

6.5 hour flight on July 7 (Wright Field to Alamogordo, New Mexico) and a return flight, with 2 stops, of 8 hours 40 minutes on July 11. The flight on Monday, July 7 was from Wright Field (Twining's base) to Alamogordo Army Air Field (NM). On Friday, July 11, the log notes: from Alamogordo to White Sands (NM) to Albuquerque (probably Kirtland AAFB), and back to Wright Field in Ohio. This was the only trip to New Mexico for several months preceding July. There was, interestingly, another trip just before General Twining took over as Head of the vital Alaskan Command on October 9, 1947. Twining's plane returned from Anchorage to Boeing on September 25, from Boeing to Hamilton AFB to Los Angeles on September 28 and from Los Angeles to Muroc (Dry Lake, now Edwards AFB in Calif.) to Biggs Field (El Paso) on Sept. 30. On October 1, there were 6 hours and 10 minutes of flying from Biggs with a stop in Alamogordo and back to Wright Field. Obviously, there must have been reasons for stopping in Muroc and Alamogordo. Twining was not on board but his assistant, General Benjamin Chidlaw, was. He later became the first head of the Air Defense Command.

A key point that must be made here is that Twining left Dayton on Monday, July 7, but the fuss about Roswell (press release about recovery of a flying disc) went out the next day, on July 8. How could this be? A growing body of evidence indicates that there was actually a crash west of Socorro (Barnett Story) on about July 3, which got NO press coverage and which may well have been tracked by radar at the White Sands Missile Range since the radar certainly would have been on in anticipation of a rocket launch that day. Newspaper articles say the launch did not take place because there had been an accident which injured several people with a toxic substance. If the radar had tracked the UFO down, that would explain the prompt appearance of the military at the location of civil engineer Barney Barnett and the archaeology group. Surely if something had been tracked down there would have been subsequent aerial reconnaissance from Alamogordo with troops out as quickly as possible. Roswell was a good deal east of there. Alamogordo was the home of numerous rocket scientists including the German contingent under Werner von Braun. It must have been quite a shock when Colonel Blanchard ordered First Lieutenant Walter Haut to put out his press release about the wreckage found on the Foster Ranch by "Mac" Brazell. Probably the recovery near Horse Springs New Mexico at the edge of the Plains of San Augustin would have stimulated careful monitoring of all press wire service transmissions to assure that no story went out. It is very likely not a coincidence that the newspapers noted that President Truman met with New Mexico Senator Chavez on July 9 with no good reason being given, and radio people from Roswell have said they were called to discontinue coverage of the crashed disc story or lose their license.

It is important to remember that Roswell Army Air Force Base was basically a Strategic Air Command base whose primary purpose was not research and development, but rather the training of a powerful force of heavy bombers in the new tactics of atom bombing which were quite different from standard bombing tactics. It had