
REMARKABLE REPORTS FROM THE MISSILE FIELD

BY ROBERT L. HASTINGS

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“... no UFO reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our national security . . .”
—*Project Blue Book, announcing in 1969 the reason for its termination by the Air Force*

It is my contention, as well as that of several other researchers, that a credible link exists between the appearance of nuclear weapons in the mid-1940s and the overall increase in UFO sightings worldwide since that time. Moreover, it is probable that one of the reasons the U.S. government has attempted to conceal its extensive knowledge of the UFO phenomenon from the public relates to its apprehension about acknowledging that unknown observers, piloting enormously superior aerial craft, have been systematically monitoring—and occasionally tampering with—our nuclear weapons.

As incredible as this claim may seem to some, it is nevertheless based on persuasive, documented data. Hundreds of routinely declassified U.S. government documents, as well as those painstakingly pried loose by researchers via the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), clearly establish a UFO-nukes link. Moreover, hundreds of ex-military men have slowly but surely come forward to confirm their involvement in, or knowledge of, one UFO-related incident or another at U.S. nuclear weapons sites.

Over the past 35 years, I have interviewed 57 former or retired U.S. military personnel—ranging from retired colonels to former airmen—regarding their direct involvement in such cases. Another 19 ex-military personnel report an indirect knowledge of similar events. Moreover, two retired civilian nuclear weapons specialists, one of them a high-level Atomic Energy Commission supervisor, have also discussed their own UFO sightings at nuke-related installations. In sum, these individuals report nearly 100 extraordinary encounters that have obvious national security implications. In fact, taken to their logical conclusion, the reported incidents have planetary implications, given the horrific consequences for all of mankind should a full-scale, global, nuclear war ever occur.

At the time of their UFO experiences, my former or retired USAF sources held positions ranging from nuclear missile launch-and-targeting officers, to missile maintenance

personnel, to missile security police. The incidents described occurred at Malmstrom, Minot, F. E. Warren, Ellsworth, Vandenberg, and Walker Air Force Bases, between 1962 and 1996. Other sources report sightings at Wurtsmith and Loring AFBs, where B-52 nuclear bombers were based during the Cold War era.

Among my sources are retired officers who were, at one time or another, in positions of authority, including one former base commander, one deputy base commander, and three squadron commanders. Admittedly, the testimony these persons provide is anecdotal. Nevertheless, it is offered—sometimes reluctantly—by those who were once entrusted by the U.S. government with the operation or security of weapons of mass destruction. As such, each source was subjected to, and passed, rigorous background checks and personality tests designed to ascertain, with a reasonable degree of certainty, their psychological stability and reliability.

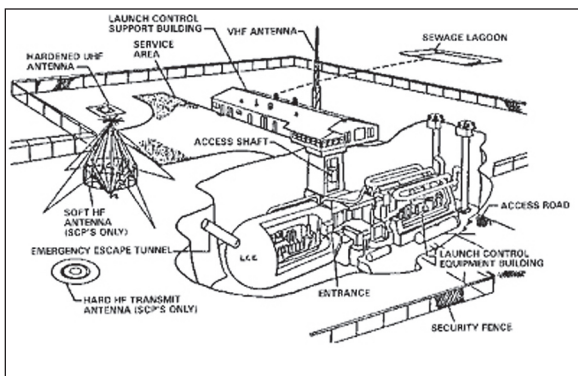
The events described here leave little doubt that our nuclear weapons program is an ongoing source of interest to something possessing vastly superior technology. Significantly, the reported UFO activity occasionally transcends mere surveillance and appears to involve direct and unambiguous *interference* with our strategic weapons systems.

Considering these and similar accounts—too numerous and credible to dismiss—I would argue, as others have before me, that the heightened presence of the UFO phenomenon since the end of World War II is a direct consequence of the advent of the Nuclear Age. To suggest that this is the only explanation for widespread UFO sightings during our own era would be presumptuous, simplistic, and undoubtedly inaccurate. Nevertheless, I believe that the nuclear weapons-related incidents are integral to an understanding of the mystery at hand. The following reports are excerpted from my forthcoming book, *UFOs and Nukes*, scheduled for publication in the summer of 2008.

TAKING DOWN ECHO AND OSCAR

In March 1967, two spectacular events occurred outside Malmstrom Air Force Base near Great Falls, Montana, which have become the best known ICBM-related UFO incidents on record. According to at least six former or retired U.S. Air

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Underground Minuteman Launch Control Center.

Force officers, UFOs apparently disrupted the functioning of all 10 Minuteman I missiles at the Echo Flight Launch Control Center on March 16, and essentially repeated the feat a short time later, at Oscar Flight LCC, where at least six to eight missiles were simultaneously shut down. (Statements provided to me by former Minuteman Missile Targeting Officer Robert Jamison, suggest a March 24 date for the Oscar incident. However, the leading Malmstrom case researcher, Jim Klotz, correctly notes that no documentation is yet available to assign a date to it.)

Obviously, the two closely spaced UFO-related incidents had an impact on U.S. national security in the most fundamental manner, contradicting the official statement quoted above—relating to *all* UFO activity—later issued by the Air Force in conjunction with Blue Book’s termination. Furthermore, Klotz notes that particular official denial was not unique. Concerning UFOs’ supposed nonthreat to national security, he says, “The ‘UFO Fact Sheet’ the Air Force published for years [also makes this claim] so this is not just a lie that was stated *once*, but one that was consistently and constantly promulgated for many years.”

The large-scale missile disruptions at Malmstrom, each lasting a day or more, understandably resulted in great concern, extending from the local Air Force commanders to the highest levels of the Strategic Air Command. Not only had a significant number of our nuclear missiles been temporarily compromised, but UFO involvement in the shutdowns was a known fact even at the time, according to Jamison.

In a 2004 interview, Jamison told me that before being dispatched to restart the stricken missiles, all of the targeting teams had been briefed about the situation. “They then told us what was happening,” he recalled, “There had been some UFO activity that had been messing things up.” Specific instructions had been given to the teams: “They briefed us on what to do. If we saw a UFO while on the road, [we were to] report it. If we were at the site, [and saw a UFO] we were supposed to get into the silo and close the personnel hatch. So we went out to the site, not only us, but the other teams were out there doing the same work. But I never saw [a UFO].”

Not that any of this was publicly acknowledged by the Air Force. Decades later, in response to a FOIA request submitted by Klotz, SAC did declassify a hundred or so pages of the

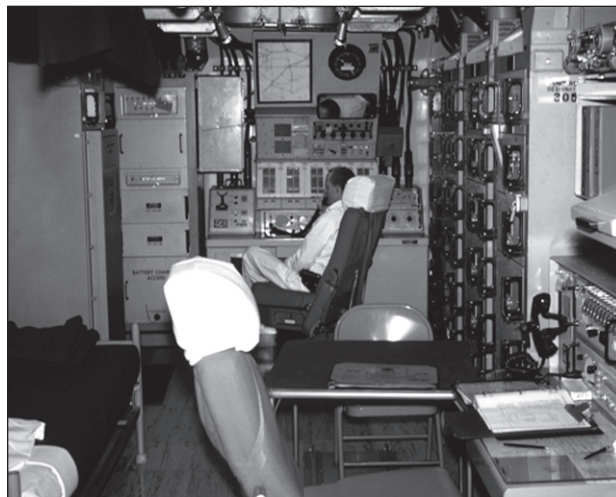
341st Missile Wing’s unit history, which referenced the Echo Flight missile malfunctions. However, the official history claimed that although UFOs had been reported in the area at the time of the shutdowns, those reports had later proved to be erroneous.¹



However, the unit historian, David Gamble, later told Klotz that while compiling material for the official history, he had learned of the reports of UFO activity within Malmstrom’s missile fields. When he made inquiries, Gamble received “no cooperation” from those in the know. He further told Klotz that written changes regarding “the UFO aspect of the missile shutdown incident” had been made by superiors. That would indeed appear to be the case. The final version of the unit history states, “Rumors of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) around the area of Echo Flight during the time of the fault were disproven.”

In the early 1980s, I attempted to access, via the Freedom of Information Act, Office of Special Investigations (OSI) files pertaining to the UFO-related incidents at Malmstrom’s ICBM sites—as well as those at missile facilities on other SAC bases—only to be tersely told that all such documents had already been declassified. However, as Jim Klotz and I both know, multiple-source testimony we have taken strongly suggests otherwise. I think David Gamble’s comments above are telling. In my opinion, the documents that might shed light on the facts relating to the missile shutdowns will remain hidden indefinitely, whereas those supporting the official version of events, including unit histories, will sometimes be declassified.

In any event, regarding the Malmstrom cases, a number



A Minuteman I Launch Control Center (LCC). Missile combat crews provided command and control for the Minuteman system from these underground work centers, manned 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, which are geographically separated from the missiles in the crew’s flight area. Photo: Malmstrom AFB.

of former or retired Air Force personnel—who were actually on the scene at the time—continue to dispute the official USAF assertion of no UFO involvement in the Echo Flight shutdowns. Moreover, engineering reports released to Klotz through FOIA confirm that Boeing missile system specialists, brought in to ascertain the nature of the malfunctions, could not say with certainty what had caused them. Also noteworthy: The Air Force continues to be disingenuous on the subject of the Oscar Flight shutdown. Officially, it never happened. Regardless, both of the missile launch officers who were involved in the incident have now offered on-the-record testimony to the contrary.

One of them, former U.S. Air Force Capt. Robert Salas (left), had been on duty in the underground launch capsule when he received a frantic call from one of his guards topside, saying that a UFO was hovering at low altitude above the



gate of the Oscar Flight Launch Control Center. Seconds later, even before Salas could utter an incredulous response, Oscar Flight's missiles began to malfunction, with at least six or eight of them "dropping off alert status," as the Air Force refers to it.² After the incident, Salas and his commander, Fred Meiwald, were whisked by helicopter back to Malmstrom

and debriefed by an OSI agent. They were told never to discuss the incident again, even among themselves, and told that the incident had been classified Secret.

Salas began to openly discuss the Oscar incident in 1995, and was later invited to address the National Press Club. He recently told me, "I made a conscious decision to go public after we received the documents declassifying Echo. I thought I had been at Echo during my incident, since the circumstances were similar. It was only later that I learned I was at Oscar, and by then I was already public."³ Regardless, Salas believes that, decades after the fact, the public's right to know trumps ongoing U.S. government secrecy about UFO involvement in the missile shutdowns. Consequently, he has made himself available to speak at public gatherings, including the 2007 International MUFON UFO Symposium. In January 2008, Salas appeared on *Larry King Live* after one of King's producers asked me to recommend a former U.S. Air Force source who could credibly discuss UFO incidents at nuclear weapon sites.

Over the last decade, Salas has extensively investigated the incident at Oscar, together with Jim Klotz—who has located and interviewed dozens of witnesses and other persons with a knowledge of the case, in addition to filing numerous FOIA requests—in an effort to force the declassification of additional pertinent documents. Their revealing article on the events of March 1967, titled "The Malmstrom AFB UFO/Missile Incident," was published online in 1996. More recently, Salas and Klotz have written a thorough and

persuasive book, *Faded Giant*, which greatly expands on the article and links the incidents at Malmstrom with similar UFO sightings occurring several months earlier at Minot AFB, North Dakota.

(In addition to Jamison, I also have interviewed several former and retired USAF personnel regarding UFO-related incidents at Malmstrom AFB, not only in 1967, but during other eras as well. Their full statements are published in my book.)

The full-flight missile shutdown incidents at Malmstrom AFB cannot have been the result of some U.S. war game exercise. After this dubious scenario was proposed by a few UFO debunkers a while ago in an attempt to explain away the incidents, a number of ex-Air Force nuclear missile personnel came forward to strenuously object to the notion, pointing out that one does not, under any circumstances, intentionally degrade—shut down—one's strategic weapons systems, even for a day, for war games.

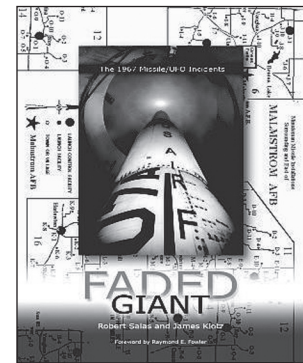
THE AUGUST SPECTACLE

As noted above, Malmstrom was not the only ICBM base to experience intense UFO activity during the 1960s. My investigation of another brief but spectacular burst at F. E. Warren AFB, near Cheyenne, Wyoming, has resulted in three former nuclear missile launch officers and two former security policemen going on the record regarding the events that occurred there.

Beginning at 1:30 a.m. on August 1, 1965, various personnel at F. E. Warren—including the base commander—telephoned the Air Force's UFO Project Blue Book at Wright-Patterson AFB to report several UFOs near the base's Minuteman Launch Control Facilities (LCFs) designated Echo (E), Golf (G), and Quebec (Q), and at Launch Facilities (LFs or silos) designated B-4, E-2, G-1, and H-2.



Convair SM-65 Atlas ICBMs in firing position at Launch Site A, Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming, the nation's first fully operational missile base, 1960.



The officer on duty at Blue Book that night was a Lt. Anspaugh (first name unknown), who carefully logged the flurry of incoming calls. Shortly thereafter, an official internal memorandum was written which summarized the information that had been reported to him. Following the closure of Project Blue Book four years later, the contents of the memo were published in 1972 by J. Allen Hynek, who had served as the civilian scientific consultant to the project at the time of the sightings.⁴

The significance of this Air Force telephone log can not be understated. It documents a series of stunning UFO sightings by various individuals stationed at the missile base, including several security guards posted at Warren's ICBM sites.

The log entries:

- 1:30 a.m.—Captain Snelling, of the U.S. Air Force command post near Cheyenne, Wyoming, called to say that 15 to 20 phone calls had been received at the local radio station about a large circular object emitting several colors but no sound, sighted over the city. Two officers and one airman controller at the base reported that after being sighted directly over base operations, the object had begun to move rapidly to the northeast.
- 2:20 a.m.—Colonel Johnson, base commander of Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, near Cheyenne, Wyoming, called [Blue Book] to say that the commanding officer of the Sioux Army Depot saw five objects at 1:45 a.m. and reported an alleged configuration of two UFOs previously reported over E Site. At 1:49 a.m. members of E flight reportedly saw what appeared to be the same [formation] reported at 1:48 a.m. by G flight. Two security teams were dispatched from E flight to investigate.
- 2:50 a.m.—Nine more UFOs were sighted, and at 3:35 a.m. Colonel Williams, commanding officer of the Sioux Army Depot, at Sydney, Nebraska, reported five UFOs going east.
- 4:05 a.m.—Colonel Johnson made another phone call to [Blue Book] to say that at 4:00 a.m., Q flight reported nine UFOs in sight: four to the northwest, three to the northeast, and two over Cheyenne.
- 4:40 a.m.—Captain Howell, Air Force Command Post, called [Blue Book] and Defense Intelligence Agency to report that a Strategic Air Command Team at Site H-2 at 3:00 a.m. reported a white oval UFO directly overhead. Later Strategic Air Command Post passed the following: Francis E. Warren Air Force Base reports (Site B-4), 3:17 a.m.—A UFO 90 miles east of Cheyenne at a high rate of speed and descending—oval and white with white lines on its sides and a flashing red light in its center moving east; reported to have landed 10 miles east of the site. 3:20 a.m.—Seven UFOs reported east of the site. 3:25 a.m.—E Site reported six UFOs stacked vertically. 3:27 a.m.—

G-1 reported one ascending and at the same time, E-2 reported two additional UFOs had joined the seven for a total of nine. 3:28 a.m.—G-1 reported a UFO descending further, going east. 3:32 a.m.—The same site has a UFO climbing and leveling off. 3:40 a.m.—G Site reported one UFO at 70° azimuth and one at 120°. Three now came from the east, stacked vertically, passed through the other two, with all five heading west.

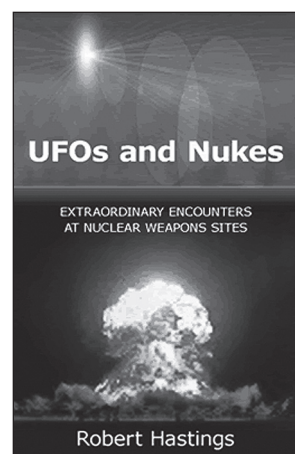
This Blue Book memorandum reveals, in dramatic detail, the extraordinary nature of the incidents. The sheer scope and blatant ostentation of the UFOs' reported aerial displays is simply astonishing. Several widely separated Air Force security police teams operating in F. E. Warren's missile field had independently observed up to nine UFOs in a group as they cavorted in the sky and intermittently hovered above various Minuteman launch facilities and launch control facilities.

Two of those teams, positioned several miles apart, had reported the objects to be oval-shaped, while other observers in the city of Cheyenne had reported a "circular" UFO. Furthermore, two base commanders—Colonel Robert Johnson at Warren AFB, and a Colonel Williams at the Sioux Army Depot—had been among those who had reported the sightings to Project Blue Book.

When Blue Book's former scientific consultant, J. Allen Hynek, published these telephone log entries in his 1972 book, *The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry*, he also revealed that he had once asked the project's chief about the ICBM-related sighting reports referenced in it. He wrote, "When I asked Major Quintinilla what was being done about investigating these reports, he said that the sightings were nothing but stars! This is certainly tantamount to saying that our Strategic Air Command, responsible for the defense of our country against major attacks from the air, was staffed

Robert Hastings's new book, *UFOs and Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters at Nuclear Weapons Sites*, is available for \$23.95 (plus \$4.95 p&h) from: ufohastings.com

Did those who pilot UFOs monitor the superpowers' nuclear arms race during the dangerous Cold War era? Do they still scrutinize American and Russian nuclear weapons sites? *UFOs and Nukes* provides the startling and sometimes shocking answers to these questions.



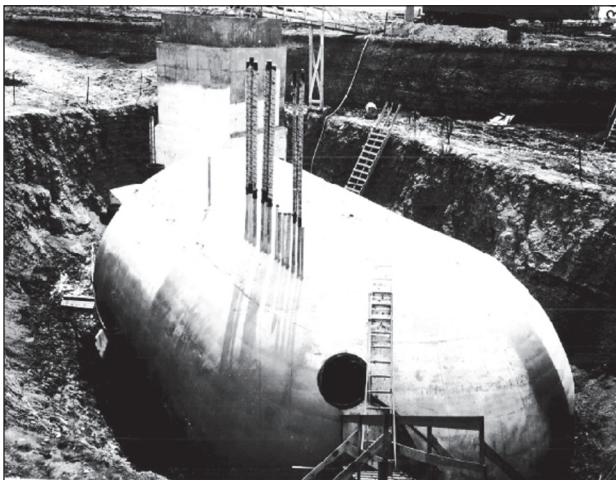
by a notable set of incompetents who mistook twinkling stars for strange craft.”⁵

Given the wealth of detail about the rapidly maneuvering and sometimes hovering aerial objects mentioned in Lt. Anspaugh’s notes, this explanation was patently absurd, and Hynek’s annoyance at the remark is obvious. Regrettably, the “stars” answer offered by Maj. Quintinilla was a typical example of the innumerable dubious rationalizations and inadequate solutions offered by Project Blue Book over the years, for what were arguably legitimate UFO sightings.

In any event, the Anspaugh memorandum later published by Hynek is not the only source of credible information about UFO sightings at F. E. Warren AFB in the summer of 1965. I have interviewed two former Minuteman missile launch officers—formally known as missile combat crew commanders, or deputy commanders—who served at the base during that year, Richard Tashner and Jay Earnshaw. Each of them made some remarkable statements about the UFO incidents, and the manner in which the Air Force handled them.

In September 2002, the Association of Air Force Missileers (AAFMM) published an article of mine in its newsletter, in which I first summarized my research and then requested other former nuclear missile personnel to contact me with their own UFO experiences. In response, I received an email from AAFMM member Capt. Richard E. Tashner (USAF Ret.), in which he described his UFO encounter at F. E. Warren AFB in the late 1960s. I later interviewed him by telephone. I have combined his comments here.

Tashner told me, “I was stationed at F. E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne, Wyoming, from December 1964 through June 1969. Initially, I was a deputy missile launch officer assigned to the 320th Strategic Missile Squadron, but when I upgraded to missile commander, I was transferred to the 319th SMS. I do remember one time when we had to send in reports to SAC Headquarters about UFO sightings in the area. At the time, I was in a [launch] capsule near Sydney, Nebraska. I think I was in the Golf [Flight] capsule. Of course, I did not personally see anything as I was underground. I did take the information from various individuals . . . including



Minuteman I Launch Control Center under construction.

the Security Alert Teams, and some people upstairs [in the Launch Control Facility].”

Tashner continued, “My reports were all made to the Wing Command Post at F. E. Warren, and they would relay them to SAC HQ. Most communications back and forth from Wing to SAC could be heard in each LCF so the crew would be aware of developing situations. Every time one of my guards called down to report that the UFOs had moved closer or further away, or whatever, I updated SAC. I made four or five calls to the command post that night. I remember there were so many reports coming in to them—not only from me but lots of [launch officers]—that SAC decided to cut off all report calls. They were required [to be submitted as] written reports the next day. There were also sightings around the Cheyenne area the same night. There were no interceptors around to chase the UFOs because F. E. Warren had no runway or planes. I wish I could remember the actual date for you, but I’ve forgotten long ago.”

I asked Tashner if he had been on alert duty in August 1965. He thought a few moments and said, “Yes, I was. I was a deputy [missile] commander back then.” I then described the contents of the Blue Book memo and offered to email a copy to him.

He responded, “Well, that sounds like the incident I witnessed. I know that the commander of the Sydney depot made several reports that night. Now looking back, I think I remember talking to him myself and took his report. I think I also gave him the Wing Command Post number for him to call for verification. That’s probably how he got the Project Blue Book number. My own guards kept calling down to report strange lights moving around the sky, sort of like aircraft lights but not quite. One of them told me he saw one light do a 90-degree turn. I was very skeptical, but I didn’t see it myself, of course, so I don’t know. Actually, at first, the calls were kind of fun, you know, out of the ordinary. But as more of them came in, it got very spooky.”

I asked Tashner whether he had been debriefed by OSI or other investigators. He responded, “I do not know of anyone being interviewed by the OSI or being told not to talk about the experience.”

I then asked if the functionality of the Minuteman missiles had been inexplicably compromised during the period of UFO activity. Tashner replied, “I do not remember the effect it had on missile alert.” I pressed the point and asked if he had later heard any rumors about missiles malfunctioning at a time when UFOs were in their vicinity. He replied, “No, I never heard anything about that. I know that my own missiles were not adversely affected.”

Tashner recommended that I contact two other former Minuteman launch officers who had been at F. E. Warren during his tour there: Jay Earnshaw and Larry Johnson. This fortuitous suggestion would result in my speaking with one of the missile launch officers who had been directly involved in one of the more dramatic incidents mentioned in the memorandum written by Lt. Anspaugh. And he would have some remarkable things to say.

During a telephone interview, Earnshaw told me, “I was a captain, a missile combat crew commander or, early on, a deputy commander, primarily at Echo Flight. Between 1965 and 1968, except for assignments overseas, I was with all three squadrons at Warren—the 319th, the 320th, and the 321st. Echo was assigned to the 319th. We did have [UFO] sightings at Echo Flight. There were times that our security forces up above would report strange things. Lights in the sky. Because I was a missile commander, the security people were required to call down to the capsule and report anything unusual going on up there. The information we got about the UFOs was that none of them came inside the fenced area [around the Echo Launch Control Facility], and none of them touched down in the area outside the fence. As reported by the on-duty security controller, the [unexplained] lights visible from Echo Flight would have extended from the northwest to the southeast. So they were all just strange aerial lights, making no noise, that would *stack on top of one another* [my emphasis] and then just disappear.”

I asked Earnshaw if he could recall any specific description of the aerial lights. He said, “The security people described them as oblong or, from the correct perspective, disclike. No reported markings or navigation lights. If a color was reported, it was usually reddish or orangeish shades. They were reported as ‘aloft’ or ‘up in the air’ but I don’t recall any mention of altitude—no reliable estimated distance other than ‘close.’”

He continued, “At first, I thought of temperature inversions because I’m technically oriented. I’m a pilot and I know that the atmosphere can create illusions [involving refracted lights that appear nearby but are actually miles away]. I tend to hold things off at arm’s length and consider all of the possibilities.”

I asked Earnshaw about the approximate time frame for those incidents. He responded, “The sightings at Echo were around 1965, ’66, ’67—probably more around the beginning of that period and tapering off around the end. There were times when that went on at more than one [launch control] site. They were not reported during daylight hours.”

Earnshaw then said, “There was a continuing ruckus about those kinds of sightings and, ultimately, we were told by the Operations Branch officers to ignore them. As everything is ‘down-channel’ in the military, they themselves were probably told by the squadron commanders who, in turn, were probably advised by the ‘Wing King’ to stifle the ‘ridiculous’ reports, and he was probably directed by SAC [Headquarters] to pass that along to the launch officers. They told us that UFOs had been officially disavowed by Project Blue Book, that they had turned out to be swamp gas and weather balloons and all that jazz. After a while, [the launch commanders] started saying, ‘Well, it’s going to affect my OER (Officer Efficiency Report) if I keep insisting on this.’ We were led to believe that if we continued to report those sightings, it would lead to a loss of our credibility. So, instead of notifying the Wing Command Post, we just started logging those reports down and then never heard another thing about it.”

Earnshaw added, “I heard that OSI was debriefing people. OSI was charged with doing whatever the commanders above them wanted done. That was one of the reasons why we didn’t want to report the sightings—we didn’t want to get involved with OSI. You never knew what could happen to you should *they* start looking into your professional and personal lives. Even an innocent can spend a great deal of his precious off-duty time giving statements, and so on. Also, even though they were not officially allowed into your OER’s, the crews knew that OSI questions, and the answers you might give, could seriously sway the commanders’ rating your performance reports.”

I asked Earnshaw to estimate the number of UFO-related calls he had received from the security police topside at Echo. He said, “There were a few. It wasn’t a multitude of calls. Those calls were eventually discouraged by higher command, as I mentioned a moment ago. There was a lot of pressure by Blue Book to keep this under wraps and, you know, they were saying publicly that there was nothing to [UFOs] and all that. But [among the missile launch commanders] there were reports by word of mouth. The sightings of 1 August [1965] that you mentioned a moment ago, I heard about those. But it was one of those things that was never officially acknowledged. I heard about it through scuttlebutt and, sometimes, scuttlebutt is the best A-number one source [of information], particularly in situations where the primary concern is security.”

Earnshaw then said firmly, “But we got reports from our security people that there were objects in the sky stacked up, one on top of the other, just hovering there. The Russians sure didn’t have the capability to do that! So that leaves only one other possibility. I am one who believes that we are not the only ones in the universe and, well, I think someone might have been interested in what we were doing at our [nuclear missile] sites. I wasn’t one of the witnesses to these events, because I was underground in the capsule, but my second-hand information from the security people up above was that the objects were really there.”

Although Earnshaw said that he had only heard about the incidents of August 1, 1965, I quickly wondered if that was correct. I am aware of only two reported sighting incidents—at any SAC base, during any era—during which the Air or Security Police had reported UFOs “stacked” above a Launch Control Facility, and both of those occurred at F. E. Warren AFB, on August 1, 1965. More to the point, one of the reports was at the Echo Flight LCF, where Earnshaw usually pulled alert duty. As noted above, the Blue Book telephone log compiled by Lt. Anspaugh had stated, “3:25 a.m.—[Echo] Site reported six UFOs stacked vertically.”

I told Earnshaw that because the SPs had told him that the UFOs were stacked up over Echo during one of the incidents, I was inclined to believe that he may have actually been in the launch capsule for the August 1 event. He replied, “I guess it could’ve been. I pulled alert there that month too, as well as [during most of] ‘66 and ‘68, as I previously mentioned.”

I asked Earnshaw if he recalled hearing scuttlebutt about missiles dropping off alert status at a time when UFOs were in the vicinity of a given missile flight. He paused a while and then said, “Well, of course, we would often have a missile go off alert, but not in any unusual way. The guidance system wouldn’t spin up right, for one reason or another. But, yes, I heard reports like that—of [several] missiles going off alert simultaneously [during the UFO incidents]—but I wasn’t privy to the big picture, only the narrow one. Nothing like that happened at Echo when I was there.” I quickly pressed for details about the reports he had heard. After another pause, Earnshaw said somewhat warily, “It was a long time ago, and what I heard was second-hand.” It seemed clear that this particular line of questioning would elicit no more useful information, for one reason or another.

At the end of the conversation, once I had Earnshaw’s testimony on record, I told him about the two UFO-related, large-scale missile shutdowns at Malmstrom AFB in March 1967. Obviously surprised, he responded, “Really?! Twice? Wow! That’s a national security situation!”

I thanked Earnshaw for allowing me to publish his comments and told him I strongly believed that this kind of information should finally be in the public record. He responded, “I couldn’t agree with you more.”

In 2002, I interviewed former Air Force Security Policeman (SP) Terry Stuck, who related similar experiences near F. E. Warren AFB in “late summer of 1965.” Stuck had reported for duty at the Oscar Flight LCF one morning, and was informed about a UFO sighting by the departing night-shift guards. “The night team had observed fast-moving lights or objects,” said Stuck, “vehicles moving with incredible speed.” Apparently, during the shift change, the departing security team leader also informed the arriving missile commander about the UFOs. Stuck overheard the exchange. “The OIC (Officer in Charge) was a captain. I don’t recall his name,” said Stuck, “I do remember him saying that he had been a pilot in Korea and had observed UFOs and had reported the incident. He said they had sent him to the base psychiatrist and had basically put a stop on advancements in his career.”

The moral of this story was clear to Stuck and the departing security team leader: Be careful what you report, because there may be repercussions. Stuck did not know whether the team leader had ever filed an official report about the incident. In any event, the Oscar Flight UFO sighting incident is not mentioned in the Project Blue Book memorandum quoted above. Perhaps it took place on another date during that period or, perhaps, it did indeed occur on August 1, but went unreported.

A few days after these events, Stuck had his own UFO sighting, again at the Oscar Flight LCF. “The observations,” he recalled, “were actually made in front of the launch control security facility which was at ground level, facing the access gate of the main launch control facility. I was never able to determine the size or shapes [of the UFOs]. When I saw them, they were at extreme distances and were doing

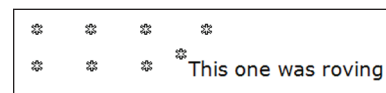
right[-angle] turns at unbelievable speeds. I never heard any sounds.”

Another UFO report at F. E. Warren during that period appears in the National Institute for Discovery Science sighting database.⁶ The report was filed by an unidentified individual who had seen a UFO in the Foxtrot Flight area on an unspecified date in August 1965. Although the source remains anonymous, because the sighting occurred within the missile field itself, he was probably an Air Force security policeman. The witness reports observing a dark boomerang-shaped object with two yellow lights, one on each wingtip. He wrote, “When it took off it went so fast that the lights on the ends appeared as two continuous streaks of light for an instant.” The UFO was described as silent and “very big.”

A third Air Force Security Policeman, Bob Thompson, has reported seeing UFOs in F. E. Warren’s missile fields. My interview with him, in 2004, was most interesting, to say the least. In fact, as was the case with Jay Earnshaw’s report, the incident described by the SP may well be one of the sightings mentioned in Lt. Anspaugh’s memorandum.

In 1965, Airman Second Class Robert Thompson was assigned to the 809th Combat Defense Squadron, at F. E. Warren AFB. He guarded the Quebec Flight Launch Control Facility (LCF), which controlled 10 Minuteman I nuclear missiles, poised underground in launch facilities, commonly known as silos. While on duty one night, he suddenly got a call from the LCF’s missile combat crew commander, asking him and his partner to walk outside and look straight up.

“The launch crew in the capsule, and the guards topside, played practical jokes on one another quite often,” Thompson recalled, “When the commander called for us to step outside and look straight up, I thought that it was another joke.” However, as soon as he did so, Thompson’s attitude instantly changed. Directly overhead, he saw eight stationary lights, much brighter and larger than stars, grouped together in four



Bob Thompson’s drawing

pairs. Due to their altitude and brilliance, it was not possible to determine the objects’ shape or other details.

After a few moments, one light left its position and began to roam among the others, moving slowly from pair to pair. Thompson and his partner watched the mysterious aerial formation for about 10 minutes, before reporting the sighting to the missile commander. In response, Thompson was informed that NORAD, then located at Ent AFB, Colorado, had earlier notified F. E. Warren that its radars were tracking eight unknown objects hovering in the vicinity of the Quebec launch control site. Apparently, the base’s Command Center had called the LCF and asked the missile commander to verify their presence.

Said Thompson, “I wasn’t sure what we were seeing until I reported back to the launch commander. When he told

(continued on page 23)

MISSILES—continued from page 14

me of the report of UFOs from [Ent AFB] I could tell by his voice that he wasn't joking." He added, "Please note, at that time, I was not a believer in stories of UFOs and little green men."

Thompson said that he and his partner were never debriefed or warned to remain silent about the incident, but he never again mentioned it to the missile commander. Thompson can't remember the names of the commander or his partner that night.

Significantly, the previously noted Project Blue Book memorandum may actually describe Thompson's report. Among the log entries in it is this one:

4:05 a.m.—Colonel Johnson made another phone call to [Blue Book] to say that at 4:00 a.m., Q flight reported nine UFOs in sight: four to the northwest, three to the northeast, and two over Cheyenne.

Although Thompson recalls eight UFOs (all hovering directly above Q-Flight) and the Blue Book memorandum mentions nine (in three distinct groups, in various parts of the sky), the similarity between the two accounts is notable. It seems possible that Thompson's sighting occurred somewhat before, or somewhat after, the report mentioned in the memo. There would have been other personnel at the Quebec Launch Control Facility who could have phoned in a different sighting to F. E. Warren's missile command post, either earlier or later than Thompson's. Perhaps, by that time, the UFOs had scattered. This is, of course, speculation on my part.

On the other hand, because Thompson can't remember the exact date of his own sighting, it's possible that it may not have been among the numerous UFO sightings reported to Blue Book on August 1, 1965. (Thompson was stationed at F. E. Warren in 1963, when he guarded Atlas ICBM sites for two years. He left the base in December 1965.)

Regardless of the date of his sighting, Thompson recalls that his NCOIC, a Sgt. Talley, had told him that eight UFOs had also been observed over Tinker AFB, near Oklahoma City, the night after his own sighting. For the record, there were numerous, widely reported sightings in Tulsa on August 2, 1965—one day after the F. E. Warren AFB sightings reported to Lt. Anspaugh—but I am personally unaware of any published reports from Tinker AFB on that date.

In any event, Thompson's sighting was not the last UFO incident to be reported at Quebec Flight during that period. Less than a week later, he had been approached by another individual in his unit, a Security Alert Team (SAT) member, and told about a far more dramatic incident.

"We worked three days on, three days off," Thompson said, "One crew would relieve the other. Shortly after the sighting, when my crew returned to the LCF, an acquaintance came up and told me that while we were off duty, he had been involved in another UFO sighting, at one of Q-Flight's launch facilities."

According to this individual, he and his partner had

been on Camper Alert Team stakeout duty one night, and were sitting in a security camper parked next to the missile launch facility. Without warning, the vehicle began to shake violently. He quickly leaned his head out the window and saw a large, very bright light silently hovering directly above the camper. After a few seconds, the shaking ceased and the light rapidly departed.

(Although this bizarre report is strikingly similar to a scene in Steven Spielberg's 1977 movie, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, researchers Jim Klotz and Tom Tulien have heard another, nearly identical account regarding two USAF missile guards who was stationed at Minot AFB, in North Dakota, in 1968. Tulien told me, "This 'second-hand' story was apparently provided to a B-52 crew [we interviewed] by the commander of the 810th Strategic Aerospace Division during a debriefing following a UFO event at Minot on 24 October 1968. . . . The navigator recalled being informed that a large brightly lit UFO was hovering close above a SAT team vehicle at one of the missile sites, frightening the occupants . . . when their B-52 appeared over the base flight line the UFO went dark and lifted up in the direction of the B-52. [Similarly,] the copilot recalled being informed that a large UFO was hovering close over a SAT vehicle at one of the missile sites, which frightened the SAT team who exited their vehicle running away. Since the team did not report in, a second SAT team was dispatched and found the first team on the ground unconscious with the paint burned off the top of the vehicle.")⁷

Meanwhile, back at F. E. Warren, some three years earlier, the SAT guard went on to tell Bob Thompson that he and his partner had later been debriefed by an OSI agent and ordered not to talk about the incident. However, in spite of this warning, he had nevertheless felt compelled to compare notes with Thompson, whose own UFO experience had occurred less than a week earlier, and was common knowledge among the missile guards at Quebec Flight.

After hearing this strange story, Thompson approached the NCOIC who had been on duty at Quebec the night of the incident—whose name was Talley, or perhaps Robinson—and asked him to verify it. To his surprise, the NCOIC did so. Furthermore, he told Thompson that he had personally seen the UFO as it hovered over the LF.

"The launch facility in question was the one located closest to the LCF," said Thompson, "Even though it was five, maybe six miles away, the NCOIC told me that, on the night of the incident, he had seen an extremely bright light hovering over its location." Thompson said that he later heard that the UFO activity at various missile flights had continued for about a month.

If the UFO incursions at F. E. Warren's nuclear missile sites had been puzzling and disconcerting for those involved, at least they did not *frighten* the witnesses I've interviewed. However, another retired U.S. Air Force officer, stationed at Minot AFB in the mid-1960s, has an different story to tell—one which will undoubtedly concern, if not alarm, everyone who hears it.

LAUNCH IN PROGRESS!

Of all the interviews I've conducted with former or retired ICBM launch officers over the past three decades, this one was the most disturbing. According to the source, David H. Schuur, a UFO had once activated the launch sequence in most of his Minuteman missiles.

In August 2007, Schuur told me, "I saw your request for information in the [June 2007] *Association of Air Force Missileers Newsletter*. I was involved in a UFO incident at Minot AFB in the mid-1960s. I had read your earlier article [in the September 2002 *AAFAM Newsletter*] but was hesitant to respond." I asked Schuur why he had been hesitant. He replied, "Well, we were basically told, way back when, that it was classified information and, you know, it didn't happen and don't discuss it. I guess I was still operating on that idea when I saw your first article."

Schuur had obviously had a change of heart. He continued, "Anyway, I was a Minuteman missile crewmember in the 455th/91st Strategic Missile Wing at Minot from December 1963 through November 1967. I was a 1st lieutenant during that period and the deputy commander that night. Since the incident occurred some 40 years ago, my memories are a bit foggy but, based on who my commander was at the time, I would say it occurred between July 1965 and July 1967."

I asked Schuur if he could narrow the timeframe during which the incident occurred, by associating it with another event. He replied, "Not really, but my sense is that the incident occurred toward the end of my duty in the [missile] field, so it was probably during 1966, or '67. I was pulling alert in the Echo [Launch Control] Capsule and was at the console at the time, probably early in the morning when the commander was sleeping. I know I was at Echo because that's where I pulled almost all of my alert duty. My crew commander at the time has died. He was a lieutenant colonel at Minot, in his 50s—he was in the reserves, an old Korea veteran, who was recalled to duty in the early 1960s.

"As far as the incident, here's my best recollection of it: Alpha capsule, which was east of us, reported on PAS—the Primary Alerting System—that their security personnel were observing a large, bright object hovering over some of their missile sites. It was moving from missile to missile. I think the Alpha missile crew also reported that they were receiving 'spurious indicators' on their missile control console, but I'm not certain about that. I know that a few minutes later our capsule had spurious indicators—anomalous readings—from some of our missiles."

I asked Schuur to explain PAS. He said, "It was an open line between SAC headquarters and the wing command posts. There was a speaker in each launch capsule and when the command posts issued a directive, or whatever, we were able to hear it. When Alpha had their UFO sightings, they alerted the command post, at which time the command post called SAC headquarters. So, when the report of the sightings went out, we all heard it on PAS."

Schuur continued, "But it wasn't just Alpha and Echo.

Over the next hour or so—I don't recall exactly how long it was—all of the flights reported that their [Security Alert Teams] were observing a UFO near their facilities. The path of the object could be followed as it passed over each flight area by the reports on the PAS. The object moved over the entire wing from the southeast to the northwest, following the layout of the wing."

Schuur elaborated, "All of them—Bravo Flight, Charlie, Delta, right on down the line to Oscar—were reporting sightings of this object. Minot's missile field is laid out like the letter 'C'. Alpha is located southeast of the base, and the other flights—Bravo, Charlie, and so forth—were south, southwest, west, northwest, then north of Minot. Oscar, the last flight, is at the top of the 'C', north of the base. The object—as far as I know, it was only one object—came across Alpha Flight, then moved all the way around the flights and ended up at Oscar. We could hear that on PAS. At Echo, it didn't come close to the Launch Control Facility, it just visited the LFs (silos), then passed onto the next flight.

"As far as our flight, Echo, a few minutes after hearing the report from Alpha, I received a call from topside security that a large bright light—actually, a large, bright *object* would be more accurate—was in the sky to the east of the launch control facility. When the guard called down, he may have used the term 'UFO' but I don't recall. He didn't describe its shape or altitude because it was too far away. It never got close enough to the LCF to see any detail. At its closest, it was two, three, maybe four miles away from us, near one of the missile sites."

Schuur continued, "However, when the object passed over our flight, we started receiving many spurious indications on our console. The object was apparently sending some kind of signals into each missile. Not every missile got checked [out] by the object, but there were several that did. Maybe six, seven, or eight. Maybe all 10 got checked, but I don't think so. As this thing was passing over each missile site, we would start getting erratic indications on that particular missile. After a few seconds, everything reset back to normal. But then the next missile showed spurious indicators, so the object had apparently moved on to that one, and did the same thing to it. Then on to the next one, and so on. It was as if the object was scanning each missile, one by one. The Inner Security and Outer Security [alarms were triggered] but we got those all the time, for one reason or another. However, on this particular night, we had to activate the 'Inhibit' switch because we got 'Launch in Progress' indicators! After a few minutes, the UFO passed to the northwest of us and all indicators reset to normal."

I wanted to be certain about what I had just been told. I asked Schuur, "So, if you get a Launch in Progress indicator, does that mean the launch sequence has been triggered—that the missile is preparing to launch?" Schuur replied, "That means the missile has received a launch signal. When that happens, we get an indication in the capsule that a launch command has been received by that missile. If that happens, without proper authority, you flip what's called an 'Inhibit'

switch, to delay the launch for a given period of time. If an Inhibit command comes in from another launch capsule, that shuts down the launch totally. But if that second command doesn't come in, the missile will wait for a specified period of time and then launch automatically at the end of that expired period—theoretically. Of course, that night, we had all kinds of other indicators coming on from each missile so, in that situation, the launch *probably* would have aborted itself. I honestly don't know."

I asked Schuur if the Launch in Progress indicator had ever been triggered on any other occasion, either before or after the UFO incident, while he was on alert duty. He replied, "No, never."

I asked Schuur if he had heard about missile maintenance teams having to replace components or whole systems in the affected missiles—the ones that generated the spurious readings. He replied, "No, if that happened, I never heard about it."

Schuur said, "Upon returning to the base the next day, my commander and I were met by the operations officer. He just said, 'Nothing happened, nothing to discuss, goodbye.' Our logs and tapes were turned in. Every capsule had a 24-hour tape that, as I recall, recorded the communications that went over the PAS system, so all the reports would have been on that tape. But we were essentially told that nothing had happened that night and to discuss it no further. It was a non-event. We were never debriefed, by OSI or anyone else. We just went home. Most of the returning missile crews drove back to the base from their facilities, so they all arrived at different times. There was no group debriefing that I know of. I never heard another thing about the incident."

I asked Schuur, "I know that you were given no feedback from your superiors, but what is your personal assessment of the event?" He replied, "Oh, I think something was up there, uh, scanning the missiles, seeing what was going on. Some kind of a scanning process." I asked Schuur whether he thought the launch activation had been incidental or deliberate. He seemed surprised by my question and said, "I think that the scanning just set it off. It set all kinds of things off, we were getting all sorts of indicators. There were some kind of signals being sent [from the UFO] to the missile that inadvertently triggered the launch activation, but I don't think it was deliberate. I hope not! That would have been—" Schuur didn't finish this sentence. His voice broke and he heaved a deep sigh. Apparently, the thought that those aboard the UFO might have deliberately attempted to launch his nuclear missiles that night had caused him to pause—and probably shudder—over 40 years later.

I obviously accept Schuur's report as credible, but am of course attempting to locate other former members of his squadron who are willing to corroborate it. As Schuur candidly admitted, after reading my first article in the September 2002 *AAFAM Newsletter*, he cautiously waited some five years before approaching me. It was only after my second published request for information from former/retired USAF missileers, that he decided to unburden himself. This hesitant

response is not atypical. Many of my former missile launch officer sources have not readily or easily divulged their UFO experiences to me, for one reason or another.

To my knowledge, Schuur's testimony represents the only credible report on record of a UFO temporarily activating the launch sequence in U.S. nuclear missiles. However, there is one other reliable report of such an activation—in the former Soviet Union.

In October 1994, ABC News aired an episode of its news magazine *Primetime Live*, featuring interviews with former Soviet military personnel who had been involved in one UFO-related incident or another during the Cold War. After the collapse of the U.S.S.R. in 1991, some of these individuals began speaking openly with Western journalists and researchers about previously classified UFO sightings.

ABC reporter David Ensor set up the segment: "During a five-month investigation *Primetime* obtained over a thousand pages of documents collected by the old KGB. We spoke to dozens of Russian scientists, government officials, and military men. We now know that the entire Soviet armed forces, a total of 15 million people over 10 years, was involved in a UFO study that turned up 40 major incidents, including one that prompted fears of starting an accidental nuclear war." That particular incident was remarkably similar to, and just as frightening, as the one David Schuur revealed to me in August 2007.

Among those interviewed by ABC News was retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Vladimir Plantonev, who described an hours-long UFO sighting on October 4, 1982, near an IRBM base outside the village of Belokorovichi in northern Ukraine. He told Ensor, "It looked just like a flying saucer. The way they show them in the movies. No portholes, nothing. The surface was absolutely even. The disk made a beautiful turn, like this, on the edge, just like a plane. There was no sound. I had never seen anything like that before."

Apparently, while the UFO was still in the vicinity, an unspecified number of nuclear missiles suddenly activated. As the horrified launch crew looked on helplessly, the automated launch sequence was enabled—without proper



Remnant of Soviet Strategic Rocket Forces IRBM base near Belokorovichi, Ukraine.

authorization—and proceeded to count down for 15 terrifying seconds, before aborting and returning to standby status.

Another retired army officer, Colonel Igor Chernovshev, told Ensor: “During this period, for a short time, signal lights on both the control panels suddenly turned on. The lights showing that missiles were preparing for launch. This could normally only happen if an order were transmitted from Moscow.” A transcript of the ABC program is currently available online.⁸

In 2004, the History Channel aired a program, *Soviet UFO Secrets Revealed*, in which a research scientist at the Institute of Terrestrial Magnetism, Ionosphere, and Radio Wave Propagation of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, Yulii V. Platov, said that an official Soviet government investigation had subsequently determined that the object seen hovering near the missile site was, in reality, only a falling flare from an army exercise being conducted that day. However, this explanation is highly suspect. As David Ensor reported in the earlier ABC program, “Every person we spoke to in Belokorovich said they saw a flying saucer on that day. They told us it was huge, about 900 feet in diameter. For hours it hovered over the nearby ballistic missile base.”

So, it appears that Platov may have been misled by someone. Perhaps at the time, the Soviet investigators were themselves misled by military personnel attempting to throw a security blanket around the incident. Someone should send Platov the transcript of the ABC program. I emailed him in 2005, attempting to open a dialogue on the case, but he never responded.

In any event, some very intriguing UFO-related events occurred at both U.S. and Soviet nuclear missile sites during the Cold War era. Given this fact, one might at least conclude that the UFO phenomenon doesn’t seem to be playing favorites.

Moreover, as I discuss in my forthcoming book, UFO activity has continued at ICBM sites—at least in the U.S.—almost to the present day. One recent case, which I am still investigating, occurred in December 2006, outside Conrad, Montana, where the Air Force’s 564th Missile Squadron is in the process of dismantling its 50 Minuteman missile sites. According to the Arms Control Association, “The reductions are part of the U.S. effort to work toward fulfilling the May 2002 Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT). That agreement requires U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals to have less than 2,200 operationally deployed strategic warheads each on December 31, 2012.”⁹ At least the old adversaries are now moving in the right direction.

SCENARIOS

Given the extraordinary nature of the incidents described in this article, one obvious interpretation of UFO activity at ICBM sites is that someone or something was monitoring, on an ongoing basis, the nuclear stand-off between the U.S. and the Soviet Union during the Cold War era. A second

possible scenario, in conjunction with the first, is that those piloting the UFOs were intent on performing provocative aerial displays at these sites—punctuated by the occasional disruption, or the thankfully far rarer activation of the weapons themselves—so the powers that be in Washington and Moscow could not possibly ignore the UFO presence near their respective strategic weapons deployment sites.

If this was indeed the intent, one can only guess at the identities of the UFO pilots, and the message such aerial acrobatics and disruptions were meant to convey. Were they extraterrestrial visitors expressing concern and/or displeasure over our possession of nuclear weapons? If so, their approach was strangely nonconfrontational—certainly not as overt or dramatic as the approach used by the aliens portrayed in the 1951 science-fiction film, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*.

As most of us know, in the movie, a federation of aliens have their representative land near the White House in a flying saucer, to chastise mankind for its warlike ways, and to warn of the inherent folly in using nuclear weapons. As such, the script envisions an extremely jarring type of First Contact. Humans learn, in one fell swoop, that not only do other, superior life forms exist in the universe, but also that those extraterrestrials are decidedly unhappy about the direction our warfare technology has taken. The capper is that the aliens intend to destroy mankind unless we abandon our aggressive tendencies and live in peace with one another. Yikes!

While this fictional scenario may have been an audience-grabbing theme in 1951, one wonders if real extraterrestrials—assuming they exist—would pursue a similar tack when attempting to warn an inferior race of beings against their perilous rush toward probable oblivion in nuclear conflict. I suspect not, but who knows? Perhaps the reports Jim Klotz and I have collected from former USAF missile men provide a few clues.

On the other hand, if extraterrestrials weren’t maneuvering their craft above U.S. nuclear weapons facilities, is it possible the UFO pilots were from the Soviet Union, pointedly demonstrating their amazing, almost inexplicably inventive use of the German technology they captured at the end of World War II? Some terrestrial-UFO proponents would say this is a possibility; however, I strongly disagree for several obvious reasons not worth pursuing here.

“Okay,” some would say, “if the UFOs weren’t Russian, they had to have been made in the USA.” While this is another *possible* scenario, it suffers from most of the same shortcomings as the Soviet UFO theory. I believe that if one carefully considers the reported incidents—from both countries—presented in this article, the theory that UFOs are either Soviet or U.S. secret weapons simply falls apart. Although there will always be those who contend that each and every bona fide UFO sighting—the oft-cited 5% of all reports—is of a man-made craft, in my view, no persuasive evidence exists to support such a comprehensive, indiscriminate declaration. Although there might now be an aircraft at some secret base in Nevada capable of the fantastic speeds

and amazing maneuvers exhibited by UFOs, in countless cases over the last six decades, is it realistic to suppose that the U.S. had such a craft in the 1940s, 1960s, or even the 1980s? I think not.

For this and many other reasons, I maintain that the UFOs visiting the superpowers' ICBM sites during the Cold War were neither U.S. nor Soviet secret weapons. Consequently, the ongoing UFO surveillance of, and occasional interference with, strategic nuclear missiles—on both sides of the ocean—was due to something else altogether. While overwhelming empirical evidence does not yet exist, at least in the public domain, to confirm an extraterrestrial origin for UFOs, it can at least be said that some as yet unfathomable mystery has been thrown in the faces of those who planned, and still plan, to use these terrifying weapons in warfare.

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EDGAR MITCHELL SPEAKS OUT

Former astronaut and moon-walker Edgar Mitchell—a veteran of NASA's Apollo 14 mission in 1971—has claimed that aliens do exist and they have visited Earth on several occasions, but the contact has been repeatedly covered up by governments for six decades. Mitchell, 77, said during a July 23 interview (available on YouTube) with Nick Margerrison on Kerrang! Radio in England, that sources at the space agency who had contact with aliens described the beings as "little people who look strange to us." He also claimed our technology is "not nearly as sophisticated" as theirs and "had they been hostile," he warned, "we would be been gone by now."

"It's been well covered up by all our governments for the last 60 years or so, but slowly it's leaked out and some of us have been privileged to have been briefed on some of it."—*Brisbane (Australia) Courier-Mail*, July 24.

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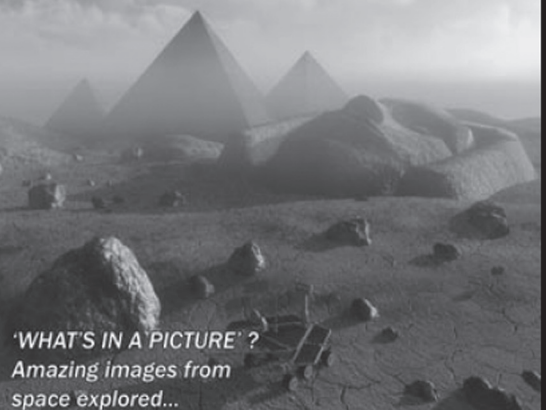
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