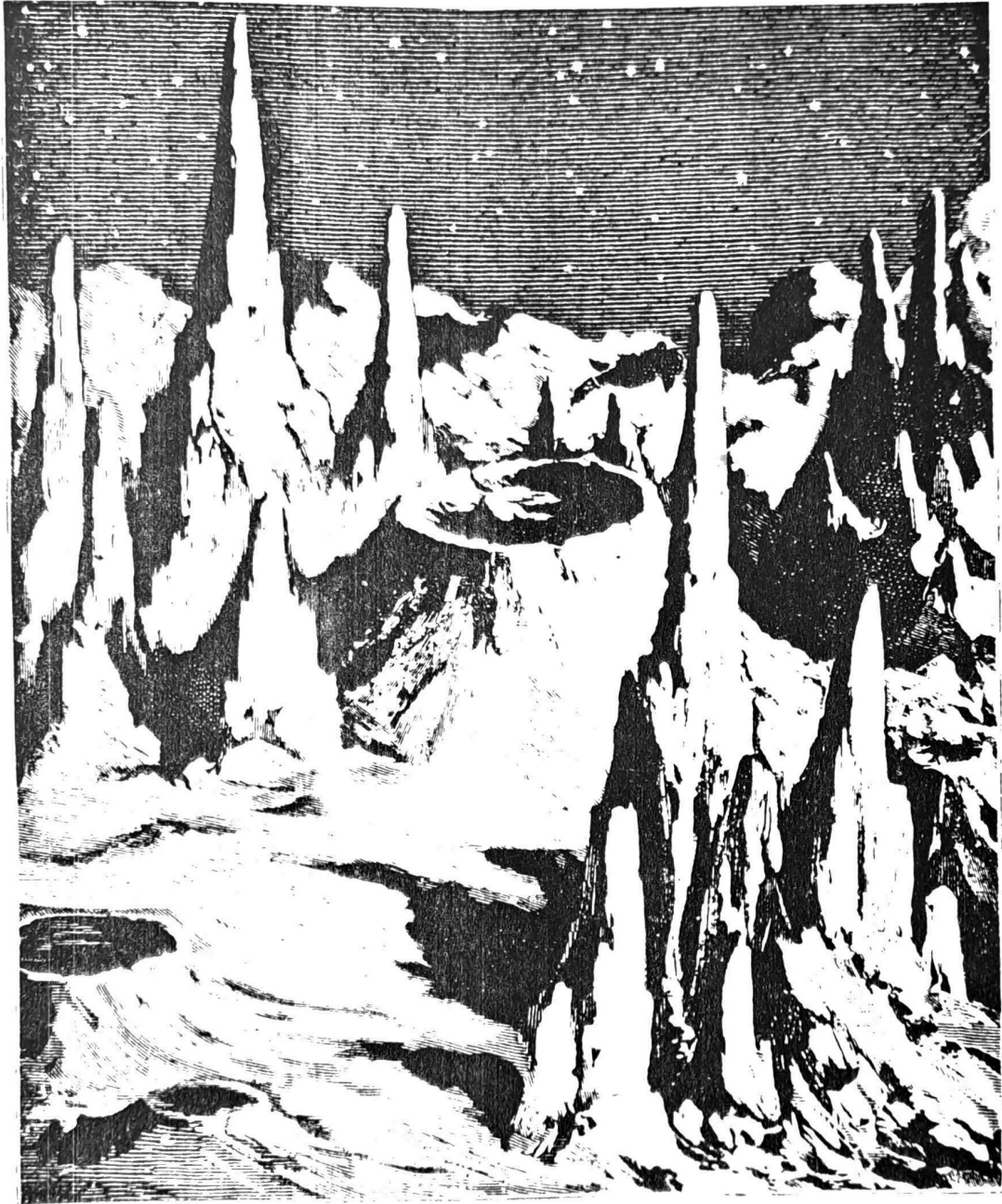


JOURNAL of the FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER

VOLUME 1 NO. 4

DECEMBER, 1986

\$3.50



PROJECT MOON DUST

Special Case File Issue

We are back again, with our final issue of 1986. The response to our last issue, dealing with UFO-related documents was truly staggering. Because of this interest, and because of the 80-plus letters we received, we are featuring another special issue, this one dealing with a government project known as PROJECT MOON DUST.

I am including in this issue the entire file of documents, and most of the correspondence between myself and the various government agencies regarding PROJECT MOON DUST. The project itself, and its areas of concern seem to encompass not only the retrieval of crashed space debris, but also the retrieval of crashed UFOs. See page 15, paragraph number two, or as it is designated, "c", for this statement.

Also of great interest to me was the correspondence regarding these documents, in which the CIA and the Air Force Intelligence Service strongly imply that PROJECT MOON DUST is indeed concerned with UFOs. Note also, that the correspondence indicates that the project is still active. What was that the government said about no longer having an interest in UFOs?

At any rate, the information is now yours. If anyone has any additional information they would like to share on this, please let us know.

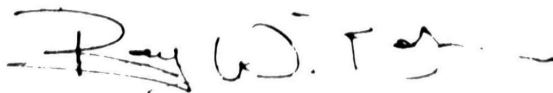
Please be aware that with this issue, your subscription will expire. We run our subscriptions per calendar year, rather than for four consecutive issues spanning more than one year. Believe me, it saves a lot of bookkeeping headaches for a fledgling publication like ours.

Subscription rates will remain the same, \$15.00 per year, and our many overseas subscribers will continue to receive the Journal by air mail as long as our financial situation will allow. We hope to have you all return as subscribers - your support is greatly appreciated, and so are the many kind letters of support we have received. It is nice to know the publication is appreciated.

Beginning with next year's first issue, we will drop the UFO subject (unless the government comes clean in the meantime) and move on into other areas of Fortean phenomena. Next issue will include a complete history of Bigfoot (or bipedal humanoids as I prefer to call them) sightings in Nebraska, and several other gems.

Again, thank you one and all for the overwhelming support which you have given us, and we hope to have you back again next year for even more voyages into the unexplained.

Best wishes for a prosperous
New Year,



Ray W. Boeche
Director, Fortean Research Center

FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER

P.O. BOX 94627

LINCOLN, NE 6850

"Nebraska Association for the Study of the Unexplained"

DIRECTOR: RAY W. BOECHE
ANALYSIS & EVALUATION: ROGER GIESEKING

January 2, 1986

REQUEST SENT TO:

CIA, DEPT. OF DEFENSE, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL. AIR FORCE,
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Gentlemen:

Under the terms of the U.S. Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following information. One copy each of any and all memoranda, reports, committee reports, intelligence reports, minutes of meetings, briefings, debriefings, field reports, orders, and any and all other pertinent information concerning an operation known as PROJECT MOON DUST.

The time frame for my request is as follows: 1 January 1960, or the inception date of PROJECT MOON DUST, whichever is earlier, through and inclusive of December 31, 1985, or the discontinuance of PROJECT MOON DUST, whichever is later.

Enclosed for your benefit are several documents released by the Defense Intelligence Agency which refer to PROJECT MOON DUST. These should be sufficient to enable a professional employee of the agency to locate the record with a reasonable amount of effort.

As a member of a chartered, non-profit public service organization, I assume that any and all search and reproduction fees incurred in response to my request will be waived.

Thank you for your time and attention. I will anticipate your response within 10 days as the law stipulates.

Sincerely,

Ray W. Boeche
Director, Fortean Research Center
Board of Advisors, CAUS

ENC: 4 DIA Documents

Copies to:
Senator J. James Exon
Senator Edward Zorinsky
Senator Barry Goldwater

R
E 6850



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

10 JAN 1986

Mr. Ray W. Boeche
Director, Fortean Research Center
Board of Advisors, CAUS
PO Box 94627
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. Boeche

Please refer to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 2 January 1986.

We have forwarded your request to: the Air Force Intelligence Service (HQ AFIS/DADF), Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, 22060; the AF Space Command (AFSPACECOM/DADF), Peterson AFB, CO 80914 and the Foreign Technology Division (HQ FTD/DADF), Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433. They will process your request and reply directly to you.

We are also tasking two offices within the Headquarters (AF Plans and Operations and AF Intelligence). We shall reply to you on our findings no later than 22 January 1986.

Sincerely

ANNE W. TURNER
HQ USAF Freedom of
Information Manager

86-028



Washington, D.C. 20505

14 JAN 1986

Ray W. Boeche
Fortean Research Center
P.O. Box 94627
Lincoln, NE - 68509

Dear Mr. Boeche:

This is further to our letter of 9 January 1986 regarding your 2 January 1986 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for information on a "Project Moon Dust" on the subject of UFOs, which your enclosures indicate to be a DIA project. (F86-0009).

There is no organized Central Intelligence Agency effort to do research in connection with the UFO phenomena, nor has there been an organized effort to study or collect intelligence on UFOs since the 1950s. At that time, the Air Force, specifically the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, had the primary responsibility for the investigation of all reports of UFO sightings. The CIA's role was in connection with a Scientific Advisory Panel, established to investigate and evaluate reports of UFOs. The panel was concerned only with any aspect of the UFO phenomena which might prove to present a potential threat to the United States national security. The panel later issued a report of its findings, the Report of the Scientific Panel on Unidentified Flying Objects-17 January 1953, also known as the Robertson Report. The report was released by the Air Force Office of Public Information on 9 April 1958. The Air Force investigation, called Project Bluebook, was terminated in 1969. We understand that the Air Force turned its records on this subject over to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), where they are available for inspection and purchase. There is currently no CIA program to actively collect information on UFOs, although, since the time of the Robertson Report, there have been sporadic instances of correspondence dealing with the subject, and we occasionally receive various kinds of unsolicited reports of sightings of objects in the UFO category.

As of this date, the Agency has released to numerous previous requesters 819 pages of UFO-related documents under the Freedom of Information Act. These documents are not indexed, and most of the material deals with matters related to the report by the Scientific Advisory Panel. We should advise you that most of the reports dealing with the UFO sightings considered by the Panel originated with other government agencies such as the Air Force, and that much of the later CIA-originated reports concern sightings as reported in the foreign news media. We also must advise you that, at the

time this released material was first located, in response to inquiries under the Freedom of Information Act, many of the original documents had already been destroyed in accordance with routine records destruction schedules and, as a consequence, many of the copies available in our microfiche archives are of poor quality. If you want copies of these documents, the cost is ten cents per page for reproduction charges. Please send us your check or money order for \$81.90, made payable to the Treasurer of the United States, and cite our number F85-1418 to insure proper credit to your account.

We also wish to point out that the originating agency controls the release of any documents under the FOIA. Therefore, if the CIA had located any material concerning "Project Moon Dust" in response to previous FOIA requests, such material would have been referred back to DIA for their determination as to release.

We await your early response concerning your interest in the previously released documents.

Sincerely,



Lee S. Strickland
Information and Privacy Coordinator



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA 22060-5788

Mr Ray W. Boeche
Director, Fortean Research Center
Board of Advisors, CAUS
PO Box 94627
Lincoln NE 68509

14 January 1986

Dear Mr Boeche

Your request dated 2 Jan 86, requesting access to all records on Project Moon Dust, was forwarded to this office from HQ USAF/DADF.

The Air Force Intelligence Service does not collect or maintain files on UFO data. The old Air Force files on aerial phenomena were incorporated into Project Blue Book several years ago. These records are located at the National Archives in Washington.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Freda Faine", is located below the typed name.

FREDA FAINE
Freedom of Information Act Manager



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433

17 Jan 86

Mr Ray W. Boeche
Director, Fortean Research Center
PO Box 94627
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr Boeche

Please refer to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated
2 Jan 86.

Your request has been returned to HQ USAF/DADF for action and direct
reply to you. HQ FTD is no longer the OPR for this project.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Delmar H. Lawrence, Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

DELMAR H. LAWRENCE, JR, TSgt, USAF
Chief, Records Management Branch
Administration Division



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. Ray W. Boeche
Director, Fortean Research Center
Board of Advisors, CAUS
PO Box 94627
Lincoln, NE 68509

21 JAN 1986

Dear Mr. Boeche

Please refer to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 2 January 1986 and our letter to you dated 10 January 1986.

Attached is the only record we located in this headquarters pertaining to PROJECT MOON DUST. The blacked out portions cover other subjects and are not relevant to your request.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anne W. Turner", is written over the typed name.

ANNE W. TURNER
HQ USAF Freedom of
Information Manager

1 Atch
Document , as stated

86-028

1-4/

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

INTERVIEW MR. CORNETT with 2nd Lt. Joseph L. Thompson, AFMDC,
Foreign Technology, 7 January 1967.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

() NOT JUST - Exploit big booster or missile and satellite
equipment which fall from the air have the
more applied (e.g., the piece of Soviet equipment
which fell into Wisconsin).

January 27, 1986

Ms. Anne Turner
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D.C. 20330

Dear Ms. Turner:

Thank you for your help in locating records pursuant to my 2 January 1986 FOIA request concerning Project Moon Dust. If you would be so kind, I have, however, one or two further questions regarding this project.

1) I have received responses from Air Force Intelligence Service at Ft. Belvoir, and from HQ Foreign Technology Division at Wright-Patterson AFB. I have not, however, heard from HQ Space Command. Per your letter of 10 January 1986, you indicated that you had forwarded my request to these agencies. Can you tell me when HQ Space Command will respond?

2) In the response I received from HQ FTD at Wright-Patterson AFB, they indicated that they no longer had records concerning Project Moon Dust, as they were no longer the office of primary responsibility for the project. They seemed to imply that the project was still active. Is the project still active?

3) HQ Foreign Technology Division indicates they are no longer the office of primary responsibility for the project. Which agency is currently the OPR for the project, and when did it transfer from HQ FTD?

4) What was the date of inception for Project Moon Dust?

I am asking for this information under the terms of the U.S Freedom of Information Act. Any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Ray W. Boeche
Director, Fortean Research Center
Board of Advisors, CAUS

Copies to:
Senator J. James Exon
Senate Armed Services Committee
Senator Barry Goldwater



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330-5025

Mr. Ray W. Boeche
Fortean Research Center
P O Box 94627
Lincoln NE 68509

14 FEB 1986

Dear Mr. Boeche

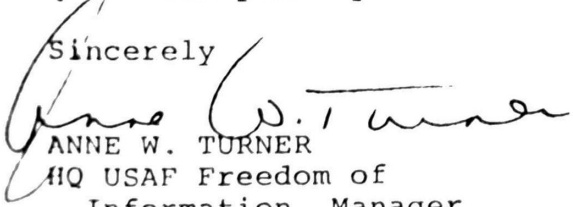
This is in response to your letter dated 27 January 1986.

Our answers follow the same order of the numbered items in your letter.

- 1) Air Force Space Command mailed their reply to you on 27 January.
- 2) The Moon Dust project is no longer active within the Air Force.
- 3) Department of State is the OPR for this project and always has been. FTD was OPR for Air Force.
- 4) The date of inception is unknown but believed to be in the early 1960s.

Although the Freedom of Information Act was designed for requesting specific records, and not answering questions, we have tried to be helpful in this instance. In the future, when writing under the Freedom of Information Act, please insure you are requesting records; perhaps the Public Affairs office could help you with any future questions you may have.

Sincerely


ANNE W. TURNER

HQ USAF Freedom of
Information Manager

860113



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE SPACE COMMAND
PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, COLORADO 80914-5001

27 JAN 1986

Mr. Ray Boeche
Fortean Research Center
PO Box 94627
Lincoln NE 68509

Dear Mr. Boeche

This replies to your January 2, 1985, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of the Air Force, The Pentagon for "one copy each of any and all memoranda, reports, committee reports, intelligence reports, minutes of meetings, briefings, debriefings, field reports, orders, and any and all other pertinent information concerning an operation known as PROJECT MOON DUST."

We have no records responsive to your request.

Fee for this service is waived.

Sincerely


F. P. THOMPSON
Chief, Records Management Division
Directorate of Administration

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

March 4, 1986

Dear Mr. Boeche:

This is in response to your letter of January 2, 1986, requesting, under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, information in the files of the National Security Council relating to "Project Moon Dust" as described in that letter.

The National Security Council Staff has searched the files of the National Security Council and found no records responsive to your request.

Sincerely,



Brenda S. Reger
Director
Office of Information Policy
and Security Review

Mr. Ray W. Boeche
Director
Fortean Research Center
P.O. Box 94627
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



TO: APCIN-11-D/Colonel Bets

SUBJECT: (U) APCIN Intelligence Team Personnel

13 NOV 1961

TO: APCIN-11
APCIN-1
IN TURK

PROBLEM:

1. (U) To provide qualified personnel for APCIN intelligence teams.

FACTORS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

2.

c. In addition to their staff duty assignments, intelligence team personnel have performed duty functions in support of such Air Force projects as Moon dust, Bluefly, and UFO, and other APCIN directed quick reaction projects which require intelligence team operational capabilities (see Definitions).

d. Normal personnel attrition, through PCS, discharge, retirement, etc., has reduced the number of intelligence team qualified personnel below a minimum requirement, and projected personnel losses within the next ten months will halve the current manning.

e. Personnel actions within the authority of AFMFP, APCIN and APCIN-11 can be taken to reverse the trend toward diminishment of the intelligence team capability.

3.

4. Criteria.

a. Intelligence team personnel can perform effectively only with an adequate background of training and experience. Inadequately qualified personnel in such assignment would be a liability rather than an asset to successful accomplishment of the mission.

5. Definitions.

a. Linguist: Personnel who can develop intelligence information through interrogation and translation from Russian and/or Bloc country languages to English.

b. Tech Man: Personnel qualified to develop intelligence information through field examination and analysis of foreign materiel, with emphasis on the Markings Program and technical photography.

c. Ops Man: Intelligence team chief. Qualified to direct intelligence teams in gaining access to target, in exploitation of enemy personnel and materiel, and in use of field communications equipment for rapid reporting of intelligence information.

d. Airborne Personnel: Military trained and rated parachutists.

e. Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO): Headquarters USAF has established a program for investigation of reliably reported unidentified flying objects within the United States. AFR 200-2 delineates 1127th collection responsibilities.

f. Blue Fly: Operation Blue Fly has been established to facilitate expeditious delivery to FID of Moon Dust or other items of great technical intelligence interest. AFCIN SOP for Blue Fly operations, February 1960, provides for 1127th participation.

g. Moon Dust: As a specialized aspect of its over-all materiel exploitation program, Headquarters USAF has established Project Moon Dust to locate, recover and deliver descended foreign space vehicles. ICGL #4, 25 April 1961, delineates collection responsibilities.

DISCUSSION:

6.

a. Headquarters USAF (AFCIN) maintains intelligence teams as a function of AFCIN-IE (1127th USAF Field Activities Group). Personnel comprising such teams have normal AFCIN-IE staff duties, and their maintenance of qualification for intelligence team employment is in addition to their normal staff duties. For example, the Chief of AFCIN-IE-OD, the Domestic Operations Section, additionally participates in approximately 16 hours of training per month for intelligence team employment. Such training includes physical training, classroom combat intelligence training, airborne operations, field problems, etc.

b. Intelligence teams are comprised of three men each, to include a linguist, a tech man, and an ops man. All are airborne qualified. Cross-training is provided each team member in the skills of the other team members to assure a team functional capability despite casualties which may be incurred in employment.

c. Peacetime employment of AFCIN intelligence team capability is provided for in UFO investigation (AFR 200-2) and in support of Air Force Systems Command (AFSC) Foreign Technology Division (FTD) Projects Moon Dust and Blue Fly. These three peacetime projects all involve a potential for employment of qualified field intelligence personnel on a quick reaction basis to recover or perform field exploitation of unidentified flying objects, or known Soviet/Bloc aerospace vehicles, weapons systems, and/or residual components of such equipment. The intelligence team capability to gain rapid access, regardless of location, to recover or perform field exploitation, to communicate and provide intelligence reports is the only such collection capability available to AFCIN, and is vitally necessary in view of current intelligence gaps concerning Soviet/Bloc technological capabilities.

d. Wartime employment of AFCIN intelligence team capability is currently primarily geared to the CONAD/NORAD air defense mission (Atch 1). The intelligence team concept was originally developed within the Air Defense Command (ADC). The ADC Director of Intelligence was charged in 1953 with organizing the 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron (AISS), with a wartime mission of exploiting downed enemy "people, paper, and hardware" for intelligence information that would contribute to the air defense of the continental US, and ADC was allocated manpower for this function (ADC Regulation 24-4, 3 Jan 53, Organization and Mission of the 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron).

e. As an economy move, the 201 spaces of the 4602d AISS were transferred to AFCIN in July 1957 (Hq Comd General Order 46, dtd 8 Jul 57), to provide manning for peacetime AFCIN functions, but with the contingency that AFCIN would continue to maintain a capability to support CONAD/NORAD in the wartime people, paper, and hardware mission (Atchs 2 and 3). From the 194 spaces that AFCIN allocated to the 1005th AISS, activated by Hq Comd General Order #49, 2 Jul 57, this capability was provided for (Dept of AF Ltr, dtd 16 Jul 59, subj: Mission of the 1005th AISS), and the capability has been maintained to the present time, through the redesignation of the 1006th to the 1127th USAF Field Activities Group (AFCIN Policy Ltr 205-13, 12 April 1960).

f. The maintenance of the intelligence team capability over the four year period since inactivation of the 4602d AISS has been possible largely because members of the original highly select and trained 4602d personnel remained with the organization during its subsequent designations.

~~_____~~ In addition, a minimum number of new personnel assigned to the organization and fortuitously possessing basic requisite skills, were further trained and integrated into the intelligence team program as additional duty.

g. Manning of the intelligence teams from these sources has now reached the point of diminishing returns. Only 21 qualified intelligence team personnel are now assigned, and of these approximately half are scheduled for PCS departure from the organization during the next 12 months. There is no forecast input of previously qualified personnel. There are currently five basically qualified volunteers for further training and assignment to intelligence team additional duty.

h. In an effort to augment the diminishing capability, USAF personnel assigned to organizations other than the 1127th within the Washington area who have airborne/intelligence team qualification, and/or who are former members of this organization's intelligence teams, and who have been approved by their organization of assignment and Hq USAF (AFCEM) for wartime assignment to the 1127th, have been issued appropriate orders, and participate in the peacetime training program for wartime employment. Two such personnel are attached, with no known available additional personnel.

i. The most serious immediate and forecast intelligence team shortage is in Linguists. There are now only five Russian Linguists assigned or attached, and of these only two are of native fluency, with the other three of language school capability. Four of the five, including the two of native fluency, are forecast for PCS by November 1962. Only one gain, fortunately of native fluency, is scheduled for airborne training for intelligence team qualification and assignment. Two additional Russian Linguists are forecast for assignment to the 1127th, but neither are yet intelligence team qualified or are known to be volunteers for intelligence team assignment. All intelligence team personnel are volunteers.

j. ~~_____~~
~~_____~~
Eight personnel in these categories are forecast for PCS loss within the next twelve months, with an input forecast of five personnel, four of whom are presently assigned, basically qualified volunteers for airborne training, and one of whom is a forecast gain to the 1127th.

k. A sizeable number of qualified Linguists are presently assigned to ~~_____~~
~~_____~~ 21 bases. Many of the Linguists are either airborne rated and/or have had intelligence team assignments to this organization in its present or former designations. Reassignment of these individuals to AFCEM-LE upon completion of their present tours is a logical method by

which the current and forecast shortage could be met. A problem that would be encountered in implementing such assignment is the lack of 1127th Linguist AFSC manpower vacancies. The 1127th has only twelve Linguist AFSC manpower spaces allocated and seven of these spaces are filled with either non-Russian/Bloc country Linguists or with non-intelligence team qualified Linguists.

1. Possible solutions to the current and forecast shortage are:

(1) Basically qualified personnel currently assigned to AFCEIN-1E who volunteer for further training, to include airborne training, and assignment to intelligence teams, should be given such training and assignment as additional duty to normal staff duty employment.

(2) Assignment to the 1127th of intelligence team qualified Linguists returning from overseas or completing other ZI assignments on an authorized overage basis. Such authorized overages were previously assigned to the organization and provided not only for the intelligence team capability, but for fruitful peacetime ZI employment of Linguists. Ten such personnel could be fully and effectively utilized during peacetime in duties directly in or closely allied to their AFSC's, with the intelligence team capability being an additional duty.

(3) Qualified intelligence team personnel now assigned to the 1127th could be retained beyond their normal duty tours until a similarly qualified replacement is forecast or assigned.

E. A standard AFCEIN-P and AFCEIN-1E policy should be the identification to AFCEIN-1E of previously qualified intelligence team personnel forecast for return to the ZI from overseas assignments for assignment against AFCEIN-1E forecast personnel vacancies. Latitude may be required and should be authorized in the assignment of such personnel by grade and AFSC. For example, if a 204XX vacancy is forecast within AFCEIN-1E, and an intelligence team qualified 203XX is forecast available, and the 203XX is determined able to perform the staff duties required, either from personal knowledge of the individual's capabilities, or by means of an exchange of correspondence between the losing command and AFCEIN-1E, authorization for assignment of the 203XX against the 204XX vacancy should be granted. It is generally true that 203's with AISS background are normally able to perform 204 duties effectively with a minimum of experience on the job. To a lesser degree, and on a selective basis, this is also true of 203's being able to perform intelligence organization 702 duties.

n. Discussion to this point has covered the intelligence team development, composition, current peacetime and wartime missions, and personnel problems. To further establish the value of the unique Air Force capability represented by the intelligence teams, their future potential for employment should be considered.

CONCLUSION:

7. There is a valid current and continuing need for the AFCIN intelligence team capability for peacetime and wartime employment. Actions necessary to maintain the capability in "cadre" strength should be immediately implemented, and actions to expand the capability should be implemented on a sound basis of personnel acquisition, training, equipping, and employment.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

8.

a. Basically qualified personnel currently assigned to AFCIN-IE who volunteer for further training, to include airborne training, and assignment to intelligence teams, should be given such training and assignment as additional duty to normal staff duty employment. Attachment 4 is a current request for airborne training quotas for five qualified volunteers.

b. AFCIN-IE should prepare, and submit through appropriate channels, individual justifications for the following:

(1) Authorized overage assignment on a selective basis of an initial ten intelligence team qualified Linguists returning to the ZI from overseas assignment, with a later additional supplement in the event of AFCIN authorized expansion of cadre strength of the intelligence team capability.

(2) Retention beyond normal duty tours of qualified intelligence team personnel now assigned to the 1127th until similarly qualified replacements are forecast or assigned.

(3) Request for establishment of an AFMFP and APCIN-P practice to identify to AFCIN-IE previously qualified intelligence team personnel forecast for return to the ZI from overseas assignments. Latitude should be requested by AFCIN-IE in assignment of such personnel against actual or forecast vacancies in AFSC and grade spaces in variance with those possessed by the returnees if it is established that returnees have non-AFSC skills which can be effectively utilized in the vacant spaces.

(4) Ninety-day TDY of AFCIN intelligence team to South Viet Nam for employment in Viet Nam/Laos against USAF intelligence requirements. Experience gained in establishing logistical support and operational employment will be invaluable in developing further plans for intelligence team utilization. The team should be attached to the Air Attache, Viet Nam, and under his operational control for the period of TDY.

4 Atch

1. Excerpt, 1127 CDP 1-60, re WORLD Support
2. Cy ltr, Gen Taylor, 23 Jan 57
3. Cy ltr, Gen Lewis, 4 Mar 57
4. Req for Airborne Trng Quotas



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-6111

U-4,207/RTS-1-

22 JUL 1986

Mr. Ray W. Boeche
Fortean Research Center
P.O. Box 94627
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. Boeche:

This responds to your request under the Freedom of Information Act dated 2 January 1986. Therein you requested all "information concerning an operation known as PROJECT MOON DUST." A total of seven documents were found which are responsive to your request.

Upon review, it has been determined that portions of one of the documents are properly classified and are not releasable. The properly classified portions withheld are exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(1), Freedom of Information Act. Subsection (b)(1) applies to information properly classified under the criteria provided by Executive Order 12356. All reasonably segregable portions of the document, absent administrative and classification data, are attached hereto.

All substantive portions of two other documents are properly classified and are not releasable. There are no reasonably segregable portions of this exempt material. The properly classified portions withheld are exempt from release pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(1), Freedom of Information Act. Routinely deleted administrative and classification data that is unrelated to the substance of your request is not forwarded.

The remaining four documents are attached hereto, absent administrative and classification data.

You are advised that a requester may appeal, within 45 days, an initial decision to withhold a record or part thereof. Should you wish to exercise this right, you may do so by referring to case #0015-86 and addressing your appeal to:

Director
Defense Intelligence Agency
ATTN: RTS-1 (FOIA)
Washington, D.C. 20340-3299

Sincerely,

GORDON NEGUS
Executive Director

5 Enclosures a/s

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

1. Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 793 and 794
The transmission or the revelation of its
contents in any manner to an unauthorized
person is prohibited by law.

Classification and Control Markings

Plans and/or policies should not be published
or modified solely on the basis of this report.

1. COUNTRY: IVORY COAST	8. REPORT NUMBER: 6 351 0133 73
2. SUBJECT: Possible Moon Dust (U)	9. DATE OF REPORT: 8 November 1973
3. ISC NUMBER:	10. NO. OF PAGES: 4
	11. REFERENCES: [REDACTED]
4. DATE OF INFORMATION: 7 October 1973	12. ORIGINATOR: USDAO, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: Abidjan, 7 Oct 73	13. PREPARED BY: [REDACTED]
6. EVALUATION: SOURCE <u>A</u> INFORMATION <u>1</u>	14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: [REDACTED]
7. SOURCE: [REDACTED]	

15. SUMMARY: [REDACTED] Report describes 15 inch hollow metal globe with Russian lettering recovered near DALOA (0653N-0637W), Ivory Coast, 7 October 1973. Photographs taken by DAO are included. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: Object may be a part from either a Russian space vehicle or a Russian aircraft flown from Guinea.

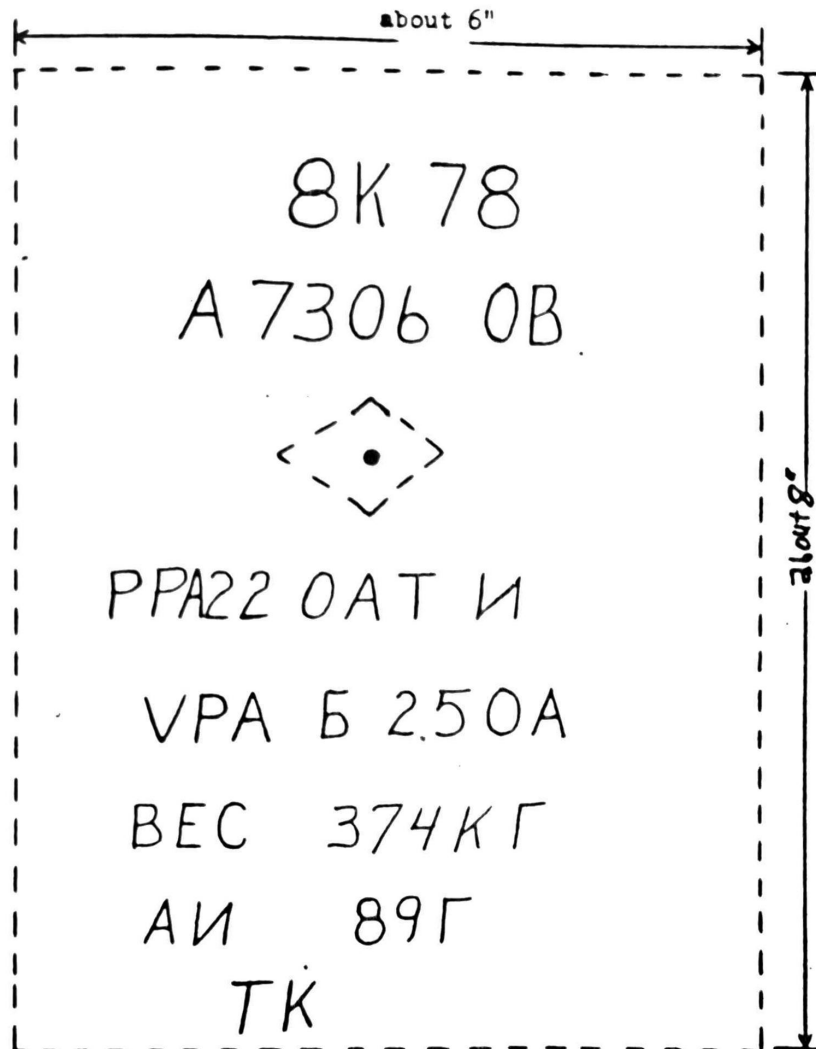
REC'D DS-4C2 19 NOV 1973

REQUEST PHOTOS DIRECTLY FROM DC-6B
ORDER BY JR AND PHOTO LOG NUMBER

1. [REDACTED] a metal ball had been recovered by local Ivorian civilians in the vicinity of DALOA (0653N-0637W) and that assistance was needed in identifying the object. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] Lettering stenciled on upper half of sphere (near smaller hole; see paragraph below) was copied as:

16. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR: USCINCEUR w/Encl 1 AmEmb Conakry w/Encl 1 USDAO Moscow w/Encl 1	17. DOWNGRADING DATA: [REDACTED]	18. ATTACHMENT DATA: 2 Encls 1 (U) Photos A1 thru A4 2 (U) Negatives to encl
	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	Encl 2 not in LTR.



COMMENT:

lettering translates into Russian as:

8K78
A7306 0V
RRA220ATI
*RAB250A
VES 374KG
AI 89G
TK

*Although RO copies first letter in line four as "V", it could have been backward "N" thereby transliterating as English 1. Lettering is extremely faint and there are unreadable gaps in lines 5, 6 and 7.

3.  Sphere (or Globe) is approximately 15 inches in diameter, painted sand brown (1), with yellow (2) lettering. There is a raised weld or band at its equator and protrusions at each pole. Protrusions

(Classification and Control Markings)

(Leave Blank)

Inside the top pole there is an irregular shaped hold of less than 1/2 inch; inside the lower pole there is a much larger irregular hole of more than 1/2 inch (perhaps as much as 1 inch). Holes, although irregular in shape, are clean without melted metal. Thickness of sphere as seen at lower pole is about 3/16th of an inch. Sphere is hollow, empty, and weighs less than 10 pounds (estimated). Except at poles and from two to four inches surrounding them, the paint is faded but not burned or scorched.

4. [REDACTED] Object was seen by Ivorian nationals falling from the sky [REDACTED] It came from a very high flying aircraft) at 1100 hours local (local time is GMT) on 7 October. Object was found and recovered in a swamp 7 kilometers northeast of Daloa three hours later (1400Z). [REDACTED] Object was not warm, probably because it was in swamp for three hours.

COMMENT.

[REDACTED] We expressed the opinion that it might be a part from a space vehicle, USSR not USA. [REDACTED] expressed doubt that the locals who found the object actually saw a "high flying aircraft"; he even has reservations that they actually saw it fall.

[REDACTED] Possibility exists that object is not from space at all (especially because there is no evidence of reentry burns except at poles). It could be a fuel tank or other part from an aircraft flying from the neighboring country of Guinea - Russian aircraft are known to be based there and the political relationship between Ivory Coast and Guinea is not warm at this time.

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UNCLASSIFIED

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14. SOURCE: LOCAL PRESS

15. DIRCI NO

16. SUMMARY: EXTENSIVE COVERAGE THROUGH SWISS NEWS MEDIA HAS BEEN GIVEN TO SOVIET SATELLITE KOSMOS 954, ALTHOUGH MOST INFO IS FACTUAL AND COMPARES TO DATE IN US PAPERS. COMMENTS FROM GERMAN ATOMIC RESEARCH SPECIALIST, HEINZ KAMINSKI, HAVE BEEN HEAVILY EMPHASIZED. THE SWISS QUOTE KAMINSKI IN LABELING SITUATION A "TECHNOLOGICAL SCANDAL", WHICH HAS TRANSGRESSED INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON NUCLEAR SECURITY, IT WAS REPORTED THAT EXPERIMENTS OF THIS KIND SHOW A "DEEP DISREGARD OF HUMAN LIFE" AND CONSEQUENCES OF "FALL-OUT" WILL NOT BE DETERMINABLE UNTIL SOVIETS RELEASE TECHNOLOGICAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE REACTOR. KAMINSKI ASSESSED THAT A SATELLITE CONTAINING "SUCH AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF ENERGY" WAS INTENDED TO EITHER DESTROY PARALLEL SATELLITES BY LASER BEAMS OR TO FORCE RADAR STATIONS OUT OF ORBIT. ALTHOUGH SWISS HAVE DETERMINED THAT ANY POSSIBLE "FALL-OUT" WILL NOT AFFECT SWITZERLAND, GUIDELINES ON PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN PAPERS JUST IN CASE SIMILAR EVENT MIGHT OCCUR IN AREA. SWISS PRESIDENT OF FEDERAL COMMISSION ON RADIOACTIVITY STATED THAT AS OF 1981 SWITZERLAND WILL BE OPTIMALLY PREPARED WITH SHELTERS AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AGAINST RADIO-ACTIVE EMISSIONS.

COMMENTS: DUE TO THIS ACCIDENT, MR MOLL FROM SWISS JUSTICE AND POLICE DEPT INFORMED PRESS ABOUT THE RADIO-ACTIVE ALERT SYSTEMS PRESENTLY IN USE IN SWITZ. TWO ALERT STATIONS FUNCTION 24 HOURS A DAY: ONE IN SAENTIS AND OTHER IN PAYERNE. THEY ARE CONNECTED TO A COMPUTER AT CENTRAL ALERT STATION IN ZURICH, AND REPORT RADIOACTIVITY LEVELS EVERY 15 MINUTES. IN EVENT OF RADIO-ACTIVE DANGER, ALARMS AT STATIONS ARE ACTIVATED AND COMMISSION FOR RADIOACTIVITY ALERTS RADIO AND TV STATIONS. THE SWISS ARE PLANNING TO BUILD 100 STATIONS WITHIN SWITZERLAND.

EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD DETECT AN INCREASE IN RADIOACTIVITY WITHIN SWITZ AND OUTSIDE SWISS BORDERS. SIX STATIONS ARE PRESENTLY OPERATIONAL. NETWORK WILL BE ENTIRELY AUTOMATIC. ACCORDING TO MR MOLL, EFFECT OF KOSMOS 954 IS RELATIVELY SMALL COMPARED TO A NUCLEAR TEST. SWISS STATIONS DID NOT REGISTER ANY INCREASE IN RADIOACTIVITY AFTER ACCIDENT.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 793 and 794. The transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

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(Classification and Control Markings)

This report contains unprocessed information. Plans and/or policies should not be evolved or modified solely on the basis of this report.

1. COUNTRY: NEW ZEALAND
 2. REPORT NUMBER: 6 869 0081 72
 3. SUBJECT: "MOON DUST" - NZ Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Report on Space Debris
 4. DATE OF REPORT: 23 June 1972
 5. NO. OF PAGES: 1
 6. REFERENCE: DIA: 58D, Cahy 8, para d
 7. ISC NUMBER:
 8. DATE OF INFORMATION: 1 June 1972
 9. ORIGINATOR: USDAO WELLINGTON
 10. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: Wellington, 19 Jun 72
 11. PREPARED BY:
 12. EVALUATION: SOURCE B INFORMATION 2
 13. APPROVING AUTHORITY:
 14. SOURCE: NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Paul K. Wilkinson
 PAUL K. WILKINSON, LTC USAF
 ACTING DEFENSE ATTACHE

1. SUMMARY: Report forwards a copy of the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research analysis of the first four of five metal spheres found between 3 April 1972 and 12 May 1972 in the vicinity of Ashburton, New Zealand. The fifth sphere was similar to the three larger spheres covered by the report.

1. General. Report provides detailed visual, spectrographic, chemical and metallographic analysis of the four spheres.

2. Conclusion. The four spheres are of modern titanium-based alloys and of high quality fabrication. The design suggests they were gas pressure vessels forming part of a space vehicle. Markings on the spheres appear to be manufacturers identification markings and apparently of Russian or East European origin.

COMMENTS: As pointed out in the DSIR report and discussed with DSIR, JIB, and USA personnel throughout the past several months of investigation, it would be difficult to prove liability for property damage or personal injury under existing International Space Agreements. While the space debris markings in this case are indicative of origin, there is really no conclusive proof of ownership.

(Leave Blank)

427000 NZ
 43 1120 UW, 10, N, Z

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

INCFAC w/o Encl

17. DOWNGRADING DATA

18. ATTACHMENT DATA

1. Enclosure
 1. DSIR Report on Four Metal Spheres of Unknown Origin Found in the South Islands of New Zealand. 1 cy

ENCLOSURE HAS NOT BEEN REPRODUCED

REPRODUCE ENCL FROM DS-4A

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(Classification and Control Markings)

FORM 104-1 (Rev 10-61)
 USE UNTIL 1 JAN 62

VZCZCJRL783

IMR741

PACS

ACTION

DIA:

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CJCS(84) DJ8(83) J3(14) J5(82) J3INMCC SECDEF(87)
ASD/ISA(18) IDIA(13)
• CMC WASHINGTON DC
• CSAP WASHINGTON DC
• CNO WASHINGTON DC
• CSA WASHINGTON DC
• CIA
• SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
• WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC
• NSA WASH DC
FILE(1)

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IMMEDIATE

TRANSIT/252816Z/252825Z/000100TOR0202024

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O 252816Z JAN 78

FM USDAO/OTTAWA

TO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

BT

USDAO/OTTAWA 00387

REC'D DS-4B 30 JAN '78

CITE: USDAO 056 JAN 78

FUR DC-1/CCF/ DC-4/ AM/ DN-2

SUBJ: THIS IS IR NO. 6 815 0019 78

1. COUNTRY: CANADA (CA)/USSR (U)
2. REPORT NUMBER: 6 815 0019 78
3. TITLE: MOON DUST/MORNING LIGHT (U)
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 700190
6. DATE OF REPORT: 700189

PAGE 1

182

0211080

PAGE 2

92539

7. DATE & PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 780124; OTTAWA, CANADA

8. REFERENCES: INITIATIVE: [REDACTED]

9. ASSESSMENT: B-2

10. ORIGINATOR: USDAO, OTTAWA, CANADA

11. REQUEST EVALUATION: NO

14. SOURCE: LOCAL T.V. AND NEWSPAPERS

15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: [REDACTED]

DICI NO.

16. SUMMARY:

1. (U) THE RE-ENTRY OF COSMOS 954 WAS SEEN BY A NUMBER OF COMMUNITIES IN THE GREAT SLAVE LAKE AREA. THE EVENT HAS RECEIVED WIDESPREAD CANADIAN MEDIA ATTENTION BOTH ON TELEVISION AND IN NEWSPAPERS. EARLY EVENING AND LATE NIGHT TELEVISION NEWSCASTS DEVOTED A FULL TEN MINUTES TO THIS ITEM AND MAJOR NEWSPAPERS CARRIED IT AS FRONT PAGE HEADLINES. AMONG OTHER THINGS, REPORTS ADDRESSED (1) THE POTENTIAL FOR NUCLEAR CONTAMINATION IN THE ATMOSPHERE AND ON THE GROUND, (2) THE FAILURE OF THE SOVIET UNION TO INFORM THE CANADIANS OF THE PENDING EVENT, AND (3) U.S. SATELLITES THAT ARE ALSO "NUCLEAR-POWERED".

2. (U) DURING THE QUESTION PERIOD IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY, JOE CLARK, RAISED THE ISSUE OF WHETHER CANADA HAD BEEN TREATED AS AN EQUAL NORAD PARTNER IN THE FORWARDING OF THE COSMOS 954 INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN NORAD'S CONTROL CENTER. TRUDEAU APPEARS TO HAVE HANDLED THE QUESTION RATHER SUCCESSFULLY, STATING THAT

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PAGE 3

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HE HAD BEEN KEPT WELL INFORMED ON THE PROGRESS OF THE
DECAYING ORBIT BY CANADIAN NORAD OFFICIALS. HE ALSO INDICATED
THAT THE PRESIDENT'S CALL AFTER THAT EVENT HAD BEEN
AN OFFER TO HELP, AN OFFER WHICH THE CANADIANS HAD
ACCEPTED.

COMMENTS: ON 788124 CANADA'S DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS SUMMONED THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO DISCUSS SEVERAL
POINTS CONCERNING THE RE-ENTRY OF THE SATELLITE. REFER-
ENCED AMEMBASSY OTTAWA MSG PROVIDES DETAILS. U.S. EMBASSY,
OTTAWA, IS PREPARING MESSAGE DESCRIBING IN MORE DETAIL
CANADIAN MEDIA REACTION TO THIS EVENT.

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ACTION

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IDIAI(05) IDIA(20) NMIC

• CMC CC WASHINGTON DC

• CBAF WASHINGTON DC

• CNO WASHINGTON DC

• CSA WASHINGTON DC

• C I A

• NSA WASH DC

FILE

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TRANSIT/080141Z/080221Z/080140TOR3120212

DE RUEHBAZ #6188 3120151

ZNY CCCCC

P 080141Z NOV 78

FM USDAO/WELLINGTON

TO RUEKJCB/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO RUEAA18/7802 AIR INTELLIGENCE GROUP FT BELVOIR VA

RUCIAEA/PTD WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OH

RUMRNLB/ HQ ADCOM PETERSON AFB CO

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

BT

NOFORN

REC'D

15 NOV '78

//SECTION #1 OF #2 USDAO/WELLINGTON 06188

DIA FOR DT-3 INFO DC-4/ 7802 AIR INTEL GP FOR INCD;

PTD WRIGHT-PAT AFB FOR TDAMO; ADCOM FOR J-2/ SECSTATE FOR

INR AND GRM

THIS IS ID 6 869 0106 78

1. (U) COUNTRY: NEW ZEALAND (NZ)

2. (U) REPORT NUMBER: 6 869 0106 78

3. (U) TITLE: (U) PROJECT MOON DUST

4. (U) PROJECT NRI NA

5. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION: 24 OCT - 5 NOV 78

6. (U) DATE OF REPORT: 781107

7. (U) DATE AND PLACE OF ACQ: 781107 - WELLINGTON, NZ

8. (U) REFERENCE: CIR D-T3B-49786 (CONTINUING)

9. (U) ASSESSMENT: SOURCE A INFO 2

PAGE 1

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93557

18. (U) ORIGINATOR: USDAO WELLINGTON, NZ

11. (U) REQUEST FOR EVALUATION

14. (U) SOURCE: AMEMBASSY SCIENTIFIC ATTACHE

15. (U) DIRC: NO OF SCIENTIFIC

16. SUMMARY: THE NEW ZEALAND DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH HAS ADVISED THE EMBASSY'S SCIENTIFIC ATTACHE OF THE INVESTIGATION OF POSSIBLE FOREIGN SPACE MATERIAL REENTRY. ALTHOUGH THIS STATION IS NOT CURRENTLY ON A MOON DUST ALERT, THIS REPORT IS BEING MADE IAW REF CIR TO INFORM ADDRESSEES THAT POSSIBLE SPACE FRAGMENTS HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN NEW ZEALAND. THE EMBASSY IS REPORTING THE INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS. 22. THE FOLLOWING IS KEYED TO PARA 12.A OF REF CIR.

12.A.(1) SIGHTINGS:

(A) POSITION OF OBSERVER: ASHBURTON, NEW ZEALAND (43-548, 171-48E)

(B) TIME OF SIGHTING: APPROXIMATELY 1400 GMT, 781023

(C) UNKNOWN

(D) UNKNOWN

(E) UNKNOWN

(F) UNKNOWN

(G) UNKNOWN

(H) UNKNOWN

(I) UNKNOWN

(J) OTHER DATA ASSOCIATED WITH THE SIGHTING: THERE HAS BEEN ONLY ONE UNCONFIRMED OBSERVATION BY AN ASHBURTON MILKMAN WHO REPORTED A SIGHTING ABOUT 1400 GMT ON A NORTH TO SOUTH TRAJECTORY.

(2) GROUNDING MATERIAL:

(A) LOCATION (44-548 - 171-44E)

(B) CIRCUMSTANCES OF RECOVERY: ON 24 OCT 78, A SPACE FRAGMENT, KNOWN LOCALLY AS A "SPACE BALL", WAS PICKED UP BY FARMER JOHN LOVETT IN HIS Paddock ABOUT 28 KM SOUTH OF ASHBURTON ON NEW ZEALAND'S SOUTH ISLAND. IT WAS TURNED OVER TO THE NEW ZEALAND POLICE WHO IN TURN DELIVERED IT TO THE NATIONAL RADIATION LABORATORY IN CHRISTCHURCH FOR A RADIOACTIVE CHECK (NEGATIVE FINDING). THE OBJECT HAS NOW BEEN DELIVERED TO THE NZ DSIR FOR DETAILED EXAMINATION AND ANALYSIS. ON NOV 5 A SECOND "SPACE BALL" WAS FOUND BY

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ANOTHER ASHBURTON FARMER (AGAIN NAMED LOVETT, APPARENTLY BROTHERS) WHILE CUTTING A FIELD OF ALPACCA. THE LOCATION OF THE SECOND FRAGMENT WAS APPROXIMATELY 240 METERS FROM THE FIRST AND IN AN ADJOINING FIELD. IT WAS NOT DISCOVERED UNTIL IT HAD BEEN STRUCK BY THE MOWING MACHINE AND IS, THEREFORE, REPORTEDLY DAMAGED BY THE MACHINERY. THE SECOND OBJECT HAS BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE NZ POLICE BUT HAS NOT YET REACHED DBIR IN WELLINGTON.

(1) TIME OF IMPACT: UNKNOWN. THE FARMER, JOHN LOVETT, CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN IN THE Paddock ON OCTOBER 22 AND IS CERTAIN THE FRAGMENT, WHICH WAS PROMINENTLY LOCATED, WAS NOT IN THE Paddock AT THE TIME. IF THE MILKMAN'S SIGHTING CAN BE CONFIRMED, THE APPROXIMATE TIME OF IMPACT WOULD BE 1400 GMT, OCT 23. COORDINATES OF IMPACT AREA ARE 171-44E AND 44-04S.

2. SEE "SIGHTINGS" ABOVE.

3. SEE "SIGHTINGS" ABOVE.

4. CHARACTERISTICS OF IMPACT AREA: UNKNOWN. (NZ POLICE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO INTERVIEW THE DISCOVERING FARMERS AND PERFORM A MORE THOROUGH INSPECTION OF THE IMPACT AREA).

5. DAMAGES: NONE

IDENTIFYING MARKS: NONE APPARENT ON FIRST SPHERE. SECOND SPHERE HAS NOT BEEN EXAMINED FOR IDENTIFYING MARKS.

(D) PHYSICAL NATURE AND CONDITIONS:

1. SIZE: SPHERE WITH WELDED EQUATOR; 180 MM. DIAMETER AT THE EQUATOR AND 165 MM. DIAMETER AT THE POLE; THICKNESS APPROXIMATELY 3MM.

2. WEIGHT: 882 GRAMS (DBIR ESTIMATES APPROXIMATELY 10 PER CENT ORIGINAL WEIGHT LOSS THROUGH DEFORMATION CAUSE BY

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ANNOTES

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PAGE 3

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Received: from castor
(gcameron@castor.cc.umanitoba.ca [130.179.16.20]) by
electra.cc.umanitoba.ca (8.7.1/8.7.1) with SMTP id AAA25760
for <gcameron@cc.umanitoba.ca>; Thu, 14 Nov 1996 00:36:36 -0600 (CST)
Sender: gcameron@cc.UManitoba.CA
Message-ID: <328ABDEE.1FE4@cc.umanitoba.ca>
Date: Thu, 14 Nov 1996 00:36:30 -0600
From: Grant Robert Cameron <gcameron@cc.UManitoba.CA>
Organization: University of Manitoba
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.0 (X11; I; SunOS 5.4 sun4m)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: gcameron@cc.UManitoba.CA
Subject: Danger as rogue satellite falls to earth
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="-----52D76A201ABF"
Status: RO
X-Status:

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----52D76A201ABF
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

http://www2.nando.net/newsroom/ntn/health/020396/health10_18331.html

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Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; name="health10_18331.html"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="health10_18331.html"

RETURN TO HEALTH & SCIENCE: NORMAL ;; LOW-GRAPHICS

Danger as rogue satellite falls to earth

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(Feb 3, 1996 8:47 p.m. EST) -- A rogue Chinese spy satellite has careened out of control and will crash to Earth within the next few weeks from an orbit that takes it over the British Isles.

The one-ton satellite, which passes over Britain and Ireland four or five times a day, will turn into a fireball and hurtle to Earth some time in the first two weeks of March, according to the scientists tracking it. They will be unable to predict where it will strike until a few days beforehand.

"It would cause devastation if it landed in a built-up area," said Professor Alan Johnstone of the Mullard Space Science Laboratories at University College London. "They do not know where it is going to land and they cannot do anything to regain control. It could come down anywhere and its orbit takes it over some of the Earth's most populated areas."

Unlike most satellites, FSW1 is designed to withstand the 1,200 degrees Centigrade of heat generated around its hull by re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere at 18,000 miles an hour. It could still be travelling at well over a 1,000mph when it hits the surface.

The Chinese launched FSW1 in October 1993. It was due to spend just a few days photographing Earth from space, after which it should have jettisoned a module containing its cameras and other equipment and returned to Earth with the films.

COSMOS

Western space scientists believe the satellite's controllers activated its rockets at the wrong moment, sending the re-entry module into an unstable elliptical orbit. It now swings around the Earth every 100 minutes, dipping into the upper atmosphere at its closest approach at 100 miles above the Earth, then spinning 2,000 miles into outer space before starting its return journey. Dr. Richard Crowther, a senior scientist at the Defence Research Agency, an arm of the Ministry of Defence at Farnborough, Hampshire, said the rogue satellite was being kept under close surveillance. "It spends much more time over areas of high latitude, which includes the U.K., northern Europe and north America, so that is probably where it will land," he said.

Andrew Wilson, the editor of Jane's Space Directory, has followed the fate of FSW1 ever since the Chinese lost control of it. "The chances are it will fall in the ocean, simply because it covers 70 percent of the Earth's surface, but we have to be cautious. Its orbit also takes it over a huge part of the world's population."

Some western space scientists have spent months trying to work out whether FSW1 will survive the impact. They believe that obtaining the films it contains would be an intelligence coup, showing what the Chinese were spying on and how much they were able to see. The chances, however, could be slim; FSW1 is a primitive craft by modern standards, so primitive that, according to Jane's, its heat shield is made from oak planks.

"It may survive the trip through the atmosphere, but the impact with the surface will almost certainly reduce it to fragments," said one scientist.

Nick Johnson, a specialist in space debris and obsolete satellites who works as a consultant with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), said it would leave a crater up to 30 feet wide and 20 feet deep. "The chances of it hitting a built-up area are, however, very low," he said.

Most of the tracking has been done by the United States Space Command (UNSC) in Colorado Springs, which follows nearly 9,000 orbiting man-made objects through 11 radar stations around the world. Its main aim is to prevent their re-entry being mistaken for ballistic missile warheads, thus triggering a nuclear alert, but it also provides foreign governments with an early warning service. Its scientists hope to be able to give several days' warning of where FSW1 will crash-land.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jim House, UNSC's chief of space operations, said the satellite's orbit was already deteriorating daily. "Last Monday it came within 99 miles of Earth, but by Friday that had decreased to 96 miles. It is suffering increasing drag from the upper atmosphere, which will pull it down even faster."

Several orbiting objects have plunged to Earth. In 1978 there were worldwide protests when the Soviets' nuclear-powered Cosmos 954 satellite came down over northern Canada, blazing a trail of radioactive debris across the tundra.

In 1979 20 tons of the American Skylab station smashed into the Australian outback. Large chunks of the Russian Salyut 7 space station also crashed into South American forests, starting several fires. One piece was reported to have fallen into the back garden of a house where an Argentine woman was doing her ironing.

[GLOBAL | STATESIDE | SPORTS | POLITICS | VOICES | BUSINESS | INFOTECH |
HEALTH & SCIENCE | ENTERTAINMENT | MAIN]

(gcameron@pollux.cc.umanitoba.ca [130.179.16.6]) by
electra.cc.umanitoba.ca (8.7.1/8.7.1) with SMTP id EAA23801
for <gcameron@cc.umanitoba.ca>; Thu, 14 Nov 1996 04:21:59 -0600 (CST)
Sender: gcameron@cc.UManitoba.CA
Message-ID: <328AF2C5.6A6C@cc.umanitoba.ca>
Date: Thu, 14 Nov 1996 04:21:57 -0600
From: Grant Robert Cameron <gcameron@cc.UManitoba.CA>
Organization: University of Manitoba
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.0 (X11; I; SunOS 5.4 sun4m)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: gcameron@cc.UManitoba.CA
Subject: cosmos95: cosmos: Satellite/re-entry.
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="-----4CA3565678A"
Status: RO
X-Status:

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

cosmos.

-----4CA3565678A
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<http://webhead.com/~sergio/cosmos95/0109.html>

-----4CA3565678A
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; name="0109.html"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="0109.html"

cosmos: Satellite/re-entry.

Carlos B. Suarez (suarez@biol.unlp.edu.ar)
Wed, 29 Nov 1995 19:06:28 -0200

- * Messages sorted by: [date][thread][subject][author]
- * Next message: Yuri Herrera: "cosmos: Ciclo de Conferencias Internet por temas"
- * Previous message: Carlos B. Suarez: "cosmos: Astronomers Announce First Clear Evidence of a Brown Dwarf"

-----retransmito-----
>From: M.Ramirez@mtsatelesat.ca (Ramirez, Manuel S.)
>Organization: Telesat Canada
>Date: Wed, 29 Nov 1995 16:26:43 -0300
>Subject: Satellite/re-entry.
>
>
>PAPER Agence France Presse (English)
>PDATE Mon 27 Nov 95
>TIME 14:10 GMT (09:10 Eastern Time)
>PRIORITY Urgent
>SECTION International News
>LENGTH 230 words
>KEYWORDS CHINA SATELLITE
>DTLINE PARIS
>HEADLINE Out-of-control satellite to crash land: report
>
>PARIS, Nov 27 (AFP) - An out-of-control Chinese military satellite weighing
>two tonnes is set to crash land in the first half of next year, and it is
>impossible to calculate where, a report said Monday.
>
> Aviation Week and Space Technology said the FSW-1 reconnaissance
>satellite could crash anywhere between latitudes 56.5 degrees north and

> South, including Europe, South American, Asia, Australia and most of North
> America.

>
> The satellite has been spinning out of control since shortly after it
> was launched in October 1993, in an elliptical trajectory swinging as close
> as 160 kilometers (100 miles) to the earth, it said.

>
> It is now losing altitude at a rate of five to six kilometers (three to
> four miles) a day, according to the report.

>
> The main bulk of the satellite is unlikely to break up on re-entry to
> the earth's atmosphere because it has heat-resistant cladding, the report
> said, reporting that US radar trackers have been following it for some
> time.

>
> Such crashes have occurred before without causing significant damage or
> injuries on the ground: a large lump of the US Skylab crashed to earth in
> Australia on July 11, 1979, while a Soviet Cosmos military satellite landed
> in Canada in January 1978.

>
> Aviation Week added that the satellite in theory still has intact a
> parachute landing system, which could function normally despite its two
> years out of control.

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...
(0 0) FROM: Carlos B. Suarez
+-----oOO-----()-----+ C.C. 962, 1900 LA PLATA
| PROGRAMA QUINOR | ARGENTINA
| UNLP-CONICET |
+-----oOO----+
|_|_|_| Fax: +54-21-25-9485
|||
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* Next message: Yuri Herrera: "cosmos: Ciclo de Conferencias Internet por temas"

* Previous message: Carlos B. Suarez: "cosmos: Astronomers Announce First Clear Evidence of a Brown Dwarf"

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