

# THE UFO INVESTIGATOR

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### LIFE ON MARS *Continued from Page 1*

As a careful scientist, Webb does not claim the canal system is full proof of an advanced Mars race. But no one, even the strongest skeptic, has been able to explain how this strangely precise network could have occurred naturally.

Most skeptics cite the "harsh" climate as an argument against Mars life. Because of Mars' bitterly cold nights, Dr. Hubertus Strughold, AF Aerospace Medical Division, insists that only low-order, cold-blooded creatures could exist there.

To this, Dr. James C. Bartlett, Jr., well-known Baltimore astronomer and NICAP adviser, takes strong exception:

"Such conditions are simply the natural conditions of Mars, and therefore would be as agreeable to a Martian organism as our steaming rain forests are to equatorial zone creatures on Earth. All life must come into harmony with its environment if it is to survive. . . . Do you suppose a fish feels uncomfortably wet, immersed in the sea? Or that a walrus feels uncomfortably cold because it takes siestas upon ice floes?"

The Martian climate, says Dr. Bartlett, is neither harsh nor mild -- it is simply Martian. Martian creatures, in his opinion, would not necessarily have to be "low forms" of life.

There are no positive clues to probable types of life in the scientific reports on Mars conditions. The gravity is 38% that of Earth; a 150-pound Earth visitor would weigh 56 pounds on Mars, and because his movements would be easier, he would have to exercise to stay healthy. In the planet's low-oxygen air, nothing would burn. The sun would look one-fourth smaller than on Earth, and sky is supposed to be whitish blue.

Scientific opinions and speculation on Mars life cover a wide range: 1. No life; Mars is dead. 2. Plant life only. 3. Plants and

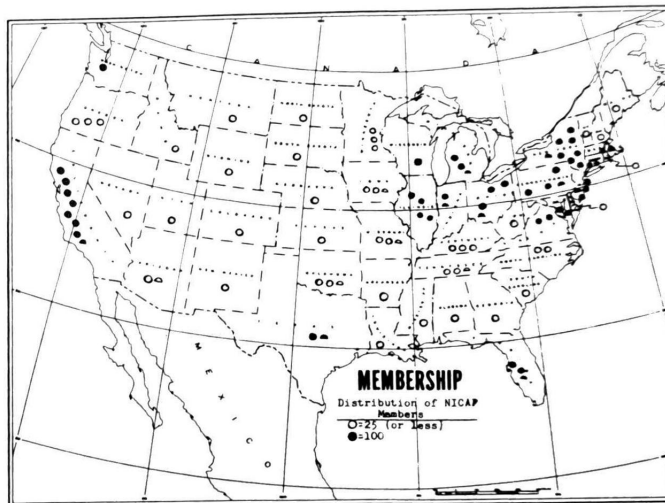
microbes. 4. Animals, unlike Earth's, possibly very large. 5. Intelligent Martian creatures unlike us, more advanced, or less, than on Earth. 6. An advanced race from another planet, using Mars as a base, or for colonies. 7. Descendants of an original Mars race, which evolved when the planet had oceans, oxygen and an atmosphere similar to Earth's, and which took refuge in artificial, pressured shelters when Mars began to lose its water and atmosphere.

The truth cannot be long in coming. The Soviet probe, to reach Mars on June 25, could bring important news. It may take a year or two, until our "fly by" probes or landing-robots with radio and TV relay the answers to Earth.

If Mars proved barren, or only low-order life were found, it would remove the planet as a possible UFO source. Even if an advanced world were found, there still might not be any UFO link, though the discovery would end skeptics' arguments that no neighboring planet could support intelligent life.

Finding an intelligent race on Mars would be the most dramatic discovery in Earth's history. If they were beings like us, living in sealed cities, under an equatorial roof, or inside an artificial "moon," we could hope for early communication and eventual meetings. The chances would be greatly increased if we found they already knew of us, through UFO operations and observation of the Earth.

The Mars beings might be unlike us, so different that understanding each other would take years. But even if we never fully understood, if meetings proved impossible, discovering that intelligent life does exist elsewhere still would be a tremendous achievement, profoundly changing our lives.



By error, the name of Miss Miriam Brookman, President of the NY-NICAP Affiliate, was given as "Muriel" Brookman in Vol. II, No. 6. Since we have known Miss Brookman for five years, during which time she has frequently assisted us in securing UFO information, there is simply no explanation (or excuse) for such a mistake. We regret the error very much.

### CANADIAN UFO INVESTIGATOR DIES

Word has reached NICAP (via a letter from the Royal Canadian Air Force to a NICAP member) of the death of Adviser Wilbert B. Smith, former head of the Project Magnet UFO investigation in Canada. Mr. Smith, an electronics expert and a responsible official in the Department of Transport, had been a NICAP Adviser since the beginning of the organization, though he was not active as such in recent years. The letter states he died shortly after Christmas, 1962. We regret his passing.

Although Mr. Smith and NICAP differed about certain contact claims, his technical advice and leads to valuable information were greatly appreciated. A detailed report on his investigations will appear later on.

From: Dennis Stacy <dstacy@texas.net>  
Date: Sun, 09 Jul 2000 19:28:20 -0500  
To: sqquishy@altavista.com  
Subject: Re: Wilbert Smith

---

> >Surely you're not asserting that Wilbur Smith wasn't  
clearly  
> >batty in regard to \_some\_ of his UFO assertions  
and claims?  
>  
>Dennis  
>  
>Could you list for me some of Wilbert Smith's UFO  
assertions and claims  
that bother you? I have worked on Smith for many years  
and am now working  
on it daily. I would like to address the problem areas.  
>  
>Grant Cameron  
>

Grant,

Most of my objections are probably summarized on p.  
853 (Vol. 2) of the 2nd  
edition of Clark's UFO encyclopedia. If memory serves,  
seems there was also  
something about space slag.

You're right, though, it's Wilbert, and not Wilbur,  
Smith.

My mistake.

Dennis Stacy

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### UpDate: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash - Balaskas

From: Nick Balaskas <nikolaos@yorku.ca>  
 Date: Tue, 04 Jul 2000 19:43:40 -0400 (Eastern Daylight Time)  
 Fwd Date: Wed, 05 Jul 2000 23:43:58 -0400  
 Subject: UpDate: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash - Balaskas

>Date: Tue, 04 Jul 2000 00:45:43 +0100  
 >From: James Easton <voyager@ufoworld.co.uk>  
 >Subject: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash  
 >To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@sympatico.ca>

>>Date: Mon, 03 Jul 2000 18:27:36 -0400 (Eastern Daylight Time)  
 >>From: Nick Balaskas <nikolaos@yorku.ca>  
 >>Subject: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash  
 >>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@sympatico.ca>

>>"As nearly as we are able to re-create the accident, Mantell was  
 >>pursuing a UFO and was able to get quite near - in fact, well  
 >>into its operating field. His aircraft just fell apart and was  
 >>scattered over quite an area".

>>"In Mantell's case, the altered field configuration in the  
 >>vicinity of the craft reduced the binding forces within the  
 >>structure of the aircraft to a value below that of the load  
 >>which the parts were supposed to carry. So it just came apart".

>I think they're all certainly comparative - Wilbert, Roswell,  
 >MJ-12, Cors.. nah, let's not go there.

>Back to reality, I've uploaded (for a short time) a photo of  
 >Mantell's crashed aircraft, together with the photo of a P-51,  
 >to my web site at:

><http://www.ufoworld.co.uk/ftp/mantell.jpg>

>As you can see, Mantell's aircraft was relatively intact when it  
 >hit the ground.

>Guess Wilbert's no more trustworthy than many others with an  
 >abundance of sensational yarns.

Hi James.

Sorry to shatter your assumptions about Wilbert B. Smith or your

beliefs about how Captain Thomas F. Mantell died but shortly after Dr. J. Allen Hynek had apologized to Edward J. Ruppelt (former head of the U.S. Air Force Project Blue Book) about the Air Force report which suggested that the planet Venus played a role in this tragedy, Edward got a copy of the official accident report. This report said that Thomas' F-51 airplane lost a wing. I only see the right wing (to the left of the propeller) in your photo of the "relatively intact" F-51 wreckage. Now which yarn should one accept as the truth, yours or Wilbert's which is in apparent agreement with the head of Project Blue Book and your photo? Maybe Wilbert knew what he was talking about after all...

What are the dangers, if any, of a trained pilot chasing Venus or a Skyhook balloon at 60,000 feet, both higher than a F-51 can go? Even if Thomas passed out because of lack of oxygen by continuing on to 20,000 feet (remember hard working climbers have reached to the summit of Mount Everest breathing only the air at 29,000 feet and I too did not pass out during a visit to the world class observatories on top of a 14,000 foot snow capped mountain in Hawaii), it would be nearly impossible for his airplane (including the Cessna 152 I learned to fly in) to go into a steep dive on its own, let alone reach the incredible speeds required to rip a wing off.

I have spoken with Canadian government officials and scientists who have worked with Wilbert or knew him personally. They all had the best things to say about Wilbert as a person and as a fellow scientist (not much unlike what one expects to hear about someone like Dr. Vannevar Bush), although they all became uncomfortable and made apologetic remarks after I brought up the subject of his research into UFOs. I have to admit that a lot of the documents I have uncovered about Wilbert's research into UFOs are at times too much for me to take seriously, but many supportive documents from other "behind the scenes" Canadian scientists force me not to dismiss anything. One such interesting document is an NRC attendance sheet dated April 7, 1952 signed by 12 top Canadian government officials and scientists below a large logo of a flying saucer! Guess what this study group discussed five years before Sputnik heralded in the space age?

30 years later Canada (Toronto) was host to a MUFON Symposium where Arthur Bray (an authority on Canadian ufology and the one who made public the contents of Wilbert's Top Secret Memo which mention Dr. Vannevar Bush) and William L. Moore (author of 'The Roswell Incident') were present as speakers. Maybe the MJ-12 documents which were subsequently revealed to the public a few years afterwards by ufologists such as Timothy Good and Stan Friedman are just Americanized versions of what Arthur and William introduced at this UFO symposium.

Nick Balaskas

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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Update: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash - Clark

From: **Jerome Clark** <jkclark@frontiernet.net>  
 Date: Thu, 06 Jul 2000 12:12:06 -0500  
 Fwd Date: Thu, 06 Jul 2000 19:24:46 -0400  
 Subject: UpDate: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash - Clark

>Date: Thu, 06 Jul 2000 01:01:08 -0400  
 >From: Greg Sandow <gsandow@nyc.rr.com>  
 >Subject: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash  
 >To: 'UFO UpDates - Toronto' <updates@sympatico.ca>

>>Date: Tue, 04 Jul 2000 18:12:42 -0700 (PDT)  
 >>From: Mac Tonnies <macbot@yahoo.com>  
 >>Subject: Re: MJ-12 And The Mantell Crash  
 >>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@sympatico.ca>

Greg,

>Whether this proves anything is open to debate. But where does  
 >James Easton get the idea (set forth in a previous post) that  
 >Smith was hoaxing when he claimed to know American secrets?  
 >Smith was, by all accounts, thoroughly naive; people have  
 >questioned his scientific rigor, his common sense, and maybe  
 >even his sanity, but never his sincerity. Does Easton have  
 >evidence for this alleged hoax? And what kind of hoax would it  
 >be, to (as Smith did) scrawl some notes on an alleged  
 >conversation, and then leave them buried in your private papers,  
 >to be found only after your death?

You're absolutely right. Wilbert Smith can be fairly criticized  
 on questions of judgment and critical-mindedness, but no one  
 till now has ever accused him of hoaxing. That's really  
 outrageous.

Having seen a fair amount of Smith's personal correspondence, I  
 can say that he was a naive guy who tended to believe just about  
 anything he heard. He routinely took seriously stories that most  
 of us would judge dubious or insufficiently substantiated, but  
 there is zero evidence that he concocted these stories himself.

The trashing of the reputations of dead (and living) ufologists  
 seems to be a blood sport among some. It's an appalling practice  
 especially when applied to the innocent. And Smith was an

innocent in both senses of the term.

Jerry Clark

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>>>Wilbert shared much secret UFO information with his high level  
>>>U.S. counterparts, including flying saucer hardware and even  
>>>alleged communications with alien commanders of certain orbiting  
>>>E.T. spacecraft, the details of which can still be found at the  
>>>University of Ottawa archives where many of Wilbert's papers  
>>>and other UFO documents are kept.

>>I think they're all certainly comparative - Wilbert,  
>>Roswell,  
>>MJ-12, Cors.. nah, let's not go there.

>Communication with orbiting craft? This is indeed a rather  
>explosive claim, and I don't think it's mentioned in the MJ-12  
>documents. Is there a way to look into this other than going to  
>the University of Ottawa...?

Hi Mac.

Censored copies of two U.S. documents were found among Wilbert B. Smith's papers at the University of Ottawa archives. Since these two documents may already be known to you and other researchers, a few quotes should answer your questions about communications with aliens in orbiting craft and will also enable you to determine who the major figures involved were at the time (for some reason, a name would be crossed out on one document but not the other).

Mac, if you are still interested, I can share with you many of the other and lesser known documents that I made copies of while at the UofO's UFO archives.

[Document One]

Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI DATE: 8/2/54

FROM: SAC, WFO (62-0)

SUBJECT: Mrs. FRANCES SWAN

MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

This interview is predicated upon a telephone call received by  
SAC L. L. LAUGHLIN on 7/29/54 from (30 spaces crossed out)  
Bureau of Aeronautics, U.S. Navy Department.

<snip>

(6 spaces crossed out) advised that (7 spaces crossed out) wrote to Admiral ESPEY, Director of Naval Intelligence, on 6/1/54 enclosing some of the messages received by (up to 12 spaces crossed out).

<snip>

... he went to (up to 22 spaces crossed out) where he spent 7/24,25,26/54 in the residence of (24 spaces crossed out) stated that he informed Admiral SAUCEK. his superior...

<snip>

...(15 spaces crossed out) wrote a letter to MARGARET CHASE SMITH, Senator from Maine, concerning this information, who forwarded the information to the Secretary of Defense and copies were sent to the Army, Navy, and the Air Force. According to (15 spaces crossed out) also wrote a letter to the President of the United States.

<snip>

[Document Two]

Dates: August 9, 1954  
To: Director of Special Investigations  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D.C.  
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Subject: FLYINGS SAUCERS  
(15 - 17 spaces crossed out)  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

<snip>

Information received by (6 spaces crossed out) indicated that Knowles [\*] became interested in the messages received by (9 spaces crossed out) and felt that the matter should be investigated by the Government.  
[\*] Rear Admiral Herbert Knowles

<snip>

According to (17 spaces crossed out) stated that there were two space ships from which she had been receiving messages. They were described as 150 miles wide, 200 miles in length, and 100 miles in depth. Hutson stated that these ships are designated M-4 and L-11 and they also contain mother ships which measure approximately 150 to 200 feet in length. (6 spaces crossed out) related that (4 spaces crossed out) had informed him that there were approximately 5000 of these mother ships. He stated that "Affa" is the Manager or the Commander of the ship M-4 which is from the planet Uranus and "Ponnar" is the Manager or the Commander of the ship L-11 which is from the planet Hatann. (7 spaces crossed out) related that (9 spaces crossed out) stated that these contacts with "Affa" and "Ponnar" were for the purpose of protecting our own earth from destruction caused by the explosion of the atom bomb...

<snip>

Two giant objects of unknown origin were reported to be in Earth orbit at the time and further details can be found in several journals and books, including Major Donald E. Keyhoe's book, 'Aliens from Space'. Grant Cameron's current research seems to suggest that not only were these objects taken very seriously at the highest official levels but, as incredible as it may sound, a good case can be made that puts these giant objects under the command of 'Affa' and/or 'Ponnar'.

I for one can honestly say that I do not believe any of this but it is part of ufology and I would be wrong to dismiss it simply on a gut feeling, especially since high level government officials in Canada and the U.S., scientists (eg. astronomer Clyde Tombaugh - who had two reported UFO sightings of his own to name just one) and the military took it seriously.

Nick Balaskas

You can read the entry on Wilbert Smith in Jerry Clark's UFO Encyclopedia. Smith thought he got mental messages from space people. He is, by the way, an interesting figure, a scientist

(despite his metaphysical interests) who did in fact claim to have discussed secret US government knowledge of UFOs with an American insider. That alleged insider, Robert Sarbacher, was interviewed several times before he died in the mid-80s, and confirmed both the conversation and the secrets.

Whether this proves anything is open to debate. But where does James Easton get the idea (set forth in a previous post) that Smith was hoaxing when he claimed to know American secrets? Smith was, by all accounts, thoroughly naive; people have questioned his scientific rigor, his common sense, and maybe even his sanity, but never his sincerity. Does Easton have evidence for this alleged hoax? And what kind of hoax would it be, to (as Smith did) scrawl some notes on an alleged conversation, and then leave them buried in your private papers, to be found only after your death?

Greg Sadow

Hi James.

Sorry to shatter your assumptions about Wilbert B. Smith or your beliefs about how Captain Thomas F. Mantell died but shortly after Dr. J. Allen Hynek had apologized to Edward J. Ruppelt (former head of the U.S. Air Force Project Blue Book) about the Air Force report which suggested that the planet Venus played a role in this tragedy, Edward got a copy of the official accident report. This report said that Thomas' F-51 airplane lost a wing. I only see the right wing (to the left of the propeller) in your photo of the "relatively intact" F-51 wreckage. Now which yarn should one accept as the truth, yours or Wilbert's which is in apparent agreement with the head of Project Blue Book and your photo? Maybe Wilbert knew what he was talking about after all...

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go into a steep dive on its own, let alone reach the incredible speeds required to rip a wing off.

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Nick Balaskas

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=====

Mac Tonnies ([macbot@yahoo.com](mailto:macbot@yahoo.com))

I would have emphasize "relatively" to accept that statement as true. The plane was apparently not in pieces when it hit the ground, or at least it fell into a confined area. I think of an

intact aircraft as being in one piece, and identifiable. I somehow doubt anyone could look at that photograph with no other information and identify the type of aircraft that it was.

Wilbert is an interesting individual, and apparently had some contacts with the U.S. Government in regard to the investigation into unknown flying objects. I think it's important to take the time frame into account here and understand that at the time that Wilbert's conversations probably took place the Mantell crash was fairly recent and due to truly "unknown" causes. The initial explanation contrived by investigators was proven to be bogus, and the Skyhook explanation was not really considered until many years had passed.

>If some or all the MJ-12 documents are fake  
>Nick, they are so obviously bogus a ten-year-old could see  
>through them, as opposed to the more recent MJ-12 documents,  
>which were apparently written by one.

I'd be curious to know what you believe a 10-year-old would be able to see in the MJ-12 documents that would indicate that they were fakes. I would agree that there is very good reason to question their validity, but your statement (IMO) is one of emotion and not logic. The comment would seem to indicate more about your view of those who put any credence into the documents, and relegates the discussion to one of personalities and not substance.

For the record, I'm not a supporter of the MJ-12 documents as being real, but until someone comes forward to acknowledge their involvement in their creation I don't believe I would be willing to accept that they've been proven to be fake.

Steve

Nick,

Dr Vannevar Bush's fame owed more to being a brilliant scientist than any scurrilous mention in some transparent UFO related hoax.

Did you know one of his visions was essentially the Internet, which he conceived as a future possibility - in 1945.

(Ha! Can't credit any 'Roswell seeded alien technology' for that

one!)

There's some related material in a previous newsletter on my web site - see "Latest 'secret government documents' hoax: what a tangled World Wide Web we weave", at:

<http://www.ufoworld.co.uk/newslet2.htm>

- >Wilbert shared much secret UFO information with his high level
- >U.S. counterparts, including flying saucer hardware and even
- >alleged communications with alien commanders of certain orbiting
- >E.T. spacecraft, the details of which can still be found at the
- >University of Ottawa archives where many of Wilbert's papers
- >and other UFO documents are kept.

- >What Wilbert was able to say in publicly about Captain Mantell's
- >tragic encounter with a flying saucer can be found in some of
- >his speeches, including the one he gave in Ottawa on March 31,
- >1958. Below I quote a few paragraphs.

<snip>

- >"As nearly as we are able to re-create the accident, Mantell was
- >pursuing a UFO and was able to get quite near - in fact, well
- >into its operating field. His aircraft just fell apart and was
- >scattered over quite an area".

- >"In Mantell's case, the altered field configuration in the
- >vicinity of the craft reduced the binding forces within the
- >structure of the aircraft to a value below that of the load
- >which the parts were supposed to carry. So it just came apart".

<snip>

- >Does the above information given by Wilbert support the story
- >that Captain Mantell had a close encounter with a Skyhook
- >balloon? I do not think so, anymore than another balloon story
- >can explain the Roswell UFO crash half a year later.

I think they're all certainly comparative - Wilbert, Roswell, MJ-12, Cors.. nah, let's not go there.

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As you can see, Mantell's aircraft was relatively intact when it hit the ground.

Guess Wilbert's no more trustworthy than many others with an abundance of sensational yarns.

>If some or all the MJ-12 documents are fake

Nick, they are so obviously bogus a ten-year-old could see through them, as opposed to the more recent MJ-12 documents, which were apparently written by one.

Anyway, I hope the photograph helps to answer your questions.

James Easton.

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>The trashing of the reputations of dead (and living) ufologists  
>seems to be a blood sport among some. It's an appalling practice  
>especially when applied to the innocent. And Smith was an  
>innocent in both senses of the term.

>Jerry Clark

Jerry,

Surely you're not asserting that Wilbur Smith wasn't clearly batty in regard to some of his UFO assertions and claims?

Does pointing out same make me (or anyone else) a character assassinator?

I think not.

Dennis Stacy