

Roger Ramey, head of the 8th Air Force, instructed him not to say anything, told the press it was just the wreckage of a weather balloon radar reflector and they went on back to Roswell. His picture was in a lot of newspapers.

This conversation was the beginning of a long effort to dig out the truth about what happened at Roswell. This search is described in other publications (Reference 1-7) so I won't go into it in much detail here. A very important second event took place in October. Bill Moore had visited me in the summer of 1978 in California talking about being interested in doing something maybe about crashed saucers. We were both aware that there had been a great deal of publicity for a story about Hangar 18, supposedly containing 12 alien bodies at Wright Field. The story had been told by Robert Spencer Carr, of Florida, who could provide nothing to back it up although it had certainly received a lot of press mileage in 1974. One always feels that where there's smoke there may be fire. But without verification, which Carr certainly could not provide when I contacted him, it was one of those many dead ends.

On October 24th, 1978 I met Vern and Gene Maltais. After my lecture at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minnesota, they quietly told me of an old friend of theirs named Barney Barnett who, in New Mexico, had told them that he had run across a saucer stuck in the ground with four strange bodies around it and that the military had come along and told him and a nearby archaeological expedition never to say anything under any circumstances. It just so happened that the very next day I met with Bill Moore at Thief River Falls and Crookston, Minnesota, and passed on the Barnett story for follow-up, because he was still living in Minnesota.

In January, 1979, Bill had come across the story of Hughie Green, an English actor, who described how, driving across the United States in the late 1940s, he had heard an incredible story about the recovery of a crashed flying saucer on several radio stations but that when he got to the East coast there was nothing more. Bill contacted him, got a date for the event that led him on February 10, 1979, to check out newspaper stories at the University of Minnesota Library. He found an article on July 8, 1947, about what had happened to Jesse Marcel! This gave us a chance to verify the accuracy of Jesse's recall. The articles gave us a date for which to look at other newspapers for other articles. These gave us a number of names and that began a very intensive research effort.

Just three months later I was in Houma, Louisiana, as one of a number of stops being made with a film crew to produce what eventually became "UFOs Are Real" a 93 minute movie documentary. We interviewed Jesse Marcel at length. As of 1980, when the book The Roswell Incident (by Moore and Charles Berlitz) came out, Bill and I had talked to about 60 people in conjunction with the event. Bill Moore and I did 98 percent of the Roswell research. We were both shocked when the galleys of the book included extraneous material and that left out important material that would help in evaluating the reliability of the people. The book was a success