small mud-and-thatch house for directions, and we heard two separate reports of sightings. The father had seen something flying by one night, and on another night two of his teenage sons said they had been "chased" across a field by a bright light.

8. The following day, Jean and a young friend of his, "Junho," and I drove 400 miles to Teresina, where we contacted four young members of a UFO organization. They knew absolutely nothing about the Parnarama case in which four hunters allegedly were killed by UFOs in October 1981. Parnarama is only 80 kms south of Teresina. (These deaths were reported in several Brazilian magazines and the National

Enquirer, in the latter part of 1981, and the case was one of the principal reasons why I went to Brazil, to check out these reports. Reports of deaths in UFO cases always bother me -- it is the ultimate in UFO experiences, I would say -- and I cannot understand why someone doesn't do whatever is necessary to determine how true they are. In the Enquirer's case, they relied on a stringer in Rio who relied on a reporter from Sao Luis who may or may not have gone to Parnarama to investigate.)

However, the young men from Teresina agreed to take a day off from their jobs and go with us to Parnarama the next day. Originally, Jean, Junho and I had planned to spend at least two days in the Parnarama area, but shortly after we arrived in Teresina, Jean phoned home and learned he had to return almost immediately because of a court case, so we were able to spend only several hours in Parnarama the next day.

The next morning, we drove to Parnarama, a really dirty, dusty drive that ended with a five-minute ferryboat ride across the Parnaiba, a shallow, muddy river several hundred yards wide at that spot. We went straight to City Hall, since the police chief and mayor had been quoted in the stories. Naturally, by then there was a new chief and a new mayor, and at first no one knew anything about the four hunters. But suddenly we began to get swamped with people who had seen or encountered UFOs, and one of them did confirm that at least one of the four hunters had died. This man said the hunter and a companion saw a UFO one night in October 1981 and the companion ran and hid, and when he returned he found the other man dead. No one we talked to knew anything about any other hunters dying as the result of UFO encounters, but the areas mentioned in the news stories were some distance from Parnarama.

What we did learn is that UFO sightings are fairly common in the Parnarama area (before we were able to leave, we made a courtesy call on the mayor, a capable, confident looking man in his mid-thirties who told us there were "at least 100 UFO cases" in the Parnarama area) and there had been sightings as recently as 10 and 20 days before we went there (September 18). In one case, a landowner said he tried to shoot at a UFO one night and received what felt like an electric shock. In another case, a city councilwoman who was fishing in a lake with a companion one night said a UFO came down and hovered over one end of the lake. She said the light was so bright she could see the fish swimming around in the lake.

Some day I want to go back and spend a week or more in that area. As it is, the brief visit was an eye-opener to the young men who had gone down there with us from Teresina (when we first talked to them, they had only one possible UFO case 20 or 30 kms north of Teresina to work on), and I am sure they will be returning there. There have been enough sightings in the Parnarama area alone to keep them busy for

at least a year. We were able to confirm at least one of the deaths reported in the Enquirer, but information on the other three will have to wait until the young men from Teresina can spend much more time in the area.

9. Jean and Junho drove back to Fortaleza and I went to Sao Luis -- by bus. I had a 21-day air pass on VASP, one of the four major domestic airlines, but VASP's flight attendants went on strike several days after I arrived in Fortaleza, overloading the other airlines and making it impossible to get a flight. In Sao Luis, my friends, Monica Carneiro and Ana Teresa Britto (Monica teaches English in both a university and a private school and Ana teaches in the private school), helped me track down the story of the latest Crab Island mystery (they were my principal interpreters on the original Crab Island case in 1978; now they help me because we're good friends).

As you may remember, in 1977 on the night of April 25-26, four men (who had sailed a 40-foot wooden boat to Crab Island to get wood) intended to awaken about midnight (when the tide came in), load the wood (which had been cut and stacked on the river bank next to the boat) and sail back to Sao Luis on the outgoing tide. Three of the men had done this a hundred times before, relying on their own inner clocks and the rising tide's rocking the boat to awaken them. However, on this night, they didn't wake up until about 6 the next morning. By then, one man, a 22-year-old, was dead in his hammock and his older brother, Firmino, was badly burned and his cousin, Auleriano, was also burned but less severely. (I spent a month in Sao Luis on this case; police said there was no evidence of a fire on the boat -- a fact that I confirmed with a personal visit after wading barefoot 75 yards through knee-deep swamp -- or on the banks of the river on Crab Island.) Only Apolinario, another brother, was apparently unharmed, and he had to sail the boat back to Sao Luis by himself.

Firmino was left crippled by his burns and he is no longer able to work. The men could not remember what happened, not even when they were put under hypnosis by Dr. Silvio Lago, a Niteroi physician and former medical professor who had used hypnosis in his practice for 45 years. The police were not able to determine what happened, although they were convinced the three survivors were telling the truth.

This occurred during a period of extremely heavy UFO activity in the general area stretching from Sao Luis on the east to Pinheiro, a two-hour ferryboat ride and 70-km drive to the west. (The mayor of Pinheiro told me in 1978 and again in 1981 that a UFO appeared over Pinheiro -- sometimes hovering and then shooting right out into the atmosphere, and sometimes coming right back down to 1,000 meters above the town -- almost every night for four months in 1977 and that probably 50,000 people in his region alone had seen it.) Crab

Island is in Sao Marcos Bay between Sao Luis and Pinheiro. All this, plus the fact that a doctor who was skeptical of all UFO reports said he heard Firmino (at the time in a hospital in a semi-coma) mumble something about seeing a light or fire ("o fogo," a common term at that time for a UFO), are the only reasons for suspecting a UFO might have been involved.

Now then, earlier last year, four men in a similar boat also went to Crab Island for the same purpose. They sailed there on April 28, spent two days cutting more than 300 pieces of wood (actually, poles three to four meters long) and had stacked them on the river bank next to their boat. On April 30, they quit working about 6 P.M. (at dusk) and at about 8 one of the men, Juvencio, 22, began to cook their supper. However, he complained about feeling dizzy and he fell to the deck unconscious. Another man, Anselmo, and a third, Lazaro, 44, also began to feel dizzy and they too fainted. None of these three know what happened to the fourth man, Verissimo, 21, but when Lazaro (the first to awaken) regained consciousness at noon the next day, Verissimo was dead, with no marks on him, although some blood was trickling from his mouth. The other two revived shortly after, but all three were sick and nauseated. Juvencio also had a head injury of some kind, with the right side of his head being swollen.

The two uninjured men tried to load the wood onto the boat, but quit after getting less than 30 pieces on board and, with difficulty, sailed the boat back to Sao Luis.

The port authorities investigated and cannot determine what happened. Monica, Ana and I were able to locate only Juvencio, because Lazaro was somewhere near Alcantara, across Sao Marcos Bay, and Anselmo had gone into the interior and no one knew exactly where he was.

From what Juvencio and the port authorities told us, none of the survivors know what happened to them. They are certain that food poisoning was not to blame, and the authorities do not believe any kind of poisonous gas could have been the cause. No autopsy was performed on Verissimo; by the time the boat reached Sao Luis, his body was badly decomposed (just as in the first Crab Island case; the doctor in that case listed "emotional shock" as the cause of death). Verissimo's death certificate (which the port authorities let us see) simply says the cause of death was "undetermined."

The only thing unusual that happened that night is that, sometime between 6 and 8 P.M., the men heard a loud crashing sound somewhere nearby in the darkness, as if a large tree had fallen over. However, they have never known of a tree falling over on Crab Island.

Juvencio and Lazaro refuse to go aboard a boat any more, we were told, and the port authorities (who have a role similar

to our Coast Guard) have forbidden anyone to go to Crab Island to gather wood any more. This supposedly had been prohibited all along, but never was enforced, and after this second incident the authorities notified all boat owners in the port that the law would be strictly enforced henceforth.

One other weird coincidence: Both Juvencio and the young man who died, Verissimo (Juvencio's brother-in-law), were related by blood or marriage to all four of the men who were involved in the first Crab Island incident.

There is no obvious UFO connection in this case, only the unexplained crashing sound. A neighbor of Juvencio's, one of many people who gathered around as we interviewed Juvencio, told us that one night in 1983 he had been on a boat in a stream between Alcantara and Itauna, which are across Sao Marcos Bay from Sao Luis and not too far from Crab Island, and a big bright light came down, hovered over them and shined a beam of light on the boat. He and his companions dived overboard and hid in bushes along the bank. He said people in several other boats in the area had similar experiences that year.

So, that is a summary of most of the cases I looked into or heard about in Brazil. I actually did little real investigation on this trip since I didn't have much time. Mostly I talked to witnesses, often in the presence of neighbors who listened to the interviews without any negative remarks.

Taken in the context of all the other cases I have investigated or looked into to some extent in Brazil over the past nine years, I found most of the stories quite believable. A common thread seems to run through most of them, and often the experience is a rather traumatic one for the witness. I find it difficult to understand how such things can go on year after year without the authorities learning about them or, if they do, ever trying to do something about them.

Bob Pratt

February 2, 1990

Dear Grant:

Enclosed are 41 photos, a seven-page report and a map in connection with the alleged UFO incident in May 1978 at the Bolivian-Argentine border.

The photos are numbered 1 through 46, but five are missing. I sent the batch to Willy Smith some months ago and he eventually returned them. It wasn't until I was checking through them two nights ago that I realized some are missing. I haven't checked with Willy yet to see what happened to them, but I'm sure these 41 photos will give you a good idea of what the "crash site" looks like.

There are three kinds of photos. All the aerial ones were shot by me with a borrowed 35-mm camera during one or more of the four or five flights I made over the area. All of the black and white photos shot on the ground were taken by Major German Calleja, the leader of a Bolivian air force expedition that went to the landslide. And all the color photos were taken by two young soldiers who accompanied me on my second attempt (in 1979) to reach the site; they made it but I didn't and they carried my camera with them. I believe the missing photos were all taken by the two young soldiers. The best shots by far are those made by Major Calleja, whom I interviewed within two hours after his expedition returned to Tarija. He loaned me his photos (all color), and our photo lab at the National Enquirer made black and white copies, which are what you see in this package.

I spent three weeks in that area, working out of Tarija, the nearest town of any size, in May and early June 1978, and returned again on my vacation in September the following year for ten days (I was still very curious about what happened). During those two visits, I talked to many people and I am certain that -- other than an American friend who accompanied me in 1979 -- I am the only non-Bolivian, non-Argentine to attempt to reach that area, either by land or air. And the only Bolivians and Argentines who tried (other than the three air force officers and their mountain guide, as well as the same guide and my two soldiers in 1979) also failed to reach the site.

It is remote and very rugged territory. Once you get more than 25 miles away from Tarija toward the border, there are no roads, no electricity, no toilets, no source of water except mountain streams. You are far from civilization. In fact, there is no law or authority whatsoever. You're on your own. That's why on both trips I hired an army lieutenant and two soldiers to accompany me, partly as guides but more importantly for protection. On the first trip we were able to

rent horses, but on the second we had to walk all the way, 27 miles from the end of the nearest road to the village closest to the "crash site" and another ten miles or so to the site itself, some of it over hillsides running at a 45-degree slope.

I also strongly believe that if any retrievable object had fallen and anyone had made an attempt to spirit it out of the area, then I would have learned about it. The country was under a military dictatorship at that time, but it was not a repressive government and people talked freely and willingly about what happened. The only way to reach the site other than on foot is by helicopter, and there is no way the presence of a helicopter in that area could have been concealed. Had a helicopter been in the area, I'm sure I would have learned about it.

The first trip there was for the National Enquirer, but even though I spent three weeks in Bolivia and two other staffers spent another week each in Bolivia and Argentina and still others spent about a week's time on the story in Washington, D.C., and here in Florida (more than six weeks of manpower), the story never ran. The reason was that I could not honestly say a UFO had crashed on the border, and no one in authority was willing to say so either. There is no evidence that anything crashed into the mountain, only that something was seen flying through the air for at least 200 miles, eventually changing course toward the mountain, and then the side of the mountain collapsed at about the same time a tremendous explosion was heard, shaking the ground for miles around.

I suspect your friend in England is talking about an entirely different event. I do recall something falling in Bolivia much farther to the north several years later, and something metallic was recovered and photographed. However I am certain it was only debris from Soviet or American space hardware. However, if your friend in England is claiming an object and alien bodies were recovered, I'd say bullshit. All of South America (or the UFO researchers, anyway) would have known about it. In fact, the whole world would have.

The Bolivian astronomer named in the report is Manuel de la Torre, Av. Simon Bolivar No. 105, La Paz, Bolivia. I ran into him again in Rio de Janeiro in September 1988, and by then he had learned to speak English fairly well, so if you wish to write to him you can.

There is no rush on returning the photos, but please do return them. I do not have any others that show the site as well as these do.

Best wishes,



THE BOLIVIAN UFO

On the afternoon of May 6, 1978, at about 4:15, an unidentified flying object was seen by hundreds of people in southern Bolivia and northern Argentina. In Bolivia it was seen as far north as the city of Sucre. The object, generally described as cylindrical in shape, was moving south by southeast toward the city of Tarija, which is the capital of the department of Tarija. In the vicinity of Tarija, the object shifted to a southwesterly course, heading toward the mountains in the border area. It is known to have passed over the villages of Padcaya, Rosillas and Cañas and slightly to the west of Meceya, which is very near the border. The object--or perhaps other objects--was seen in other villages and small towns to the southeast in that triangular section of the department of Tarija that juts into Argentina. The people in these other villages generally thought the object was heading east to west or even northwest, and many of them described the object as being long and thin like a pencil or missile and having a black nose with flames coming out of the rear. People in the Argentine village of Santa Victoria, about 20 kilometers south of Meceya, also saw the object and thought it had crashed in Bolivia north of them. Many of the people in Tarija, Padcaya, Rosillas, Cañas and Meceya thought the object was going to crash as it passed overhead and believed it had crashed in the area of the border. Although most people described it as being shaped like a cylinder, a few said it was a fireball. One woman told me she thought it was a disc flying on edge, full on, with brilliantly beautiful pink and yellow rays of light streaming behind, giving the impression of a cylinder. Some thought there were flames coming out from behind, while others said the object left a smokey trail behind it. One gentleman who said it was a fireball said it left a trail of smoke behind it with a gap in the trail and that the gap moved along the sky.

Somewhere in the border area just west of Meceya, the object appeared to explode with a tremendous blast that was heard as far away as Oran in Argentina, about 80 miles to the southeast. The blast was heard by many people who never saw the object, perhaps two or three times as many as those who did see it. Some people saw smoke after the explosion.

The most common description was of a column of smoke rising high into the sky. A few said the cloud of smoke turned red for a while. Geologist Daniel Centeno, of Tarija, said a school teacher in Resillas told him she saw a mushroom-shaped cloud after the explosion, but she was the only one who gave that description. Brahim Handam, a government agricultural technician who lives in Tarija, had been in Bermejo to the southeast and stopped at his family's farm in Emberezu on the way back. While he and two brothers were swimming in a river, they heard the explosion but saw no object. Instead, Handam said, they saw three sets of double smoke rings (a smaller one inside a larger one) with cone-shaped smoky areas connecting the rings. Dr. Orlando Rene Bravo, a physicist who is head of the physics and math departments at the University of Bolivia in Tarija, spent 13 days on two separate trips into the mountains looking for the fallen object. He said he talked with about 80 people and one of them, a shepherd, told him he had seen the object explode ~~into~~ the air near Meceya and change from a southwesterly direction to a southerly direction.

Some people heard a second explosion not long after the first. A mountain guide thought it came about 40 seconds after the first while William Bluske, a former lawyer who is manager and part-owner of a ~~mountain~~ ^{singani} distillery near Tarija, said the second explosion came two minutes after the first. Most said the second explosion was softer, or not as loud, as the first one. The guide, Juan Orihuela, was in the area with two geologists and said the ground trembled. Others in the border area also reportedly said the ground trembled. Bluske visited La Mamera the next day and said the people there told him the explosion shook the houses and made the doors rattle. Roxley Mirtenbaum, a young bi-lingual municipal secretary in Tarija, said she and her husband visited Emberezu and were told by the owner of a hotel there that the explosion broke windows in his hotel.

The general belief was that something had crashed into the border area and ground and air searches on both sides of the border indicated the crash site--if there was one--probably was on the side of a mountain about a five-hour horseback ride west of Meceya. There, on the side

The Bolivian UFO--3

of a mountain just south of the Rio Mecoyita (the river being the border between the two countries), is an enormous rockslide. Three Bolivian air force officers (Major German Calleja, Captain Atilio Montero and Lt. Oswaldo Prade, attached to the air group at Tarija) who reached the site on horseback and foot, estimated the rockslide was about a mile long down the side of the mountain and about a thousand feet wide. It was a fresh slide superimposed on an older slide, they said.

The rockslide is on a shoulder of Cerro Bravo, or Brave Mountain, and is just inside Argentine territory about five hours by horseback west of the mountain village of Mecoya. Mecoya itself is another five to six hour horseback ride from Cañas, the village where the only road ^{into} the area ends. In May and June, autumn months in Bolivia, it is not possible to go from Mecoya to Cerro Bravo and back ~~in~~ all in daylight because of the short days. It is necessary to set out before dawn and return after dark, or spend the night in the mountains. The nights are bitter cold even when sleeping inside, so the hostile climate is a bar to any prolonged search of the mountains west of Mecoya.

The first expedition to attempt to get to Cerro Bravo was led by Dr. Bravo, the physicist; Manuel De La Torre, a young astronomer from the University of La Paz who was sent there by the Bolivian nuclear energy commission (which was concerned because of the Russian satellite's falling in Canada); and Lt. Jorge Antequera. Their guide was Juan Orihuela and they were accompanied by six Argentine and Bolivian newsmen and five Bolivian soldiers. The expedition didn't get to Cerro Bravo. They could see it in the distance, across the Rio Mecoyita valley, but they felt the descent down the steep mountainside and up the other side was more than they wanted to tackle, so they turned back. They returned to Cañas on Sunday, May 21.

The next day De La Torre flew over the rockslide area in an air force plane with an officer as his pilot. After making five or six passes, De La Torre became convinced something had struck the side of the mountain.

The second expedition, consisting of Major Calleja, Captain Montero, Lt. Prado, their guide, Juan Orihuela, and ~~two~~^{three} soldiers, left Tarija on Tuesday. They reached the rockslide on foot on Thursday, after spending nights in Cañas and Meceya. Five hours out of Meceya, they left their horses with the soldier and set out on foot. It took them an hour and a half to climb down to the Rio Meceyita and another hour and a half to climb up to the rockslide itself. They spent three hours walking through the central area of the slide.

All three officers said they believe something crashed into the mountain but they found no debris from any object. They based this conclusion on several unusual features. First, in the central area they found a number of huge monolith-like rocks. These were more or less rectangular shaped with smooth sides and being 10 feet or so tall and five or six feet across on the sides. The officers said the rocks appeared to have been burned whitish. Secondly, they found a long straight trench on the left side that they felt was unusual. The trench ran down the length of most of the slide but in this one area it ran straight for about 100 meters, was about three meters deep and four meters wide at the top. They did not think this was caused by water erosion. Third, they said the grass around the sides and top of the slide area was brown and withered for about 100 meters around, whereas the rest of the grass was fairly green. Finally, they found a smaller, fresh slide a kilometer to the west that they felt was caused by the same thing that ^{had} impacted on the large slide site. They had carried a pick along with them with the idea of doing some digging, but they found the whole slide area--generally on a 45-degree incline--too precarious and they were afraid they would trigger an avalanche if they tried, so they gave that idea up.

The officers did not have any kind of radiation detector with them and were worried about possible radiation. However, they found a number of viscachas--small rabbit-like animals--running around the area and decided that if it was safe for the animals it was safe for humans also.

The men returned to Tarija on the evening of Saturday, May 27, after having had to spend one night in the mountains sleeping in a tent.

The Bolivian UFO--5

A third expedition left Tarija on Monday, May 29. It consisted of Daniel Centeno, 31, a geologist; Omar Forti, 25, an excellent pilot who became interested after having flown over the rockslide area a number of times; Lt. Jorge Antequera, 22, who ~~was~~^{had gone} with the first expedition and volunteered to go a second time; myself and two soldiers who we picked up in Cañas. We never made it to the slide area. On the first day out of Meceya we elected to try a different route on the Argentine side of the border but lost so much time that we knew we couldn't make it to Cerro Bravo and get back before dark and we were not prepared to spend the night in the mountains. Later that day, back in Meceya, we encountered Juan Orihuela, the guide, and through a misunderstanding thought he said the slide was at least a year and a half old. It was then decided to cancel the trip to Cerro Bravo and return to Tarija the next day. I was later learned that Orihuela was referring to the older slide and had, in fact, said the military officers had found a new slide and that the huge rocks were new.

Lt. Antequera said that on the first expedition, he was told by the Argentine newsmen that the Argentine gendarmaria, or border police, had thoroughly search the mountains on the Argentine side, on horseback and by helicopter, but found no sign of any crashed object. Because of this, the Argentine newsmen were convinced that whatever fell had ~~to~~^{be} fall in Bolivia and for that reason came to Bolivia to continue the search.

The day after the third expedition returned, Omar Forti, Lt. Antequera and I flew for an hour and a half closely inspecting mountains over a wide area east and west of Cerro Bravo and found no sign of any crash site, other than the rockslide itself. Lt. Antequera, who grew up in the mountains and high plains areas of Bolivia, said he had never seen any slide like that before. Nor had Omar Forti. I was impressed by it because it is so enormous, and is easily ten to twenty times larger than any other rockslide I saw in the Bolivian mountains. I flew over it four different times and each time it was easily visible just after

The Bolivian UFO--6

taking off from Tarija and climbing 5,000 or 6,000 feet, and Tarija is at least 40 miles away. In those four flights over Cerro Bravo and in subsequent airliner flights from Tarija to Cochabamba to Santa Cruz to La Paz, I saw an awful lot of Andes mountains and never saw anything remotely resembling the size of the slide on Cerro Bravo.

The only practical way of reaching the slide on Cerro Bravo is by helicopter, about a 12-minute flight from Tarija. However, no military or government helicopters were available at the time and the commercial rate is \$400 an hour. With a helicopter it would be possible not only to transport workers to the site to do some digging (it would be tricky but it could be done, Major Calleja said) but also to visit some of the very remote homes in the area to verify whether the mountain had been hit by tremors and whether the slide had occurred on or about May 6.

The consensus at this stage--or at least as of June 5 when I left Tarija--is that something impacted against Cerro Bravo and was buried under the resulting rockslide.

Contrary to reports published throughout South America, I don't think NASA was involved. Two U.S. Air Force officers attached to the American Embassy in La Paz--a Colonel Simmons and a Major John Heire, Heise or Heide, depending on which report you read--did visit Tarija. According to a State Department spokesman, they accompanied some high ranking Bolivian officers at the Bolivians' request in a visit to Tarija to make some inquiries about the May 6 incident. From what I can gather, none of these people--the American officers and Bolivian military--visited the border areas.

Also contrary to published reports, the military did not cordon off the crash site. The prefecto (governor) of the department of Tarija is a colonel, the mayor of Tarija is a colonel, the commandant of the Tarija air force group is a colonel and the head of the army regiment at Tarija is a major--and all were quite friendly, helpful and cooperative, and just as curious as anybody else as to what happened May 6.

The Bolivian UFO--7

Each offered something in the way of men or vehicles or equipment in our effort to reach Cerro Bravo, while Colonel Julio Molina, the air force commandant, offered to try to get an air force helicopter in late June if I was able to return to Bolivia.

Curiously, one of my fellow reporters went to La Paz after I returned to the United States and ^{he} was told by a government spokesman that the entire affair was top secret and he could only say that an object had bounced twice in Bolivia and crashed in Argentina. There wasn't the slightest hint of anything of that nature having happened from any of the people I talked with in southern Bolivia where it all happened. A school teacher in Padcaya who saw the object ventured the opinion that the object had glanced off a mountain in the area but he didn't actually see this happen. I do not believe any of the military people in Tarija were conspiring to keep anything from me, and we were able to talk to too many people from Tarija all the way to the border not to hear of something unusual. Nor do I believe Major Calleja and his fellow officers would have endured the hardship of a five-day trip into the mountains and the bitter cold had they known what had really happened.

The object on May 6 could have been a meteor. Some meteors have been known to explode more than once before finally disintegrating. However, the descriptions of a cylindrical object, the tremor in the area and the towering column of smoke do not fit in with the meteor theory. It is possible something did crash into Cerro Bravo and is still buried there.

Bob Pratt
NATIONAL ENQUIRER
Lantana, Florida, U.S.A.
July 18, 1978

ROBERT Q. TODD
2528 Belmont Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003-2617

February 13, 1990

Grant R. Cameron
649 Silverstone Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2U8
Canada

Grant,

Attached is a copy of the June 1978 issue of Just Cause. I do not have a copy of the May 1978 issue, nor do I have the August 1978 issue which refers to both. I was not associated with CAUS in 1978. My copy of the attached was furnished to me years ago by Bob Pratt.

Page 201 of Clear Intent reproduces text from the May 1978 issue of Just Cause. But since I don't have a copy of the newsletter, I don't know if it is complete. Perhaps Barry Greenwood could furnish you a copy. You can reach him at the following address:

CAUS
P.O. Box 176
Stoneham, MA 02180

Regarding Bill Moore, I assume that when you say "the document was a sting against Moore," you mean the government sent it to discredit Moore. In my opinion, strong circumstantial evidence points to Moore as the author of the MJ-12 documents he is distributing. I believe it stretches credulity to the breaking point to think the government, let alone another individual, has gone to all that trouble to discredit Moore. I have seen absolutely no evidence to suggest this is the case. Why look for exotic explanations when the most obvious explanation fits the facts? If you have seen evidence that suggests that some individual or government agency has conspired to discredit Moore, I implore you to share that evidence with me.

Thank you for the Lazar material. I am anxious to see your MJ-12 paper.



Atch
Just Cause, June 1978

February 20, 1989

Dear Bob:

Your "another UFO researcher" sounds like Grant Cameron. At least, I believe he's the only guy with whom I've discussed the various points you brought up.

1. The third author is "Ronald L. Davis." I have no idea who he is or if he exists. When Bill Moore and I were writing the book, it was my understanding that AFOSI agent Richard Doty was a silent third partner in the book and that he would have certain veto rights over the manuscript. One of the early drafts allegedly was given to him to read and it came back with a number of interesting technical details added, such as weaponry, code words, etc. However, whether Doty ever saw the manuscript, I have no way of knowing. I simply took Bill Moore's word that he had showed it to Doty and that the changes were Doty's.

Timothy Good, however, claims that Doty isn't the real name of the AFOSI agent involved in all this, and that Richard Doty is in reality someone on the level of, say, a maintenance man on the Kirtland base whose name was "adopted" by the real agent. Timothy says he knows the agent's real name and it isn't Ronald L. Davis.

2. The original idea behind the book was Project Aquarius. In January 1982, I happened to be in Houston and flew out to Phoenix to visit Bill at his request. He wanted to talk to me about something he couldn't discuss on the phone. He was in bed with a bad back at the time, and as I sat in a chair and took notes he told me about Project Aquarius, MJ-12 and a number of other things. He said he had a Deep Throat source, and either then or later, as I worked on the book, I understood his source to be Richard Doty, the AFOSI agent.

We couldn't see any way we could prove Bill's claims in a non-fiction book, so we agreed we would write a novel and pass these "facts" off as fiction. For some reason, Bill wanted me to write the book. His contribution would be the raw information. I threw in some of my own UFO investigations to help pad it out.

Our "hero" was an AFOSI agent who scoffed at UFO reports, etc., but comes to believe because he has to investigate what you call the "infamous Ellsworth AFB incident" and later has his own UFO encounter. Because he realizes UFOs are real -- knowledge most AFOSI agents don't have -- he is assigned to keep tabs on people and things in the UFO world from his new posting at Kirtland. To give him a thorough understanding of the phenomenon, the Air Force sends him to Bolling Field in Washington, DC, where he is given access to a number of

secret UFO files, and it is there that he first learns about Project Aquarius.

Hero goes back to Kirtland and in carrying out his job he does a number on a number of people, making sure some people, including ex-military types, don't talk about their experiences, masterminding disinformation plots, and so on. Somewhere in doing all of his dirty deeds, the hero's conscience takes over and he finds himself rebelling against official policies ("the people have a right to know..."). He winds up a dead hero, his body shipped off to planets unknown on a UFO operated by aliens in cahoots with the government.

I thought we had an interesting book, but I haven't looked at it in years and I suspect it was a little two-dimensional, without any real flesh to the main characters. It took us nearly two years to do the book. After my initial visit to Arizona, Bill came east and visited me in Florida later in 1982. Several drafts of the manuscript went back and forth between my home and his in Los Angeles, and finally in the fall of 1983, I flew to Los Angeles and spent several days with Bill, going over the final draft line by line. He typed the final draft and when he sent me my copy, it had the name of Ronald L. Davis on the title page, the first time I ever heard of it. I have never met or talked with Richard Doty or corresponded with him. I don't know if he exists. I have only Bill's word for it that he was involved in our manuscript.

Because Bill had already published a couple of books and had an agent, we agreed we would turn the manuscript over to his agent and let him try to sell it. From time to time during the first six or eight months of 1984, I would talk to Bill on the phone or get a letter from him, regarding the prospects for selling the book. Nothing ever came of it, and the last time I ever heard from Bill was in July 1984.

3. My working title was MAJIK 12, but I wanted to call it I.A.C., for indentified alien craft, supposedly the name government insiders use for UFOs. However, when I got the finished manuscript back from Bill, he had put The Aquarius Project on the title page.

When the MJ-12 business first broke in 1987 or whenever, I wrote to Bill saying if there was anything to it, we ought to dust off our manuscript and try to sell it again. He never answered. There's no chance now the book will be published.

4. As for the Ellsworth incident, it never happened (although I understand Doty claims it really did -- which I take to be more disinformation on somebody's part). Enclosed is a copy of an article I published in the MUFON UFO Journal several years ago when I was editor of the journal.

Best wishes,



RECEIVED 23 FEB 1989

April 23, 1989

Robert G. Todd
2528 Belmont Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003-2617

Dear Bob:

Thanks for your letters of Feb. 25, March 18 and April 8. I had known about part or all of the several Doty items, the most recent being a copy of his letter to Robert Hastings dated March 20. Apparently he's saying much the same thing to Huyghe and other researchers.

I'm inclined to believe this is the real Doty speaking in the Hastings letter. It leaves me a little disappointed. I'd like to think that if anybody is conning us it would be someone rather brilliant. This guy is intelligent, but -- because of the phrasing, sometimes awkward sentence structure and occasional grammatical error -- he doesn't strike me as overly educated. He doesn't sound like the brainy type who could create and carry out sophisticated disinformation programs. Of course, he could be so brainy and clever that he could write a letter in such a way as to give the impression he isn't all that smart, but I doubt it.

I'm surprised that any publisher would want to put out a book on Doty. The public has never heard of him and shouldn't have any interest in him. It doesn't make sense.

Doty's letter to Hastings said an airman had confessed to the Ellsworth hoax and was punished. That's news to me. When the other Enquirer people and I had finished with our investigation way back then, my editor refused the Air Force's request for either the original "document" or any copies, and I don't believe we ever told the Air Force about the one guy at Ellsworth that we did suspect of being the perpetrator. I would have given the Air Force the information, but it wasn't my decision.

Bill Moore, incidentally, told me on several occasions in the early 1980s (1982 and 1983, I believe) that Doty claimed the Ellsworth incident really happened. I refused to believe that and told Bill so at the time.

Todd Zechel phoned several weeks ago and told me (among other things) that Doty is now a state police officer in Grant, New Mexico. That's another reason why I don't think this Doty is the mastermind behind all this disinformation. Somebody with that kind of brains should be able to line up a better job than state trooper.

As for Grant Cameron, I don't recall his ever asking for a copy of the manuscript of The Aquarius Project. I have only

one copy and it would cost a small fortune to make copies of its 250-plus pages. I've read through the parts pertaining to MJ-12 and the Aquarius Project and find nothing revealing in it. I don't see any real chance or need to release the book in any form, and even if I did I'd have to clear it with Bill Moore because he's the co-author.

You ask what I think about the MJ-12 affair. Not much. I believe it's a hoax, but I have no evidence that it is.

My initial reaction in 1987 (that it's a hoax) was based on two things: First, there is the fact that Bill Moore and I had been talking about this since 1982 and Bill had been aware of MJ-12 at least a year earlier -- three years before the document allegedly surfaced and two to three years more before he publicized its existence. Secondly, it was such a profoundly neat package that seemed to wrap up in one document all the "evidence" we needed to prove that one or more saucers crashed, that the government was well aware that UFOs were extraterrestrial, and so on. It was an awfully convenient piece of information.

I know the government can keep secrets (Bush's involvement in the contra funding being one of the most recent examples), but I don't see the "leaking" of the MJ-12 document as the act of some unidentified "patriot" in the government who feels the people should know, etc. If it had been, I believe that person would have provided more information or clues of some kind that would enable ufologists to prove the authenticity of the document.

Mostly, I'm curious about Bill Moore and whether he is the perpetrator or the victim of the hoax. I'd like to know why in the two years we were collaborating on the novel that he never mentioned that at the same time Jaime Shandera and Stan Friedman were working with him in investigating the MJ-12 matter. It's not the type of thing you overlook or forget to tell someone. It had to be a deliberate decision not to tell me.

If MJ-12 is a hoax, who would benefit from it? The most obvious answer is Bill Moore. It backs up his claims about a crashed saucer at Roswell, it could help him sell the other UFO documents and various things he merchandises, and it could help make him one of the big gurus of ufology. The fact that he doctored the document before releasing it is very curious, and his explanation for why he did that isn't too convincing.

Phil Klass and/or his buddies could be behind it, too. But I believe they would have gone public by now to discredit Moore and Friedman and others who believe the documents are authentic. The fact that they haven't claimed authorship of the document should indicate they didn't do it.

It could also be the work of some other ufologist, but it would have to be someone who had as much knowledge of the so-called Aquarius Project as Bill Moore without Bill's knowing that he or she knew. If it is a hoax, the document is a very skillful fabrication. It certainly looks authentic -- it's almost too good to be phony -- and whoever did it had to know that the details could never be checked out completely. No one can say if it is or is not true. But what benefit would another ufologist get out of this? Certainly not the respect of his fellow ufologists, because too many of them have been taken in by this thing, too much time and effort have been spent on the controversy surrounding it, and too much bitterness and hard feelings have resulted. Anybody who claimed authorship now and said it was a prank would be lynched.

If it is a hoax and the government is behind it, what's the purpose? Such disinformation would be useful only if the government really does have crashed saucers and alien bodies hidden and wants to continue to keep this a secret. So why would it fabricate a document that claims that the very thing it is denying is true, and thereby strengthening and prolonging the beliefs of so many ufologists?

I wouldn't be surprised if ten years from now the issue still hasn't been resolved.

What are you doing these days and how extensive is our research?

Best wishes,



Bob Pratt

RECEIVED 26 APR 1989