

Thursday so the date wouldn't have any great significance. What I discovered was quite intriguing.

First of all, whereas Hillenkoetter, also an MJ-12 member and Smith's predecessor at the CIA, did not meet very often with Truman, Smith did, once he was fully installed as head of the CIA which took place during the end of 1950. But 01 August was the only day prior to November, of 1950, when Smith met with Truman!! It was a brief meeting, scheduled for less than 15 minutes at the West Door of the White House, no subject given and it was off the record. One person informed me that that's an area where they are not likely to be seen. There was certainly no press coverage of that meeting. It is interesting indeed that later that same day, Truman also met with another member of MJ-12, Gordon Gray. That meeting isn't on the advance calendar for that date. The location of the Smith meeting is the only location given for a meeting in the entire day's calendar.

This does raise a question, of course. How did whoever wrote the document know that that meeting date would be of significance? What seems appropriate here as an hypothesis, is that Truman had already decided that Walter Bedell Smith would replace Hillenkoetter. He certainly had full trust in Smith since Smith was the US Ambassador to Moscow in the period 1946 though 1949. He had been Ike's chief of Staff during World War II. Once Truman had decided that Smith would be the next DCI (Director of Central Intelligence) he probably also decided that Smith would now become a permanent member of MJ-12. It is interesting that the first three DCIs, namely Admiral Souers, General Vandenberg, and Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, were also listed on the MJ-12 roster. It would certainly seem appropriate for the next one to be. In any event, although we have no specific record of what happened at that meeting, we do know that there was such a meeting and that the date was unique for a 10 month period. It would seem an incredible coincidence that a forger could pull such a date out of the air, especially somebody from the outside. Also, the Truman Library Archivist indicated that nobody else had asked him that question about dates of meetings between Smith and Truman.

The next date is 24 June 1947 for the sighting by a civilian pilot over the Cascade Mountains of nine disc-shaped flying "aircraft," moving at a high rate of speed (1,700 mph). This date, of course, is the date of the famous Kenneth Arnold UFO sighting so there's nothing special about the date. It is right, but everybody knows that date. All books on the history of UFOs certainly mention that date. The next one is "07 July, 1947, a secret operation was begun." Anybody studying the Roswell story would recognize that as the date when Major Jesse Marcel and Sheridan W. Cavitt Counter Intelligence Corps Officer went out to the Brazell ranch to bring back the first load of wreckage from the crash site. It is an obscure date but certainly nothing distinctive that would show inside information. The next date is "19 September 1947" that supposedly was when a preliminary consensus was released on the covert analytical effort organized by General Twining and Bush, acting on the orders of the President. Here, again, we don't have