

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Place : Grants, NM

Date: 20 June 95

I, Raymond A. Madson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), hereby state that James McAndrew was identified as a Lieutenant, USAFR on this date at my place of employment and do hereby, voluntarily and of my own free will, make the following statement. This was done without having been subjected to any coercion, unlawful influence or unlawful inducement.

I was born, raised, and presently reside in New Mexico. I graduated from New Mexico A&M College in 1954. I entered the Air Force in 1955 and was assigned a short time later to the Aero Medical Laboratory at Wright Patterson AFB, OH. At the Aero Medical Laboratory I was assigned to the Escape Section as a project officer and test parachutist. During this time I also had extensive participation in various aspects of the space program and worked on the highly classified U-2 project. I served a tour of duty in Alaska and at the School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks AFB, TX, before being reassigned to the Aero Medical Laboratory at Wright Patterson. I retired in from the Air Force in 1979 and I am currently and Environmental Specialist for the State of New Mexico.

The first project that I was assigned at Wright Patterson was Project 7218, later changed to Project 7222. This project was first known by the name High Dive and then was known as Excelsior. The object of this project was to study the free fall characteristics of anthropomorphic dummies from balloons at altitudes of 50,000 to 100,000 feet. Following satisfactory dummy drops, Capt Joe Kittinger made a series of high altitude parachute jumps that culminated with a jump from 102,800 feet.

I assumed the duties of Project Officer for the dummy drops in the spring of 1956. I made numerous trips to Holloman AFB, NM, the site of the drops, from 1956 until the end of the project in 1959 (dummies were also dropped for this project at Wright Patterson AFB by personnel from the Parachute Branch). I wrote two technical reports that described the project in considerable detail. The type of anthropomorphic dummy used primarily was manufactured by Alderson Laboratories but we also used Sierra Manufacturing type dummies. Both of these dummies are shown in the technical reports. The Alderson dummy had facial features that were not life-like and ears that were not well defined. The dummies were outfitted with flight suits of various colors, fuchsia, olive drab, and sage green (a shade of gray). We chose the Alderson dummy because it was relatively inexpensive as compared to the Sierra dummy.

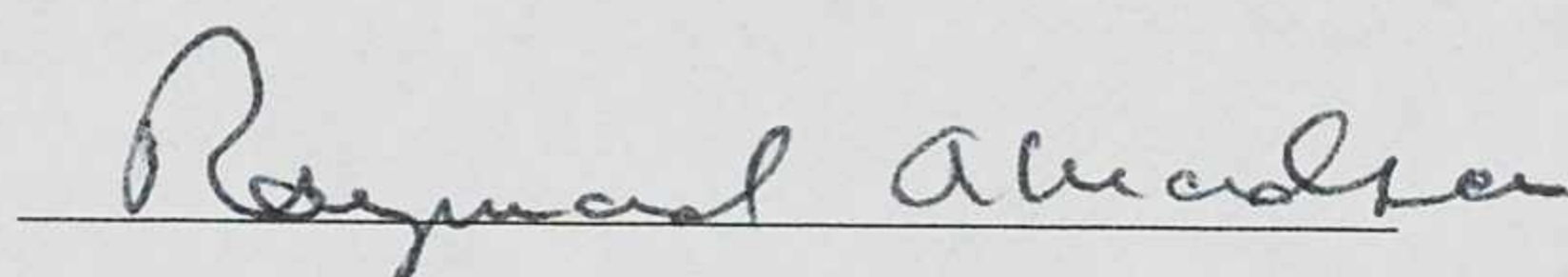
We encountered considerable difficulty dropping the dummies from the balloons. I designed the rack that suspended the dummies, two at a time, from the balloon. On numerous occasions the dummies were fouled during the release sequence and the dummy rode a "streamer" all the way to the ground. Other times malfunctions occurred that caused the two dummies and the entire rack assembly to descend to the ground as one package. Both of these instances are described in the technical reports.

I participated in at least two dummy recoveries. The meteorologist from the Balloon Branch, Duke Gildenberg, would determine the best place to launch the balloons depending on the prevailing weather conditions. Duke also predicted, with considerable accuracy, where the dummies would impact. I specifically recall a dummy I recovered near the Jornada test range, between Leasburg and Organ, NM. During this recovery I drove a weapons carrier and I was only able to locate one of the dummies, I never found out what happened to the other one. The next recovery I remember was on a ranch just southwest of Roswell. We were given directions to the area by the balloon branch personnel who had been contacted by a rancher. The equipment had reward notices taped to them to aid in recovery. We went to the Smith ranch, I remember the name because I went to New Mexico A&M with the rancher, I knew him as Smitty. We searched that day from horseback and could not find the dummies. The following day we resumed our search from horseback and again could not find the dummies. I also recall that Smitty asked us for some of the parachute material so he could make a shirt. We dropped many dummies from the balloons and I know many were not immediately recovered, but most were.

I served for twenty five years in the Air Force and most of those years were in the aero medical field. I participated in the space program and the highly classified early stages of U-2 program. Never during this time were "aliens" or "flying saucers" a part of any project. There were, however, countless achievements by the Air Force in aerospace medicine that were the result of dedicated scientific research. It seems likely to me that someone could have mistaken our anthropomorphic dummies for something that they were not.

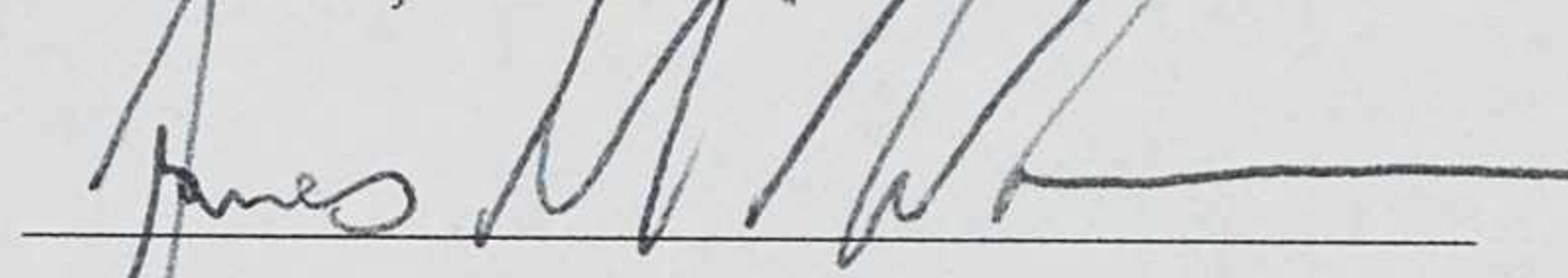
I am not part of any conspiracy to withhold or provide misleading information to the United States Government or the American public. There is no classified information that I am withholding related to this inquiry and I have never been threatened by U.S. Government persons concerning refraining from talking about this matter.

SIGNED:



Raymond A. Madson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

Sworn to and subscribed before me,
an individual authorized to administer
oaths, on this 20 day of June 1995
at Grants, NM.



James McAndrew, 1st Lt, USAFR

WITNESS(s):

Lt. Col. Raymond A. Madson, USAF (Ret)

"Roswell Incident"

Grants, New Mexico

20 June 1995

Interviewer: 1st Lt James McAndrew

Q: We are in Grants, New Mexico and this is an interview with Lt. Col. Raymond A. Madson, U.S. Air Force, Retired.

So, I'll just start off by saying the purpose of this interview is to determine if projects that you worked on while you were in the Air Force have any relevance to what has become known as "The Roswell Incident."

Have you heard about this?

A: I had heard about "The Roswell Incident," yes. But had not heard in great detail about it.

Q: Okay. Well, we'll just get going right away.

The first thing I'd just like to know is where you were born and raised. And you live here in Grants, New Mexico, how long have you lived in New Mexico?

A: Okay. I was born in Tularosa, New Mexico on the 14th of March, 1931. I lived there for four years and then in 1935 my family moved to Hope, New Mexico, close to Artesia. We were there two years and then we moved from there to Aztec, New Mexico, where I went to school, grew up, and in 1949, I enrolled at New Mexico A & N College. It's now New Mexico State University. I graduated from there in 1954 and after working approximately a year in various positions, I entered the U. S. Air Force to fulfill my active duty commitment that I acquired by going through advanced ROTC at New Mexico State.

On the 16th of May, 1955, I reported for active duty. My first duty station was Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. For six months I was a judo and combatics instructor, after which I transferred into the impact branch of the escape section -- or the escape section of the Aero Med lab. And during that assignment, I worked on high altitude bailout and on parachute landing injuries.

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I was a test parachutist, also a test subject for Project Mercury Suit Evaluation. I was a test subject for various research projects involving space flight, suit evaluation, checking instrumentation for extended space flight and for a variety of items, a low bulk space diet, and various things like that.

Q: Okay. And so you went to Wright-Patterson and you worked on these projects and just -- well, what else did you do and in what year did you retire from the Air Force?

A: I retired from the Air Force on the first of March, 1979. I began my job here in Grants on the 2nd of January, 1979 but I was on terminal leave for two months so I was actually in the Air Force two months while I was also working for the state and I have been here in Grants since that time.

Q: So when you left Wright-Patterson, then you went -- what other assignments did you hold before you retired?

A: From Wright-Patterson, I got transferred to Alaska where I was assigned the responsibility of an educational specialist. That's what I transferred up there as. And that was going back to the period where I was judo combatics instructor.

Let's see, I went up there under...

Q: About what year was that? When you left Wright-Patterson?

A: When I left Wright-Patterson, yes.

Q: And what year was that?

A: That was the 4th of March, 1960.

I moved from Sea-Tac Airport, the Seattle-Tacoma area, up to Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska. I was there -- the service commitment there or the assignment was normally a three year tour but while there I applied for graduate training in microbiology through the Air Force Institute of Technology and I was selected for that. But in order to make my return to the south 48 coincide with my entry into school, I really extended for six months. I was in Alaska three and a half years.

From there I reported to the University of Arizona in Tucson. I enrolled in the graduate training program in microbiology. That took two years. And from the University of Arizona I was transferred to the School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas where I worked in the laboratory Program and became an observer in the altitude chambers.

I then worked in microbiology and testing of disinfectants against microbacteria and tuberculosis, analyzing space foods, evaluating the use of microwave heating for SAC missile crew feeding programs and a variety of projects like that.

I was also doing diagnostic micrology for the epidemiology laboratory at Lackland Air Force Base, and I later got transferred over to Brooks Air Force Base and I continued doing microbiological work.

From there I was transferred in November, 1981 back to Wright-Patterson...

Q: Seventy-one?

A: 1971.

Q: Okay. And you went back to Wright-Pat?

A: Yes, back to Wright-Pat.

In the impact and vibrations branch where I was assigned to the impact section. I think at that time it was the impact branch. But I was also a test subject on test equipment,

vibrational impact equipment and I was in that position doing parachute landing injury research for about one year.

I was transferred to the toxicology laboratory where I was getting started in analyzing the effects of rocket fuels, rocket fuel spills on soil microflora and then I transferred again to the impact branch, continuing my research on parachute landing injury.

About the last six months of my career, I was transferred to the (inaudible) Technology Division where I was the FTD salesman with the Aero Med Lab, the life support system project office, a human resources lab, another fighter spoke. I was providing (inaudible) technology to those clients.

And concurrently with that, since I was not able to get an assignment to Kirkland Air Force Base or Holloman Air Force Base or New Mexico State University, I was trying to get to New Mexico because of the poor health of my parents and I wanted to get out here where I could spend some time with them before they passed on.

I did not make it for my father but I applied in various positions and one of the positions I applied for was with the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division as an environmentalist, and that's the position I got. And so after being with the FTD for approximately six months, I was offered the position here in Grants and I accepted it and am currently retired.

Q: So also when you were at Wright-Patterson in the late fifties you worked in the U-2 project?

A: Yes. I was assigned to work with the U-2 project, Project Joy Boy in which I developed protocol for testing the escape mechanism. I drafted protocol. I was not actively involved in conducting any tests. I don't know whether they conducted any tests in that project or not but I was specifically selected to develop protocol for evaluating the escape mechanism in the U-2.

Q: All right. Okay, so one of the projects that we've identified that may have bearing on the so-called "Roswell Incident" was Project 7218 which became known as Project High Dive and then it became Project 7222, known as Project Excelsior. And I'd just like you to describe how you became involved and in what capacity and how long were you a participant in this project.

A: Well, when I transferred into the escape section, I was given the opportunity to work on the high altitude bail out project in which dummies were being launched from balloons at Holloman Air Force Base to study unstabilized free fall. And we followed on that with stabilized free fall.

I got in on the very tail end of the unstabilized dummy drops which was being conducted by Lt. Gene Schwartz and I made, I think, one or two trips with Lt. Schwartz to Holloman Air Force Base on the unstabilized dummy drop projects during which we launched dummies on balloons.

And then upon Lt. Schwartz' separation from the Air Force, I stayed on the project and I was...

Q: And what was your capacity at this point?

A: I was a project officer for coordinating the launches of the dummy drop tests.

Q: I see.

A: I was the Aero Med Lab representative working with the Balloon Branch at Holloman Air Force Base and the Parachute Branch of the equipment laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

I also relied on the Instrumentation Branch of the Aero Med Lab for instrumentation on the dummy drops and also the Photographic Laboratory for photographic instrumentation. And I was a project officer on the unstabilized dummy drops which lasted from 1956 until live jumps in 1959.

During -- in November, 1959...

Q: Now what point did you -- what time did Schwartz leave and then you took over?

A: Schwartz left in the spring of 1956, as I recall.

Q: So then did you take over his position?

A: I took over his -- well, it was not an authorized position. The Aero Med Lab had many people that were in unauthorized slots and I was one of those. They had a resource of research officers and they had the work and even though we were not holding down an authorized slot on the manning document, we were doing the work. And I do not believe Schwartz was in an authorized slot and I just took over the work he was doing. I ended up writing a tech report, Part 1, on Lt. Schwartz' efforts and then I wrote Part II on the stabilized dummy drops which was my part of the research project.

Q: Now I'm going to probably reference -- the research I've conducted, I've been able to, obviously, go through both of those technical reports. We've gotten the project record book kept by Lt. Schwartz and we've also gotten some project records that shows the -- some of the dummies -- some of the conditions and where they were launched and where they landed and things like this.

So going back to the reports, you wrote both of these reports?

A: Yes, I wrote both of the reports.

When Lt. Schwartz separated from the service, he was told that he had to do the tech report on his project and he turned in, I believe, one and a half typewritten, double-spaced pages of text and I believe some photographs and that was to constitute his tech report.

Upon reviewing the document, I felt that it did not do the project justice and I asked Major Rufus R. Hessburg, the Branch

Chief, if it would be all right for me to write the tech report.

I believe at that time he was still the Section Chief because he got promoted from Section Chief to Branch Chief later on. But he was the Section Chief, I believe, when this was taking place and Maj. Hessburg gave me permission to go ahead and write the tech report.

I researched the project files that Lt. Schwartz had left and coordinated with the University of Dayton which was during the data reduction and had them write the data reduction portion of the report. I can't take credit for altering that portion but in documenting the research for -- during the launches and so forth, yes, I gleaned that from the project record books and wrote the report.

Q: All right. So now reviewing the documents and obviously the objective of the program was to launch anthropomorphic dummies to very high altitude, 70- to 100,000 feet and to record with photographs and things there -- the free fall characteristics, both stabilized and unstabilized?

A: That is correct.

Q: Does that sum it up okay?

When you used these dummies, were all tests successful or did you sometimes have difficulty with the parachute deployment or anything like that?

A: It seems we had more problems than we had successes. I would not call any of the launches failures, but we had unusual things occur, like launching a balloon with a couple of dummies on it and the dummies reach altitude but fail to cut down because of some instrumentation problem.

One launch I recall we made from the runway at Holloman Air Force Base, the balloon was launched with the dummies and started ascending and within a few seconds, the dummies cut down from the balloon and they impacted there on the runway. And it was determined that the cut down command was triggered by a police radio call in Los Angeles, California.

Q: No kidding?

A: It was a foreign signal that caused the dummies to cut down. So we had those extremes. We had some launches that were successful, that is the dummies were launched successfully, we cut down the balloon successfully, but to this day I don't know whether the dummies or instrument packages were ever recovered because they were free-flying balloons and they were at the mercy of the wind conditions aloft.

I know one dummy drop, we got the balloon instrumentation box that had cameras aboard and you see the dummy dropping away, you see below the sled track that Col. Stapp rode on. You see the edge of the White Sands. That dummy apparently impacted -- I think it was a failed -- I think the canopy did not open properly and the dummy impacted presumably in the White Sands and was buried and I don't know whether it has ever been recovered or not.

I know on subsequent trips to Holloman Air Force Base, on one or two trips, I personally went out and walked the area, the White Sand Dunes, adjacent to the sled track, and I never found any evidence of the dummy or the parachute or anything like that. And the parachutes that we were using were bright colors to make them readily identifiable. They were international orange, and fuchsia, and red canopies, things like that to enhance recovery.

Q: Okay. And in talking about the malfunctions, was there ever a situation where a streamer type situation would occur with the dummy? It would just...

A: Yes, I believe that project record books do reflect several streamers that occurred.

The multi-stage parachute was somewhat complicated and I think Mr. Beaupre would be able to -- the designer of the system, would be able to better explain the operation of the chute and possibly explain why some of the malfunctions occurred.

I think the project record book from my report does indicate what was determined to be the problem, instrumentation failures, that the parachute was released by a squib that was fired by some signal, a radio signal or some electronic signal, that was dependent on altitude, barometric pressure, and a timer. And when you have instrumentation like that, it's possible for an electronic connection to become disconnected and the signal doesn't get through and the canopy fails to deploy.

Q: So you could have the streamer type situation where the dummy would just -- the dummy in the bright red suit with the bright red parachute would just stream to the ground?

A: That is correct.

Q: And then the other situation could be there would be no -- the dummy would not be released from the rack, because I've seen that in the technical report.

A: That occurred on more than one occasion. The dummy failed to release. And maybe...

Q: So you've got two dummies in the release rack that are clearly depicted in the report and then this would all come down together?

A: On the launch rack that was designed specifically for dummy launches.

We had had problems with -- we would just suspend two dummies under the Balloon Branch or the balloon instrumentation pack and the dummies would be cut away, but as they cut away the first dummy would drag across the second dummy and we had equipment damage, material damage, and it did cause instrumentation failures. And so the full potential of the dummy drop was not really realized. It was not obtained.

Q: So when you were going to have a dummy drop, since you were coordinating all these different organizations, did you know exactly where this dummy was going to land?

A: We never knew exactly where the dummy was going to land but we relied heavily on the meteorology section, Duke Gildenberg at Holloman Air Force Base. He would, upon assessing the weather conditions and the weather projections, he would recommend where we would launch the dummy to impact in a certain area.

There were times when we launched away from Holloman Air Force Base, there were other times when we launched from Holloman Air Force Base and the weather conditions were -- what you were going to see in weather development were predictions and the predictions were not always accurate. So we really never knew exactly where the dummies were going to drop.

The balloon was, again, free-flying and it went where the wind took it and then when the dummies cut down, they would essentially free-fall from that point to about 14,000 feet where the main canopy was to deploy and once that canopy deploys, the dummy could be drifting wherever and, again, you didn't know exactly where the dummies were going to be cutting down. So if you had a free-fall into the ground, you had instrumentation to sort of pinpoint an area but the pinpointing was not totally accurate either.

Q: Okay, with that, as far as recovery, did you ever go out on recoveries of the dummies?

A: I went on one recovery and as I recall this was a launch made west of Holloman Air Force Base, I believe west of Las Cruces and the dummies cut down over the Jornada Test Range which was west of the San Andres mountains and I did recover one package and I believe it was the instrument package and dummy but I don't think -- as I recall we were not able to locate or I was not able to locate the other dummy and instrument package.

It has been so long ago I don't recall exactly but I do recall having recovered some of the equipment because it had been a very long day and as I had the package in the back of the weapons carrier I had checked out, I was going back to Holloman Air Force Base. I became quite tired and sleepy and I pulled off at the White Sands Missile Range Headquarters turnoff at the highway and I went to sleep. And I was awakened by a military

policeman who was checking to see if everything was okay. I assured him that I was okay and explained why I was sleeping there and then I went on back over to Holloman.

Q: Just to kind of pinpoint the area we're talking about here on the map in New Mexico, what exactly is the area where you think you recovered that particular dummy?

A: The dummy was north of Highway 70 and it was between Las Cruces and (inaudible) or between Las Cruces and San Augustin Pass, north. And it was, oh, I would say approximately east of Leesburg or Radium Springs, but closer to the mountains.

Q: Okay.

A: Radium Springs and Leesburg on Highway 85 between Truth or Consequences and Las Cruces.

Q: And so you got this dummy. What kind of vehicle did you have?

A: I was in a weapons carrier. For these balloon launches, we used weapons carriers almost exclusively because we had to haul equipment and we wanted a vehicle that we could take off the road in the event of recovery, take off the road to make launches and so we had to have a pretty good general purpose vehicle, four wheel drive. I don't think a jeep would have been terribly practical because you don't have much space for your equipment and so forth...

Q: So the weapons carriers was kind of an open backed vehicle?

A: No, it might be a weapons carrier designed like one of the ambulances. You have an enclosed -- sort of like a van. But it had cargo-carrying capacity.

Q: And what did you do? You just took a dummy, I guess, and threw it in the back there?

A: No. When we went to a launch site, we seldom carried, as I recalled, we seldom carried the dummy with us. We would rig up the launch package in the bay of the Balloon Branch on a launch rack. We would have the dummies equipped. But we still had test equipment that we had to check the instrumentation with before making the launch. And we had tools and so forth and there were generally two or three of us, possibly four, because the parachute riggers would also be with us. And so we would have, I'd say a small party, going to the launch, checking packages over before we actually made the launch.

In some cases, due to the way the -- or we made the launch rack so that it had legs to stand on. It was sort of a triangular structure under which we could suspend two dummies in sort of a partially laid out position. But we wanted the dummies not in contact with each other, so we had the upper dummy and the lower dummy. But in order to work on the package, we had to have legs so that they could have the launch rack free-standing.

Now once we got it tied to the balloon and picked up by the launch truck, the bomb service truck, we would have to unbolt the, you might say the front legs of the rack, so that it would be no longer free-standing, it would have to be suspended. And this way you did not have any excess equipment or material that could possibly interfere with the dummy dropping away properly.

Q: So the launches, you said you did them -- you said you did them on base but then you remembered doing some west of Holloman Air Force Base?

A: That is correct. Over, as I recall, west of Las Cruces. But I'd have to refer to the research report...

Q: Sure.

A: ...to be specific.

Q: The records do show that there were definitely dummies launched over in that area that we described there, west of the Las Cruces...

A: Right.

Q: ...area.

Did you ever go farther north?

A: Yes. On one of the trips we got word that some of our research package had been turned in by a rancher in the Roswell area.

Q: Okay, over the other side of the mountain. But you never went as far north as up near Socorro or Magdalena or any of those areas?

A: Well, I know on the large program involving Capt. Kittinger, I know that we did go to Truth or Consequences. We were going to launch from the Truth or Consequences area. I don't recall -- I don't believe we were able to make the launch because weather conditions were not satisfactory and so we had to...

(END OF SIDE)

Okay. As I was saying we did get up around Truth or Consequences. But as far as I can recall, that is the furthest north that we went in that area.

I do know that we had one launch that was -- it was east of the Rio Grande. I knew the helicopter pilot, flying an H-21, and with him at the controls, we hovered over ground zero, over at the Trinity Site where the first atomic bomb was shot off. So we were in that area but that was on the live jump project and I only recall that we were in that site.

As far as I can recall, that's about the furthest north we got in that particular area. Again, we did have other equipment impact in the Roswell area.

Q: Well, why don't we just go ahead and discuss that particular impact that you recall. So you think you had one of the dummy packages land over there near Roswell?

A: Yes, we...

Q: And our research does show that we had at least about nine of the dummy packages landing within about a 30 mile radius of Roswell.

A: Well, I was only in the Roswell area the one time looking for equipment and that was when a rancher by the name of Smith turned in equipment.

When these packages were launched, they had a sticker on them posted by the Balloon Branch, which offered a reward of \$50 for this equipment or material being turned in to the Balloon Branch. And apparently the equipment had been turned in from the Smith ranch in Roswell and since I was out there on a dummy drop launch project, I had a staff car station wagon and the project officer, the Bail Out Project Officer, Capt. Henry P. Neilson, was out there. And he and one of his instrumentation technicians from the Balloon Branch by the name of Dick Gabby, the three of us went to Roswell and we drove out the Smith ranch.

A young cowboy came out of the ranch house when we drove up and we got out of the car and walked to meet him and I realized that this was a fellow that I knew in college at New Mexico State University. I only knew of him as Smitty. And due to our acquaintanceship, he provided us with two horses on that particular afternoon. They had two horses at the ranch house and we rode the horses out in the general area where he had found equipment and we didn't find anything and they had asked us to return the following day and we would have a third horse, because there were three of us.

He went to the other ranch house that they had and brought another horse from there so that the second day, the three of us were able to ride out and see if we could find any additional equipment and unfortunately we didn't find any equipment but we had some rather unusual experiences since Hank Neilson was not familiar with riding cow ponies and it resulted in some rather humorous circumstances. They were not humorous at the time but in looking back, they were quite humorous.

Q: So about where do you think the Smith ranch was, as best as you can recall?

A: As I recall, the Smith ranch was south and west of the city of Roswell. I have no recollection of the distance. It was a few miles is all I can say. We did not -- well we had traveled from Alamogordo over to Tularosa on Highway 54 and at Tularosa we took Highway 70 over to Roswell. And out of Roswell we took, I believe, a county road and it was just a few miles to where the Smith ranch was.

We had some, apparently, some pretty good directions because we were able to drive right to it. I think we probably had the distance. But again, I don't recall what that distance was.

Q: How would you get that distance? Who would know? Who would give it to you?

A: If it were possible to locate Smitty -- it might be possible to find -- locate him. His parents might be dead by now but Smitty, I would imagine, would be staying on the ranch and I would imagine that Smitty would certainly recall this incident because he particularly wanted to get some -- he was interested in having some of the parachute nylon, bright red parachute nylon, because he wanted to have a shirt made out of that nylon material.

Q: Did someone from the Balloon Branch give you directions to where the...

A: I think it was. It must have been someone from the Balloon Branch. It's so far back I don't recall and it's one of the few instances in which I am personally aware of equipment from these dummy drop tests having been reported by citizens.

Normally we were not notified at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and Aero Med Lab of equipment being turned in. The coordination was not that good between the Balloon Branch and the Aero Med Lab.

Q: Did the balloon people use spotter airplanes?

A: Normally they did not. They had ground recovery crews and they had radio tracking, I think theodolite, on the balloons and they followed them with electronic instrumentation. It's not very often I recall that spotter aircraft were used.

Q: So I guess to wrap it up, maybe we'll talk a little bit about the dummies, what kind of dummies you used. According to project records, the two types of dummies that were used were the Alderson dummy and the Sierra Sam type dummy.

A: Correct.

Q: Do you remember any other dummies being used?

A: I do not recall any other dummies being used. I feel sure that the Parachute Branch, in developing the parachute, were using torso dummies. But they were more concerned with evaluating parachute modifications, functions of the parachute. They could use a dummy that was not anthropomorphic, so to speak, and they just needed the weight and body configuration in which they could attach a parachute harness. But we never used any of the torso dummies in the Aero Med Lab tests.

In the dummy drop projects we wanted to use anthropomorphic dummies and we wanted the arms and legs and head and so forth. We wanted a body size and configuration and therefore we used 95th percentile dummies to equate the more average, fairly heavy pilot. We felt that if things worked well for a heavy pilot, that they would work equally well or better with say a 75th or 50 percentile human being.

Q: So out of the type of dummies, either the Alderson or the Sierra, which one do you think you used more?

A: I think ultimately we used the Alderson. As I recall the Sierra Sams were a rather expensive dummy. They cost, as I recall, around \$3,500 and they were articulated, you could bend the limbs to the desired configuration and they had a chest cavity in which you could install instrumentation. We didn't use that chest cavity. It was not used in the unstabilized dummy

drops and I think the idea was to have an instrument kit equating to a survival kit on a pilot.

So they were not concerned with just the body but the body configuration with a survival kit on the harness. And it turns out that the Alderson dummies cost about a thousand dollars so you could have three Alderson dummies and have change in your pocket for the same price you were spending on one Sierra Sam.

Q: Okay. And like I said, the picture -- this is kind of a modern picture taken last spring of some dummies from the product manufacturer during the mid-sixties or about 1970. Do those seem pretty consistent as far as the head and the face with the dummies that appear in the tech reports?

A: Yes. They're anthropomorphic dummies. They have a head like a human and they have the hands and the arms and legs. The features on the head were not always really lifelike in that they didn't have well-developed ears the way humans do. I believe that it was believed that the ears didn't matter that much. And certainly the Air Force was not terribly concerned about that because an ejecting pilot would be wearing a helmet.

Helmets were not used on the dummies because of the possibility of the fouling of the parachute equipment. The pilot jumping could, if he had a problem with the helmet, he could make corrections. He'd be able to untangle a suspension line or something like that but the dummies are just free weight hanging below the parachute and any problems could not be corrected. So your chances of a malfunction were increased by having a helmet.

Q: So I guess one last question I'll ask you is you were at Wright-Patterson for two separate tours, is that correct, you were out there?

A: Yes, I had two tours at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, yes.

Q: And you worked, as we discussed, in that first tour you even worked on the highly classified U-2 Project?

A: That is correct.

Q: And were there many people at Wright-Patterson that were involved in this U-2?

A: There were very few people that were cleared to work on the project. I was the only one in the escape section and we had, as I recall, seven officers and a civilian secretary, and I was the only one in the escape section that was cleared.

Some of the other sections in the Biophysics Branch did not have anybody involved with the U-2. My section chief had no knowledge of the U-2. I was reporting directly to the Branch Chief, Col. Hessenburg, and I believe it was Col. Hessenburg that may have nominated me to work on the U-2.

Q: All right. So both in your early tour and in your later tour, had you ever heard rumors that these people talk about, about these little green men, things that you heard?

A: Oh, yes. I've heard rumors of little green men.

My wife, who was a secretary in the Equipment Branch before I met her, she had heard that there is a building, a small building at Patterson Field, where they had the little green men in cold storage. And that story has persisted, I think, to this day. She believes it but again she has no direct knowledge.

I have no knowledge that a building with space aliens in cold storage exists. I do know that the Balloon Branch launches these balloons to high altitude, up in the 100,000 foot altitude area and they had various equipment packages under them and they could have, oh, an instrumentation box with various apparatuses on it that to the uninformed individual might represent space ship equipment.

An incident that I had that occurred here in Grants last summer, it was in the early morning. I got up during the summer and I walked out on the back porch and I saw -- it was still dark enough, you could see the morning star. It was bright up there. And then south of the morning star there was an even brighter

object and I looked at it and I kept watching it and it just seemed to hang there but it did seem to be coming towards me a little bit. It was not terribly long. I thought, well that looks like a helium filled balloon. And I went in the house and got a pair of binoculars and looked, and yes, in fact it was a helium filled balloon. It was blowing from the east to west over the Zuni mountains and I followed it until I could no longer see it due to mountains getting in the way.

But at any point that balloon could have ruptured and I'm sure that there were a lot of people that would have thought unidentified flying object. But they are -- I think a lot of people are tuned to thinking of UFOs.

Having had the experience with launching dummies from these helium filled balloons, it didn't take me too long to identify that it was a helium filled balloon. And again I confirmed it by looking through the binoculars. I could not -- it was not close enough for me to see what the package was underneath but it did have a package underneath.

And later on, I think the next day, there was a story that came out in the Albuquerque Journal and it was some, I believe it was some sort of a weather or meteorological test that was ongoing and I don't know where the balloon was launched from but it's possible for it to have been launched from Holloman Air Force Base or from some place like that.

And this was considerably north of Roswell and Holloman Air Force Base and it's very unusual. I've not seen another helium filled balloon in our area but I did see it and so to some people it might be a UFO but to me it was a helium filled balloon and that was confirmed.

Q: People just don't want to believe that. I guess they want to believe other things. But all the research we've done and the data we have and the photographs all confirm that this was more than likely parts of these projects that we just discussed.

A: Yes.

Q: So unless you have something else to add, I think that will probably wrap it up.

A: I can't really add anything more. Without any specific questions I can't add anything. I may have information in some of my old files on trip reports that I've taken.

Again I have an Air Force Association directory and I would strongly encourage you to talk to Harry Collins and Austin Kibbler, both of who were listed as living in that -- they were listed in the Air Force Association directory and I would like to check that directory and give you the latest addresses that they report. I got the directory within the last two or three years, I believe.

So I would encourage you to talk to them because they were some of the original test subjects on the Project High Dive and they were on that, I think, before I transferred in to the Aero Med Lab from the judo unit. And they might be able to shed additional information. They might have been told about dummy drops, equipment, and so forth. I don't know. But that's about all I can add at this point unless you have other specific questions.

Q: I think that's it. Okay. Thank you very much.

A: You're sure welcome.

(END)