

reported in their various papers and THE ROSWELL INCIDENT. We agree! But that is the problem - there is little that conflicts with what was already on the record for a number of years. Enough is in print on the Roswell incident to concoct a pretty good - but false - scenario. This must be considered as an equally plausible explanation for the documents at present unless some compelling new information comes along.

MSF have cited a December 8, 1950, FBI cable as evidence in favor of the 1950 Texas crash. The cable states that the FBI field office in Richmond, Virginia was advised that Army Intelligence was placed on "Immediate High Alert" for any information on "flying saucers." Anything at all on the topic was to be phoned to Air Force Intelligence. While intriguing, caution is advised in linking this firmly to the Texas incident. First - The cable is not classified, though it states that the alert was "strictly confidential." Second - The cable says nothing about Texas, crashed discs, MJ-12, or related matters. Third - It is not clear why the Richmond FBI field office or Richmond Army Intelligence would be put on alert relative to the Texas incident for "any information whatsoever" on flying saucers. Fourth - If this were a top security matter, why involve the FBI, a non-military agency?

--The 1954 Cutler memo - A one-page memo on carbon copy paper from Robert Cutler, Special Assistant to President Eisenhower, to General Nathan Twining. Source is the Air Force Intelligence file group at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. The Cutler memo is the key document to MSF's case because it is the sole piece of MJ-12 evidence that could be traced to an official source. If this is genuine, then there was an MJ-12.

As mentioned in our last Just Cause, problems arose early. In telephone conversations with Edward Reese of the Military Reference Branch of the National Archives, CAUS learned that while the memo was found in an Air Force Intelligence file box, several things were peculiar.

- 1) The security marking appeared in an unusual position, under the date instead of on the top and bottom of the page.
- 2) It was a carbon copy; unsigned and not the original.
- 3) It lacked the usual stamping, initials; etc. found on old documents.
- 4) It originally lacked a Top Secret register number, by which the document could be filed in a proper folder. Implication was that it was not part of the original file group released by the Air Force.

More on #4. Reese said he received several requests for the Cutler memo, probably as a result of an article by Bruce Maccabee in the November/December 1986 issue of the International UFO Reporter. The article by Maccabee was the earliest mention of the existence of the Cutler memo, presumably given to him by Moore.

Reese was unable to locate the document until one of the requests (Reese couldn't remember who) included the Top Secret register number of the file which contained the memo. Apparently sometime before, someone had gone through the box with the Cutler memo, recorded the register number of the file, then later submitted the request using the register number (14-1846). Reese, finding the memo in the file, was puzzled that it lacked the number so assigned the file number to the document himself to allow its re-location.

Moore and Shandera said they were the first individuals to inspect the boxes in 1985. In fact, the release authority at the Archives, identified by the written notation on later copies (NND 857013),

indicates the year of declassification (1985) and the case number (7013) for the entire file group, not just file 14-1846. Yet, Moore's copy of the memo indicates that it was released on 1/12/87.

Questions arise! If the memo was found by Moore and Shandera in 1985, why do they present a copy released two years later? Did they not get a copy when it was found on site? How did the unknown phone caller know the register number unless he went through the file and why didn't he make a copy while there? Where is a copy of the memo with a dated release of 1985? The implication of this is that someone planted the memo before 1987 and set it up to be "officially" discovered and "officially" released by Archives personnel. Why no mention of it by MSF before this year when, as evidenced by our article in the December 1985 Just Cause, the topic was already public news and needed to be verified at that point? Why didn't MSF confide in us at that point when we would have helped?

Reese also said that an Archives visitor, not Moore or Friedman, insisted that the memo be stamped with the official National Archives stamp on the front, contrary to Archives policy of stamping the backs of documents. This was certainly to guarantee the appearance of "officiality" when the memo is reproduced. Moore's first release of the memo is the front-stamped copy (Exhibit 8).

In the file 14-1846 along with the Cutler memo is a withdrawal card for an "Air Intelligence Estimate 1/54." The original document was classified and dealt with Soviet aircraft. Question: Why would the Cutler memo be filed in the same folder with a document on a completely unrelated topic?

Upon visiting the National Archives on June 25th, this editor had a chance to examine the Cutler memo original. It was in Box 189, Records Group 341, Entry 267. The box was virtually empty except for a few folders containing a small number of non-UFO documents and folders with withdrawal cards. The box had been carefully scanned before declassification and most of the files were removed and replaced with the cards. Question: How did the "Top Secret Restricted" Cutler memo escape the obviously careful sanitizing of the box, though MJ-12 was supposed to be of extreme sensitivity?

The memo itself was on delicate carbon copy, rice-type paper with the typing in blue carbon impression and a red slash through the security marking. The memo was remarkably clean looking with little sign of 33 years of wear and handling, except for a very slight age browning around the four edges. A watermark, "DICTATION UNION SKIN" could be read and in smaller, less distinct letters a word looking like "FOX," perhaps the manufacturer. Other marking was evident but entirely unreadable.

Reese was in a quandry because, despite his suspicions about the memo, he had to treat it as genuine. He expressed to this editor his opinion that it wasn't genuine but, in lieu of a forger coming forward, it would be extremely difficult to prove. I suggested that the document be given an in-house analysis. The controversy was sure to increase and an analysis might answer some questions. Reese thought it was a good idea so with that I thanked him and left.

While you are digesting this assault on your brain cells, Exhibit 9, coming from the Assistant Director of the Eisenhower Library, give that institute's conclusions on the Cutler memo and MJ-12.

Finally, a "coup de grace" for the Cutler memo came from the Archives. Exhibit 10 is a disclaimer now being sent to requesters of the memo. It gives a 10-point list of reasons why they feel the Cutler memo "poses problems." The disclaimer is signed by the same individual who was quoted in MSF's press release of June 11th as initially believ-