

LS. I was asked to provide this statement, by Lt. Col. Joseph V. Rogan who advised me, he was assisting in an investigation at the behest of the Secretary of the Air Force, for the GAO, to look into facts concerning what has become to be known as "The Roswell Incident". LS.

LS. As I recall it was July 1947, I was then a Warrant Officer with seven years service. I was the only weather forecaster on duty in the Fort Worth base weather and flight service center. The base weather covered only the base the flight service center covered most of the southwest states. I received a call from some one in General Ramey's office who asked that I go to the General's office. I informed him that I was the only forecaster on duty and could not leave. Several minutes later General Ramey Himself called and said "get your ass over here If you don't have a car take the first one with a key". LS.

LS. I was met at the General's office by a Lt Col or Col who told me that some one had found a flying saucer in New Mexico and they had it in the General's Office. And that a flight had been set up to send it to Wright Patterson AFB OH., but the General suspicioned that it might be meteorological equipment or something of that nature and wanted it examined by qualified meteorological personnel.

The Col and I walked into the General's office where this supposed flying saucer was lying all over the floor. As soon as I saw it, I giggled and asked if that was the flying saucer. I was told it was. LS.

LS. Several people were in the room when I went in, among them, General Ramey, a couple of press people, a Major, I learned to be Major Marcel and some other folks. Someone introduced Major Marcel as the person who found this material.

I told them that this was a balloon and a RAWIN target. I believed this because I had seen many of these before. They were normally launched by a special crew and followed by a ground radar unit. They provided a higher altitude winds aloft. We did not use them at Fort Worth. However, I was familiar with them because we used them and their products on various projects in which I was involved. These were used mostly on special projects and overseas. The balloon was made out of a rubber type expandable material and when launched was about six to eight feet across. When the balloons got to altitude they expanded to twenty feet or more. The target was used for radar reflections and I believe each leg of the target was approximately 48 inches. It resembled a child's Jack (like a child's ball and jacks set) with a metallic material between the legs. The legs were made of material appearing to be like balsa wood kite sticks but much tougher. LS.

LS. While I was examining the debris, Major Marcel was picking up pieces of the target sticks and trying to convince me that some notations on the sticks were alien writings. There were figures on the sticks lavender or pink in color, appeared to be weather faded markings with no rhyme or reason. He did not convince me these were alien writings. LS.

LS. I was convinced at the time that this was a balloon with a RAWIN target and remain convinced. LS.

LS. I remember hearing the General tell someone to cancel the flight the flight to Wright Patterson. LS.

LS. While in the office several pictures were taken of Major Marcel, General Ramey, myself and others. LS.

LS. I was dismissed and went to my office to resume my normal duties. LS.

LS. During the ensuing years I have been interviewed by many authors, I have been quoted and misquoted. The facts remain as indicated above. I was not influenced during the original interview, nor today, to provide anything but what I know to be true, that is, the material I saw in General Ramey's office was the remains of a balloon and a RAWIN target. LS.



J. ALLEN HYNEK
CENTER FOR
UFO STUDIES

UFO Resource Facility
Library and Publication Sales

2457 W. Peterson Ave.
Chicago, IL 60659
(312) 271-3611

November 10, 1990

Mr. Irving Newton
222 Driftwind Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78239

Dear Mr. Newton:

Thank you again for your help. Enclosed are the copies I promised to send you.
We look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Schmitt
Donald R. Schmitt

Johnson actually took a primary and a back-up exposure of each set-up, thus bringing the total number of known pictures of the Roswell wreckage in Ramey's office to seven.

all over that room, Ramey's office.

This room here? (Pointing to the picture of Ramey and himself with the debris in Ramey's office.)

Yeah.

At this point, the general looked at me almost scoldingly, and then we both laughed.

What I said to him was, "I don't understand, Mr. Newton, if there was a weather balloon in that room, why isn't it in the pictures. You are shown with the same debris as everyone else."

No goddam weather balloon was ever in that room!

And I asked the photographer who shot this picture of you and Ramey, and the one of Ramey himself, "Was there anything else in that room that you didn't shoot?" He said no.

Hell no.

He said he was there to shoot what was in the room, that he wouldn't have shot only a part of what was there. "I would only have shot everything that was there," he said.

I just know the weather balloon idea was used as a cover-up for this thing. When I was told to keep my mouth shut and forget it, I did. And that was the end of it until you asked me about this stuff.

Had you seen these pictures since?

Oh, yeah. I'd seen them.

But not since what, 1947 or so?

No, I haven't — but there can't be any doubt about who it was.

Have you ever told that story before about what McMullan said to you?

No. No, because when someone told me to do something, I'm a good soldier and I do what they tell me. Outside of you asking me about it, no, I haven't told anyone. Now when I tell you that, there may have been over 40 years — someone who would call and I would brush them off, or say I don't remember.

"New" Pictures

General DuBose's statements now sync-up perfectly with the testimony given earlier by J. Bond Johnson, the Ft. Worth Star Telegram photographer whose statements to Bill Moore and me opened up the spectre of a revised view of what occurred in Ft. Worth. They are also in agreement with statements attributed to General Ramey by the Associated Press, and with testimony gained by Moore in several interviews with Major Jesse Marcel before his

death in 1986 — the accuracy of which was attested to by Marcel in a signed statement to the publisher of Moore & Charles Berlitz' book, The Roswell Incident.

The statements by each of these people interconnect, overlap and add new information, giving us the most definitive view of what transpired at Ft.

Worth on July 8, 1947. Indeed, the only out-of-sync information in the entire picture is to be found in recent statements made by ex-warrant officer Irving Newton (the weather man at Ft. Worth); and when Newton's current version of the story is compared to what he told Moore during interviews in 1979, it can be readily seen that his story has undergone considerable change since that time. Why this is, we do not know. All that can be said is that the details in his earlier account compare much more favorably with the DuBose/Johnson/Marcel testimony than do those of the story he is presently telling. Newton's revised version of events came to light after he was recently reinterviewed by Schmitt and Randle. Apparently they did not trouble to ask him why, if Moore's earlier reporting of Newton's testimony in The Roswell Incident was incorrect, he did not contact Moore and ask that a corrected version be published.



Warrant Officer

Irving Newton

18

In our article titled "Three Hours that Shook the Press," Bill Moore and I reconstructed the time frame and presented clear evidence of what General DuBose adamantly supports. In further working with J. Bond Johnson and careful examination of the photographs, another development occurred. When I sent Johnson a copy of the MUFON Journal which contained the reprinted photos from Ft. Worth, he called back to say that the Ramey picture wasn't his — or so he thought. He didn't think so because it was different from what ran in the Star Telegram on July 9, 1947. Continued examination and recollection of the mechanics of the camera Johnson had used revealed to us that he had in actuality shot four pictures rather than two as originally thought.

His earlier assertion of two photos was based upon his clear recall of having had only two frames with him at the time, and that there were only two set-

ups: one with Ramey alone and a second with both Ramey and DuBose. But now, with a second picture of Ramey being evident and the existence of two pictures of Ramey and DuBose — each in the same basic set-up — it was remembered that each frame for that particular camera held two shots, the second one of which was exposed by pulling the frame out, turning it over, and putting it back in the camera. So Johnson actually took a primary and a back-up exposure of each set-up, thus bringing the total number of known pictures of the Roswell wreckage in Ramey's office to seven. Schmitt and Randle had earlier reported that there were only five such pictures, while our "Three Hours" piece had reported six.

Further supporting Johnson as the photographer of four pictures is that both the University of Texas photo archives (they have the Star Telegram collection) and the Bettmann Archives give photo credits to Johnson. The photo in

the Bettmann collection is the second (or back-up) photo of Ramey and DuBose. The credit line indicates it was an International News Photo (INP) Soundphoto. INP was a subsidiary of International News Service (INS). The only way they could have gotten the photo was from Johnson himself, meaning that someone from INS came to the Star Telegram on July 8, 1947 and secured permission to use the photo. We know the relative time frame because the credit line indicates that the picture was transmitted at 7:59 CST, July 8, 1947.

Since it would have been transmitted out of Dallas, nearly an hour away by car at that time, that supports the afternoon time for Johnson's return to the newspaper as reported in our "Three Hours" piece.

This is a classic example of how continued diligent work with an open witness can continue to produce results.

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Donald R. Schmitt
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FLYING SAUCERS

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Twenty years of UFO's...the great mystery of our time. Complete up-to-date roundup. Why scientists are perplexed...dozens of UFO photographs...including rare color shots. Interviews with terrified witnesses who believe UFO's come from Outer Space. What to do if YOU see a UFO.

LOOK

SPECIAL BY THE EDITORS OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL AND COWLES COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

1947

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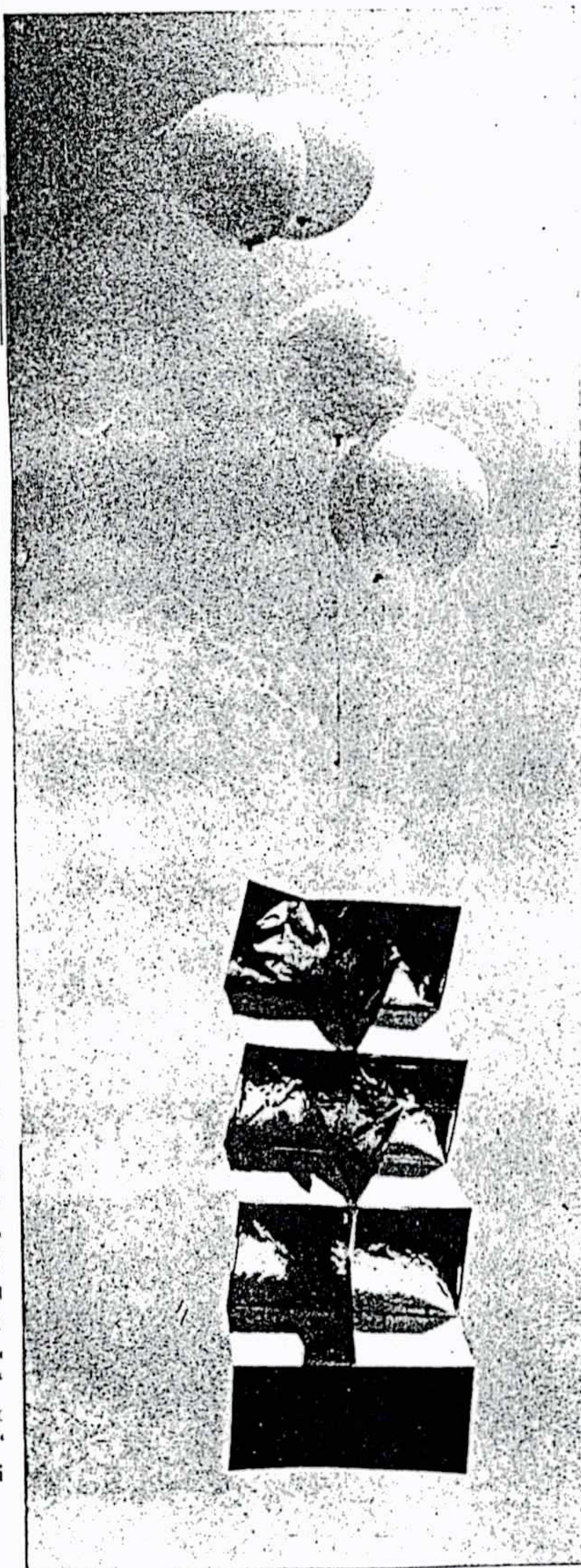
Dozens of UFO-spotters have been lucky enough to have camera in hand when they saw a strange object in the sky.

THROUGH THE years many persons have submitted photographs as evidence of the UFO's they claim to have seen.

Generally, those who have photographed UFO's believe their pictures speak much louder than words. "I'm glad I had a camera," they say. "There's the picture of what I saw. Now, do you believe me?"

Those who believe are convinced that the pictures on the following pages provide proof positive that UFO's do exist and that most likely they come from somewhere in outer space. But hardened skeptics who look at the pictures usually can find some way to attempt to disprove their authenticity.

The year 1947 was the beginning of most American UFO sightings. At that time military authorities believed many of the objects seen actually were weather balloons. In 1947 the Navy launched several devices such as this with four balloons and tin-foil covered reflectors to measure wind velocities by radar. When the wreckage of one of these was recovered in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1947, it was at first thought to be part of a flying saucer.

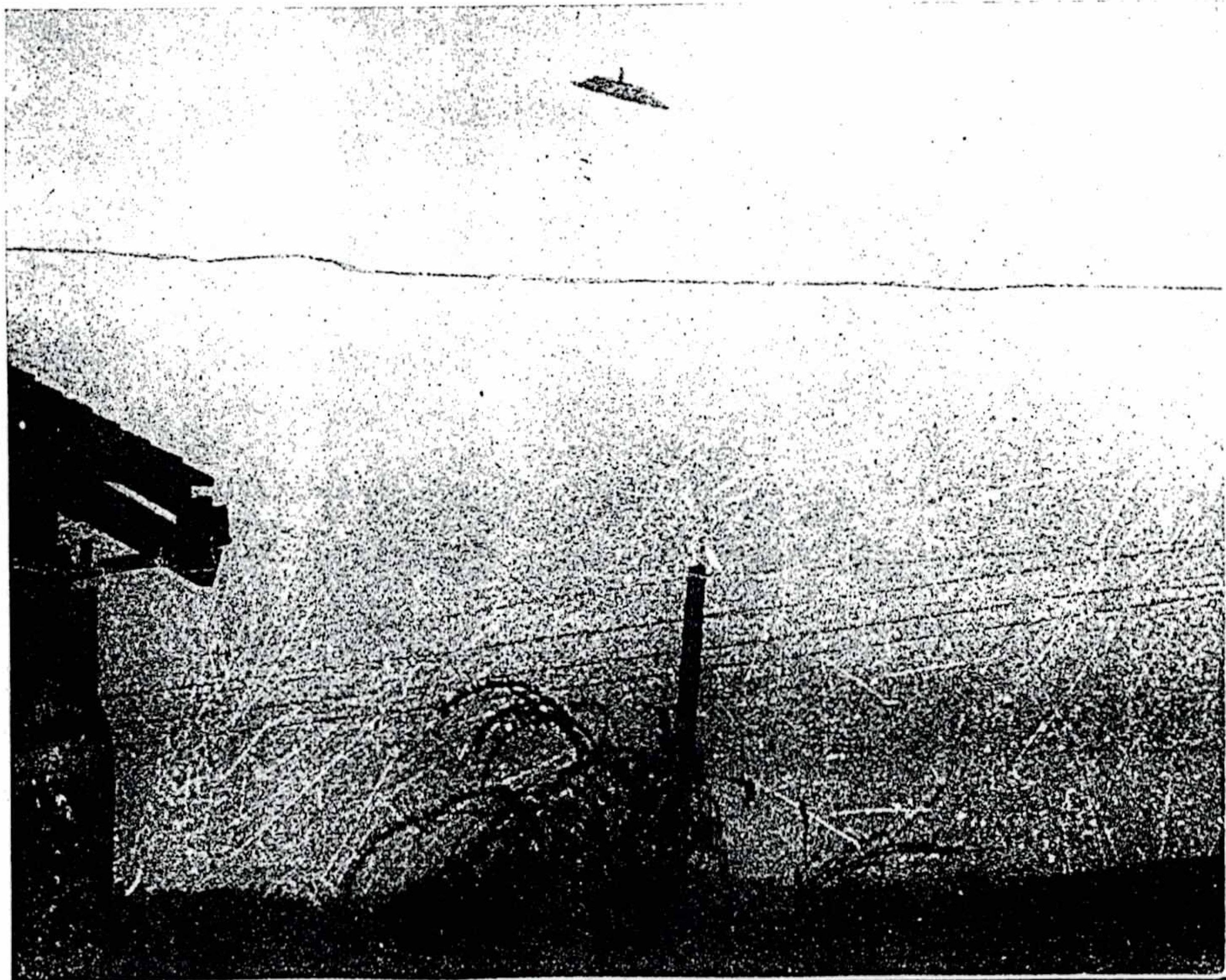


Bob Jung, a former aerial photographer, said he shot this picture of an object in the sky over Catalina Island off the coast of California in July, 1947. The masts and stack of a ship can be seen at the bottom of the picture. Jung said three Air Force veterans on the scene reported seeing six such objects.

Bob Jung



Paul Trent, a farmer, took these pictures in the spring of 1950 over his farm near McMinnville, Ore. His wife reported that Air Force officials investigated the sighting and took Geiger counter readings, but, "They didn't let us know anything." The Trents, who now live on a farm near Dayton, Ore., say they have never since seen another UFO.



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"I never asked.
publicity for accidentally being in the right spot

NO ONE SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS A WEATHER BALLOON

The Roswell Incident

a weather balloon and wanted him (Newton) to identify it as such. After this hurried briefing Newton was ushered into a room filled with reporters and photographers where he was handed several pieces of what he immediately recognized as material belonging to a Rawin-type balloon, although somewhat "deteriorated." A number of other pieces were laid out on brown paper on the floor. While the examination was taking place a series of photographs were taken of the general and his aide.

MANY, NOT THOUSANDS

Newton said (Moore interview, July 1979): "It was cut and dried. I had sent up thousands of them and there's no doubt that *what I was given* were parts of a balloon. I was later told that the major from Roswell had identified the stuff as a flying saucer but that the general had been suspicious of this identification from the beginning and that's why I had been called.

Question: But wouldn't the people at Roswell have been able to identify a balloon on their own?

They certainly should have. It was a regular Rawin sonde. They must have seen hundreds of them.

What happened after your identification of the object?

When I had identified it as a balloon I was dismissed.

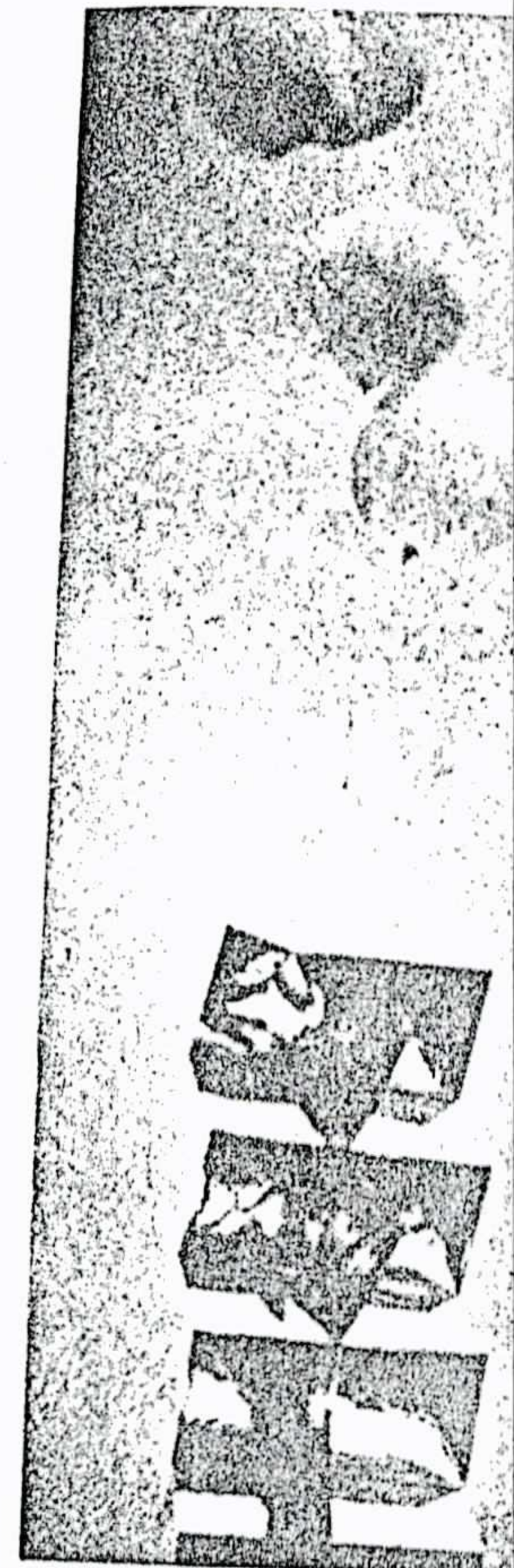
Can you describe the fabric? Was it easy to tear?

Certainly. You would have to be careful not to tear it. The metal involved was likely an extremely thin Alcoa wrap. It was very flimsy. ~~THE BALLOON WAS FLIMSY~~

NOT THE TARGET

In this connection we note that Major Marcel as well as others were insistent about the great strength of the bits of metallic material they found, how it could not be torn or even dented by sledgehammer blows. It seems fairly evident that the wreckage did not, in spite of official second thoughts, come from a Rawin balloon.

The AAF Confrontation



Another telling error found in the initial report was the wreckage as having come from a sonde. Note here that in 1947 the only devices in use—the Rawin sonde (AN/AMT-4). The competent weather officer would not have only one of these, the Rawin, as part of its design. The 100-200 gram neoprene balloon was the only one of these, the Rawin, as part of its design. The 100-200 gram neoprene balloon was the only one of these, the Rawin, as part of its design.



Commander, 8th Air Force, at Ramey paid what is called the disc recovery story hit

statement that has been flying discs, it is not call it an evening." They may have suspected that there was no proof. However, an explanation was supplied during a press conference by General Ramey's former aide, Colonel DuBose, now a retired colonel. He observed that there had been no ship the material from the special plane." He added

The AAF Confronts a Crashed UFO and Dead Extraterrestrials

that the general (Ramey) was in complete charge and the rest of the officers and men involved "just followed orders." The general was most concerned that the large number of press reporters present be "taken off his back in a hurry." The weather balloon story was a fabrication designed to accomplish that task and "put out the fire" at the same time. He did not recall who first suggested the weather-balloon explanation, but thinks it may have been Ramey himself.

Colonel (now General) DuBose is the man pictured with Ramey on page 33 posing for reporters on the floor of Ramey's office with the hastily substituted wreckage of a real Rawlin weather balloon. Only nine months later, in May of 1948, DuBose was to become chief of staff of the Eighth Air Force at Fort Worth.

A striking example of how command can orchestrate new policy with original reports, even if it entails a certain modification of what has been reported, is afforded by the case of Warrant Officer Irving Newton. At the time of the Roswell Incident, Newton was in charge of the Base Weather Office and Flight Services at the Carswell-Fort Worth Air Base in Texas.

As Newton recollects, he had neither seen nor heard anything about the Roswell Incident on July 7. But on the night of July 8, as he was working in the Weather Office, the phone rang. It was General Ramey. The general ordered Newton to report to his office immediately. Newton, in spite of a certain urgency in the general's tone, nevertheless found the courage to inform the general that he was the only man on duty in the Weather Office and as such he was also in charge of flight-control operations that evening. To Newton's mildly couched protest the general replied with a decisive command flair: "Get your ass over here in ten minutes. If you can't get a car commandeer the first one that comes along—on my orders."

When Newton got to his destination he was briefed by a colonel to the effect that an object had been found by a major in Roswell and that the general had decided that it was really

September 29, 1993

Robert G Todd
2528 Belmont Ave.
Ardmore PA 19003-2617

RE: Roswell Incident

Dear Mr. Todd:

You suggest in your letter I might be tired of this whole debate. On the contrary, I really enjoy all questions, and **FACTS** that come from different sources.

I am probably one of the last people involved who is still alive. Some one suggested that since it was so long ago, maybe now I could tell the whole truth. Statements like that one are what keep my interest up. I have really enjoyed reading the books which have been sent to me.

Now, about the questions you asked. First, this event happened along time ago; this is the way I remember it. I was called at the Weather Office and told to report to Gen. Ramey's office. Upon arrival, and before entering, I was told there was a flying saucer inside. Of course, I was very excited ... until they opened the door. There, spread all over the floor, were the remains of a RAWIN Target and balloon!

You say I was quoted as saying these target balloons were sent up daily from about 80 weather stations. Let me explain. At that time, we used three (3) different sized balloons to get upper air information. The smallest, a piblt balloon (known as Pibal) were sent up daily from about 80 WX stations. These balloons were sent up with no target and observed and plotted using a theodolite. Next in size came the RAWLIN. It was sent up from 8 or 10 WX stations and used for special projects in the U.S. and overseas. RAWINS were a much larger balloon with a target attached. The target was much like a kite; it looked like a child's "jack" with a metallic material stretched between the points. This was a rather large balloon and target launched and then tracked by a special radar. The third balloon was a RADIO Sonde. It too was launched by a balloon for special upper air information. The target was a radio transmitter which sent back lots of upper air information. The foregoing was just for your information. Now, to your actual questions.

1. Did I use one of these in Fort Worth?
2. Were they available in Fort Worth?
3. Were they stored in Fort Worth?

To the best of my knowledge, the answer to each of these questions is, "No". But, we did have and use the small "PIBAL" balloon in El Paso and Ft. Worth

4. Did I see pinkish-purple symbols on the wooden beams? This is one of the "FACTS" I really enjoy. This wooden *BEAM* that people refer to is like a kite stick, about 1/2" by 1/4" in size and about 36" long. As I recall, the overall dimension of the target was one half or one full wave length of the radar. They were this size so there would be a full radar return from any angle. As for the markings on the "beams," Yes I do recall them. They looked sort of like Chinese symbols, or they could have been traces of glue used to hold the material onto the "beams". I don't think the beams were wooden, but rather were a tough plastic.

Did I notice any actual balloon material in Gen. Ramey's office? It was spread out all over the floor and looked just like what it was. I think the balloon was made of neoprene; Patches of a rubber like substance that had been stretched very thin, and had laid on the ground for some time. The actual target material was another matter. It was a very tough thin tin foil like film, like Mylar.

Did I think Maj. Marcel had ever seen a RAWIN target before? It would have been unlikely for Maj. Marcel or any of the others not in the Weather Service to have seen a RAWIN target. (Some were later reported as flying saucers while in flight.)

You can see from this rather lengthy report I don't mind talking about it. I enjoy reading the reports from all over saying I have changed my story. I have not changed my story. I would be more than happy to talk further with you, by phone or in person for that matter. If I can answer any questions or be of any help, then please let me know.

I would appreciate your keeping me informed of your findings.

Sincerely,

Irving Newton
222 Driftwind Dr.
San Antonio TX 78239
210-655-5829

Kevin D. Randle
7217 Hampshire Drive
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

=====

January 31, 1991

Mr. Irving Newton
222 Driftwind Drive
San Antonio, TX 78239

Dear Mr. Newton:

Enclosed is a copy of the tape of the UNSOLVED MYSTERIES program. It deals with the events in Roswell and doesn't address the press conference in General Ramey's office in which you participated. I assumed that you wanted a VHS copy. I have to apologize for the quality. I had to go from VHS to Beta and back to VHS.

I have also enclosed a number of articles that refer to your role in this. They include the statement made in THE ROSWELL INCIDENT, articles in FOCUS, the MUFON JOURNAL, and THE INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER. I would appreciate any comments that you care to make about the accuracy of the statements and your views as to the veracity of those statements. I would, of course, like your permission to publish those comments in an article that Don and I am putting together about this.

Once again, thank you for your time and your help in trying to learn the truth. When our book comes out, I'll make sure that you get a copy of it.

Sincerely yours,



Kevin D. Randle

P.S. I should point out that neither I nor I
believe the MT-12 Document to be authentic.
KDR

weather balloon. He was briefed, then met the reporters that were there with a torn balloon that was handed to him. It's important to note that he was not called in to examine debris to determine if he knew what it was; he was told up front what to say, and he was also ordered not to answer any questions. What he identified was handed to him, it was not what was on Ramey's floor. But at what point did this occur? He stated that he was alone on his shift when he received word that the general had personally ordered him to leave his post. That would put him on the second shift and place the time after 8 O'clock—three hours from the time the first story hit the wires. But Newton wasn't the first to tell the press the weather balloon story.

According to the Dallas Morning News, July 9, Maj. E.M. Kirton, Intelligence Officer at Fort Worth Army Air Field, gave the whole weather balloon/radar device story to their reporter at 5:30pm. The article ends by quoting Newton from a later AP dispatch. Maj. Kirton was also the one interfacing with the F.B.I.

If the intelligence officer could identify the debris why did Newton have to be ordered over? Something happened to cause the military to do an about face. The Washington Post even reports a temporary news blackout was clamped on Roswell. Why? If the material had been shifted to Fort Worth, what difference did it make what Roswell was saying? For three hours the press was having a field day monitoring the goings-on between New Mexico and Texas and Washington. It would have been interesting to have seen all the wire traffic as the story was constantly updated. By choosing a lowly warrant officer to front the cover story for the wire services, it would help in playing down the story. Newton and his story were nowhere around when Bond Johnson took his pictures.

Sitting in Johnson's living room going over the photographs and several clippings he has, a number of facts emerged. There were at least six pictures taken of individuals with the debris in Ramey's office. The first thing that strikes you is that the material is unimpressive. In fact, until you look at full 8x10 blow-ups of some of the negatives with a magnifying glass, you don't realize that the material on the floor holds its shape. This gives credence to the statements that the pieces, unlike tin foil, were stiff. This was said by every individual who handled the material, including Johnson. The material in the photograph is not highly reflective, and every person who handled it described it as gray, or "like a lead foil." No one described it as highly reflective. Yet every description of the target device it was supposed to be characterizes such devices as "silvery" and highly reflective.

Continued examination of the photographs, even those that we only had from newspaper photocopies, reveals that all six photos were taken in the same room with the same debris. It is actually possible to match up certain common shapes in each photo. But if Bond had been there before the cover story set in, and if,

as has been suggested, an actual weather device was brought in to replace it, then why would the pictures that were obviously taken after Bond show the same debris? Curiously enough, this fact supports Bond's story. Bond took his two pictures and left. The AP was so anxious to get these pictures that they set up a portable wire machine, from Dallas—not an effort they would likely go to for a weather balloon. The pictures hit the wire. Then the cover story sets in. But they can't retrieve the pictures. The only advantage they have is that the debris looks ordinary. So, they allow additional pictures to be taken by the now growing press contingent on the base.

But it is clear that others were not accorded the same access that Bond was. In his interview with Moore (The Roswell Incident) Maj. Marcel maintained that the debris in the two photos with him is the real stuff. But, he states that the reporter that took them was allowed in the room only far enough to take the pictures. He was not allowed to touch the stuff, and he was then taken out of the room. Marcel, for his part, was not allowed to talk to the reporters, and was ultimately ordered back to Roswell. A second picture of Ramey and Dubose was taken and this time they weren't smiling. They looked very grim. This last photo, along with one of Newton, were taken by a United Press photographer. Marcel maintained that the more impressive debris remained on the plane under guard, ready to go on to Wright Field. He did not get to accompany it.

There exists a fascinating contrast in the AP story carried in the Los Angeles Times of July 9, 1947. There is Newton's weather balloon story, with the 100 gram balloon, and a little further on the fact that the device was scattered over a square mile of the ranch. Every witness to the scene of recovery described the debris as covering a very large area. That debris was not the device that Newton described to the press. Having been ordered away from his post by a general, briefed by a colonel, being told that an object had been found by a major which the general had decided was a weather balloon and which he was to identify as such for reporters, being handed a torn balloon in front of reporters but with specific instructions not to answer their questions, and not having heard anything about the flying disc story before, must have been quite mind-boggling for the poor fellow. But Newton played the part well and stuck to what he had been told to do, which was to identify a device he was allegedly familiar with. He never questioned what was on the floor of the general's office, even when he had his picture taken with it. Why should he? He was outranked and in good company. He was then sent on, left to ponder what it might all have been about.

Of added note here is another less heralded story by the AP, datelined Washington, July 8. It reads in part:

Army weather experts in Washington discount any idea that such weather targets might be the basis for the scores of reports of "flying discs."

news. The Sunset Edition would have come out several hours after the main edition with updated stories mainly on the front page. This kind of updated edition would normally be only for newsstand sales.

There on the front page were no less than three stories on the Roswell disc. One notable story had been posted by the Associated Press, dateline Washington, July 8:

Brig. Gen. Roger Ramey said today that a battered object which previously had been described as a flying disc, found near Roswell, N.M., is being shipped by air to the A.A.F. research center at Wright Field, Ohio.

Ramey, commander of the Eighth Air Force with headquarters at Fort Worth, received the object from the Roswell Army Air Base.

In talking by telephone to A.A.F. headquarters at Washington, Ramey described the object as of "flimsy construction, almost like a box kite." It was so badly battered that Ramey was unable to say whether it had a disc form. He did not indicate the size of the object.

There were "some fragments of junk" found near the object near the New Mexico ranch where a rancher sighted it last week.

Ramey reported that so far as the A.A.F. investigation could determine, no one had seen the object in the air. Asked what the material seemed to be, A.A.F. officials here said that Ramey described it as "apparently some sort of tin foil."

The object, after being found by the rancher, was turned over to the 509th armoured group at Roswell Airfield.

When asked if other agencies, including the F.B.I., would examine the exhibit, A.A.F. officials said they understood that if the airplane carrying the material had not left Fort Worth up to now the F.B.I. representatives in that area might make an examination.

Clearly Ramey didn't know what it was. To say "some sort of tin foil", would indicate that it had characteristics like tin foil, but it wasn't tin foil. Since the military didn't have anything of this nature, he couldn't identify it any more than the brass in Roswell could. Undoubtedly some radio stations were carrying the updated bulletins, but there were no all-news stations in 1947. Television was not in every home. Newspapers were still sold from corners with newsboys shouting "read all about it." The point here being that major stories generally broke in major newspapers. This activity was happening between deadlines of almost every major newspaper. The public had an inkling of this story, but it was the press that was developing a head of steam ready to explode it.

A bulletin from International News Service (INS) placed just above the Ramey AP story in the Los Angeles Evening Herald Express with a dateline of Fort Worth, July 8, read:

Brig. Gen. Roger Ramey commanding general of the Eighth Army airforces field, asserted tonight the purported "flying disc" found in eastern New Mexico is

"evidently nothing other than a weather or radar instrument of some sort."

This appears to be the beginning of what is considered a cover-up. A second bulletin just below the one above, again from INS, this time dateline Denver, July 8, read:

Senator Ed C. Johnson, of Colorado, told the Denver Post by long distance from Washington today that the object found in New Mexico may have been "either a radar target or a meteorological balloon."

It's rather amazing how a senator in Washington, who never saw the material, could be so much smarter than those handling it whose job it was to know such things. The INS bulletins must have just come over the wire as this edition was going to press and after the AP story out of Washington. But how did Ramey suddenly figure it out? And more importantly, how could Ramey square the weather device line with his own statement to A.A.F. headquarters, as reported by John G. Norris of the Washington Post on July 9th? Norris had been tracking the story and reported that on July 8th, when Ramey had gotten a look at the material, it was about 25 feet in diameter, and he was shipping it on to Wright Field for examination.

Now the Herald Express had another AP story that was essentially the original press release, but with some updated information. It seems the AP boys had been banging on a lot of doors and come up with this, dateline Roswell, July 8:

Later the A.A.F. said that further information indicated the object would have had a diameter of about 20 to 25 feet if reconstructed.

Nothing in the apparent construction "indicated any capacity for speed" and there was no evidence of a power plant, the A.A.F. said.

Construction of the disc seemed to flimsy to have enabled it to carry a man, it was added.

Next Newton, the meteorologist, was quoted as saying that it was a typical weather balloon measuring about 50 inches in diameter, weighing about 100 grams. 100 grams? On a metric equivalents chart, 100 grams equals 3.527 ounces. According to Newton, this balloon would carry a radar target device that was made of tin foil stapled to a thin wood frame. It would be silvery like a six-pointed star. By a process of triangulation the winds aloft are charted. By best estimates these target devices measure about 5 feet from point to point. To batter one of these devices you would have nothing more than a burst balloon and torn tin foil and sticks. Any five year-old could identify it, even if he didn't know what it was for. That same five year-old could put the remains in his Red-Flyer wagon. In fact, the apparatus would break down so easily that anyone could break it up and stuff it in an average shopping bag. This isn't what generals get excited over.

In Moore's interview with Newton (The Roswell Incident), he makes it clear that he was ordered to come to Ramey's office to identify a