



**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22350-1500

February 8, 2024  
Ref: DODOIG-2022-001019

**SENT VIA EMAIL TO: john@greenewald.com**

Mr. John Greenewald, Jr.  
The Black Vault  
27305 W. Live Oak Road, Suite 1203  
Castaic, CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for all classified and unclassified emails, including attachments, sent to/from (bcc'd or cc'd) Randolph R. Stone, Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations of Space, Intelligence, Engineering and Oversight, which contain the keyword "Elizondo", from October 4, 2017, through to the date of processing this request, as well as all emails between Mr. Stone and Luis Elizondo that may not contain Mr. Elizondo's last name. We received your request on June 28, 2022, and assigned it case number DODOIG-2022-001019.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

The Evaluations Component conducted a search and located records responsive to your request. Upon review, we determined that the enclosed 124 pages are appropriate for release in part pursuant to the following FOIA (5 U.S.C. § 552) exemptions:

- (b)(5), which protects communications that are part of the deliberative process. The purpose for withholding such recommendations is to encourage the free and candid exchange of opinions and advice during the decision-making process. In applying the foreseeable harm standard, we determined that disclosure of this information is likely to diminish the candor of agency deliberations in the future; and
- (b)(6), when the disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Our review included consideration of the foreseeable harm standard, as stated in DoDM 5400.07. Under this standard, the content of a particular record should be reviewed and a determination made as to whether the DoD Component reasonably foresees that disclosing it, given its age, content, and character, would harm an interest protected by an applicable exemption.

February 8, 2024  
Ref: DODOIG-2022-001019

If you consider this an adverse determination, you may submit an appeal. Your appeal, if any, must be postmarked within 90 days of the date of this letter, clearly identify the determination that you would like to appeal, and reference to the FOIA case number above. Send your appeal via mail to the Department of Defense, Office of Inspector General, ATTN: FOIA Appellate Authority, Suite 10B24, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22350-1500, via email to [foiaappeals@dodig.mil](mailto:foiaappeals@dodig.mil), or via facsimile to 571-372-7498. However, please note that FOIA appeals can only examine adverse determinations concerning the FOIA process. For more information on appellate matters and administrative appeal procedures, please refer to 32 C.F.R. Sec. 286.9(e) and 286.11(a).

During our review, we determined that the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Joint Staff (OSD/JS) is the release authority for documents that may be responsive to your request. Therefore, we have referred those pages to the OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service Center, Freedom of Information Division, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155, for processing and direct response to you. If you would like to inquire about the status of this referral, please contact OSD/JS directly by calling 571-372-0498 or by sending an email to [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.osd-js-foia-requester-service-center@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.osd-js-foia-requester-service-center@mail.mil). For further information, you may also visit their website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/FOID.aspx>.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at [FOIAPublicLiaison@dodig.mil](mailto:FOIAPublicLiaison@dodig.mil), or by calling 703-604-9785, for any further assistance with your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001, email at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. However, OGIS does not have the authority to mediate requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974 (request to access one's own records).

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Derrica Stone at 703-604-9775 or via email at [foiarequests@dodig.mil](mailto:foiarequests@dodig.mil).

Sincerely,




Searle Slutzkin  
Division Chief  
FOIA, Privacy and Civil Liberties Office

Enclosure(s):  
As stated

This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth** at: <http://www.theblackvault.com>

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: AATIP  
 Date Fri, 22 Oct 2021 16:52:53 +0000  
 Message-Id <ae3377c6d8ab444099bdd0fbaf266ae5@DODIG.MIL>

Thanks, interesting list but nothing specific to the UAP .....

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
 Evaluations Component  
 Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General  
 Office - (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 12:48 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: AATIP

(b) (5)  
 [Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 12:42 PM  
 To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: AATIP

Another good memo. Thanks. (b) (5)  
 [Redacted]

Randy  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
 Evaluations Component  
 Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General  
 Office - (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 12:34 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: AATIP

Sir - (b) (5)  
 [Redacted]  
 (b) (6)

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
To "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject Memos  
Date Fri, 22 Oct 2021 18:12:23 +0000  
Message-Id <7cb1d1da77e4438daa6b2e8e3aa94276@DODIG.MIL>

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Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
Evaluations Component  
Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General  
Office - (b) (6)

.....  
Attachment Name : MFR on Elizondo 21 Dec 17 - Clean.pdf

.....  
Attachment Name : 1Dec2010 Memo.pdf

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
To "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject RE: letter on Mr. Elizondo  
Date Fri, 22 Oct 2021 16:35:21 +0000  
Message-Id <f800ed606227467597d01c4ab50ac720@DODIG.MIL>

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10-4  
Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
Evaluations Component  
Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General  
Office - (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 12:30 PM  
To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: RE: letter on Mr. Elizondo  
I'll have to ask... I assume so, but I'm at home today.

-----Original Message-----

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 12:29 PM  
To: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: RE: letter on Mr. Elizondo  
No I had not. Thanks for sharing. Do you have the attachments (I realize they are classified)?  
Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
Evaluations Component  
Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General  
Office - (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 12:24 PM  
To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: letter on Mr. Elizondo

Sir,

Had you seen this letter yet?

(b) (6)

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "(b)(6)", OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>, "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-  
 Date Thu, 18 Nov 2021 15:21:27 +0000  
 Message-Id <ff34aee7187d41e690808e5bdc3eb7bd@DODIG.MIL>

I was just joking, sarcastically speaking. Sorry  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
 Evaluations Component  
 Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General

Office - (b)(6)  
 From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021 10:19 AM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>; Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-  
 Not positive, but think you said it was (b)(6).

r/  
 (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)

Office of the DoD Deputy Inspector General  
 for Evaluations  
 (b)(6)  
 From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021 10:16 AM

To: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>; Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-  
 Who requested to attend this?

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
 Evaluations Component  
 Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General

Office - (b)(6)  
 From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021 7:48 AM  
 To: Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>; Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-  
 (b)(5), (b)(6)

r/  
 (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)

Office of the DoD Deputy Inspector General  
 for Evaluations  
 (b)(6)  
 From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)>@DODIG.MIL>

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 3:40 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-  
Good Afternoon,

(b) (5)  
[Redacted]

Very Respectfully,

(b) (6)  
[Redacted]

Audit Oversight

Office: (b) (6)

Mobile: (b) (6)

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 2:54 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-  
Good afternoon,

(b) (5)  
[Redacted]

r/

(b) (6)  
[Redacted]

Office of the DoD Deputy Inspector General  
for Evaluations

(b) (6)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 2:29 PM

To: Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6), OIG DoD  
<(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-

(b) (5)  
[Redacted]

Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
Evaluations Component  
Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General

Office - (b) (6)

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Friday, November 12, 2021 12:01 PM

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] GAUS XXII International UFO Congress -Sunday November 14th 2021-

Dear friends,

It's with great honour and pleasure that we invite you to connect at our XXII International UFO Congress  
"ARRIVAL: DISCLOSURE AND ENCOUNTERS".

It will be held on Sunday November 14th 2021 at Santa Apollonia Congress Center (please refer to the attached  
leaflet) in Florence (Italy).

You need just subscribe for free to our GausTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/GausTube>)

Our confirmed guests are:

- Luis Elizondo (USA)
- Barry Downing (USA)
- Kathleen Marden (USA)
- Dott. Filipov (Bulgaria)
- Sabrina Pieragostini (Italy)
- Roberto Pinotti (Italy)



- Paolo Guizzardi (Italy)
- Pietro Marchetti (Italy)
- There will be a surprise guest from USA.

You could find updated info at our website <https://www.gaus.it/eventi/convegno-2021-arrival-disclosure-and-encounters/?lang=en> or on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gaus1994>

“ARRIVAL: DISCLOSURE AND ENCOUNTERS” will become the most attended online UFO congress ever held in Europe and more!

Please help us share the leaflet on Facebook and with your friends and contacts!

Best regards

(b) (6)

**22<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE**  
**9<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEETING "FIGLI DELLE STELLE"**

**ARRIVAL: DISCLOSURE AND ENCOUNTERS**



**FLORENCE - Italy (web streaming)**

**Santa Apollonia Auditorium (Florence)**



[conference.gaus.it](http://conference.gaus.it)



[Youtube.com/gaustube](https://www.youtube.com/gaustube)

**Sunday 14th November 2021 - 9.30am - 7.00pm**

[gaus.pr@gmail.com](mailto:gaus.pr@gmail.com) - [www.gaus.it](http://www.gaus.it)

[info@extremamente.it](mailto:info@extremamente.it) - [www.extremamente.it](http://www.extremamente.it)

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: S2E2 documents  
 Date Wed, 19 May 2021 16:19:55 +0000  
 Message-Id <740648c9e69043a99a6e2ae440c40baf@DODIG.MIL>

cool  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 10:56 AM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: S2E2 documents

Yes he did.

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>>

Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 8:51 AM

To: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>>

Subject: RE: S2E2 documents

Did Mr. Elizondo tell you he would come into the MC for the interview?

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 8:46 AM  
 To: (b) (6) JS DOM (USA) <(b) (6)@mail.mil>; JS Pentagon DoM Mailbox Joint Secretariat <js.pentagon.dom.mbx.joint-secretariat@mail.mil>

Cc: (b) (6) JS DOM (USA) <(b) (6)@mail.mil>; Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6)@mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6)@mail.mil>; (b) (6)@mail.mil; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: FW: S2E2 documents

(b) (6)

To support our research related to the subject announcement memo, I need access to the documentation which the JROC and its subordinate groups have received and any JROC Memos that have been issued since September of 2019. I'm told that the official repository for these documents is the KMDS portal on the SIPR. Request your assistance in obtaining KMDS accounts for myself, and three others:

My SIPR is (b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil>

(b) (6) - cc'd above - SIPR is (b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil>

(b) (6) - cc'd above - SIPR is (b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil>

(b) (6) - cc'd above - SIPR is (b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@dodig.smil.mil>

Let the four of us know if there is any other information needed to set up our accounts. Your help in expediting this request would be greatly appreciated.

V/r,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) OIG DoD  
 Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 2:15 PM  
 To: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>  
 Cc: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>

Subject: RE: S2E2 documents

(b) (6)

At this point, whatever you can give me by Monday, the 24th would be helpful. (b) (5)

(b) (6)

Several people had been led me to believe that there weren't too many documents. If it is easier, we can just pursue access to the portal for me and a couple of my staff to be able to look through the documents ourselves. I trust getting timely permission to release the information won't be a problem. The announcement provides the DoD guidance on releasing information to the DoD IG. We are allowed access to any/all information requested, regardless of whether it is draft, pre-decisional or otherwise. If it was used for any of the JROC or supporting subgroup meetings, I am formally requesting a copy.

I appreciate the help.

V/r,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>  
 Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 2:04 PM  
 To: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>

Subject: RE: S2E2 documents

(b) (6)

- quick follow up after speaking with JROC Secretariat. Unfortunately, we will not be able to get the required approval to release the documents you requested before Monday. The right team will be available the following week though to sit with you and talk over the process and details of the CONOPS as originally requested. I know that we have a copy of the memo you sent to (b) (6), but would it be possible to get a copy of the research project so that we have a better understanding of exactly what you are looking at/for? That would be helpful for us to gather the right data for you instead of just providing you everything we have related to this topic. Thanks and if there are any other specifics needed let us know.

V/r

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA)  
 Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 1:31 PM  
 To: (b) (6) DODIG (USA) <(b) (6) @dodig.mil>  
 Cc: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil>

Subject: RE: S2E2 documents

(b) (6)

- will look over the calendar on Monday with the team to give you the best date/time that week. Talked to the JROC secretariat and believe they are working the release of documents just not sure when that will happen. I have cc'd (b) (6) and (b) (6) so we are all on the same page with this. If there is anything else we can assist with on this please let either me or (b) (6) know. Thanks.

v/r

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>>  
 Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 12:34 PM

To: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.mil>>  
 Cc: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.mil>>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.mil>>

Subject: RE: S2E2 documents

(b) (6)  
 Thanks for the e-mail. I look forward to receiving the documents when released, and will try and set up a meeting for us the week of the 24th. I agree that it is essential to get the Joint Staff perspective on the topic as well as any details of the process as it is unfolding regarding the topic.

Right now I'm pretty open Monday - Thursday. What would work best for your schedule?

V/r,

(b) (6)  
 From: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.mil>>

Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 11:55 AM

To: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>>  
 Cc: (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.mil>>; (b) (6) JS J8 (USA) <(b) (6) @mail.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.mil>>

Subject: S2E2 documents

(b) (6) - my name is (b) (6) and I am (b) (6). I received the email from you reference the request for documentation on S2E2 needed to assist you in the research project on this topic. I will be your POC from (b) (6), but all documents will need to be released from the JROC Secretariat office with approval from (b) (6) and his team. I have relayed your request on this and am awaiting further instructions from the secretariat for release of materials. I apologize for not being able to send you what we have, but don't want to release anything not approved by the Secretariat since the control the documents. Please give me a call on this at any time if needed. I know that you are travelling early next week on this, so will continue to push the secretariat to provide what you are looking for: (b) (6)

(b) (6). Again, please let me know if you need anything else on this. Thanks.

(b) (6)  
 Joint Staff, J8, (b) (6), Pentagon, Washington D.C.  
 Office: (b) (6) / Mobile: (b) (6)  
 NIPR: (b) (6) @mail.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.mil> / SIPR: (b) (6) @mail.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6) @mail.smil.mil>

From "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "List .SESLIST" <(b) (6)@dodig.mil>  
 Cc "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject UFOs regularly spotted in restricted U.S. airspace, report on the phenomena due next month  
 Date Mon, 17 May 2021 08:53:21 +0000  
 Message-Id <38823330c4bd458a91e13dd49b8eb20e@DODIG.MIL>

Good morning, all.

ICYMI, 60 minutes aired a segment last evening on UAP's that has spurred concern and interest by Congress and the DoD.

The segment is about 14 minutes long and may viewed on Chrome here, <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/ufo-military-intelligence-60-minutes-2021-05-16/>

[Transcript]

We have tackled many strange stories on 60 Minutes, but perhaps none like this. It's the story of the U.S. government's grudging acknowledgment of unidentified aerial phenomena- UAP-more commonly known as UFOs. After decades of public denial the Pentagon now admits there's something out there, and the U.S. Senate wants to know what it is. The intelligence committee has ordered the director of national intelligence and the secretary of defense to deliver a report on the mysterious sightings by next month.

Bill Whitaker: So what you are telling me is that UFOs, unidentified flying objects, are real?

Lue Elizondo: Bill, I think we're beyond that already. The government has already stated for the record that they're real. I'm not telling you that. The United States government is telling you that.

Luis Elizondo spent 20 years running military intelligence operations worldwide: in Afghanistan, the Middle East and Guantanamo. He hadn't given UFOs a second thought until 2008. That's when he was asked to join something at the Pentagon called the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program, or "AATIP."

Lue Elizondo: The mission of AATIP was quite simple. It was to collect and analyze information involving anomalous aerial vehicles, what I guess in the vernacular you call them UFOs. We call them UAPs.

Bill Whitaker: You know how this sounds? It sounds nutty, wacky.

Lue Elizondo: Look, Bill, I'm not, I'm not telling you that, that it doesn't sound wacky. What I'm telling you, it's real. The question is, what is it? What are its intentions? What are its capabilities?

Buried away in the Pentagon, AATIP was part of a \$22 million program sponsored by then-Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to investigate UFOs. When Elizondo took over in 2010 he focused on the national security implications of unidentified aerial phenomena documented by U.S. service members.

Lue Elizondo: Imagine a technology that can do 6-to-700 g-forces, that can fly at 13,000 miles an hour, that can evade radar and that can fly through air and water and possibly space. And oh, by the way, has no obvious signs of propulsion, no wings, no control surfaces and yet still can defy the natural effects of Earth's gravity. That's precisely what we're seeing.

Elizondo tells us AATIP was a loose-knit mix of scientists, electro-optical engineers, avionics and intelligence experts, often working part time. They combed through data and records, and analyzed videos like this.

A Navy aircrew struggles to lock onto a fast-moving object off the U.S. Atlantic Coast in 2015.

Recently released images may not convince ufo skeptics, but the pentagon admits it doesn't know what in the world this is or this or this.

Bill Whitaker: So what do you say to the skeptics? It's refracted light. Weather balloons. A rocket being launched. Venus.

Lue Elizondo: In some cases there are simple explanations for what people are witnessing. But there are some that, that are not. We're not just simply jumping to a conclusion that's saying, "Oh, that's a UAP out there."

We're going through our due diligence. Is it some sort of new type of cruise missile technology that China has developed? Is it some sort of high-altitude balloon that's conducting reconnaissance? Ultimately when you have exhausted all those what ifs and you're still left with the fact that this is in our airspace and it's real, that's when it becomes compelling, and that's when it becomes problematic.

Former Navy pilot Lieutenant Ryan Graves calls whatever is out there a security risk. He told us his F/A-18F squadron began seeing UAPs hovering over restricted airspace southeast of Virginia Beach in 2014 when they updated their jet's radar, making it possible to zero in with infrared targeting cameras.

Bill Whitaker: So you're seeing it both with the radar and with the infrared. And that tells you that there is something out there?

Ryan Graves: Pretty hard to spoof that.

These photographs were taken in 2019 in the same area. The Pentagon confirms these are images of objects it can't identify. Lieutenant Graves told us pilots training off the Atlantic Coast see things like that all the time.

Ryan Graves: Every day. Every day for at least a couple years.

Bill Whitaker: Wait a minute, every day for a couple of years?

Ryan Graves: Uh-huh.

Ryan Graves: I don't see an exhaust plume.

Bill Whitaker: You can sorta hear the surprise in their voices.

Ryan Graves: You certainly can. They seem to have broke character a bit and were just kind of amazed at what they were seeing.

Bill Whitaker: What do you think when you see something like this?

Ryan Graves: This is a difficult one to explain. You have rotation, you have high altitudes. You have propulsion, right? I don't know. I don't know what it is, frankly.

He told us pilots speculate they are one of three things: secret U.S. technology, an adversary's spy vehicle, or something otherworldly.

Ryan Graves: I would say, you know, the highest probability is it's a threat observation program.

Bill Whitaker: Could it be Russian or Chinese technology?

Ryan Graves: I don't see why not.

Bill Whitaker: Are you alarmed?

Ryan Graves: I am worried, frankly. You know, if these were tactical jets from another country that were hangin' out up there, it would be a massive issue. But because it looks slightly different, we're not willing to actually look at the problem in the face. We're happy to just ignore the fact that these are out there, watching us every day. The government has ignored it - at least publicly - since closing its project "Blue Book" investigation in 1969. But that began to change after an incident off Southern California in 2004, which was documented by radar, by camera, and four naval aviators. We spoke to two of them: David Fravor, a graduate of the Top Gun naval flight school and commander of the F/A-18F squadron on the USS Nimitz; and flying at his wing, Lieutenant Alex Dietrich, who has never spoken publicly about the encounter.

Alex Dietrich: I never wanted to be on national TV, no offense.

Bill Whitaker: So why are you doing this?

Alex Dietrich: Because I was in a government aircraft, because I was on the clock. And so I feel a responsibility to s-- to share what I can. And it is unclassified.

It was November 2004 and the USS Nimitz carrier strike group was training about 100 miles southwest of San Diego. For a week, the advanced new radar on a nearby ship, the USS Princeton, had detected what operators called "multiple anomalous aerial vehicles" over the horizon, descending 80,000 feet in less than a second.

On November 14, Fravor and Dietrich, each with a weapons systems officer in the backseat, were diverted to investigate. They found an area of roiling whitewater the size of a 737 in an otherwise calm, blue sea.

Dave Fravor: So as we're looking at this, her back-seater says, "Hey, Skipper, do you..." And about that got out, I said, "Dude, do you, do you see that thing down there?" And we saw this little white Tic Tac-looking object. And it's just kind of moving above the whitewater area.

As Deitrich circled above - Fravor went in for a closer look.

Bill Whitaker: So you're sort of spiraling down?

Dave Fravor: Yep. The Tic Tac's still pointing north-south, it goes, click, and just turns abruptly. And starts mirroring me. So as I'm coming down, it starts coming up.

Bill Whitaker: So it's mimicking your moves?

Dave Fravor: Yeah, it was aware we were there.

He said it was about the size of his F/A-18F, with no markings, no wings, no exhaust plumes.

Dave Fravor: I want to see how close I can get. So I go like this. And it's climbing still. And when it gets right in front of me, it just disappears.

Bill Whitaker: Disappears?

Dave Fravor: Disappears. Like, gone.

It had sped off.

Bill Whitaker: What are you thinking?

Alex Dietrich: So your mind tries to make sense of it. I'm gonna categorize this as maybe a helicopter or maybe a drone. And when it disappeared. I mean it was just...

Bill Whitaker: Did your back-seaters see this too?

Alex Dietrich: Yeah.

Dave Fravor: Oh yeah. There was four of us in the airplanes literally watching this thing for roughly about five minutes.

Seconds later, the Princeton reacquired the target. 60 miles away. Another crew managed to briefly lock onto it with a targeting camera before it zipped off again.

Alex Dietrich: You know, I think that over beers, we've sort of said, "Hey man, if I saw this solo, I don't know that I would have come back and said anything," because it sounds so crazy when I say it.

Bill Whitaker: You understand that reaction?

Dave Fravor: I do. I've had some people tell me, you know, "When you say that, you can sound crazy." I'll be hon-- I'm not a UFO guy.

Bill Whitaker: But from what I hear you guys saying, there's something?

Alex Dietrich: Yes.

Dave Fravor: Oh there's, there's definitely something that... I don't know who's building it, who's got the technology, who's got the brains. But there's, there's something out there that was better than our airplane.

The aircrew filed reports. Then like the mysterious flying object, the Nimitz encounter disappeared. Nothing was said or done officially for five years, until Lue Elizondo came across the story and investigated.

Lue Elizondo: We spend millions of dollars in training these pilots. And they are seeing something that they can't explain. Furthermore, that information being backed up on electro optical data, like gun camera footage. And by radar data. Now, to me, that's compelling.

Inside the Pentagon his findings were met with skepticism. AATIP's funding was eliminated in 2012, but Elizondo says he and a handful of others kept the mission alive until finally, frustrated, he quit the Pentagon in 2017, but not before getting these three videos declassified and then things took a stranger turn.

Chris Mellon: I tried to help my colleague, Lue Elizondo, elevate the issue in the department and actually get it to the Secretary of Defense.

Christopher Mellon served as deputy assistant secretary of defense for intelligence for Presidents Clinton and George W. Bush and had access to top secret government programs.

Chris Mellon: So it's not us, that's one thing we know.

Bill Whitaker: We know that?

Chris Mellon: I can say that with a very high degree of confidence in part because of the positions I held in the department, and I know the process.

Mellon says he grew concerned nothing was being done about UAPs, so he decided to do something. In 2017, as a private citizen, he surreptitiously acquired the three Navy videos Elizondo had declassified and leaked them to the New York Times.

Chris Mellon: It's bizarre and unfortunate that someone like myself has to do something like that to get a national security issue like this on the agenda.

He joined forces with now civilian Lue Elizondo and they started to tell their story to anybody who would listen: to newspapers, the History Channel, to members of Congress.

Chris Mellon: We knew and understood that you had to go to the public, get the public interested to get Congress interested, to then circle back to the Defense Department and get them to start taking a look at it.

And now it is. This past August the Pentagon resurrected AATIP, it's now called the UAP task force; service members now are encouraged to report strange encounters; and the Senate wants answers.

Marco Rubio: Anything that enters an airspace that's not supposed to be there is a threat.

After receiving classified briefings on UAPs, Senator Marco Rubio called for a detailed analysis. This past December, while he was still head of the intelligence committee, he asked the director of national intelligence and the Pentagon to present Congress an unclassified report by next month.

Bill Whitaker: This is a bizarre issue. The Pentagon and other branches of the military have a long history of sort of dismissing this. What makes you think that this time's gonna be different?

Marco Rubio: We're gonna find out when we get that report. You know, there's a stigma on Capitol Hill. I mean, some of my colleagues are very interested in this topic and some kinda, you know, giggle when you bring it up.

But I don't think we can allow the stigma to keep us from having an answer to a very fundamental question.

Bill Whitaker: What do you want us to do about this?

Marco Rubio: I want us to take it seriously and have a process to take it seriously. I want us to have a process to analyze the data every time it comes in. That there be a place where this is cataloged and constantly analyzed, until we get some answers. Maybe it has a very simple answer. Maybe it doesn't.

V,



(b) (6)  
Office of Legislative Affairs and Communications  
(b) (6), DoD Office of Inspector General  
O: (b) (6)  
(b) (6) @dodig.mil  
Connect with us @dod\_ig and LinkedIn at DoD Inspector General  
<http://www.dodig.mil/Mailing-Lists/>

From: "(b) (6) .., OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 To: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting  
 Date: Fri, 7 May 2021 13:30:46 +0000  
 Message-Id: <bb13d23c61714d84a0a639fac8bde6b0@DODIG.MIL>

Sir - After we spoke yesterday, I worked with (b) (6) to find out the security rules about asking Luis Elizondo questions that may have classified answers.  
 Not sure at the moment how soon we would do the interview, but when I call him to set it up, I'll get his SSN so we know what clearances he used to have. When he left gov't service he had to sign a non-disclosure agreement, hence the need to figure out the legal way for him to divulge anything classified he wants to tell us.  
 V/r,  
 (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6) .., OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 9:24 AM  
 To: (b) (6) .., OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting

CUI

Morning (b) (6) ,

(CUI) Per our conversation yesterday in the office, OSEC will need to validate Mr. Luis Elizondo's clearance accesses/eligibility before a meeting is scheduled with EVAL. (b) (5)

(b) (6) Please let me know when the meeting will be set up and please obtain Mr. Elizondo's SSN so we can begin the security checks.

(U) Attached is the email communication with (b) (6) and the OSEC team for your reference. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

Mobile: (b) (6)

Controlled by: DoD OIG

Controlled by: OSEC

CUI Category: OPSEC

Distribution/Dissemination Control: FED ONLY

POC: (b) (6)

CUI

Attachment Name :

From: (b) (6) .., OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 To: (b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6) .., OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6) .., OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: (CUI) PLEASE READ - RE: Uncommon Request  
 Date: Thu, 6 May 2021 18:21:47 +0000  
 Message-Id: <1247d697cb7949cab7005406480b0e93@DODIG.MIL>

GUI

(GUI) (b)(5), (b)(6) [Redacted]

(GUI) (b)(5), (b)(6) [Redacted]

[Redacted], Office of Security  
Office of the Inspector General, Dept. of Defense  
Coml (vIPer) (b)(6); DSN: (b)(6)

Controlled by: DoD-OIG  
Controlled by: OSEC  
GUI-Category: OPSEC  
Distribution/Dissemination Control: FED-ONLY  
POC: (b)(6)

GUI

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6) OIG DoD  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 2:03 PM  
To: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD  
<(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@dodig.mil>;  
(b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD  
<(b)(6)@dodig.mil>  
Subject: RE: Uncommon Request  
(b)(5), (b)(6)

(b)(6)  
, Office of Security  
DoD OIG  
Coml (vIPer): (b)(6); DSN: (b)(6)

This e-mail is from the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense, and may contain information that is law enforcement sensitive, "Controlled Unclassified Information" (CUI) or otherwise subject to the Privacy Act and/or legal and/or other privileges that restrict release without appropriate legal authority.

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6) OIG DoD  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 1:58 PM  
To: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD  
<(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@dodig.mil>;  
(b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD  
<(b)(6)@dodig.mil>  
Subject: RE: Uncommon Request  
(b)(5)

(b) (5) [Redacted]

r/ (b) (6) [Redacted]  
[Redacted], Office of Security

DoD OIG  
Coml (vIPer): (b) (6) [Redacted]; DSN: (b) (6) [Redacted]

This e-mail is from the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense, and may contain information that is law enforcement sensitive, "Controlled Unclassified Information" (CUI) or otherwise subject to the Privacy Act and/or legal and/or other privileges that restrict release without appropriate legal authority.

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6) [Redacted], OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 1:43 PM  
To: (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: RE: Uncommon Request

(b) (5), (b) (6) [Redacted]

V/r

(b) (6) [Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 1:27 PM  
To: (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [Redacted], OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [Redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [Redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: RE: Uncommon Request

Importance: High

An individual can be brought back in to discuss classified information in regards to a government investigation, evaluation, etc. A new NDA/SF312 should be signed. (b) (5) [Redacted]

Because the individual is no longer in status, Eval personnel must be aware that they cannot divulge any classified or even sensitive information to the individual. (b) (5) [Redacted]

(b) (5) [Redacted]

r/ (b) (6) [Redacted]  
[Redacted], Office of Security

DoD OIG  
Coml (vIPer): (b)(6); DSN: (b)(6)

This e-mail is from the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense, and may contain information that is law enforcement sensitive, "Controlled Unclassified Information" (CUI) or otherwise subject to the Privacy Act and/or legal and/or other privileges that restrict release without appropriate legal authority.

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 1:02 PM  
To: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Cc: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: RE: Uncommon Request  
ALCON,

Former employees no longer accessed to classified information are prohibited from future disclosure of classified information? There's language in the SF 312 that speaks to this?  
"...that I will not communicate or transmit classified information to any unauthorized person or organization; that I will promptly report to the Federal Bureau of Investigation any attempt by an unauthorized person to solicit classified information, and that I (have) (have not) (strike out inappropriate word or words) received a security debriefing."

(b)(5)  
r (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 12:35 PM  
To: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Cc: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: RE: Uncommon Request  
See the below email since this involves info...

v/r  
(b)(6)  
DoD Office of the Inspector General  
4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite (b)(6)  
Alexandria, VA 22350-1500  
(b)(6) (Office)  
(b)(6) (fax)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 12:33 PM  
To: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: Uncommon Request

(b)(6), I was asked today about the proper protocol/authorization for a former DoD Employee to reveal classified information to the EVAL Team in regards to a new project on Unidentified Ariel Phenomena (UAP).  
This person has stated he has classified knowledge on UAP and the EVAL Team would like to bring him in for a meeting to obtain the information he knows. He is no longer in a classified position and I would assume he signed his debrief NDA when he departed his former government agency.

<https://www.heraldtribune.com/story/news/2021/01/03/riverview-high-school-grad-luis-elizondo-forces-ufos-into-mainstream/4064093001/>

Please advise. Thanks!

V/r

(b) (6)

DoD OIG | Office of Security

Office #

(b) (6)

Mobile #:

(b) (6)

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
To "(b)(6) OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject Accepted: Interview with Mr. Luis Elizondo  
Date Thu, 3 Jun 2021 18:34:04 +0000  
Message-Id <56924686e1a3401695fd30d504d603c4@DODIG.MIL>

---

From: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: Interview with Mr. Luis Elizondo  
 Date: Thu, 3 Jun 2021 18:40:18 +0000  
 Message-Id: <2ba34639f4874e7795e77e7c8ae40965@DODIG.MIL>

(b) (6),  
 No, we'll need to get a visitor parking permit for that day. He'll have a rental car. Also, at the moment, it looks like he'll have his attorney, (b) (6) also attending.  
 This meeting was only confirmed an hour ago, so I hadn't done any coordination yet. Can you submit the visit requests?  
 Their e-mail addresses are: (b) (6) and (b) (6). I think we need the e-mail addresses and names for the visit request form for the Mark Center.... It has been a while since I've had to do it.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL> On Behalf Of Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD

Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 2:32 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: RE: Interview with Mr. Luis Elizondo

(b) (6), has building access been coordinated for Mr. Luis Elizondo? If not, that coordination should happen sooner rather than later. Thanks.

(b) (6)

DoD Office of Inspector General  
 Evaluations

Comm: (b) (6)

"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly"

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 1:28 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD; Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD; (b) (6), OIG DoD; (b) (6), OIG DoD

Subject: Interview with Mr. Luis Elizondo

When: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 1:00 PM-2:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Conf Rm B 7

Sir. Apologies for not responding sooner. I am on a plane. Received your voicemail. Proposed itinerary works for me! Please consider this confirmation.

Bes Regards/Very Respectfully

Luis

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Thu, Jun 3, 2021 at 10:34 AM, (b) (6), OIG DoD

<(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL> wrote:

Sir,

The best day right now is Tuesday, June 15. Would 1300 work? I'll book a room 1300-1430, but not sure if we'll need that entire time. It will mostly depend on how much information you have to help with our evaluation. As I'm sure you recall, I'm working on the Evaluation of DoD's actions regarding UAPs. We do not do any of the administrative investigations, which are handled by a separate component within the OIG.



Since you are planning on bringing your attorney, I guess we won't need a room that is cleared for classified discussion?

Let me know if Tuesday the 15th at 1300 doesn't work for you so I can schedule a room for a different time.

Looking forward to meeting you in person.

V/r,

(b) (6)

From: Luis Elizondo <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 9:22 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Cc: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Greetings Sir,

Looks like i have the logistics arranged. Which day works better for you? What time is best? My attorney and i will accomodate your schedule!

Best Regards,

Lue

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Tue, May 25, 2021 at 4:49 PM, (b) (6) OIG DoD

<(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL> wrote:

Sir,

Not a problem. We can't be flexible! Don't rush out on our account, this project will take some time.

V/r,

(b) (6)

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Luis Elizondo <(b) (6) <mailto:(b) (6)>>

Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 6:47 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Sir, i am currently looking at my calendar. (b) (6)

(b) (6). Doing my best to accommodate. Please stand by.

Best,

Lue

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android<https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global\_Internal\_YGrowth\_AndroidEmailSig\_\_AndroidUsers#\_wl=yym#\_sub1=Internal#\_sub2=Global\_YGrowth#\_sub3=EmailSignature>

On Tue, May 25, 2021 at 8:00 AM, (b) (6), OIG DoD

<(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL> wrote:

Lue – just checking to see if you have solidified your plans to visit DC? Does the 15th or 17th work for you?

V/r,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD

Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 1:05 PM

To: 'Luis Elizondo' <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Lue,

That week is still pretty open. Would 1300 on Tuesday the 15th or Thursday the 17th work? We will have a set of questions by then, but would want to be sure we give you time for anything we didn't think to ask about that you think is important for us to know.

V/r,

(b) (6)

From: Luis Elizondo <(b) (6)>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 5:50 PM  
To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)> @DODIG.MIL  
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Greetings Sir, and good evening. Is there a day that works particularly good for you and/or your colleagues the week of 14 June?

Best,

Lue

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)> @DODIG.MIL  
To: (b) (6) " (b) (6) >  
Cc:

Sent: Fri, May 14, 2021 at 2:04 PM  
Subject: UAP Interview & OIG contact information  
Mr. Elizondo,

Thanks for taking my call. As we discussed, the UAP evaluation team would like to interview you early in the course of the evaluation. It sounds like the week of June 14th may work the best for you if we are to do the interview in person. Let me know your preference for a date when you can.

We look forward to hearing your insight on the topic.

V/r,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Space, Missile and Nuclear Evaluations  
Department of Defense Office of Inspector General

(b) (6) /DSN (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

S-VOIP (b) (6)

(b) (6) @DoDIG.mil<mailto:(b) (6)> @DoDIG.mil>

(b) (6) @DoDIG.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6)> @DoDIG.smil.mil>

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From: "(b)(6) [REDACTED], OIG DoD" <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>  
 To: "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>, "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: "(b)(6) [REDACTED], OIG DoD" <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>, "(b)(6) [REDACTED], OIG DoD" <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information  
 Date: Thu, 3 Jun 2021 12:24:46 +0000  
 Message-Id: <8435cc294dd44c339afc1bc6e52d6e0d@DODIG.MIL>

I guess Mr. Elizondo will be bringing his lawyer. That may complicate us trying to hear any classified information he wanted to share with us. I am shooting for 1300 on 15 June. I will see if a conference room downstairs is available.

V/r,

(b)(6) [REDACTED]

From: Luis Elizondo <(b)(6) [REDACTED]>  
 Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 9:22 PM  
 To: (b)(6) [REDACTED], OIG DoD <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) [REDACTED], OIG DoD <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: (b)(6) [REDACTED] <(b)(6) [REDACTED]>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Greetings Sir,

Looks like i have the logistics arranged. Which day works better for you? What time is best? My attorney and i will accomodate your schedule!

Best Regards,

Lue

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android<[https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global\\_Internal\\_YGrowth\\_AndroidEmailSig\\_\\_AndroidUsers&af\\_wl=ym&af\\_sub1=Internal&af\\_sub2=Global\\_YGrowth&af\\_sub3=EmailSignature](https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers&af_wl=ym&af_sub1=Internal&af_sub2=Global_YGrowth&af_sub3=EmailSignature)>

On Tue, May 25, 2021 at 4:49 PM, (b)(6) [REDACTED], OIG DoD <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL> wrote:

Sir,

Not a problem. We can't be flexible! Don't rush out on our account, this project will take some time.

V/r,

(b)(6) [REDACTED]

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: Luis Elizondo <(b)(6) [REDACTED]> <mailto:(b)(6) [REDACTED]>  
 <(b)(6) [REDACTED]> <mailto:(b)(6) [REDACTED]> <mailto:(b)(6) [REDACTED]>>>  
 Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 6:47 PM  
 To: (b)(6) [REDACTED], OIG DoD <(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL><mailto:(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>>>>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Sir, i am currently looking at my calendar. (b)(6) [REDACTED]

(b)(6) [REDACTED] Doing my best to accommodate. Please stand by.

Best,

Lue

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android<[https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global\\_Internal\\_YGrowth\\_AndroidEmailSig\\_\\_AndroidUsers#\\_wl=ym#\\_sub1=Internal#\\_sub2=Global\\_YGrowth#\\_sub3=EmailSignature](https://go.onelink.me/107872968?pid=InProduct&c=Global_Internal_YGrowth_AndroidEmailSig__AndroidUsers#_wl=ym#_sub1=Internal#_sub2=Global_YGrowth#_sub3=EmailSignature)<<https://go.onelink.me/107872>>

968?pid=InProduct&c=Global\_Internal\_YGrowth\_AndroidEmailSig\_AndroidUsers&af\_wl=ym&af\_sub1=Internal&af\_sub2=Global\_YGrowth&af\_sub3=EmailSignature>>

On Tue, May 25, 2021 at 8:00 AM, (b)(6), OIG DoD

<(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>> wrote:

Lue – just checking to see if you have solidified your plans to visit DC? Does the 15th or 17th work for you?

V/r,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) OIG DoD

Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 1:05 PM

To: 'Luis Elizondo' <(b)(6)><mailto:(b)(6)>>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Lue,

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(b)(6)

From: Luis Elizondo <(b)(6)><mailto:(b)(6)>>

Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 5:50 PM

To: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fw: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Greetings Sir, and good evening. Is there a day that works particularly good for you and/or your colleagues the week of 14 June?

Best,

Lue

From: (b)(6), OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>

To: (b)(6) <mailto:(b)(6)>" <(b)(6)>

<mailto:(b)(6)>>

Cc:

Sent: Fri, May 14, 2021 at 2:04 PM

Subject: UAP Interview & OIG contact information

Mr. Elizondo,

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V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b) (6)  
Space, Missile and Nuclear Evaluations  
Department of Defense Office of Inspector General  
(b) (6) /DSN (b) (6)  
Cell: (b) (6)  
S-VOIP (b) (6)  
(b) (6) @DoDIG.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@DoDIG.mil><mailto:(b) (6)  
(b) (6)@DoDIG.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@DoDIG.mil>>  
(b) (6)@DoDIG.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@DoDIG.smil.mil><mailto:(b) (6)  
(b) (6)@DoDIG.smil.mil<mailto:(b) (6)@DoDIG.smil.mil>>

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From "Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign  
 Date Thu, 27 May 2021 14:53:04 +0000  
 Message-Id <f6602eb413d240fa8846991f5ce87b26@DODIG.MIL>

(b)(5)

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021, 10:23 AM  
 To: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

(b)(5)

Randy  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 9:19 PM  
 To: O'Donnell, Sean W., HON, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@dodig.mil>; Stebbins, Steven A., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; Zola, Michael C., OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

All,  
 FYSA.  
 V,

(b)(6)

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: POLITICO Pro Defense <alert@email.politicopro.com<mailto:alert@email.politicopro.com>>  
 Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 8:10 PM  
 To: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

[Image removed by sender. POLITICO Pro]

Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

By Bryan Bender | 05/26/2021 08:09 PM EDT

[Image removed by sender.] A day after Lue Elizondo filed his complaint, the agency's inspector general announced a probe into Pentagon "actions" on UFOs. | Charles Dharapak, File/AP

The former Pentagon official who went public about reports of UFOs has filed a complaint with the agency's inspector general claiming a coordinated campaign to discredit him for speaking out — including accusing a top official of threatening to tell people he was "crazy," according to documents reviewed by POLITICO.

Lue Elizondo, a career counterintelligence specialist who was assigned in 2008 to work for a Pentagon program that investigated reports of "unmanned aerial phenomenon," filed the 64-page complaint to the independent watchdog on May 3 and has met several times with investigators, according to his legal team.

The claim that the government is trying to discredit him comes weeks before the director of national intelligence and the Pentagon are expected to deliver an unclassified report to Congress about UFOs and the government's strategy for investigating such encounters. The report is expected to include a detailed accounting of the agencies, personnel and surveillance systems that gather and analyze the data.

"What he is saying is there are certain individuals in the Defense Department who in fact were attacking him and lying about him publicly, using the color of authority of their offices to disparage him and discredit him and were interfering in his ability to seek and obtain gainful employment out in the world," said Daniel Sheehan, Elizondo's attorney. "And also threatening his security clearance."

Sheehan, a public interest lawyer and activist, has a long history <[https://chresticstitute.org/docs/DanielSheehan\\_CV.pdf?source=email](https://chresticstitute.org/docs/DanielSheehan_CV.pdf?source=email)> of taking on the federal government on behalf of high-profile clients, including defending the New York Times in the Pentagon Papers case as well as one of the Watergate burglars. He is also widely viewed as a provocateur who has an abiding interest in UFOs and has spoken publicly <<https://www.amazon.com/Close-Encounters-Fifth-Kind-Contact/dp/B086D4D3V6?source=email>> about alien visitations. He also served as counsel for the Disclosure Project, led by ufologist Steven Greer, that has sought to force more government transparency on UFOs.

When asked for comment, Elizondo referred questions to Sheehan.

Sheehan maintains the goal of Elizondo's IG complaint is much bigger than clearing his name: He wants to compel the Pentagon to clear up all the ambiguity about what it knows about UFOs.

"Nobody seemed to be taking this thing seriously," Sheehan said of Elizondo's concerns when he left the Pentagon in 2017. "The different units and different groups that are responsible for responding to this particular phenomenon ... they're not briefing each other on this."

"The old dodge," Sheehan says, "is 'oh well, the real problem was that one shop wasn't communicating with the other shop.' That's the classic bureaucratic dodge. I'm trying to get the Defense Department to clarify for the public and media what exactly is the cartography inside the Defense Department for dealing with this particular phenomenon."

A spokesperson for the Defense Department IG's office declined to comment on the status of Elizondo's complaint. "I cannot speculate or deliberate about complaints that our office may have received," said Dwrena Allen. "I certainly cannot confirm or deny the existence of an investigation to the same."

But a day after Elizondo filed his complaint, the IG announced a probe <<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/05/04/pentagon-inspector-general-military-ufo-485356?source=email>> into Pentagon "actions" on UFOs, which is being undertaken by the assistant inspector general for evaluations on space, intelligence, engineering and oversight.

"We may revise the objective as the evaluation proceeds, and we will consider suggestions from management for additional or revised objectives," stated the IG's memo announcing that probe.

It remains unclear whether Elizondo's claims will be found to merit an official investigation, but his legal team says he is scheduled to meet again with investigators from the IG next month.

Elizondo has become a minor celebrity since he retired from the Pentagon in October 2017 and went public about the Advanced Aerial Threat Identification Program, or AATIP, a secret Pentagon effort that was initiated in 2008 by then-Sen. Harry Reid. POLITICO and the New York Times revealed the existence of the office <<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/12/16/pentagon-ufo-search-harry-reid-216111?source=email>> and Elizondo's role in it in December 2017.

Elizondo complained at the time that his Pentagon bosses were failing to take seriously numerous intrusions into military airspace by high-performance aircraft of unknown origin.

"It was during this time I grew increasingly frustrated by the lack of resources and interest by senior leadership," he states in the IG complaint. "UAP reporting to our office was increasing, yet our resources were minimal, and leadership involvement was almost non-existent."

"After increased frustration, " he added, "I became alarmed by the frequency and duration of UAP activity in and around controlled U.S. airspace. The instances seemed more provocative, and during one instance, they came within feet of a U.S. fighter aircraft."

After he retired from government service, Elizondo also shared with the media a trio of Navy videos<[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO\\_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email)> he got declassified before he left government service.

He claims he has since endured a coordinated effort to malign his reputation, including Pentagon press statements asserting he had no official role in UFO research, even after his role was officially confirmed. He also alleges a personal vendetta from a Pentagon rival he claims has sought repeatedly to damage his career, including trying to have him investigated for releasing the video after he had been cleared of any wrongdoing. Elizondo charges "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal and explicit threats perpetrated by certain senior-level Pentagon officials," according to the complaint, which includes dozens of supporting documents.

POLITICO is declining to publish the names of the Pentagon officials who are cited in the IG complaint because it is unclear whether they are being investigated.

But Elizondo told the IG he has evidence, in the form of emails, documents and the public record, "which suggests a coordinated effort to obfuscate the truth from the American people while impugning my reputation as a former intelligence officer at the Pentagon."

"These negative actions against me have resulted in great personal and professional challenges to me and my family," he adds in the complaint.

In recounting one episode in the days after he left government service, Elizondo claims a senior official warned him that he would "tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance."

"I responded ... by telling him that he can take any action he thinks is prudently necessary, but that I was not mentally impaired, nor have I ever violated my security oath," Elizondo wrote in the complaint, saying he did not meet with the official again "after our discussion as I feared he would take retribution against me."

The IG complaint also charges that the Pentagon's press operation has engaged in a disinformation campaign to discredit him by suggesting he was lying about his UFO work.

He cites several public statements asserting the department had no record of his involvement in UFOs even after saying that he did<<https://theintercept.com/2019/06/01/ufo-unidentified-history-channel-luis-elizondo-pentagon/?source=email>> work for AATIP.

"Several internet bloggers were notified ... that I had no duties regarding AATIP and that AATIP did not involve the study of UAPs," Elizondo told the IG. "As a result, the bloggers began to disseminate reporting, accusing me of being a fabricator."

He said when he inquired why the Pentagon had changed its official story about AATIP, he claims one individual directly involved told him he "was not happy with the way this was being handled internally with the Department." The official also said he "was aware I ran AATIP, but forces within the building were telling him not to admit it," according to Elizondo.

The Pentagon public affairs office declined to comment for this story.

The Defense Department this month publicly acknowledged <<http://nickpope.net/wpte19/blog/?source=email>> in a statement that the AATIP program was involved in UFO research, but it has not corrected the record on Elizondo's involvement, he says.

"It goes beyond simple ambiguity," Sheehan said. "There [are] actual discordant narratives that are going on. They're professing a substantial amount of confusion."

Elizondo maintains that the efforts to punish him for coming forward continue. The IG complaint outlines that his release of the three unclassified UFO videos was investigated by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and "there were no findings of me conducting any kind of Unauthorized Disclosure."

But he says he was contacted this April by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency advising him to submit to a new interview to maintain his clearance even though it was renewed in January 2021. And he maintains he was told it was about concerns over whether he violated the rules when he made the UFO videos public.

"Despite a previous favorable AFOSI investigation, I am under accusation of releasing the videos in an unauthorized manner," he wrote in the IG complaint.

Elizondo has continued to publicly maintain <<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/03/25/ufo-sightings-report-478104?source=email>> that he believes the government is covering up what it knows about UFO sightings. And Sheehan also claims Elizondo's experience within the Pentagon's bureaucracy signifies a much deeper resistance to coming clean.



He said there is “this extraordinarily bizarre process going on in the heart of the national security state bureaucracy where general officers, secretaries of defense are not being briefed in on something that is transparently within their jurisdiction.”

“That is a profound and fundamental problem that they view as being above their pay grade,” Sheehan added. “They know something is going on, and they don’t dare go there.”

View this article online. <<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2021/05/ex-official-who-revealed-ufo-project-accuses-pentagon-of-disinformation-campaign-2057185?source=email>>

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From "(b) (6) [REDACTED] OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>, "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) [REDACTED] OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc "Zola, Michael C., OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) [REDACTED] OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [REDACTED]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject News of Interest: How the Pentagon Started Taking U.F.O.s Seriously | The New Yorker  
 Date Sun, 2 May 2021 16:11:44 +0000  
 Message-Id <aa33afeba7054922ac5d1a4180cb4285@DODIG.MIL>

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Good Afternoon Gentlemen,

I hope you're enjoying your weekend.

Please see the below article from the New Yorker and highlighted excerpts, ahead of the upcoming UAP announcement.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/05/10/how-the-pentagon-started-taking-ufos-seriously>

How the Pentagon Started Taking U.F.O.s Seriously

On May 9, 2001, Steven M. Greer took the lectern at the National Press Club, in Washington, D.C., in pursuit of the truth about unidentified flying objects. Greer, an emergency-room physician in Virginia and an outspoken ufologist, believed that the government had long withheld from the American people its familiarity with alien visitations. He had founded the Disclosure Project in 1993 in an attempt to penetrate the sanctums of conspiracy. Greer's reckoning that day featured some twenty speakers. He provided, in support of his claims, a four-hundred-and-ninety-two-page dossier called the "Disclosure Project Briefing Document." For public officials too busy to absorb such a vast tract of suppressed knowledge, Greer had prepared a ninety-five-page "Executive Summary of the Disclosure Project Briefing Document." After some throat-clearing, the "Executive Summary" began with "A Brief Summary," which included a series of bullet points outlining what amounted to the greatest secret in human history.

Over several decades, according to Greer, untold numbers of alien craft had been observed in our planet's airspace; they were able to reach extreme velocities with no visible means of lift or propulsion, and to perform stunning maneuvers at g-forces that would turn a human pilot to soup. Some of these extraterrestrial spaceships had been "downed, retrieved and studied since at least the 1940s and possibly as early as the 1930s." Efforts to reverse engineer such extraordinary machines had led to "significant technological breakthroughs in energy generation." These operations had mostly been classified as "cosmic top secret," a tier of clearance "thirty-eight levels" above that typically granted to the Commander-in-Chief. Why, Greer asked, had such transformative technologies been hidden for so long? This was obvious. The "social, economic and geo-political order of the world" was at stake.

Greer's "Executive Summary" was woolly, but discerning readers could find within it answers to many of the most frequently asked questions about U.F.O.s—assuming, as Greer did, that U.F.O.s are helmed by extraterrestrials. Why are they so elusive? Because the aliens are monitoring us. Why? Because they are discomfited by our aspiration to "weaponize space." Have we shot at them? Yes. Should we shoot at them? No. Really? Yes. Why not? They're friendly. How do we know? "Obviously, any civilization capable of routine interstellar travel could terminate our civilization in a nanosecond, if that was their intent. That we are still breathing the free air of Earth is abundant testimony to the non-hostile nature of these ET civilizations." (One obvious question seems not to have occurred to Greer: Why, if these spacecraft are so advanced, do they allegedly crash all the time?)

At the press conference, Greer appeared in thin-framed glasses, a baggy, funereal suit, and a red tie askew in a starched collar. "I know many in the media would like to talk about 'little green men,' " he said. "But, in reality, the subject is laughed at because it is so serious. I have had grown men weep, who are in the Pentagon, who are members of Congress, and who have said to me, 'What are we going to do?' Here is what we will do. We will see that this matter is properly disclosed."

Kean's book, which was praised by the theoretical physicist Michio Kaku as "the gold standard for U.F.O. research," and to which John Podesta had contributed a foreword, enhanced and expanded her influence. In June of 2011, Podesta invited Kean to make a confidential presentation at a think tank he founded, the Center for American Progress. Standing alongside a physicist from Johns Hopkins University and foreign military

figures, Kean advised the audience-officials from nasa, the Pentagon, and the Department of Transportation, along with congressional staff and retired intelligence officials-that the challenge was "to undo fifty years of reinforcement of U.A.P. as folklore and pseudoscience."

Podesta told me, "It wasn't a bunch of people coming in looking like they were going to a 'Star Wars'-memorabilia convention-it was serious people from the national-security arena who wanted answers to these unexplained phenomena." Soon after the event, he said, a Democratic senator invited him for a meeting. "I thought it was going to be on food stamps and tax cuts or whatever, and the door closed and they said, 'I don't want anybody to know this, but I'm really interested in U.F.O.s, and I know you are, too. So what do you know?'" Reid reached out to Senator Ted Stevens, of Alaska, who believed he'd seen a U.F.O. as a pilot in the Second World War, and Senator Daniel Inouye, of Hawaii. In the 2008 Supplemental Appropriations Bill, twenty-two million dollars of so-called black money was set aside for a new program. The Pentagon was not enthusiastic. As one former intelligence official put it, "There were some government officials who said, 'We shouldn't be doing this, this is really ridiculous, this is a waste of money.'" He went on, "And then Reid would call them out of a meeting and say, 'I want you to be doing this. This was appropriated.'" It was sort of like a joke that bordered on an annoyance and people worried that if this all came out, that the government was spending money on this, this will be a bad story." The Advanced Aerospace Weapon System Applications Program was announced in a public solicitation for bids to examine the future of warfare. U.F.O.s were not mentioned, but according to Reid the subtext was clear. Bigelow Aerospace Advanced Space Studies, or baass, a Bigelow Aerospace subsidiary, was the only bidder. When Bigelow won the government contract, he contacted the same cohort of paranormal investigators he'd worked with at his institute. Other participants were recruited from within the Pentagon's ranks. In 2008, Luis Elizondo, a longtime counterintelligence officer working in the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, was visited by two people who asked him what he thought about U.F.O.s. He replied that he didn't think about them, which was apparently the correct answer, and he was asked to join.

Within a month of the Times article's publication, the Pentagon's U.A.P. portfolio was reassigned to a civilian intelligence official with a rank equivalent to that of a two-star general. This successor-who did not want to be named, lest U.F.O. nuts swarm his doorstep-had read Kean's book. He channeled the cascade of media interest to argue that, without a process to handle uncategorizable observations, rigid bureaucracies would overlook anything that didn't follow a standard pattern. At the height of the Cold War, the government had worried that the noise of lurid phantasmagoria might drown out signals relevant to national security, or even provide cover for adversarial incursions; now, it seemed, the concern was that valuable intelligence wasn't being reported. (The Nimitz encounter didn't become subject to official investigation until years after the incident, when an errant file landed on the desk of someone who decided that it merited pursuit.) "What we needed," the former Pentagon official said, "was something like the post-9/11 fusion centers, where a D.O.D. guy can talk to an F.B.I. guy and an N.R.O. guy-everything we learned from the 9/11 Commission."

The mysteries have shown no signs of abatement. In early April, the eminent U.F.O. journalist George Knapp, along with the documentary filmmaker Jeremy Kenyon Lockyer Corbell, best known for his participation in an ill-begotten crusade to "storm" Nevada's Area 51, released a video and a series of photos that had apparently been leaked from the U.A.P. Task Force's classified intelligence reports. The video, taken with night-vision goggles, shows three airborne triangles, intermittently flashing with eerie incandescence as they rotate against a starry sky. Kean texted me, "Breaking huge story." She was trying to get to the bottom of the video, but doubted that any of her sources would be willing to authenticate something so hot. The next day, the Department of Defense confirmed that the video was real and said that it had been taken by Navy personnel. Mick West argued, persuasively, that the pyramids were an airplane and two stars, distorted by a lens artifact. Kean, for her part, told me that she was "only just starting to look into the situation," but volunteered that West was "being reasonable." The Pentagon refused further comment.

The government may or may not care about the resolution of the U.F.O. enigma. But, in throwing up its hands and granting that there are things it simply cannot figure out, it has relaxed its grip on the taboo. For many, this has been a comfort. In March, I spoke with a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force who said that about a decade ago, during combat, he had an extended encounter with a U.F.O., one that registered on two of his plane's sensors. For all the usual reasons, he had never officially reported the sighting, but every once in a while he'd bring a close friend into his confidence over a beer. He did not want to be named. "Why am I telling you this story?" he asked. "I guess I just want this data out there-hopefully this helps somebody else somehow."

###

Very Respectfully,

(b) (6)

Office of Legislative Affairs and Communications  
DoD Office of Inspector General

O: (b) (6)

C: (b) (6)

(b) (6) @dodig.mil

Connect with us @dod\_ig and LinkedIn at DoD Inspector General  
<http://www.dodig.mil/Mailing-Lists/>

From: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: Military and spy agencies accused of stiff-arming investigators on UFO sightings  
 Date: Thu, 25 Mar 2021 23:26:26 +0000  
 Message-Id: <e22f3a518a234019bf60c9d158969567@DODIG.MIL>

---

OK, thanks. I will be there!

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 7:11 PM  
 To: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: Military and spy agencies accused of stiff-arming investigators on UFO sightings  
 Come to the classified EB April 7 w/Zola!!  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 7:02 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: Military and spy agencies accused of stiff-arming investigators on UFO sightings  
 I will be on leave Monday and Tuesday, but would love to hear more.

Very Respectfully,

(b) (6)  
 Office of Legislative Affairs and Communications  
 DoD Office of Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 6:58 PM  
 To: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: Military and spy agencies accused of stiff-arming investigators on UFO sightings  
 Thanks for sharing. (b) (5) I can tell you much more in person. I will be in the SCIF Monday at 1100  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 6:51 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: Military and spy agencies accused of stiff-arming investigators on UFO sightings  
 FYSA, I thought you might be interested in the article below.  
 From: POLITICO Pro Defense <alert@email.politicopro.com>  
 Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 6:48 PM  
 To: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Military and spy agencies accused of stiff-arming investigators on UFO sightings

Military and spy agencies accused of stiff-arming investigators on UFO sightings

By Bryan Bender

03/25/2021 06:47 PM EDT

The truth may be out there. But don't expect the feds to share what they know anytime soon on the recent spate of UFO sightings.

Some military and spy agencies are blocking or simply ignoring the effort to catalog what they have on "unidentified aerial phenomenon," according to multiple current and former government officials. And as a result, the Biden administration will likely delay a much-anticipated public report to Congress.

The Senate Intelligence Committee has asked the director of national intelligence<<https://www.intelligence.senate.gov/publications/intelligence-authorization-act-fiscal-year-2021?source=email>> to work with the Defense Department to provide a public accounting by June 25 on unexplained sightings of advanced aircraft and drones that have been reported by military personnel or captured by radar, satellites and other surveillance systems.

The request came after revelations in 2017 that the Pentagon was researching a series of unexplained intrusions into military airspace, including high-performance vehicles captured on video<[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO\\_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email)> stalking Navy ships.

But those advising the investigations are advocating for significantly more time and resources to retrieve information from agencies that in some cases have shown reluctance, if not outright resistance, to sharing classified information. And they worry that without high-level involvement, it will be difficult to compel agencies to release what they have.

"Just getting access to the information, because of all the different security bureaucracies, that's an ordeal in itself," said Christopher Mellon, a former Pentagon intelligence official who lobbied for the disclosure provision and is continuing to advise policymakers on the issue.

For example, he asserts that a Pentagon task force<<https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2314065/establishment-of-unidentified-aerial-phenomena-task-force/?source=email>> established last August and led by the Navy has had few personnel or resources and only modest success acquiring reports, video or other evidence gathered by military systems.

The Pentagon task force is expected to be the primary military organization contributing to the wider government report.

"I know that the task force has been denied access to pertinent information by the Air Force and they have been stiff-armed by them," Mellon said in an interview. "That is surprising but not unexpected."

The Air Force, which is historically most associated with UFOs from its investigations<<https://www.archives.gov/research/military/air-force/ufos?source=email>> during the Cold War, deferred all questions on the subject to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, which has similarly said little publicly about the effort.

"To protect our people, maintain operational security and safeguard intelligence methods, we do not publicly discuss the details of the UAP observations, the task force or investigations," said Pentagon spokesperson Susan Gough, who declined to address the criticism.

The report due to Congress will include "a detailed analysis of unidentified phenomena data collected by" a host of means, including imaging satellites, eavesdropping equipment and human spies.

It also must include "a detailed analysis of data of the FBI, which was derived from investigations of intrusions of unidentified aerial phenomena data over restricted United States airspace." The report must contain "a detailed description of an interagency process for ensuring timely data collection and centralized analysis of all unidentified aerial phenomena reporting for the federal government, regardless of which service or agency acquired the information."

Gathering such information from across the national security bureaucracy is enormously challenging, Mellon said.

"They have to repeat that painful process with scores of different agencies," he said, citing the Army, CIA, National Reconnaissance Office, National Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

A spokesperson for Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines told POLITICO the report to Congress is in the works, but declined to offer further details. "We are aware of the requirement and will respond accordingly."

Any delay in delivering it is likely to be perceived by a large segment of the public as an attempt by the government to hide what it knows.

But there is growing pressure from Congress for a more organized effort to compile what the government has learned and reveal how it is trying to solve the mysteries.

Sen. Marco Rubio<<https://cd.politicopro.com/member/151820?source=email>>, who was responsible for requesting the report, told Fox News this week<[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=iBaPSLmx964&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2Pixrpxvrd\\_Ls\\_d](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=iBaPSLmx964&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2Pixrpxvrd_Ls_d)>

wfcryDJKIK6CN82H0xp42GPJPOrvNeu7\_wNxqg5qT4&source=email> that he does not believe military and intelligence agencies have come to any solid conclusions about the origin of the UFOs. But he insisted that the reports demand a more comprehensive intelligence-gathering effort.

"We have to try to know what it is," the Florida Republican said. "Maybe there's a logical explanation. Maybe it's foreign adversaries who made a technological leap?"

Rubio also held up the prospect that agencies will need more time to complete the report. "I'm not sure they are going to come in on time," he said. "I'm not sure by June 1 they have reached a hard conclusion about what they are dealing with and there may be more questions, or new questions, than full answers ..."

"I can tell you it is being taken more seriously now that it ever has been," he added.

The pressure to disclose what the government is doing has only intensified after recent comments from the former top intelligence official.

"We have lots of reports about what we call unmanned aerial phenomenon," John Ratcliffe, who served as director of national intelligence under former President Donald Trump, said in an interview<<https://www.q13fox.com/news/former-director-of-national-intelligence-says-upcoming-pentagon-ufo-report-reveals-technology-we-dont-have?source=email>> with Fox News last week. "When we talk about sightings, we are talking about objects that have [been] seen by Navy or Air Force pilots, or have been picked up by satellite imagery that frankly engage in actions that are difficult to explain."

He cited "movements that are hard to replicate that we don't have the technology for ... or traveling at speeds that exceed the sound barrier without a sonic boom."

One such recent case, involving a swarm of unidentified "drones" that bedeviled a flotilla of Navy destroyers off the California coast in 2019, was revealed this week<<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39913/multiple-destroyers-were-swarmed-by-mysterious-drones-off-california-over-numerous-nights?source=email>> by the technology website The Drive.

But there has been enormous resistance inside the bureaucracy to being forthcoming, said Lue Elizondo, who led research on UAPs<<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/12/16/pentagon-ufo-search-harry-reid-216111/?source=email>> in the Pentagon until 2017 and publicly resigned in frustration that the issue was not being treated seriously enough.

"You have all the stigma and the taboo that is associated with it," said Elizondo, who serves as an informal adviser to the military. "Organizations whose mission this might fall squarely into are resisting adopting this mission. There's been so much public taboo about this for decades that no one wants to risk their professional careers and that of their bosses on a topic like this without being directed."

He also sees what he called "passive resistance," or "they're just not going to do anything to support it," such as applying resources or personnel to the activity.

Others see a lack of cooperation among different agencies and a desire to protect sensitive information that could benefit adversaries.

"One of the challenges that [the Defense Department] has had in the past is that a lot of these intelligence-gathering organizations, a lot of the military services' organizations that gather data on intrusions, are all extremely stovepiped and federated," said Ellen Lord, who served as undersecretary of defense for acquisition and sustainment until January and was briefed on the Pentagon efforts.

She also said there may be valid reasons not to make it all public. "I think it is sometimes easy ... to go down a rabbit hole for the sci-fi, alien piece of this," she said in an interview. "In reality, there is a lot of technology that has been leveraged by our adversaries and we have ways to deal with that."

"But that is something that is not typically spoken about in public forums. Therein lies the challenge of some of these things," she added.

The secrecy surrounding the effort has been demonstrated by the Pentagon's refusal to even discuss any details of its UAP task force, not even how many personnel are assigned to it or what budget it has been given. Elizondo believes there is little chance such obstacles can be overcome by June under the current level of effort and is advocating for an interim report that requests more time and resources. "We can do this right or we can do it right now," he said.

"It's certainly not sufficient time to provide a comprehensive, government-wide report that Congress not only expects, but that Congress deserves and frankly, so does the American people," he added.

Mellon thinks it could take months or longer. "In addition to the onerous job of trying get everyone to come clean," he said, "there will be a sensitive and probably difficult process of getting all the players ... to agree on the language and approve it. That process alone could take weeks or months."

Mellon also said the direct involvement of senior executive branch officials, including Haines and Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks, "is likely to prove necessary to compel the cooperation needed to do the job properly."

The good news," he added, "is the leadership on both sides appear to be taking this issue seriously and are acting in good faith."

To view online:

<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2021/03/military-and-spy-agencies-accused-of-stiff-arming-investigators-on-ufo-sightings-2043886><<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2021/03/military-and-spy-agencies-accused-of-stiff-arming-investigators-on-ufo-sightings-2043886?source=email>>

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This email was sent to <sup>(b)(6)</sup> @dodig.mil by:

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1000 Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22209  
USA



From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
To "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Cc "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject UAP/AATIP Resignation Memo  
Date Fri, 19 Feb 2021 22:02:06 +0000  
Message-Id <de12eb11101e447e8cb91ebc74c255d0@DODIG.MIL>

---

See attached. I found this my Apple News on my iPad so I took a photo. Lois Elizondo, the memo's author is on the talk show and mystery show circuit regarding UAPs and the shuttered AATIP program at DIA. (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b) (6)

Attachment Name : Photo 2021-02-19 16.53.23.png

## MEMORANDUM FOR: RECORD

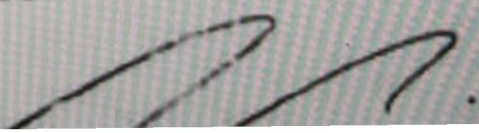
SUBJECT: Letter of Resignation &amp; Differed Retirement

Mr. Secretary;

It has been my sincere honor and pleasure to have served with some of America's finest men and women in both peace time and in war. For over 22 years, I have been blessed to learn from, and work with world-class leadership, you certainly being among the very best.

With that in mind, bureaucratic challenges and inflexible mindsets continue to plague the Department at all levels. This is particularly true regarding the controversial topic of anomalous aerospace threats. Despite overwhelming evidence at both the unclassified and classified levels, certain individuals in the Department remain staunchly opposed to further research on what could be a tactical threat to our pilots, sailors, and soldiers, and perhaps even an existential threat to our national security. In many instances, there seems to be a direct correlation the phenomena exhibits with respect to our nuclear and military capabilities. The Department must take serious the many accounts by the Navy and other Services of unusual aerial systems interfering with military weapon platforms and displaying beyond next generation capabilities. Underestimating or ignoring these potential threats is not in the best interest of the Department no matter the level of political contention. There remains a vital need to ascertain capability and intent of these phenomena for the benefit of the armed forces and the nation.

For this reason, effective 4 October 2017, I humbly submit my resignation in hopes it will encourage you to ask the hard questions: "who else knows?", what are their capabilities?", and "why aren't we spending more time and effort on the issue?". As I transition to a new chapter of my life, please know it has been an honor and privilege of a lifetime to serve with you. Rest assure, no matter where the path of life may lead me, I will always have the best interest of the Department and the American people as my guiding principle.



From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>  
 To: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@dodig.mil>  
 Subject: Re: [Non-DoD Source] Greetings/Update (ELIZONDO)  
 Date: Sun, 29 Aug 2021 23:20:20 -0600  
 Message-Id: <CAGdCzopFz1a\_q6p\_jh\_aTj-sXZJrDH6DAG\_ZNBWD-Cott+BuuQ@mail.gmail.com>

10-4! No worries! (b)(6)  
 ..sacred times indeed!

Best,  
 Lue

On Sun, Aug 29, 2021, 7:00 PM Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@dodig.mil> wrote:

Hi Lue,

Good to hear from you. (b)(6) As I mentioned earlier my folks cant help with the administrative complaint but the evaluation into the UAP is progressing!

Best to you and your family

Randy

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)> <mailto:(b)(6)>>

Date: Friday, Aug 27, 2021, 11:47

To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>; (b)(6) <(b)(6)> <mailto:(b)(6)>>

>>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Greetings/Update (ELIZONDO)

Sir,

Apologies for not seeing you this month but (b)(6)

I will try for sometime in late September to meet again with your investigators/auditors at a time of their convenience.

In the mean time, i thought you might find the below link interesting. As a result of a recent FOIA request, it appears that Pentagon PAO is still publically stating "I had no assigned responsibilities for AATIP during my time at OUSD1". Clearly they still do not acknowledge my role and addressing the public in this manner is disingenuous because it appears that i had no responsibilities at all. Hopefully during your efforts, you have a much more clear picture by now. (b)(6)

I was given a job to do by the Pentagon, and now they pretend i didnt do the job i was asked to do. It is a feeling of betrayal by certain individuals i cant begin to explain.

Thank you for your efforts.

Best Regards/Very Respectfully,

Luis "Lue" Elizondo

<https://www.theblackvault.com/documentarchive/department-of-defense-briefing-card-on-unidentified-aerial-phenomena/>

(As of May 17, 2021:) "[If asked about the role of former DoD employee Luis Elizondo in the Advanced Aerospace

Threat Identification Program (AATIP):] Luis Elizondo had no assigned responsibilities for

AATIP while assigned to OUSD(1)."

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From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting  
 Date Fri, 7 May 2021 13:34:31 +0000  
 Message-Id <2d68821d5c5644fbbd1135d8b46b9902@DODIG.MIL>

(b) (5), (b) (6)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 9:31 AM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting

Sir - After we spoke yesterday, I worked with (b) (6) to find out the security rules about asking Luis Elizondo questions that may have classified answers.  
 Not sure at the moment how soon we would do the interview, but when I call him to set it up, I'll get his SSN so we know what clearances he used to have. When he left gov't service he had to sign a non-disclosure agreement, hence the need to figure out the legal way for him to divulge anything classified he wants to tell us.  
 V/r,

(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 9:24 AM  
 To: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting  
 CUI

Morning (b) (6),  
 (CUI) Per our conversation yesterday in the office, OSEC will need to validate Mr. Luis Elizondo's clearance accesses/eligibility before a meeting is scheduled with EVAL. (b) (5). Please let me know when the meeting will be set up and please obtain Mr. Elizondo's SSN so we can begin the security checks.  
 (U) Attached is the email communication with (b) (6) and the OSEC team for your reference. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)

Mobile: (b) (6)

Controlled by: DoD-OIG  
 Controlled by: OSEC  
 CUI Category: OPSEC  
 Distribution/Dissemination Control: FED ONLY  
 POC: (b) (6)  
 CUI

From: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting  
 Date: Fri, 7 May 2021 13:51:12 +0000  
 Message-Id: <bad1847f06354849940dce856513cade@DODIG.MIL>

Yes.... and I like that.

-----Original Message-----

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 9:38 AM  
 To: "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting  
 Also, it appears we are already on the same page as (b) (6) related to (b) (6)

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 9:31 AM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting

Sir - After we spoke yesterday, I worked with (b) (6) to find out the security rules about asking Luis Elizondo questions that may have classified answers.  
 Not sure at the moment how soon we would do the interview, but when I call him to set it up, I'll get his SSN so we know what clearances he used to have. When he left gov't service he had to sign a non-disclosure agreement, hence the need to figure out the legal way for him to divulge anything classified he wants to tell us.  
 V/r,  
 (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: "(b) (6)", OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 9:24 AM  
 To: "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: [Secure] (CUI) Luis Elizondo Tentative Meeting  
 CUI

Morning (b) (6),  
 (CUI) Per our conversation yesterday in the office, OSEC will need to validate Mr. Luis Elizondo's clearance accesses/eligibility before a meeting is scheduled with EVAL. (b) (6). Please let me know when the meeting will be set up and please obtain Mr. Elizondo's SSN so we can begin the security checks.  
 (U) Attached is the email communication with (b) (6) and the OSEC team for your reference. Please let me know if you have any questions.  
 Best Regards,  
 (b) (6)

Mobile: (b)(6)

~~Controlled by: DoD OIG~~

~~Controlled by: OSEG~~

~~GUI Category: OPSEG~~

~~Distribution/Dissemination Control: FED ONLY~~

~~POC: (b)(6)~~

~~GUI~~

From "Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign  
 Date Thu, 27 May 2021 15:06:45 +0000  
 Message-Id <7a2a253b23bb4f1baa0bcff9ad411e87@DODIG.MIL>

---

Thanks

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021, 11:06 AM  
 To: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign  
 Enjoy!  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:06 AM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign  
 Good weather today but then rain and cooler temps tomorrow. It the change of scenery will be good!  
 Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021, 11:04 AM  
 To: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign  
 Sounds awesome I'm jealous!!  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:04 AM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

Roger. [redacted]. This week was a busy three days!  
Margie

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(www.blackberry.com)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <[redacted]@DODIG.MIL<mailto:[redacted]  
[redacted]@DODIG.MIL>>

Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021, 10:57 AM

To: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <[redacted]@DODIG.MIL<mai

lto:[redacted]@DODIG.MIL>>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

[redacted]. Keep me in the loop and I will do the same. When you get back from vacation lets catch up!

Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
DoD Office of the Inspector General

[redacted]

From: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <[redacted]@DODIG.MIL>

Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 10:54 AM

To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <[redacted]@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

[redacted]

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <[redacted]@DODIG.MIL<mailto:[redacted]  
[redacted]@DODIG.MIL>>

Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021, 10:24 AM

To: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <[redacted]@DODIG.MIL<mai

lto:[redacted]@DODIG.MIL>>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

[redacted]

Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
DoD Office of the Inspector General

[redacted]

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD

Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 10:23 AM

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Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

[redacted]

Randy  
Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
DoD Office of the Inspector General

[redacted]



From: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 9:19 PM  
 To: O'Donnell, Sean W., HON, OIG DoD <(b) (6) @dodig.mil>; Stebbins, Steven A., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; Zola, Michael C., OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

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 FYSA.  
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 (b) (6)  
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 (www.blackberry.com)  
 From: POLITICO Pro Defense <alert@email.politicopro.com<mailto:alert@email.politicopro.com>>  
 Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 8:10 PM  
 To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>>  
 Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

[Image removed by sender. POLITICO Pro]

Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

By Bryan Bender | 05/26/2021 08:09 PM EDT

[Image removed by sender.] A day after Lue Elizondo filed his complaint, the agency's inspector general announced a probe into Pentagon "actions" on UFOs. | Charles Dharapak, File/AP

The former Pentagon official who went public about reports of UFOs has filed a complaint with the agency's inspector general claiming a coordinated campaign to discredit him for speaking out — including accusing a top official of threatening to tell people he was "crazy," according to documents reviewed by POLITICO.

Lue Elizondo, a career counterintelligence specialist who was assigned in 2008 to work for a Pentagon program that investigated reports of "unmanned aerial phenomenon," filed the 64-page complaint to the independent watchdog on May 3 and has met several times with investigators, according to his legal team.

The claim that the government is trying to discredit him comes weeks before the director of national intelligence and the Pentagon are expected to deliver an unclassified report to Congress about UFOs and the government's strategy for investigating such encounters. The report is expected to include a detailed accounting of the agencies, personnel and surveillance systems that gather and analyze the data.

"What he is saying is there are certain individuals in the Defense Department who in fact were attacking him and lying about him publicly, using the color of authority of their offices to disparage him and discredit him and were interfering in his ability to seek and obtain gainful employment out in the world," said Daniel Sheehan, Elizondo's attorney. "And also threatening his security clearance."

Sheehan, a public interest lawyer and activist, has a long history <[https://christicinstitute.org/docs/DanielSheehan\\_CV.pdf?source=email](https://christicinstitute.org/docs/DanielSheehan_CV.pdf?source=email)> of taking on the federal government on behalf of high-profile clients, including defending the New York Times in the Pentagon Papers case as well as one of the Watergate burglars. He is also widely viewed as a provocateur who has an abiding interest in UFOs and has spoken publicly <<https://www.amazon.com/Close-Encounters-Fifth-Kind-Contact/dp/B086D4D3V6?source=email>> about alien visitations. He also served as counsel for the Disclosure Project, led by ufologist Steven Greer, that has sought to force more government transparency on UFOs.

When asked for comment, Elizondo referred questions to Sheehan.

Sheehan maintains the goal of Elizondo's IG complaint is much bigger than clearing his name: He wants to compel the Pentagon to clear up all the ambiguity about what it knows about UFOs.

"Nobody seemed to be taking this thing seriously," Sheehan said of Elizondo's concerns when he left the Pentagon in 2017. "The different units and different groups that are responsible for responding to this particular phenomenon ... they're not briefing each other on this."

"The old dodge," Sheehan says, "is 'oh well, the real problem was that one shop wasn't communicating with the other shop.' That's the classic bureaucratic dodge. I'm trying to get the Defense Department to clarify for the public and media what exactly is the cartography inside the Defense Department for dealing with this particular phenomenon."

A spokesperson for the Defense Department IG's office declined to comment on the status of Elizondo's complaint. "I cannot speculate or deliberate about complaints that our office may have received," said Dwrena Allen. "I certainly cannot confirm or deny the existence of an investigation to the same."

But a day after Elizondo filed his complaint, the IG announced a probe <<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/05/04/pentagon-inspector-general-military-ufo-485356?source=email>> into Pentagon "actions" on UFOs, which is being undertaken by the assistant inspector general for evaluations on space, intelligence, engineering and oversight.

"We may revise the objective as the evaluation proceeds, and we will consider suggestions from management for additional or revised objectives," stated the IG's memo announcing that probe.

It remains unclear whether Elizondo's claims will be found to merit an official investigation, but his legal team says he is scheduled to meet again with investigators from the IG next month.

Elizondo has become a minor celebrity since he retired from the Pentagon in October 2017 and went public about the Advanced Aerial Threat Identification Program, or AATIP, a secret Pentagon effort that was initiated in 2008 by then-Sen. Harry Reid. POLITICO and the New York Times revealed the existence of the office <<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/12/16/pentagon-ufo-search-harry-reid-216111?source=email>> and Elizondo's role in it in December 2017.

Elizondo complained at the time that his Pentagon bosses were failing to take seriously numerous intrusions into military airspace by high-performance aircraft of unknown origin.

"It was during this time I grew increasingly frustrated by the lack of resources and interest by senior leadership," he states in the IG complaint. "UAP reporting to our office was increasing, yet our resources were minimal, and leadership involvement was almost non-existent.

"After increased frustration, " he added, "I became alarmed by the frequency and duration of UAP activity in and around controlled U.S. airspace. The instances seemed more provocative, and during one instance, they came within feet of a U.S. fighter aircraft."

After he retired from government service, Elizondo also shared with the media a trio of Navy videos<[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO\\_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email)> he got declassified before he left government service.

He claims he has since endured a coordinated effort to malign his reputation, including Pentagon press statements asserting he had no official role in UFO research, even after his role was officially confirmed. He also alleges a personal vendetta from a Pentagon rival he claims has sought repeatedly to damage his career, including trying to have him investigated for releasing the video after he had been cleared of any wrongdoing. Elizondo charges "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal and explicit threats perpetrated by certain senior-level Pentagon officials," according to the complaint, which includes dozens of supporting documents.

POLITICO is declining to publish the names of the Pentagon officials who are cited in the IG complaint because it is unclear whether they are being investigated.

But Elizondo told the IG he has evidence, in the form of emails, documents and the public record, "which suggests a coordinated effort to obfuscate the truth from the American people while impugning my reputation as a former intelligence officer at the Pentagon."

"These negative actions against me have resulted in great personal and professional challenges to me and my family," he adds in the complaint.

In recounting one episode in the days after he left government service, Elizondo claims a senior official warned him that he would "tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance."

"I responded ... by telling him that he can take any action he thinks is prudently necessary, but that I was not mentally impaired, nor have I ever violated my security oath," Elizondo wrote in the complaint, saying he did not meet with the official again "after our discussion as I feared he would take retribution against me."

The IG complaint also charges that the Pentagon's press operation has engaged in a disinformation campaign to discredit him by suggesting he was lying about his UFO work.

He cites several public statements asserting the department had no record of his involvement in UFOs even after saying that he did<<https://theintercept.com/2019/06/01/ufo-unidentified-history-channel-luis-elizondo-pentagon/?source=email>> work for AATIP.

"Several internet bloggers were notified ... that I had no duties regarding AATIP and that AATIP did not involve the study of UAPs," Elizondo told the IG. "As a result, the bloggers began to disseminate reporting, accusing me of being a fabricator."

He said when he inquired why the Pentagon had changed its official story about AATIP, he claims one individual directly involved told him he “was not happy with the way this was being handled internally with the Department.” The official also said he “was aware I ran AATIP, but forces within the building were telling him not to admit it,” according to Elizondo.

The Pentagon public affairs office declined to comment for this story.

The Defense Department this month publicly acknowledged <http://nickpope.net/wpte19/blog/?source=email> in a statement that the AATIP program was involved in UFO research, but it has not corrected the record on Elizondo's involvement, he says.

“It goes beyond simple ambiguity,” Sheehan said. “There [are] actual discordant narratives that are going on. They're professing a substantial amount of confusion.”

Elizondo maintains that the efforts to punish him for coming forward continue. The IG complaint outlines that his release of the three unclassified UFO videos was investigated by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and “there were no findings of me conducting any kind of Unauthorized Disclosure.”

But he says he was contacted this April by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency advising him to submit to a new interview to maintain his clearance even though it was renewed in January 2021. And he maintains he was told it was about concerns over whether he violated the rules when he made the UFO videos public.

“Despite a previous favorable AFOSI investigation, I am under accusation of releasing the videos in an unauthorized manner,” he wrote in the IG complaint.

Elizondo has continued to publicly maintain <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/03/25/ufo-sightings-report-478104?source=email> that he believes the government is covering up what it knows about UFO sightings. And Sheehan also claims Elizondo's experience within the Pentagon's bureaucracy signifies a much deeper resistance to coming clean.

He said there is “this extraordinarily bizarre process going on in the heart of the national security state bureaucracy where general officers, secretaries of defense are not being briefed in on something that is transparently within their jurisdiction.”

“That is a profound and fundamental problem that they view as being above their pay grade,” Sheehan added. “They know something is going on, and they don't dare go there.”

View this article online. <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2021/05/ex-official-who-revealed-ufo-project-accuses-pentagon-of-disinformation-campaign-2057185?source=email>

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POLITICO, LLC  
1000 Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22209  
USA

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>, (b)(6),  
 OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject FW: [Non-DoD Source] Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of  
 'disinformation' campaign  
 Date Thu, 27 May 2021 15:52:07 +0000  
 Message-Id <08fae328550e44e1b85cc6d96839c572@DODIG.MIL>

For your SA  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b)(6)

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From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)  
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(b)(5)

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
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(b)(5)

Randy  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

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All,  
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[Image removed by sender. POLITICO Pro]

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By Bryan Bender | 05/26/2021 08:09 PM EDT

[Image removed by sender.]A day after Lue Elizondo filed his complaint, the agency's inspector general announced a probe into Pentagon "actions" on UFOs. | Charles Dharapak, File/AP

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He claims he has since endured a coordinated effort to malign his reputation, including Pentagon press statements asserting he had no official role in UFO research, even after his role was officially confirmed. He also alleges a personal vendetta from a Pentagon rival he claims has sought repeatedly to damage his career, including trying to have him investigated for releasing the video after he had been cleared of any wrongdoing. Elizondo charges "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal and explicit threats perpetrated by certain senior-level Pentagon officials," according to the complaint, which includes dozens of supporting documents.

POLITICO is declining to publish the names of the Pentagon officials who are cited in the IG complaint because it is unclear whether they are being investigated.

But Elizondo told the IG he has evidence, in the form of emails, documents and the public record, "which suggests a coordinated effort to obfuscate the truth from the American people while impugning my reputation as a former intelligence officer at the Pentagon."

"These negative actions against me have resulted in great personal and professional challenges to me and my family," he adds in the complaint.

In recounting one episode in the days after he left government service, Elizondo claims a senior official warned him that he would "tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance."

"I responded ... by telling him that he can take any action he thinks is prudently necessary, but that I was not mentally impaired, nor have I ever violated my security oath," Elizondo wrote in the complaint, saying he did not meet with the official again "after our discussion as I feared he would take retribution against me."

The IG complaint also charges that the Pentagon's press operation has engaged in a disinformation campaign to discredit him by suggesting he was lying about his UFO work.

He cites several public statements asserting the department had no record of his involvement in UFOs even after saying that he did<<https://theintercept.com/2019/06/01/ufo-unidentified-history-channel-luis-elizondo-pentagon/?source=email>> work for AATIP.

"Several internet bloggers were notified ... that I had no duties regarding AATIP and that AATIP did not involve the study of UAPs," Elizondo told the IG. "As a result, the bloggers began to disseminate reporting, accusing me of being a fabricator."

He said when he inquired why the Pentagon had changed its official story about AATIP, he claims one individual directly involved told him he "was not happy with the way this was being handled internally with the Department." The official also said he "was aware I ran AATIP, but forces within the building were telling him not to admit it," according to Elizondo.

The Pentagon public affairs office declined to comment for this story.

The Defense Department this month publicly acknowledged <http://nickpope.net/wpte19/blog/?source=email> in a statement that the AATIP program was involved in UFO research, but it has not corrected the record on Elizondo's involvement, he says.

"It goes beyond simple ambiguity," Sheehan said. "There [are] actual discordant narratives that are going on. They're professing a substantial amount of confusion."

Elizondo maintains that the efforts to punish him for coming forward continue. The IG complaint outlines that his release of the three unclassified UFO videos was investigated by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and "there were no findings of me conducting any kind of Unauthorized Disclosure."

But he says he was contacted this April by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency advising him to submit to a new interview to maintain his clearance even though it was renewed in January 2021. And he maintains he was told it was about concerns over whether he violated the rules when he made the UFO videos public.

"Despite a previous favorable AFOSI investigation, I am under accusation of releasing the videos in an unauthorized manner," he wrote in the IG complaint.

Elizondo has continued to publicly maintain <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/03/25/ufo-sightings-report-478104?source=email> that he believes the government is covering up what it knows about UFO sightings. And Sheehan also claims Elizondo's experience within the Pentagon's bureaucracy signifies a much deeper resistance to coming clean.

He said there is "this extraordinarily bizarre process going on in the heart of the national security state bureaucracy where general officers, secretaries of defense are not being briefed in on something that is transparently within their jurisdiction."

"That is a profound and fundamental problem that they view as being above their pay grade," Sheehan added. "They know something is going on, and they don't dare go there."

View this article online. <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2021/05/ex-official-who-revealed-ufo-project-accuses-pentagon-of-disinformation-campaign-2057185?source=email>

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1000 Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22209  
USA

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, (b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Date Wed, 14 Jul 2021 20:15:21 +0000  
 Message-Id <64391c7b40534b469b572bab88e07d88@DODIG.MIL>

I'd like to be there for that one please  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:57 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Fyi... another person interested in speaking with us.  
 From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>  
 Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:39 PM  
 To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation

Hi (b) (6):  
 My name is (b) (6). I'm (b) (6)  
 (b) (6). Having been centrally involved in this from the outset I have some thoughts and observations I am willing to share in connection with the UAP issue if there is interest on your side.  
 (b) (6)



From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
To "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject FW: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
Date Wed, 14 Jul 2021 22:56:27 +0000  
Message-Id <a206169cff804f2ea57302f16e71f543@DODIG.MIL>

---

(b)(5)  
Randolph R. Stone  
Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
DoD Office of the Inspector General  
(b)(6)

From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:57 PM  
To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
Fyi... another person interested in speaking with us.  
From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:39 PM  
To: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation

Hi (b)(6):  
My name is (b)(6). I'm (b)(6).  
(b)(6). Having been centrally involved in this from the outset I have some thoughts and observations I am willing to share in connection with the UAP issue if there is interest on your side.  
(b)(6)

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To (b)(6), OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc (b)(6), OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: UAP - (b)(6) interview  
 Date Mon, 19 Jul 2021 16:52:53 +0000  
 Message-Id <720eef1aca004048aa1971b40c87d0e3@DODIG.MIL>

That works, mid day, thanks again  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 12:48 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: UAP - (b)(6) interview  
 Sir – What is your calendar like for next Wednesday, 28 July? If that is too soon we could do August.

V/r,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>  
 Sent: Saturday, July 17, 2021 10:12 AM  
 To: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation

Hi (b)(6):

I live in (b)(6) so I'd need to travel to DC.  
 in terms of clearances you aren't able to look them up in SC? If not, who on your end needs to be contacted and provided clearance info by the security people on this end? What level are u guys cleared for on your side and how should I confirm?  
 I may be in DC week after next and possibly probably August as well. Where would I meet you?  
 Is the week after next, say Wed too soon?

Lots to discuss.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

On Thu, Jul 15, 2021 at 11:17 AM, (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL> wrote:

(b)(6)

Thank you for reaching out to us. Do you live in the local area, or would you need to travel to DC? If you need to travel, what timeframe were you thinking, sometime in August?  
 What classification level will you be able to hold our conversations, and if higher than unclassified you will need to have your clearance sent to us.  
 Regardless of the timing or classification, we are looking forward to meeting with you.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Space, Missile and Nuclear Evaluations  
 Department of Defense Office of Inspector General

(b)(6) /DSN (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

S-VOIP (b)(6)

(b)(6)@DoDIG.mil

(b) (6) @DoDIG.smil.mil

From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:39 PM  
To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation

Hi (b) (6):

My name is (b) (6). I'm (b) (6).  
(b) (6). Having been centrally involved in this from the outset I have some thoughts and observations I am willing to share in connection with the UAP issue if there is interest on your side.

(b) (6)  
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From: "(b)(6)", OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b)(6) OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b)(6) OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Date: Thu, 22 Jul 2021 13:43:28 +0000  
 Message-Id: <ea39d7c4e9444704bcfc694619df4042@DODIG.MIL>

No, I will reach out to him to confirm he is coming Wednesday.

(b)(6)  
 Sent with BlackBerry Work  
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Date: Thursday, Jul 22, 2021, 9:35 AM  
 To: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>, (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>, (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Any word on this?  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b)(6)

From: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:57 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Fyi... another person interested in speaking with us.  
 From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>  
 Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:39 PM  
 To: (b)(6), OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation

Hi (b)(6):  
 My name is (b)(6). I'm (b)(6).  
 (b)(6). Having been centrally involved in this from the outset I have some thoughts and observations I am willing to share in connection with the UAP issue if there is interest on your side.  
 (b)(6)

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Date Thu, 22 Jul 2021 21:42:12 +0000  
 Message-Id <c310f8280d894dc189b09456c4462767@DODIG.MIL>

---

Awesome thanks much  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General  
 (b) (6)

From: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021 3:37 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Sir – we are good to go for next Wednesday. (already on your calendar)

(b) (6)  
 From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>  
 Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021 2:47 PM  
 To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation  
 Should work!

I look forward to seeing you then.  
 Can I Uber if I don't drive?

Thanks, (b) (6)  
 On Mon, Jul 19, 2021 at 1:48 PM, (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL<mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>> wrote:

(b) (6),  
 I can get a room cleared for TS/SCI next Wednesday, 28 July, from 1030-1200. Will that work for you?  
 Scheduling classified conference space is tight that close on the calendar.  
 We are located at the Mark Center, just off 395 at the Seminary Road exit. I can submit a visitor parking request for you, or if you are at the Pentagon, there is a non-stop Metro bus (7M) that runs every 15 minutes and is free if you have a CAC card.  
 We all have TS/SCI, if you need to go any higher, we'll have to get the right people in the room, which may not be me. (which is fine).  
 We can definitely look you up when you get here, or we can provide our SMO code for your security office to send your clearance over to us.

(b) (6)  
 From: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>  
 Sent: Saturday, July 17, 2021 10:12 AM  
 To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation

Hi (b) (6):  
 I live in (b) (6) so I'd need to travel to DC.  
 in terms of clearances you aren't able to look them up in SC? If not, who on your end needs to be contacted and provided clearance info by the security people on this end? What level are u guys cleared for on your side and how should I confirm?  
 I may be in DC week after next and possibly probably August as well. Where would I meet you?  
 Is the week after next, say Wed too soon?  
 Lots to discuss.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

On Thu, Jul 15, 2021 at 11:17 AM, (b) (6) OIG DoD (b) (6)

@DODIG.MIL <mailto:(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL> wrote:

(b) (6),

Thank you for reaching out to us. Do you live in the local area, or would you need to travel to DC? If you need to travel, what timeframe were you thinking, sometime in August?

What classification level will you be able to hold our conversations, and if higher than unclassified you will need to have your clearance sent to us.

Regardless of the timing or classification, we are looking forward to meeting with you.

V/r,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Space, Missile and Nuclear Evaluations  
Department of Defense Office of Inspector General

(b) (6) /DSN (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

S-VOIP (b) (6)

(b) (6) @DoDIG.mil

(b) (6) @DoDIG.smil.mil

From: (b) (6) (b) (6) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:39 PM

To: (b) (6) OIG DoD (b) (6) @DODIG.MIL >

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] UAP Investigation

Hi (b) (6):

My name is (b) (6). I'm (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6) Having been centrally involved in this from the outset I have some thoughts and observations I am willing to share in connection with the UAP issue if there is interest on your side.

(b) (6)

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From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To (b)(6), OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc (b)(6), OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: P/U Tasks  
 Date Mon, 26 Jul 2021 17:29:50 +0000  
 Message-Id <60ad74dda9db408a88f588b66637d695@DODIG.MIL>

(b)(5)  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Monday, July 26, 2021 1:19 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: P/U Tasks

Sir,  
 Will do. (b)(5), (b)(6)

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Monday, July 26, 2021 1:12 PM  
 To: (b)(6) OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: P/U Tasks

(b)(5)

Please arrange that asap, thanks,  
 Randy  
 Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b)(6)

From "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc "Zola, Michael C., OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6), OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject Senators Look to Continue Government-Led Research into Strange UFO Sightings  
 Date Wed, 25 Aug 2021 12:39:04 +0000  
 Message-Id <f6788939af8e4bd185de2993e28978bb@DODIG.MIL>

Good morning,

ICYMI: Senators Look to Continue Government-Led Research into Strange UFO Sightings

NextGov - August 24, 2021 | By Brandi Vincent

<https://www.nextgov.com/emerging-tech/2021/08/senators-look-continue-government-led-research-strange-ufo-sightings/184814/>

Provisions included in the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal 2022, which the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence recently passed via a unanimous bipartisan vote, would direct members of the intelligence community to further explore unidentified aerial phenomena, or the modern term for UFOs. The 345th section of the intelligence authorization act for the next fiscal year is titled "Support for and Oversight of the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force." Specifically, the legislation would mandate the Defense secretary and national intelligence director to "require each element of the intelligence community and the Department of Defense with data relating to unidentified aerial phenomena to make such data available immediately to the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force and to the National Air and Space Intelligence Center." Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Chairman Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., introduced the bill. New, forward-looking Congressional language such as this could further affirm and reinforce the task force's establishment, according to Elizondo. Looking ahead, he said a Pentagon Inspector General-led look into the hiccups DOD has had with UAP reporting and transparency might also make sense. He mentioned knowing of people on the Hill who are also pushing for public hearings on the topic.

Best,

(b) (6)

Office of Legislative Affairs and Communications

(b) (6)

, DoD Office of Inspector General

O:

(b) (6)

@dodig.mil

Connect with us @dod\_ig and LinkedIn at DoD Inspector General

<http://www.dodig.mil/Mailing-Lists/>



From: "(b) (6) [redacted] OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
 To: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>, "Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>, "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: "(b) (6) [redacted], OIG DoD" <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Greetings/Update (ELIZONDO)  
 Date: Fri, 27 Aug 2021 16:29:28 +0000  
 Message-Id: <8bab781454cf4d3f8d388bbb56039e9d@DODIG.MIL>

(b) (5) [redacted]  
 (b) (6) [redacted]

From: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 12:27 PM  
 To: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Cc: (b) (6) [redacted] OIG DoD <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Greetings/Update (ELIZONDO)

(b) (5) [redacted]

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering, and Oversight  
 DoD Office of the Inspector General

(b) (6) [redacted]

From: (b) (6) [redacted] <(b) (6) [redacted]>  
 Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 11:47 AM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6) [redacted]@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) [redacted] <(b) (6) [redacted]>  
 Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Greetings/Update (ELIZONDO)

Sir,  
 Apologies for not seeing you this month but (b) (6) [redacted].

I will try for sometime in late September to meet again with your investigators/auditors at a time of their convenience.  
 In the mean time, i thought you might find the below link interesting. As a result of a recent FOIA request, it appears that Pentagon PAO is still publically stating "I had no assigned responsibilities for AATIP during my time at OUSDI". Clearly they still do not acknowledge my role and addressing the public in this manner is disingenuous because it appears that i had no responsibilities at all. Hopefully during your efforts, you have a much more clear picture by now. (b) (6) [redacted]

(b) (6) [redacted]

I was given a job to do by the Pentagon, and now they pretend i didnt do the job i was asked to do. It is a feeling of betrayal by certain individuals i cant begin to explain.

Thank you for your efforts.  
 Best Regards/Very Respectfully,  
 Luis "Lue" Elizondo  
<https://www.theblackvault.com/documentarchive/department-of-defense-briefing-card-on-unidentified-aerial-phenomena/>  
 (As of May 17, 2021:) "[If asked about the role of former DoD employee Luis Elizondo in the Advanced Aerospace

Threat Identification Program (AATIP):] Luis Elizondo had no assigned responsibilities for AATIP while assigned to OUSD(I).”

From "Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
To "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>, "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
Subject Pentagon Forms a Group to Examine Unexplained Aerial Sightings  
Date Wed, 24 Nov 2021 12:26:57 +0000  
Message-Id <1d6762b0ef2944398a527941cf09c856@DODIG.MIL>

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Below probably no surprise to you.

Pentagon Forms a Group to Examine Unexplained Aerial Sightings

The announcement follows a report that failed to clarify strange phenomena observed by military pilots and others over the past two decades

New York Times Online, Nov. 24 (0008) | Julian E. Barnes

WASHINGTON -- The Pentagon on Tuesday night announced a new group to investigate reports of unidentified aerial phenomena in sensitive areas, work that will be overseen by both the military and the intelligence agencies.

The group will lead an effort to "detect, identify and attribute objects" in restricted airspace, as well as mitigate any threats to military flights.

The announcement follows the release of a report in June that failed to provide explanations of 143 sightings of strange phenomena by military pilots and others over the past two decades.

The report frustrated some inside the intelligence community who believed more analysis and research should have been done to try to categorize and explain the phenomena. Releasing a report that said the sightings were unexplained further drove theories that the videos or pictures could be visitors from space, a theory that few in the U.S. government take seriously.

Kathleen H. Hicks, the deputy defense secretary, said the new group would be called the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group. It will be overseen by an executive council made up of the undersecretary of defense for intelligence, the director of the Joint Staff and senior officials from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

The group will focus on special-use airspace, which includes military operations areas, firing ranges and places restricted for national security and other uses. In a memo, Dr. Hicks said unidentified aerial phenomena in special-use areas represented a potential safety issue for military pilots and raised "potential national security concerns."

In June, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence released a report that reviewed unidentified aerial phenomena seen since 2004, noting that 143 remained unexplained. Of those, 21 reports, involving 18 episodes, possibly demonstrated technological know-how unknown to the United States, such as objects moving without observable propulsion or with rapid acceleration that is believed to be beyond the capabilities of Russia, China or other terrestrial nations.

Government officials said privately that there was no evidence of Russian or Chinese advance technology in use, much less space-traveling aliens, in the information collected. But the officials acknowledged that the government's failure to provide much explanation would fuel a wide range of theories, some more conspiratorial than others.

While the unexplained sightings were mostly around military installations or operations, the report said that could be the result of collection bias or the presence of cutting-edge sensors.

Some people believe any phenomenon exhibiting technology beyond the

abilities of the United States needs deep study. Skeptics believe most or all of the sightings, including videos recorded by cameras on military fighter jets, can be explained by tricks of optics or naturally occurring phenomena.

But the military research that underpinned the intelligence report did little to address those theories or provide specific explanations for various sightings that have captured the public's imagination. For years a military intelligence official, Luis Elizondo, ran a little-noticed group within the Pentagon called the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program. The Pentagon has said the program was shut down in 2012, but backers of the program said its work continued. In 2020, the Pentagon announced it had a new group, the Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force.

The memo released by Dr. Hicks said the task force would immediately transition to the new synchronization group. The oversight council will choose an acting director for the new group and issue guidance, subject to Dr. Hicks's approval, she said.

The new director will have the power to standardize incident reporting of unidentified areal phenomena, ask to oversee the analysis of data on the unexplained sightings and identify shortfalls in detection capabilities.

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 Subject The Hill: Ex-officials voice deep concerns over new Pentagon UFO unit  
 Date Thu, 2 Dec 2021 12:53:50 +0000  
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Good morning.  
 FYSA, OLAC wanted to share with you the below article from the Hill.

TheHill.com  
 Ex-officials voice deep concerns over new Pentagon UFO unit  
 BY MARIK VON RENNENKAMPFF, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR - 12/01/21 12:30 PM EST  
<https://thehill.com/opinion/international/583575-a-pentagon-ufo-cover-up-ex-officials-speak-out>

According to two former Department of Defense officials, the Pentagon office recently tasked with assessing U.S. military encounters with unidentified flying objects (UFOs) is woefully ill-equipped and improperly staffed to tackle its new mission. Moreover, the initiative threatens to derail a congressional proposal that would mandate unprecedented government transparency on UFOs.

In an interview, Luis Elizondo, the former head of an informal Defense Department unit that assessed military UFO reports, told me he had deep reservations about the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence & Security (OUSD(I&S)) leading a government effort to investigate the UFO phenomenon.

According to Elizondo, UFOs are "not solely an intelligence issue. If we want 70 more years of secrecy on this topic, then OUSD(I&S) is the perfect place to put it. They've had four years so far, and we have little in the way of efforts serving the public interest."

Referring to pending legislation drafted by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) that would mandate unclassified reporting on UFOs and revolutionize the government's study of the phenomena, Elizondo believes that "if we want meaningful change and transparency, then we should keep the spirit of the Gillibrand amendment."

Christopher Mellon, who ran OUSD(I&S)'s predecessor organization during the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations, echoed Elizondo's concerns. Mellon expressed "shock" that OUSD(I&S) is taking on a permanent mission to analyze UFO encounters.

As Mellon notes, his former office is an oversight - versus an operational - organization, with no relevant "funding, line authority, contracting, command or technical capabilities" to execute the kind of robust UFO investigations Gillibrand's bipartisan legislation demands.

Like Elizondo, Mellon believes that "the inability of [OUSD(I&S)] to engage effectively on the [UFO] issue is why so little has changed or been accomplished since 2004."

Mellon's reference to 2004 is not accidental. That November, four naval aviators observed a mysterious flying object at close range that appeared to demonstrate extraordinary technologies. According to the aircrew, the

unknown craft accelerated instantaneously to hypersonic speeds without discernible engines, wings or other control surfaces. The aviators' account of the 2004 incident is corroborated by radar operators aboard a nearby ship and an airborne command and control aircraft.

Intelligence analyses of the encounter ruled out highly advanced Chinese or Russian aircraft as plausible explanations. For their part, the aviators who observed the object believe that it was "not from this world."

The 2004 incident was not an isolated event. In recent years, military personnel briefed members of Congress and spoke publicly about encounters involving unidentified objects operating with apparent impunity in sensitive airspace.

Moreover, reports from multiple highly credible observers of mysterious, "intelligently controlled" craft exhibiting extraordinary technologies date back to the 1940s. With noteworthy parallels to recent intelligence assessments, declassified government analyses from 1947 to 1952 suggested extraordinary explanations for the most compelling UFO encounters.

But after Cold War national security fears sparked seven decades of government obfuscation, derision and belittling of UFO reporting, Elizondo is "not convinced [that] burying this [issue] in the deep, dark bowels of the Pentagon under an intelligence organization is the best way to shed light on a topic that needs a whole-of-government approach."

Likening the UFO problem to climate change, where the government "brought people in from the outside to serve in an advisory role [and] capacity," Elizondo believes that involvement of "[the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration], [the Federal Aviation Administration], academia [and] the scientific community" - as mandated by Gillibrand's proposed legislation - is of critical importance.

According to Elizondo, "we've had 70 years to try to figure [the UFO problem] out as a government [while] keeping it in the halls of secrecy, and we haven't come any closer to figuring it out. Why are we going to repeat the same mistake all over again? Are we crazy? That's the very definition of insanity. Have we not learned?"

While praising Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks's attention to the UFO issue, Elizondo expressed concern that Hicks "is being hoodwinked by certain elements and members of her own staff." According to Elizondo, "if [Hicks] had the complete picture, she would not have made the decision" to place the UFO mission under the purview of OUSD(I&S).

Pressed on his reservations over OUSD(I&S) tackling the UFO problem, Elizondo pointed to "a combination of ineptitude, moral objection to the topic [and] classic stigma and taboo." Expanding on this point, Elizondo stated, "Documentation exists that, if made public, would illustrate the sense of urgency and the need for a neutral, unbiased [and] objective office" to investigate the UFO phenomenon.

Elizondo also mentioned his resignation in protest over the lack of high-level attention toward the issue, saying, "In some cases there are individuals who have taken it personally that I left in the manner that I did, and they want this entire topic to go away."

From a strategic perspective, Elizondo believes that senior OUSD(I&S) staff "want to focus on the threats that they can define, not the threats that are undefined."

According to Elizondo, "We in the [Department of Defense] are very good at addressing defined threats, whether it's [weapons of mass destruction], or terrorism or stabilization operations. But when you get to something that is ill-defined - [where] we don't know what it is, we don't know where it's from, we don't know what its capabilities are, we don't know what its intent is [and] we don't know who's behind the wheel - that is a really tough topic to tackle from a national security perspective."

"[But] just because we don't know the origin [of UFOs], doesn't mean we should keep burying our heads in the sand."

Elizondo also expressed concerns over government transparency, stating that "there is plenty of documentation substantiating that certain elements of [OUSD(I&S)] have not been forthcoming. That's one of the reasons why there's [a Department of Defense Inspector General] evaluation, to determine how they are handling or, in this case, mishandling [the UFO] topic over the last four years."

"This is the same office that has bungled up [the UFO issue] so badly and has been telling people, 'Nothing to see here,' to include not just senior [Department of Defense] leadership but also the [Department of Defense Inspector General] and even Congress. When I talk to certain elements within Congress, they all say the same thing: That the [OUSD(I&S)] support has been underwhelming."

While noting that there are "competent," "patriotic" civil servants in OUSD(I&S), Elizondo believes that certain senior leaders in the office are operating in a manner that "is not consistent with the agenda that Congress has for the American people."

Moreover, Elizondo believes that these career OUSD(I&S) officials "do not want [the UFO issue] going public. Because then they're going to have to unwind the tape and admit to a lot of people that they have not been telling the truth on this topic."

Referring, in part, to sudden Pentagon denials that he managed the Pentagon's informal UFO analysis unit, Elizondo anticipates further reprisals for speaking out.

But Elizondo expressed cautious optimism that Sen. Gillibrand's historic, bipartisan UFO legislation would become law, saying, "I think we're in a good spot. I think we've come a long way. There seem to be a lot of people really trying to get behind this in a productive - not in a sensational - way."

According to Elizondo, "members of Congress are taking a huge risk by even considering this particular topic. These are people who tend to be risk-averse to begin with, and yet they're willing to put their credibility on the line."

"What does that tell you?" he asked. "That tells you that they've seen information that is compelling enough that they're willing to do what's necessary."

Very Respectfully,

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 To "Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject RE: News of Interest: The Debrief  
 Date Wed, 13 Apr 2022 20:29:55 +0000  
 Message-Id <c397a18df85d425c97e2724321805aaf@DODIG.MIL>

Thanks for sharing  
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Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 4:00 PM

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Subject: News of Interest: The Debrief

Good Afternoon,

Please see the below article from the Debrief on Gary Reid, and his dismissal as the Pentagon's Director for Defense Intelligence and a senior executive in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S).

Please note the highlighted portion of the article in which the journalist claims he reached out to the DoD IG, and we provided no comment.

I did not receive, nor did any of my OLAC colleagues receive a recent query from the Debrief, however given the length of their investigation into this topic, he may have spoken to a former Spokesperson.

SEX, LIES, AND UFOS: PENTAGON'S HEAD OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OUSTED

<https://thedebrief.org/sex-lies-and-ufos-pentagons-head-of-counterintelligence-and-security-ousted/>

TIM MCMILLAN · APRIL 13, 2022

As the Pentagon's Director for Defense Intelligence and a senior executive in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S), Garry Reid was in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations within the Department of Defense.

This, in addition to heading up the Afghanistan Crisis Action Group, the office tasked with evacuating Afghan refugees during America's withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Now, in an exclusive, The Debrief has learned that Reid was recently dismissed from his duties within the U.S. government.

Before his ousting, Reid had been the subject of a nearly two-year-long investigation by The Debrief. Speaking on the condition of anonymity, multiple current and former Pentagon employees told The Debrief Reid had engaged in wide-ranging misconduct and corruption for years.

In the past four years, the DoD's Inspector General's Office had investigated Reid on numerous allegations, including maintaining a sexual relationship with a subordinate employee, sexual harassment, and fostering a hostile work environment.

In 2020, the IG Office found that Reid had violated Joint Ethics Regulations by creating an appearance of an inappropriate relationship or preferential treatment with a female subordinate and mishandling of Controlled Unclassified Information.

In May 2021, Reid was named in yet another formal IG complaint, this time involving former Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo.

In his complaint, Elizondo accused Reid of playing a central role in obfuscating information regarding the Pentagon's intriguing newfound interest in "unidentified aerial phenomena," more commonly known as UFOs. Reid was also accused of maliciously misleading the public about Elizondo's involvement with the DoD's quasi-secret UFO program, the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

It's not entirely clear what led to Reid's recent dismissal. However, multiple defense officials familiar with the situation told The Debrief they believed the weight of the numerous past allegations, the disastrous withdrawal of refugees from Afghanistan, and current investigations into misconduct were too significant, and ultimately led to his dismissal.

In an email, Senior Spokesperson for the Department of Defense's Public Affairs Office, Susan Gough, did not refute that Reid had been dismissed. However, the DoD declined to provide any further comment on the matter at this time.

SEX...

According to a "Report of Investigation" obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act, in late 2019, Reid was investigated by the DoD's Inspector General's Office regarding four separate complaints of him having sexual affairs with subordinate employees, sexual harassment and creating a "negative work environment."

Two of the complaints accused Reid of having a sexual affair and providing preferential treatment to a female subordinate, identified in the report as "Employee 1."

Various witnesses told IG investigators they had observed Reid and Employee 1 engaging in questionable behavior, including kissing, hugging, and close personal interactions. "They definitely stand closer to each other than I would stand next to any of my [colleagues]," one witness told investigators.

In 2018 and 2019, Reid and Employee 1 took personal trips out of town together on at least two occasions.

During a third official trip to Europe in 2018, investigators said Reid and Employee 1 took two days of personal leave to go "sightseeing."

Daily lunches between Reid and Employee 1 also raised eyebrows among co-workers.

According to witnesses, Reid and Employee 1 frequently enjoyed office lunches together, with some accounts saying the door to Reid's office was often seen closed. Several witnesses also described the lunchtime powwows as "very weird."

"[There were] two place settings, like ... a restaurant" complete with "salt and pepper shakers, a side table, and some sparkling water," witnesses were quoted saying.

IG investigators determined that for more than a year, Reid and Employee 1 regularly commuted to work and went to the gym together. One witness described the couple's carpooling as "odd."

"He's the boss, and she's a subordinate," said one witness. "[I have] never seen that type of relationship between a supervisor and subordinate."

Out of twenty witnesses interviewed by IG investigators, only three said Reid and Employee 1's relationship was "solely professional." The remaining witnesses described the couple as "close," "very close," "perceived close," or "inappropriately close." Several witnesses told investigators the relationship between Reid and Employee 1 made them feel "awkward."

Then-Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Kari Bingen told IG investigators she had heard "rumors" that Reid and Employee 1 spent a lot of time together and had even raised the issue with him sometime in 2019. According to the report, Reid told Bingen he was merely "mentoring" Employee 1. Independent investigation by The Debrief revealed the perception that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate relationship extended far beyond just the offices in OUSD(I&S).

Former senior officials who worked directly for former Secretary of Defense James Mattis and in the White House during the Trump administration told The Debrief it was "common knowledge" that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate, assumed romantic relationship.

One official who worked within the Office of the Secretary of Defense said they had heard a rumor that Reid and Employee 1 had been caught engaging in some type of sexual activity in the Pentagon parking lot. The official, who still works for the Department of Defense, reiterated this was only a rumor.

During interviews, both Reid and Employee 1 denied allegations of being in a sexual affair, both describing their relationship instead as merely a very close friendship.

Employee 1 told IG investigators that she referred to herself as the "[Reid] whisperer and [Reid] interpreter" because "people bring things to me first, and they make me deliver the bad news," which is "kind of my role." For his part, Reid described his interactions with Employee 1 as being akin to a mentor and mentee.

Both Reid and Employee 1 admitted that on occasion, they may have kissed on the cheek or briefly hugged each other, but in a strictly platonic manner. Employee 1 told investigators that all of the kisses she received from Reid were "never uncomfortable" and didn't "feel aggressive or inappropriate or meaningful."

Reid denied providing preferential treatment, saying any added responsibilities or inclusion on travel trips outside of Employee 1's scope of employment were part of his mentorship. Reid said this was done based on guidance by Deputy Undersecretary Bingen to "build up a bench" as part of talent management efforts by the DoD.

Though unmentioned in the IG report, The Debrief learned in its independent investigation that in January 2019, Employee 1 was promoted to a high-level executive position within the newly formed Defense Counterintelligence & Security Agency (DCSA). In November 2019, while the IG Office was conducting its investigation, Employee 1 resigned and left the DoD for the private sector.

Ultimately, the IG Office concluded that Reid had violated DoD Joint Ethics Regulations by "establishing and maintaining a close and unduly familiar relationship with Employee 1, creating a widespread perception of an inappropriate relationship and favoritism."

In a rebuttal to the IG Office's conclusions, Reid said his frequent interactions with Employee 1 were due to an administrative reorganization in February 2019, in an apparent reference to Employee 1's promotion at DCSA. Short of flatly accusing Reid of lying, IG investigators said his statements "minimized his interactions" with Employee 1 by failing to highlight they had taken personal out-of-town trips and were commuting, eating lunch, and attending the gym together daily, in at least 2018.

While there was considerable circumstantial evidence, the IG's Office ultimately said they could not substantiate that Reid and Employee 1 were engaged in a "sexual affair." Investigators, however, noted they uncovered "many instances of conduct by Mr. Reid and her that were unduly personal and not professional or performance-related."

The report's authors underscored their conclusion by highlighting that Reid kissed Employee 1 on at least one occasion in her office and "routinely in the morning and evening hours during their commute together."

[Editorial Note: During its investigation, The Debrief was able to determine the identity of "Employee 1."

However, the individual is no longer in public service, and their identity has therefore been withheld from this report.]

LIES...

In 2020 the DoD Inspector General's Office investigated Reid regarding another allegation that he was involved in an inappropriate sexual affair with a subordinate female co-worker, identified in reports as "Employee 2."

The dynamics of the IG's investigation quickly changed when Employee 2 denied that she had been in a sexual relationship with Reid, instead claiming she had been the victim of repeated sexual harassment.

According to the IG's report, Reid had "kissed and hugged" Employee 2 in the workplace on multiple occasions, something Employee 2 said made her "uncomfortable" and was "unwelcome and inappropriate."

Employee 2 said Reid kissed and hugged her "always in the context of some goodbye" or after a heated exchange as a "let's make up [and] let's hug it out."

During hugs, Employee 2 said she would always try to turn her head away because Reid “would try to kiss her on the ‘cheek or closer.” Employee 2 said Reid would kiss her on the “mouth, side of the mouth, or cheek, depending on how quickly she could move her head.”

Employee 2 admitted she had never confronted Reid, who was her supervisor, about the unwanted interactions out of fear of the consequences.

“If you tell Reid, ‘I’m really not comfortable with that, that’s really inappropriate,’ then you have Hell to pay. Your life is miserable. And it just wasn’t worth it. So you put up with it,” Employee 2 was quoted.

“I just felt like this is a real crappy thing that I have to put up with. ... So, I don’t, I mean, it’s not like I was like, ‘Oh my God, I’ve been violated. I need to call the sexual assault helpline,” said Employee 2 when asked how the kisses and hugs made her feel.

“Like, I’m so conditioned to just deal with it. [It] sucks that women have to put up with this, and I’m one of them, and it’s just part of doing business.”

Ironically, Employee 1 from the first IG complaint told investigators she had witnessed Reid “kiss Employee 2 occasionally,” but that it did not “make an impression on [her] as anything concerning or noteworthy.”

When confronted with the allegations, Reid told investigators that he had “never sexually harassed anybody, male or female.” Reid did not deny, however, that he occasionally hugged or kissed Employee 2, but only on the cheek. Reid said Employee 2 never told him his kisses were unwelcome or gave a “negative response.”

“I sit here watching TV with Harvey Weinstein and everything else going on here, and again I’m still in shock that you came in here, and you told me of all the things you included, that I sexually harrassed [Employee 2],” said Reid. “But I did nothing of the sort and did everything to the contrary to help her, and she agreed with the help, and she would be the first to tell you I helped her.”

Reid went on to say he thought perhaps Employee 2’s allegations of sexual harassment were out of “revenge and retaliation” because he did not support her career advancement. “She took that very negatively – that [I] didn’t have her back.”

During their investigation into the sexual harassment allegations, IG investigators said they examined text messages and emails between Reid and Employee 2. Investigators said messages showed Employee 2 “frequently engaging Reid in common interest conversations” and seemed to show “support for his work.”

In light of Reid admitting to on occasion kissing or hugging Employee 2, the IG office concluded: “Considering the totality of the relationship between Mr. Reid and Employee 2, we did not find sufficient evidence to determine that Mr. Reid’s conduct toward Employee 2 constituted sexual harassment or some other form of misconduct.”

The Debrief was able to speak with a female former Pentagon official who was familiar with the IG’s 2020 investigation into Reid for sexual misconduct and harassment. The former official requested anonymity out of concern for reprisal. The Debrief verified the former official was indeed in a position to comprehensively understand the workplace dynamics in OUSDI under Reid’s leadership.

According to the former official, Reid’s inappropriate behavior towards female employees was apparent and widely known amongst the staff at OUSDI. “He was extremely arrogant. It didn’t matter who was around, senior civilian staff, attorneys, military officials. It didn’t matter. He would still do completely inappropriate things.”

The career female defense official said she understood why “Employee 2” in the IG investigation didn’t initially report Reid’s behavior, and it only came to light due to another allegation of misconduct.

“As a woman working in the Pentagon, which is still largely a boy’s club, when you see someone like Reid blatantly behaving like he did, you say, ‘Why bother?’ Why speak out because all that is going to happen is you’re going to be penalized, but nothing will happen to someone like Reid. So you just accept it’s not worth it.”

“And look what happened,” the former female defense official added. “Nothing was done about him sexually harassing one co-worker [Employee 2], while the other co-worker [Employee 1] he was having an affair with got promoted into a senior position. What kind of message does that send?”

Another current female defense official who was not working in the Pentagon during the IG’s initial investigation, but whose current position put her in contact with Reid and OUSD(I&S) told The Debrief that she would like to hope things are changing for the better. However, evidence often suggests otherwise.

“Let’s be honest here. He [Reid] didn’t get run off until he screwed up Afghanistan and a man [Elizondo] filed an IG complaint,” said the current female Defense official.

“As a woman, personally I look at his behavior and think he’s a pig,” the current female Defense official added. “Professionally, I’d consider him a huge CI [counterintelligence] risk. If I’m a foreign adversary, I realize all I need to do to compromise this guy is wave a skirt in front of him. It’s kind of remarkable he was the head of counterintelligence.”

In yet another IG complaint during the 2019-2020 time frame, an anonymous co-worker accused Reid of creating a hostile and combative work environment. Of twenty-one witnesses interviewed by IG investigators,

one-third gave unfavorable appraisals of Reid's leadership, describing him as "nasty," "gruff," "moody," "unpredictable," "not very communicative," or "incredibly inconsistent."

One witness said Reid could get "angry" and "downright mean" when things weren't going well, and he wanted answers.

"When he's talking to you, like he's interrogating you, [and] talking to you like you're the gum on his shoe, bottom of his shoe. Just no, even basic human respect. I mean it was like he had no time for you," said one witness. "If he was not happy with you, you knew it and felt it."

Twelve witnesses offered a slightly more favorable appraisal, saying Reid was "firm" and "blunt" but also "smart," "strategic," and "successful."

Reid's then-boss, Deputy Undersecretary for Intelligence Kari Bingen, described him as a "pit-bull as in if you give him something and he will kind of be dogged about getting it down."

Bingen admitted there had been "several, or a handful of individuals" who said it had been "really hard to work for him" during exit interviews upon leaving the Pentagon. Bingen, however, told investigators she had seen "flashes of him doing his job very well, him building relationships, [and] him getting things done effectively."

Ultimately, the Inspector General's Office said the negative comments about Reid's leadership "did not rise to the level of violations of the JER," concluding Reid had not fostered a negative work environment.

During their overall investigations in 2020, the DoD IG said they uncovered that Reid had at times used his personal email account to conduct "official DoD business." On 65 occasions, investigators found Reid had used his personal email to share Controlled Unclassified Information.

Reid claimed he had only used his personal email for "rare and extraordinary" situations but agreed, "I probably should have known better." In their final conclusion, the IG Office said Reid violated DoD policies regarding email use, highlighting his later remarks and agreeing "[He] should have known better."

AND UFOS...

In October 2017, the then-Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo, resigned from the Pentagon following a lengthy career in which he had served in various senior intelligence roles.

Elizondo's reason for suddenly departing his employer of over 20 years involved UFOs, or in contemporary parlance, unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP).

Elizondo says he headed up a secretive working group within the Pentagon for over half-a-decade investigating UAP encounters by members of the U.S. military under the moniker of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

Elizondo's sudden October 2017 resignation was in protest after it became clear that some in Pentagon leadership were preventing senior defense officials from being briefed on these concerning UAP incidents. In December 2017, Elizondo revealed the existence of AATIP in an expose by the New York Times. Following the feature article—which thrust Elizondo, AATIP, and UAP into the limelight—was the release of three DoD videos captured in 2004 and 2015 by the targeting cameras of F/A-18 fighter jets. The Pentagon has since begrudgingly admitted the objects seen in the videos are characterized as UAP.

In the ensuing years, Elizondo has become one of the most prominent and vocal advocates for the formal investigation of these mysterious incidents.

To their credit, the Pentagon and Congressional leadership have backed up Elizondo's most extraordinary claim: That devices of apparent intelligent control and unknown origin are flying in our skies with impunity. Current Senators, former directors of the CIA, Office of National Intelligence, Deputy Secretaries of Defense, Naval Secretaries, Presidents of the United States, military fighter pilots, and a newly formed and congressionally mandated DoD Office specifically tasked with investigating UAP – have all substantiated Elizondo's core claims.

Perhaps unsurprising given the taboo nature of UFOs, that's not to say there hasn't been some controversy regarding Elizondo's claims.

Specific to the well-known UFO whistleblower, after initially confirming Elizondo ran AATIP since the spring of 2019, the DoD has been steadfast in claiming he had no "assigned responsibilities" in the program. In fairness, over the last 5 years, the DoD's position on AATIP or UAP has been, at best, indecisive.

According to Elizondo and several current and former defense officials that The Debrief spoke with, the Pentagon's inconsistent messaging on Elizondo's involvement in AATIP and general aversion to being open about its interest in UAP is in large part due to one person: Luis Elizondo's former boss at OUSD(I&S). Or as one current senior Intelligence Official worded it when speaking with The Debrief, "Garry Fucking Reid." According to documents related to a May 2021 IG complaint filed by Elizondo, which was reviewed by The Debrief, shortly after resigning on October 5, 2017, Elizondo received a call from his former boss Garry Reid.

A “clearly upset” Reid wanted to know what he should do with Elizondo’s resignation letter and demanded he come to see him at the Pentagon. When Elizondo declined the invitation, Reid reportedly threatened him, saying he would “tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance.”

By November, Elizondo said he received several phone calls from former colleagues at OUSD(I&S) warning him that Reid and “Employee 1” (from the IG complaint) were “coming after him.”

This could be written off as an apparently emotional and volatile former boss blowing off steam. However, it would seem, Reid indeed did attempt to make good on his threats.

On December 22, 2017, five days after Elizondo and AATIP made headlines in the New York Times, an investigation into Elizondo and the release of the three DoD videos depicting UAP incidents was launched by the Air Force Office of Special Investigation (AFOSI).

A copy of the final report obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act indicates AFOSI’s primary task was to investigate the release of the three UAP videos under the presumption these videos were classified. The report notes the videos were classified as Secret/No Foreign.

The fact that AFOSI investigators initially thought the videos were Secret is intriguing.

The DoD has since admitted the three brief clips were never classified. Additionally, emails obtained through FOIA show that this was abundantly clear as far back as the summer of 2017, when Elizondo was trying to get the videos cleared for public release.

Given that they were indeed unclassified, Elizondo could have, at most, potentially committed an administrative violation for publicly releasing the videos before they had been cleared by the Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review (DOPSR).

From the onset, had AFOSI been aware of this, they would have known that an investigation was pointless since Elizondo was no longer working for the DoD. Nevertheless, the impression that the videos were classified caused it to become a criminal matter, which allowed AFOSI to initiate the investigation.

After over four months of investigation, AFOSI arrived at the same conclusion that should have been abundantly clear from the beginning: “The three videos obtained by the SUBJECT were confirmed to be UNCLASSIFIED.” Both AFOSI and the Unauthorized Disclosure Program Management Office considered the matter closed on April 13, 2018.

Copies of AFOSI’s final report were forwarded for “Action” to OUSDI, acknowledging OUSDI as the office initially requesting the investigation.

The person working out of OUSDI in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations for the DoD at the time had been Garry Reid.

Speaking under the condition of anonymity, a senior defense official who had firsthand knowledge of the incident told The Debrief they knew for certain that the 2017-2018 AFOSI investigation was done at the behest of Reid as a way of retaliating against Elizondo.

Reid’s aim, reportedly, was to try and get Elizondo’s security clearance revoked. Treating it as a counterintelligence matter only ensured increased scrutiny.

“OSI all but came back and told him [Reid] it was improper use of their resources. Based on his position, they couldn’t actually say that, but if you read between the lines on the report, that’s what you see.”

According to the Defense official, this was far from the only act of retribution Reid took against Elizondo.

“Reid had USDI Security put an entry in Elizondo’s file on Scattered Castles, which is the clearance system used for IC interagency clearance passage, so that if he tried to go to any SCIF in the IC, Reid would get a call and be able to cause questions so that Interagency partners would come to believe there was a ‘problem’ and not let him in,” the Defense official explained.

“This is a stealth administrative way to block someone’s access without overtly putting anything out there. These types of admin dirty tricks were perpetrated by Reid against Elizondo over and over again.”

Multiple former and current Defense Officials familiar with the matter told The Debrief that going after Elizondo’s security clearance had been only one of the administrative dirty tricks Reid played.

Initially, when news of AATIP came to light in 2017, then-Pentagon Spokesperson Dana White acknowledged Elizondo had run the program.

By Spring of 2019, however, the DoD did an about-face, releasing the boilerplate statement that “Mr. Elizondo had no responsibilities with regard to the AATIP program while he worked in OUSDI [the Office of Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence].”

A former senior advisor to Secretary of Defense James Mattis told The Debrief they had been briefed at the Pentagon by Elizondo several times in early 2017 on UAP incidents and were dumbfounded when they saw the DoD’s new “no responsibilities” position.

“I actually called PAO and said, ‘How can you say that? I was read into this and [was] briefed by him [Elizondo].’” The former advisor says they never provided an adequate explanation for why the DoD was now denying Elizondo’s role with the program.



Two current Defense officials told The Debrief they knew that senior leadership at the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), who at the time was managing the DoD's officially sanctioned UAP Task Force, had provided clarifying statements to the Public Affairs Office reflecting Elizondo had been the senior ranking official in the joint working group investigating UAP known as AATIP.

Documents reviewed by The Debrief show that on June 3, 2020, Elizondo emailed the DoD's newly appointed UAP public affairs czar, Susan Gough, requesting a correction to previous statements that more correctly reflected his involvement with AATIP. In the email, Elizondo provided 14 names of individuals ranging from senior Pentagon officials, private contractors, to members of Congress who could verify his involvement. Each of Elizondo's attempts to correct the record on his former's role with the AATIP program went unrecognized.

Several current and former Defense officials tell The Debrief that the DoD's steadfast denial regarding Elizondo and often inconsistent and confusing public statements on UAP can be traced back to Elizondo's last boss, Garry Reid.

After three years of attempts at clearing his name and setting the record straight, Elizondo finally filed a formal complaint with the DoD Inspector General's Office in May 2021.

In unclassified documents reviewed by The Debrief, Elizondo accused Reid of "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal, and explicit threats."

In the cover letter to his complaint, Elizondo said, "I am fully aware of the magnitude of my allegations against certain individuals in the Department, and I am able to substantiate these claims."

Speaking with The Debrief, Elizondo said part of Reid's vendetta against and misleading statements about his involvement with AATIP are likely related to the fact he was never made aware of the program. "Since I could not trust him, I never indoctrinated him into the program, and instead was working with echelons within the Department above him," said Elizondo.

"I was aware of his perceived misconduct and could not risk the integrity of the program by involving him. Last I heard, he was coaching Pentagon Spokesperson, Susan Gough how to respond to inquiries by the media about me. This would explain the obvious inaccuracies provided to the media about me by Ms. Gough," surmised Elizondo.

#### "THE WORST IS YET TO COME" – THE LATEST ON RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE

The Inspector General's Office declined to comment on Elizondo's complaint.

Just before Elizondo filed his complaint, the IG's Office announced they were launching an evaluation "to determine the extent to which the DoD has taken actions regarding Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP)." Both the investigations into Elizondo's complaint and the evaluation of the DoD's handling of UAP are still on going and when it comes to the DoD's handling of UAP, once again all roads lead to Garry Reid.

In August of 2020, the DoD officially announced the establishment of a UAP Task Force to "improve its understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAPs."

However, copies of emails obtained by The Debrief via FOIA show that senior DoD leadership, as high as the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of the Navy, were being briefed on UAP at least a year earlier in 2019. Lawmakers on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Armed Services Committee were also receiving briefings on UAP by 2019.

And while all of these efforts in 2019-2020—including those by the UAP Task Force—were being managed by the Office of Naval Intelligence, the cognizant authority for the DoD's UAP investigations was the Defense Intelligence, Collection, and Special Programs Office at OUSD(I&S), which fell under the direct control of the Director of Defense Intelligence: Garry Reid.

So while Congress was passing legislation requesting preliminary evaluations of UAP incidents and establishing a formal UAP investigative office in the Pentagon, the principal executive overseeing these efforts was Reid.

The same Reid that multiple defense officials say has not only maintained a years-long vendetta against Elizondo but also played a central role in obstructing efforts to formally investigate purported UAP sightings going back to at least late 2017.

Notwithstanding all of this, in November 2021, when the DoD decided to get ahead of an upcoming Congressional mandate, Reid was named as the Executive Secretary of the newly formed UAP investigative office, the verbosely titled the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group (AOIMSG).

With Reid's sudden departure, the Director for Defense Intelligence (Warfighter Support) Air Force Major General Aaron Prupas will likely take over leadership of the AOIMSG, at least for the time being.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...

In light of having been named in multiple past IG complaints; in violation of DoD Joint Ethics Regulations; " and the subject of a still ongoing IG investigation involving allegations of "malicious activities"; miraculously, in July 2021, Reid found himself named as the Director of the DOD Crisis Action Group for Afghanistan.

In this role, Reid served as the lead DoD official overseeing the relocation of refugees and transportation of U.S. embassy staff, American citizens, allies, and other partners during the U.S.'s frantic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Horrific images of desperate Afghans clinging to the landing gear of massive C-17 cargo planes as they took to the sky would suggest that Reid's Afghanistan Crisis Action Group was a complete disaster. And the data would concur.

In a joint press conference with Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby on August 16, Reid said while working closely with the Department of State, the Crisis Action Group was focusing on relocating Special Visa Applications (SIV). "To date, nearly 2,000 Afghans have passed through this process," said Reid.

According to a February 2022 report issued by the Association of Wartime Allies, of the 81,000 SIV applicants who had pending visa applications on the day of Reid's press conference, on August 31, when the final U.S. cargo planes went wheels up, 78,000 were left behind.

Six months after America's withdrawal, AWA collected data on 10,803 of the 78,000 Afghan refugees left behind. Of those surveyed, 30% had been imprisoned by the Taliban; 88% reported loss of employment; 94% reported economic hardship; 70% said they went without food at least once in the last month; 84% reported going without medical care due to angst about leaving home and facing reprisals from the Taliban; and 77% said they had witnessed some form of physical violence against others for their service to the United States.

The State Department has disputed AWA's figure that 78,000 Afghan refugees were left behind, saying in early August 2021, there were about "18,000 SIV applicants." Both organizations agree that only 3,000 SIV applicants were ultimately evacuated by August 31.

So while the State Department's total figure of SIV applicants is considerably smaller than AWA's estimate, it still reflects the U.S. didn't get out nearly 84% of Afghan refugees.

According to some senior Defense officials, including those from the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) and Intelligence Community, Reid and Crisis Action Group out of OUSD(I&S) bear a large part of the blame for the U.S. not being able to get more refugees out of Afghanistan.

Officials tell The Debrief that all evacuation of refugees had to go through Reid's office in OUSD(I&S), which created a bureaucratic bottleneck that often brought operations to a standstill.

Frustrated that some military agencies were still doing everything they could to get refugees out as the Taliban swooped in and seized control of Kabul, Defense officials said OUSD(I&S) ordered all U.S. military helicopters grounded, with permission to fly having to be granted by them.

"JSOC folks and some other agencies were already working to get people out, but USDI and Reid suddenly came in and put everything to a halt. They repeatedly held things up, for no other reason than they just wanted to say they were in charge," one senior JSOC official speaking on the condition of anonymity told The Debrief. "The military, JSOC, and other agencies, were getting it done. I can't overstate it enough how much USDI and Reid's group just came in and screwed things up."

The bureaucratic ineptitude of the DoD's evacuation process was so incredible that an ad hoc group of former U.S. special operators, aid workers, and intelligence officers with experience in Afghanistan banded together in what was dubbed "Task Force Pineapple" to save as many of their former Afghan allies as possible.

An Afghan SIV applicant who was ultimately left behind told AWA, "We are suffering the worst days of our life. I never go outside my living area. I have [not] left my home since the Taliban took over the country... I have lost my job furthermore, I cannot walk freely in the city/village because the Taliban will arrest me."

#### UNUSUAL PROBLEMS SEEM TO ALWAYS SURROUND REID

Since Spring of 2020, The Debrief had been investigating claims of misconduct by Reid after a current Pentagon official reached out and expressed concerns.

The individual said they knew of the past investigations, and because Reid "had friends in high places," they had little faith in the DoD's formal oversight channels. Hence their decision to turn to the media.

In examining the claims against Reid, The Debrief reached out and spoke with numerous current and former Pentagon and Intelligence officials who had either worked with or were familiar with Reid over the following nearly two years.

Of these individuals, the only remotely favorable evaluation was from one former Senior Advisor who said they "knew about rumors" of past misdeeds, including the alleged affair with Employee 1, but their interactions with Reid were always generally good.

The remaining persons The Debrief spoke with painted a picture of an arrogant and spiteful senior public official, who some seemed afraid of due to his significant power in the DoD's security and law enforcement apparatus.

Being judicious in our investigation and not mischaracterizing someone based merely on others' subjective opinions, The Debrief attempted to further evaluate several individuals' claims about Reid.

On May 18, 2020, The Debrief filed a Freedom of Information Act Request for copies of various communication records, including all of Reid's emails, calendar invites, real-time communications on government cell phones, Blackberry devices, or messages using SameTime or similar computer-based real-time messaging.

On July 27, 2020, The Debrief was informed by OSD's FOIA Office that OUSD(I&S) had replied that our "request is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and does not reasonably describe the documents being processed. Further, based on the scope and terms of your request, the component is not able to reasonably suggest an appropriate, more narrow search/request."

The Debrief was informed it had until the close of business on July 7 to clarify the scope of our request, or the matter would be closed. The cutoff date was twenty days before we were ever initially asked to clarify the request.

OUSD(I&S)'s claim that the original FOIA request was "overly broad" was odd. Initially, The Debrief's legal counsel had drafted a 19-page FOIA request that explicitly indicated what records were sought and exactly where these items could be located.

Adding to the confusion, on the same day The Debrief had filed a FOIA request for Reid's communications, it had made identical requests regarding two other senior DoD officials, one of whom worked in OUSD(I&S) for Reid. The two other exact requests were being processed. Only the one for Reid had faced problems.

When reminded of this, OSD's FOIA Office told The Debrief to disregard the previous concern, and the records request was now being processed.

For more than a year, The Debrief didn't hear anything until October 19, 2021, when OSD's FOIA Office sent the exact same response that OUSD(I&S) claimed our response was "overly broad."

Ultimately, it is unknown why repeated problems have arisen in seeking copies of records pertaining to Garry Reid. The other two identical requests have continued to be processed without issue.

At the time of his dismissal, The Debrief was engaged in legal efforts to facilitate the release of Reid's communication records.

"IT'S A HUGE DEAL"

The ultimate reason for Garry Reid's dismissal from the DoD remains unknown.

When The Debrief reached out to Public Affairs to clarify if Reid had voluntarily resigned or was terminated, the Department of Defense declined to comment.

Current and former Defense officials familiar with the situation said the official claimed reason for Reid's ousting remains a mystery to them as well. However, out of the Officials who spoke with The Debrief, all universally said it was likely from a combination of factors and that investigation into Lue Elizondo's formal complaint by the IG Office likely uncovered all sorts of nasty skeletons.

"Although I cannot confirm what ultimately led to his termination, I can surmise that it was caused, in part, by information contained in my IG complaint," Elizondo told The Debrief.

When asked how they felt on hearing the news, officials The Debrief spoke with said that Reid's departure was long overdue. Many also expressed surprise at his ousting.

"The guy was part of the system for a very long time. To fire him is no joke!" said one former Defense official. Another current senior Pentagon advisor said, "The guy ran all counterintelligence, security and law enforcement for the entire DoD, worldwide. This is a huge deal!"

Some who had known Reid for years expressed disappointment in the overall situation. Prior to going to work in the Pentagon in 2007, Reid had served nearly 30 years in U.S. Army Special Operations, including as the Command Sergeant Major for the Army's 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment, "Delta Force." By all accounts, even those who spoke poorly of Reid's Pentagon behavior, said he had been a respected member of the Special Operations community. "He just lost his way when he got to the Pentagon," said one long-time JSOC official.

Assuming past allegations of misconduct and Pentagon Official's descriptions of his behavior are any indication, Reid's fall from grace will have an immediate positive impact on OUSD(I&S).

When it comes to former Pentagon officials turned advocates for formal scrutiny of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, they say Reid's departure will have a significant positive impact on Government's investigations into UAP.

"It's a really big deal," said Elizondo. "He was one of the biggest obstacles to the DoD's investigations and public transparency of unidentified aerial phenomena."

Given that he was on the receiving end of Reid's ire for several years, The Debrief asked Elizondo how he felt about Reid's removal.

"While I profoundly respect his past military service to our country, obviously in his later career, he forgot his promise to the American people," Elizondo said.

“This action by the Department is significant and should be taken as a warning to others in the Department who continue to obfuscate the UAP topic and deny our previous efforts and findings in the AATIP program as they relate to a legitimate potential threat to the National Security of the United States,” Elizondo added.

Before publication, The Debrief sent several unanswered requests to Reid for comment.

“As I indicated before, those involved in the purposeful and deliberate obfuscation of the truth will be held accountable,” added Elizondo.

“We are now seeing this process in action.”

.....

Attachment Name : smime.p7s

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject FW: News of Interest: The Debrief  
 Date Wed, 13 Apr 2022 20:34:49 +0000  
 Message-Id <43654df290474877b5d53e8ef9af684a@DODIG.MIL>

Randolph R. Stone  
 Assistant Inspector General for  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
 Evaluations Component  
 Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General  
 Office – (b) (6)  
 From: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 4:26 PM  
 To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 Subject: FW: News of Interest: The Debrief

Randy,

Below FYI, (b) (5), (b) (6)

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From: (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 4:00 PM

To: Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; (b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>; Zola, Michael C., OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

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(b) (6) OIG DoD <(b) (6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: News of Interest: The Debrief

Good Afternoon,

Please see the below article from the Debrief on Gary Reid, and his dismissal as the Pentagon's Director for Defense Intelligence and a senior executive in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S).

Please note the highlighted portion of the article in which the journalist claims he reached out to the DoD IG, and we provided no comment.

I did not receive, nor did any of my OLAC colleagues receive a recent query from the Debrief, however given the length of their investigation into this topic, he may have spoken to a former Spokesperson.

SEX, LIES, AND UFOS: PENTAGON'S HEAD OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OUSTED

<https://thedebrief.org/sex-lies-and-ufos-pentagons-head-of-counterintelligence-and-security-ousted/>

TIM MCMILLAN · APRIL 13, 2022

As the Pentagon's Director for Defense Intelligence and a senior executive in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S), Garry Reid was in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations within the Department of Defense.

This, in addition to heading up the Afghanistan Crisis Action Group, the office tasked with evacuating Afghan refugees during America's withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Now, in an exclusive, The Debrief has learned that Reid was recently dismissed from his duties within the U.S. government.

Before his ousting, Reid had been the subject of a nearly two-year-long investigation by The Debrief. Speaking on the condition of anonymity, multiple current and former Pentagon employees told The Debrief Reid had engaged in wide-ranging misconduct and corruption for years.

In the past four years, the DoD's Inspector General's Office had investigated Reid on numerous allegations, including maintaining a sexual relationship with a subordinate employee, sexual harassment, and fostering a hostile work environment.

In 2020, the IG Office found that Reid had violated Joint Ethics Regulations by creating an appearance of an inappropriate relationship or preferential treatment with a female subordinate and mishandling of Controlled Unclassified Information.

In May 2021, Reid was named in yet another formal IG complaint, this time involving former Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo.

In his complaint, Elizondo accused Reid of playing a central role in obfuscating information regarding the Pentagon's intriguing newfound interest in "unidentified aerial phenomena," more commonly known as UFOs. Reid was also accused of maliciously misleading the public about Elizondo's involvement with the DoD's quasi-secret UFO program, the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

It's not entirely clear what led to Reid's recent dismissal. However, multiple defense officials familiar with the situation told The Debrief they believed the weight of the numerous past allegations, the disastrous withdrawal of refugees from Afghanistan, and current investigations into misconduct were too significant, and ultimately led to his dismissal.

In an email, Senior Spokesperson for the Department of Defense's Public Affairs Office, Susan Gough, did not refute that Reid had been dismissed. However, the DoD declined to provide any further comment on the matter at this time.

SEX...

According to a "Report of Investigation" obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act, in late 2019, Reid was investigated by the DoD's Inspector General's Office regarding four separate complaints of him having sexual affairs with subordinate employees, sexual harassment and creating a "negative work environment."

Two of the complaints accused Reid of having a sexual affair and providing preferential treatment to a female subordinate, identified in the report as "Employee 1."

Various witnesses told IG investigators they had observed Reid and Employee 1 engaging in questionable behavior, including kissing, hugging, and close personal interactions. "They definitely stand closer to each other than I would stand next to any of my [colleagues]," one witness told investigators.

In 2018 and 2019, Reid and Employee 1 took personal trips out of town together on at least two occasions.

During a third official trip to Europe in 2018, investigators said Reid and Employee 1 took two days of personal leave to go "sightseeing."

Daily lunches between Reid and Employee 1 also raised eyebrows among co-workers.

According to witnesses, Reid and Employee 1 frequently enjoyed office lunches together, with some accounts saying the door to Reid's office was often seen closed. Several witnesses also described the lunchtime powwows as "very weird."

"[There were] two place settings, like ... a restaurant" complete with "salt and pepper shakers, a side table, and some sparkling water," witnesses were quoted saying.

IG investigators determined that for more than a year, Reid and Employee 1 regularly commuted to work and went to the gym together. One witness described the couple's carpooling as "odd."

"He's the boss, and she's a subordinate," said one witness. "[I have] never seen that type of relationship between a supervisor and subordinate."

Out of twenty witnesses interviewed by IG investigators, only three said Reid and Employee 1's relationship was "solely professional." The remaining witnesses described the couple as "close," "very close," "perceived close," or "inappropriately close." Several witnesses told investigators the relationship between Reid and Employee 1 made them feel "awkward."

Then-Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Kari Bingen told IG investigators she had heard "rumors" that Reid and Employee 1 spent a lot of time together and had even raised the issue with him sometime in 2019. According to the report, Reid told Bingen he was merely "mentoring" Employee 1. Independent investigation by The Debrief revealed the perception that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate relationship extended far beyond just the offices in OUSD(I&S).

Former senior officials who worked directly for former Secretary of Defense James Mattis and in the White House during the Trump administration told The Debrief it was "common knowledge" that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate, assumed romantic relationship.

One official who worked within the Office of the Secretary of Defense said they had heard a rumor that Reid and Employee 1 had been caught engaging in some type of sexual activity in the Pentagon parking lot. The official, who still works for the Department of Defense, reiterated this was only a rumor.

During interviews, both Reid and Employee 1 denied allegations of being in a sexual affair, both describing their relationship instead as merely a very close friendship.

Employee 1 told IG investigators that she referred to herself as the "[Reid] whisperer and [Reid] interpreter" because "people bring things to me first, and they make me deliver the bad news," which is "kind of my role." For his part, Reid described his interactions with Employee 1 as being akin to a mentor and mentee.

Both Reid and Employee 1 admitted that on occasion, they may have kissed on the cheek or briefly hugged each other, but in a strictly platonic manner. Employee 1 told investigators that all of the kisses she received from Reid were "never uncomfortable" and didn't "feel aggressive or inappropriate or meaningful."

Reid denied providing preferential treatment, saying any added responsibilities or inclusion on travel trips outside of Employee 1's scope of employment were part of his mentorship. Reid said this was done based on guidance by Deputy Undersecretary Bingen to "build up a bench" as part of talent management efforts by the DoD.

Though unmentioned in the IG report, The Debrief learned in its independent investigation that in January 2019, Employee 1 was promoted to a high-level executive position within the newly formed Defense Counterintelligence & Security Agency (DCSA). In November 2019, while the IG Office was conducting its investigation, Employee 1 resigned and left the DoD for the private sector.

Ultimately, the IG Office concluded that Reid had violated DoD Joint Ethics Regulations by "establishing and maintaining a close and unduly familiar relationship with Employee 1, creating a widespread perception of an inappropriate relationship and favoritism."

In a rebuttal to the IG Office's conclusions, Reid said his frequent interactions with Employee 1 were due to an administrative reorganization in February 2019, in an apparent reference to Employee 1's promotion at DCSA. Short of flatly accusing Reid of lying, IG investigators said his statements "minimized his interactions" with Employee 1 by failing to highlight they had taken personal out-of-town trips and were commuting, eating lunch, and attending the gym together daily, in at least 2018.

While there was considerable circumstantial evidence, the IG's Office ultimately said they could not substantiate that Reid and Employee 1 were engaged in a "sexual affair." Investigators, however, noted they uncovered "many instances of conduct by Mr. Reid and her that were unduly personal and not professional or performance-related."

The report's authors underscored their conclusion by highlighting that Reid kissed Employee 1 on at least one occasion in her office and "routinely in the morning and evening hours during their commute together."

[Editorial Note: During its investigation, The Debrief was able to determine the identity of "Employee 1."

However, the individual is no longer in public service, and their identity has therefore been withheld from this report.]

LIES...

In 2020 the DoD Inspector General's Office investigated Reid regarding another allegation that he was involved in an inappropriate sexual affair with a subordinate female co-worker, identified in reports as "Employee 2."

The dynamics of the IG's investigation quickly changed when Employee 2 denied that she had been in a sexual relationship with Reid, instead claiming she had been the victim of repeated sexual harassment.

According to the IG's report, Reid had "kissed and hugged" Employee 2 in the workplace on multiple occasions, something Employee 2 said made her "uncomfortable" and was "unwelcome and inappropriate."

Employee 2 said Reid kissed and hugged her "always in the context of some goodbye" or after a heated exchange as a "let's make up [and] let's hug it out."

During hugs, Employee 2 said she would always try to turn her head away because Reid “would try to kiss her on the ‘cheek or closer.” Employee 2 said Reid would kiss her on the “mouth, side of the mouth, or cheek, depending on how quickly she could move her head.”

Employee 2 admitted she had never confronted Reid, who was her supervisor, about the unwanted interactions out of fear of the consequences.

“If you tell Reid, ‘I’m really not comfortable with that, that’s really inappropriate,’ then you have Hell to pay. Your life is miserable. And it just wasn’t worth it. So you put up with it,” Employee 2 was quoted.

“I just felt like this is a real crappy thing that I have to put up with. ... So, I don’t, I mean, it’s not like I was like, ‘Oh my God, I’ve been violated. I need to call the sexual assault helpline,” said Employee 2 when asked how the kisses and hugs made her feel.

“Like, I’m so conditioned to just deal with it. [It] sucks that women have to put up with this, and I’m one of them, and it’s just part of doing business.”

Ironically, Employee 1 from the first IG complaint told investigators she had witnessed Reid “kiss Employee 2 occasionally,” but that it did not “make an impression on [her] as anything concerning or noteworthy.”

When confronted with the allegations, Reid told investigators that he had “never sexually harassed anybody, male or female.” Reid did not deny, however, that he occasionally hugged or kissed Employee 2, but only on the cheek. Reid said Employee 2 never told him his kisses were unwelcome or gave a “negative response.”

“I sit here watching TV with Harvey Weinstein and everything else going on here, and again I’m still in shock that you came in here, and you told me of all the things you included, that I sexually harrassed [Employee 2],” said Reid. “But I did nothing of the sort and did everything to the contrary to help her, and she agreed with the help, and she would be the first to tell you I helped her.”

Reid went on to say he thought perhaps Employee 2’s allegations of sexual harassment were out of “revenge and retaliation” because he did not support her career advancement. “She took that very negatively – – that [I] didn’t have her back.”

During their investigation into the sexual harassment allegations, IG investigators said they examined text messages and emails between Reid and Employee 2. Investigators said messages showed Employee 2 “frequently engaging Reid in common interest conversations” and seemed to show “support for his work.”

In light of Reid admitting to on occasion kissing or hugging Employee 2, the IG office concluded: “Considering the totality of the relationship between Mr. Reid and Employee 2, we did not find sufficient evidence to determine that Mr. Reid’s conduct toward Employee 2 constituted sexual harassment or some other form of misconduct.”

The Debrief was able to speak with a female former Pentagon official who was familiar with the IG’s 2020 investigation into Reid for sexual misconduct and harassment. The former official requested anonymity out of concern for reprisal. The Debrief verified the former official was indeed in a position to comprehensively understand the workplace dynamics in OUSDI under Reid’s leadership.

According to the former official, Reid’s inappropriate behavior towards female employees was apparent and widely known amongst the staff at OUSDI. “He was extremely arrogant. It didn’t matter who was around, senior civilian staff, attorneys, military officials. It didn’t matter. He would still do completely inappropriate things.”

The career female defense official said she understood why “Employee 2” in the IG investigation didn’t initially report Reid’s behavior, and it only came to light due to another allegation of misconduct.

“As a woman working in the Pentagon, which is still largely a boy’s club, when you see someone like Reid blatantly behaving like he did, you say, ‘Why bother?’ Why speak out because all that is going to happen is you’re going to be penalized, but nothing will happen to someone like Reid. So you just accept it’s not worth it.”

“And look what happened,” the former female defense official added. “Nothing was done about him sexually harassing one co-worker [Employee 2], while the other co-worker [Employee 1] he was having an affair with got promoted into a senior position. What kind of message does that send?”

Another current female defense official who was not working in the Pentagon during the IG’s initial investigation, but whose current position put her in contact with Reid and OUSD(I&S) told The Debrief that she would like to hope things are changing for the better. However, evidence often suggests otherwise.

“Let’s be honest here. He [Reid] didn’t get run off until he screwed up Afghanistan and a man [Elizondo] filed an IG complaint,” said the current female Defense official.

“As a woman, personally I look at his behavior and think he’s a pig,” the current female Defense official added. “Professionally, I’d consider him a huge CI [counterintelligence] risk. If I’m a foreign adversary, I realize all I need to do to compromise this guy is wave a skirt in front of him. It’s kind of remarkable he was the head of counterintelligence.”

In yet another IG complaint during the 2019-2020 time frame, an anonymous co-worker accused Reid of creating a hostile and combative work environment. Of twenty-one witnesses interviewed by IG investigators,



one-third gave unfavorable appraisals of Reid's leadership, describing him as "nasty," "gruff," "moody," "unpredictable," "not very communicative," or "incredibly inconsistent."

One witness said Reid could get "angry" and "downright mean" when things weren't going well, and he wanted answers.

"When he's talking to you, like he's interrogating you, [and] talking to you like you're the gum on his shoe, bottom of his shoe. Just no, even basic human respect. I mean it was like he had no time for you," said one witness. "If he was not happy with you, you knew it and felt it."

Twelve witnesses offered a slightly more favorable appraisal, saying Reid was "firm" and "blunt" but also "smart," "strategic," and "successful."

Reid's then-boss, Deputy Undersecretary for Intelligence Kari Bingen, described him as a "pit-bull as in if you give him something and he will kind of be dogged about getting it down."

Bingen admitted there had been "several, or a handful of individuals" who said it had been "really hard to work for him" during exit interviews upon leaving the Pentagon. Bingen, however, told investigators she had seen "flashes of him doing his job very well, him building relationships, [and] him getting things done effectively."

Ultimately, the Inspector General's Office said the negative comments about Reid's leadership "did not rise to the level of violations of the JER," concluding Reid had not fostered a negative work environment.

During their overall investigations in 2020, the DoD IG said they uncovered that Reid had at times used his personal email account to conduct "official DoD business." On 65 occasions, investigators found Reid had used his personal email to share Controlled Unclassified Information.

Reid claimed he had only used his personal email for "rare and extraordinary" situations but agreed, "I probably should have known better." In their final conclusion, the IG Office said Reid violated DoD policies regarding email use, highlighting his later remarks and agreeing "[He] should have known better."

AND UFOS...

In October 2017, the then-Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo, resigned from the Pentagon following a lengthy career in which he had served in various senior intelligence roles.

Elizondo's reason for suddenly departing his employer of over 20 years involved UFOs, or in contemporary parlance, unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP).

Elizondo says he headed up a secretive working group within the Pentagon for over half-a-decade investigating UAP encounters by members of the U.S. military under the moniker of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

Elizondo's sudden October 2017 resignation was in protest after it became clear that some in Pentagon leadership were preventing senior defense officials from being briefed on these concerning UAP incidents. In December 2017, Elizondo revealed the existence of AATIP in an expose by the New York Times. Following the feature article—which thrust Elizondo, AATIP, and UAP into the limelight—was the release of three DoD videos captured in 2004 and 2015 by the targeting cameras of F/A-18 fighter jets. The Pentagon has since begrudgingly admitted the objects seen in the videos are characterized as UAP.

In the ensuing years, Elizondo has become one of the most prominent and vocal advocates for the formal investigation of these mysterious incidents.

To their credit, the Pentagon and Congressional leadership have backed up Elizondo's most extraordinary claim: That devices of apparent intelligent control and unknown origin are flying in our skies with impunity. Current Senators, former directors of the CIA, Office of National Intelligence, Deputy Secretaries of Defense, Naval Secretaries, Presidents of the United States, military fighter pilots, and a newly formed and congressionally mandated DoD Office specifically tasked with investigating UAP – have all substantiated Elizondo's core claims.

Perhaps unsurprising given the taboo nature of UFOs, that's not to say there hasn't been some controversy regarding Elizondo's claims.

Specific to the well-known UFO whistleblower, after initially confirming Elizondo ran AATIP since the spring of 2019, the DoD has been steadfast in claiming he had no "assigned responsibilities" in the program. In fairness, over the last 5 years, the DoD's position on AATIP or UAP has been, at best, indecisive.

According to Elizondo and several current and former defense officials that The Debrief spoke with, the Pentagon's inconsistent messaging on Elizondo's involvement in AATIP and general aversion to being open about its interest in UAP is in large part due to one person: Luis Elizondo's former boss at OUSD(I&S). Or as one current senior Intelligence Official worded it when speaking with The Debrief, "Garry Fucking Reid." According to documents related to a May 2021 IG complaint filed by Elizondo, which was reviewed by The Debrief, shortly after resigning on October 5, 2017, Elizondo received a call from his former boss Garry Reid.

A “clearly upset” Reid wanted to know what he should do with Elizondo’s resignation letter and demanded he come to see him at the Pentagon. When Elizondo declined the invitation, Reid reportedly threatened him, saying he would “tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance.”

By November, Elizondo said he received several phone calls from former colleagues at OUSD(I&S) warning him that Reid and “Employee 1” (from the IG complaint) were “coming after him.”

This could be written off as an apparently emotional and volatile former boss blowing off steam. However, it would seem, Reid indeed did attempt to make good on his threats.

On December 22, 2017, five days after Elizondo and AATIP made headlines in the New York Times, an investigation into Elizondo and the release of the three DoD videos depicting UAP incidents was launched by the Air Force Office of Special Investigation (AFOSI).

A copy of the final report obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act indicates AFOSI’s primary task was to investigate the release of the three UAP videos under the presumption these videos were classified. The report notes the videos were classified as Secret/No Foreign.

The fact that AFOSI investigators initially thought the videos were Secret is intriguing.

The DoD has since admitted the three brief clips were never classified. Additionally, emails obtained through FOIA show that this was abundantly clear as far back as the summer of 2017, when Elizondo was trying to get the videos cleared for public release.

Given that they were indeed unclassified, Elizondo could have, at most, potentially committed an administrative violation for publicly releasing the videos before they had been cleared by the Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review (DOPSR).

From the onset, had AFOSI been aware of this, they would have known that an investigation was pointless since Elizondo was no longer working for the DoD. Nevertheless, the impression that the videos were classified caused it to become a criminal matter, which allowed AFOSI to initiate the investigation.

After over four months of investigation, AFOSI arrived at the same conclusion that should have been abundantly clear from the beginning: “The three videos obtained by the SUBJECT were confirmed to be UNCLASSIFIED.” Both AFOSI and the Unauthorized Disclosure Program Management Office considered the matter closed on April 13, 2018.

Copies of AFOSI’s final report were forwarded for “Action” to OUSDI, acknowledging OUSDI as the office initially requesting the investigation.

The person working out of OUSDI in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations for the DoD at the time had been Garry Reid.

Speaking under the condition of anonymity, a senior defense official who had firsthand knowledge of the incident told The Debrief they knew for certain that the 2017-2018 AFOSI investigation was done at the behest of Reid as a way of retaliating against Elizondo.

Reid’s aim, reportedly, was to try and get Elizondo’s security clearance revoked. Treating it as a counterintelligence matter only ensured increased scrutiny.

“OSI all but came back and told him [Reid] it was improper use of their resources. Based on his position, they couldn’t actually say that, but if you read between the lines on the report, that’s what you see.”

According to the Defense official, this was far from the only act of retribution Reid took against Elizondo.

“Reid had USDI Security put an entry in Elizondo’s file on Scattered Castles, which is the clearance system used for IC interagency clearance passage, so that if he tried to go to any SCIF in the IC, Reid would get a call and be able to cause questions so that Interagency partners would come to believe there was a ‘problem’ and not let him in,” the Defense official explained.

“This is a stealth administrative way to block someone’s access without overtly putting anything out there. These types of admin dirty tricks were perpetrated by Reid against Elizondo over and over again.”

Multiple former and current Defense Officials familiar with the matter told The Debrief that going after Elizondo’s security clearance had been only one of the administrative dirty tricks Reid played.

Initially, when news of AATIP came to light in 2017, then-Pentagon Spokesperson Dana White acknowledged Elizondo had run the program.

By Spring of 2019, however, the DoD did an about-face, releasing the boilerplate statement that “Mr. Elizondo had no responsibilities with regard to the AATIP program while he worked in OUSDI [the Office of Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence].”

A former senior advisor to Secretary of Defense James Mattis told The Debrief they had been briefed at the Pentagon by Elizondo several times in early 2017 on UAP incidents and were dumbfounded when they saw the DoD’s new “no responsibilities” position.

“I actually called PAO and said, ‘How can you say that? I was read into this and [was] briefed by him [Elizondo].’” The former advisor says they never provided an adequate explanation for why the DoD was now denying Elizondo’s role with the program.

Two current Defense officials told The Debrief they knew that senior leadership at the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), who at the time was managing the DoD's officially sanctioned UAP Task Force, had provided clarifying statements to the Public Affairs Office reflecting Elizondo had been the senior ranking official in the joint working group investigating UAP known as AATIP.

Documents reviewed by The Debrief show that on June 3, 2020, Elizondo emailed the DoD's newly appointed UAP public affairs czar, Susan Gough, requesting a correction to previous statements that more correctly reflected his involvement with AATIP. In the email, Elizondo provided 14 names of individuals ranging from senior Pentagon officials, private contractors, to members of Congress who could verify his involvement. Each of Elizondo's attempts to correct the record on his former's role with the AATIP program went unrecognized.

Several current and former Defense officials tell The Debrief that the DoD's steadfast denial regarding Elizondo and often inconsistent and confusing public statements on UAP can be traced back to Elizondo's last boss, Garry Reid.

After three years of attempts at clearing his name and setting the record straight, Elizondo finally filed a formal complaint with the DoD Inspector General's Office in May 2021.

In unclassified documents reviewed by The Debrief, Elizondo accused Reid of "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal, and explicit threats."

In the cover letter to his complaint, Elizondo said, "I am fully aware of the magnitude of my allegations against certain individuals in the Department, and I am able to substantiate these claims."

Speaking with The Debrief, Elizondo said part of Reid's vendetta against and misleading statements about his involvement with AATIP are likely related to the fact he was never made aware of the program. "Since I could not trust him, I never indoctrinated him into the program, and instead was working with echelons within the Department above him," said Elizondo.

"I was aware of his perceived misconduct and could not risk the integrity of the program by involving him. Last I heard, he was coaching Pentagon Spokesperson, Susan Gough how to respond to inquiries by the media about me. This would explain the obvious inaccuracies provided to the media about me by Ms. Gough," surmised Elizondo.

#### "THE WORST IS YET TO COME" – THE LATEST ON RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE

The Inspector General's Office declined to comment on Elizondo's complaint.

Just before Elizondo filed his complaint, the IG's Office announced they were launching an evaluation "to determine the extent to which the DoD has taken actions regarding Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP)." Both the investigations into Elizondo's complaint and the evaluation of the DoD's handling of UAP are still on going and when it comes to the DoD's handling of UAP, once again all roads lead to Garry Reid.

In August of 2020, the DoD officially announced the establishment of a UAP Task Force to "improve its understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAPs."

However, copies of emails obtained by The Debrief via FOIA show that senior DoD leadership, as high as the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of the Navy, were being briefed on UAP at least a year earlier in 2019. Lawmakers on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Armed Services Committee were also receiving briefings on UAP by 2019.

And while all of these efforts in 2019-2020—including those by the UAP Task Force—were being managed by the Office of Naval Intelligence, the cognizant authority for the DoD's UAP investigations was the Defense Intelligence, Collection, and Special Programs Office at OUSD(I&S), which fell under the direct control of the Director of Defense Intelligence: Garry Reid.

So while Congress was passing legislation requesting preliminary evaluations of UAP incidents and establishing a formal UAP investigative office in the Pentagon, the principal executive overseeing these efforts was Reid.

The same Reid that multiple defense officials say has not only maintained a years-long vendetta against Elizondo but also played a central role in obstructing efforts to formally investigate purported UAP sightings going back to at least late 2017.

Notwithstanding all of this, in November 2021, when the DoD decided to get ahead of an upcoming Congressional mandate, Reid was named as the Executive Secretary of the newly formed UAP investigative office, the verbosely titled the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group (AOIMSG).

With Reid's sudden departure, the Director for Defense Intelligence (Warfighter Support) Air Force Major General Aaron Prupas will likely take over leadership of the AOIMSG, at least for the time being.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...

In light of having been named in multiple past IG complaints; in violation of DoD Joint Ethics Regulations; " and the subject of a still ongoing IG investigation involving allegations of "malicious activities"; miraculously, in July 2021, Reid found himself named as the Director of the DOD Crisis Action Group for Afghanistan.

In this role, Reid served as the lead DoD official overseeing the relocation of refugees and transportation of U.S. embassy staff, American citizens, allies, and other partners during the U.S.'s frantic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Horrific images of desperate Afghans clinging to the landing gear of massive C-17 cargo planes as they took to the sky would suggest that Reid's Afghanistan Crisis Action Group was a complete disaster. And the data would concur.

In a joint press conference with Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby on August 16, Reid said while working closely with the Department of State, the Crisis Action Group was focusing on relocating Special Visa Applications (SIV). "To date, nearly 2,000 Afghans have passed through this process," said Reid.

According to a February 2022 report issued by the Association of Wartime Allies, of the 81,000 SIV applicants who had pending visa applications on the day of Reid's press conference, on August 31, when the final U.S. cargo planes went wheels up, 78,000 were left behind.

Six months after America's withdrawal, AWA collected data on 10,803 of the 78,000 Afghan refugees left behind. Of those surveyed, 30% had been imprisoned by the Taliban; 88% reported loss of employment; 94% reported economic hardship; 70% said they went without food at least once in the last month; 84% reported going without medical care due to angst about leaving home and facing reprisals from the Taliban; and 77% said they had witnessed some form of physical violence against others for their service to the United States.

The State Department has disputed AWA's figure that 78,000 Afghan refugees were left behind, saying in early August 2021, there were about "18,000 SIV applicants." Both organizations agree that only 3,000 SIV applicants were ultimately evacuated by August 31.

So while the State Department's total figure of SIV applicants is considerably smaller than AWA's estimate, it still reflects the U.S. didn't get out nearly 84% of Afghan refugees.

According to some senior Defense officials, including those from the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) and Intelligence Community, Reid and Crisis Action Group out of OUSD(I&S) bear a large part of the blame for the U.S. not being able to get more refugees out of Afghanistan.

Officials tell The Debrief that all evacuation of refugees had to go through Reid's office in OUSD(I&S), which created a bureaucratic bottleneck that often brought operations to a standstill.

Frustrated that some military agencies were still doing everything they could to get refugees out as the Taliban swooped in and seized control of Kabul, Defense officials said OUSD(I&S) ordered all U.S. military helicopters grounded, with permission to fly having to be granted by them.

"JSOC folks and some other agencies were already working to get people out, but USDI and Reid suddenly came in and put everything to a halt. They repeatedly held things up, for no other reason than they just wanted to say they were in charge," one senior JSOC official speaking on the condition of anonymity told The Debrief. "The military, JSOC, and other agencies, were getting it done. I can't overstate it enough how much USDI and Reid's group just came in and screwed things up."

The bureaucratic ineptitude of the DoD's evacuation process was so incredible that an ad hoc group of former U.S. special operators, aid workers, and intelligence officers with experience in Afghanistan banded together in what was dubbed "Task Force Pineapple" to save as many of their former Afghan allies as possible.

An Afghan SIV applicant who was ultimately left behind told AWA, "We are suffering the worst days of our life. I never go outside my living area. I have [not] left my home since the Taliban took over the country... I have lost my job furthermore, I cannot walk freely in the city/village because the Taliban will arrest me."

#### UNUSUAL PROBLEMS SEEM TO ALWAYS SURROUND REID

Since Spring of 2020, The Debrief had been investigating claims of misconduct by Reid after a current Pentagon official reached out and expressed concerns.

The individual said they knew of the past investigations, and because Reid "had friends in high places," they had little faith in the DoD's formal oversight channels. Hence their decision to turn to the media.

In examining the claims against Reid, The Debrief reached out and spoke with numerous current and former Pentagon and Intelligence officials who had either worked with or were familiar with Reid over the following nearly two years.

Of these individuals, the only remotely favorable evaluation was from one former Senior Advisor who said they "knew about rumors" of past misdeeds, including the alleged affair with Employee 1, but their interactions with Reid were always generally good.

The remaining persons The Debrief spoke with painted a picture of an arrogant and spiteful senior public official, who some seemed afraid of due to his significant power in the DoD's security and law enforcement apparatus.

Being judicious in our investigation and not mischaracterizing someone based merely on others' subjective opinions, The Debrief attempted to further evaluate several individuals' claims about Reid.

On May 18, 2020, The Debrief filed a Freedom of Information Act Request for copies of various communication records, including all of Reid's emails, calendar invites, real-time communications on government cell phones, Blackberry devices, or messages using SameTime or similar computer-based real-time messaging.

On July 27, 2020, The Debrief was informed by OSD's FOIA Office that OUSD(I&S) had replied that our "request is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and does not reasonably describe the documents being processed. Further, based on the scope and terms of your request, the component is not able to reasonably suggest an appropriate, more narrow search/request."

The Debrief was informed it had until the close of business on July 7 to clarify the scope of our request, or the matter would be closed. The cutoff date was twenty days before we were ever initially asked to clarify the request.

OUSD(I&S)'s claim that the original FOIA request was "overly broad" was odd. Initially, The Debrief's legal counsel had drafted a 19-page FOIA request that explicitly indicated what records were sought and exactly where these items could be located.

Adding to the confusion, on the same day The Debrief had filed a FOIA request for Reid's communications, it had made identical requests regarding two other senior DoD officials, one of whom worked in OUSD(I&S) for Reid. The two other exact requests were being processed. Only the one for Reid had faced problems.

When reminded of this, OSD's FOIA Office told The Debrief to disregard the previous concern, and the records request was now being processed.

For more than a year, The Debrief didn't hear anything until October 19, 2021, when OSD's FOIA Office sent the exact same response that OUSD(I&S) claimed our response was "overly broad."

Ultimately, it is unknown why repeated problems have arisen in seeking copies of records pertaining to Garry Reid. The other two identical requests have continued to be processed without issue.

At the time of his dismissal, The Debrief was engaged in legal efforts to facilitate the release of Reid's communication records.

"IT'S A HUGE DEAL"

The ultimate reason for Garry Reid's dismissal from the DoD remains unknown.

When The Debrief reached out to Public Affairs to clarify if Reid had voluntarily resigned or was terminated, the Department of Defense declined to comment.

Current and former Defense officials familiar with the situation said the official claimed reason for Reid's ousting remains a mystery to them as well. However, out of the Officials who spoke with The Debrief, all universally said it was likely from a combination of factors and that investigation into Lue Elizondo's formal complaint by the IG Office likely uncovered all sorts of nasty skeletons.

"Although I cannot confirm what ultimately led to his termination, I can surmise that it was caused, in part, by information contained in my IG complaint," Elizondo told The Debrief.

When asked how they felt on hearing the news, officials The Debrief spoke with said that Reid's departure was long overdue. Many also expressed surprise at his ousting.

"The guy was part of the system for a very long time. To fire him is no joke!" said one former Defense official. Another current senior Pentagon advisor said, "The guy ran all counterintelligence, security and law enforcement for the entire DoD, worldwide. This is a huge deal!"

Some who had known Reid for years expressed disappointment in the overall situation. Prior to going to work in the Pentagon in 2007, Reid had served nearly 30 years in U.S. Army Special Operations, including as the Command Sergeant Major for the Army's 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment, "Delta Force." By all accounts, even those who spoke poorly of Reid's Pentagon behavior, said he had been a respected member of the Special Operations community. "He just lost his way when he got to the Pentagon," said one long-time JSOC official.

Assuming past allegations of misconduct and Pentagon Official's descriptions of his behavior are any indication, Reid's fall from grace will have an immediate positive impact on OUSD(I&S).

When it comes to former Pentagon officials turned advocates for formal scrutiny of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, they say Reid's departure will have a significant positive impact on Government's investigations into UAP.

"It's a really big deal," said Elizondo. "He was one of the biggest obstacles to the DoD's investigations and public transparency of unidentified aerial phenomena."

Given that he was on the receiving end of Reid's ire for several years, The Debrief asked Elizondo how he felt about Reid's removal.

"While I profoundly respect his past military service to our country, obviously in his later career, he forgot his promise to the American people," Elizondo said.

“This action by the Department is significant and should be taken as a warning to others in the Department who continue to obfuscate the UAP topic and deny our previous efforts and findings in the AATIP program as they relate to a legitimate potential threat to the National Security of the United States,” Elizondo added.

Before publication, The Debrief sent several unanswered requests to Reid for comment.

“As I indicated before, those involved in the purposeful and deliberate obfuscation of the truth will be held accountable,” added Elizondo.

“We are now seeing this process in action.”

.....  
Attachment Name : smime.p7s

From "Garrison, Marguerite C., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "(b)(6), OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; "(b)(6), OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>; "Zola, Michael C., OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
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 Subject RE: News of Interest: The Debrief  
 Date Wed, 13 Apr 2022 20:46:02 +0000  
 Message-Id <2c9262d9ff2c4ef19cd8c92f7ea99@DODIG.MIL>

All:  
 I called USD I&S and was advised that the article is inaccurate. Mr. Reid is still employed and working in USD I&S.

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 Subject: RE: News of Interest: The Debrief  
 (b)(6)

Thanks. I believe that Mr. O'Donnell may be interested in this article, but I'd give him a thumbnail summary up front since it's a log read. I also shared it with Randy Stone since he's in charge of the UAP project that is mentioned.

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Subject: News of Interest: The Debrief

Good Afternoon,

Please see the below article from the Debrief on Gary Reid, and his dismissal as the Pentagon's Director for Defense Intelligence and a senior executive in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S).

Please note the highlighted portion of the article in which the journalist claims he reached out to the DoD IG, and we provided no comment.

I did not receive, nor did any of my OLAC colleagues receive a recent query from the Debrief, however given the length of their investigation into this topic, he may have spoken to a former Spokesperson.

SEX, LIES, AND UFOS: PENTAGON'S HEAD OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OUSTED  
<https://thedebrief.org/sex-lies-and-ufos-pentagons-head-of-counterintelligence-and-security-ousted/>  
TIM MCMILLAN \*APRIL 13, 2022

As the Pentagon's Director for Defense Intelligence and a senior executive in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S), Garry Reid was in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations within the Department of Defense.

This, in addition to heading up the Afghanistan Crisis Action Group, the office tasked with evacuating Afghan refugees during America's withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Now, in an exclusive, The Debrief has learned that Reid was recently dismissed from his duties within the U.S. government.



Before his ousting, Reid had been the subject of a nearly two-year-long investigation by The Debrief. Speaking on the condition of anonymity, multiple current and former Pentagon employees told The Debrief Reid had engaged in wide-ranging misconduct and corruption for years.

In the past four years, the DoD's Inspector General's Office had investigated Reid on numerous allegations, including maintaining a sexual relationship with a subordinate employee, sexual harassment, and fostering a hostile work environment.

In 2020, the IG Office found that Reid had violated Joint Ethics Regulations by creating an appearance of an inappropriate relationship or preferential treatment with a female subordinate and mishandling of Controlled Unclassified Information.

In May 2021, Reid was named in yet another formal IG complaint, this time involving former Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo.

In his complaint, Elizondo accused Reid of playing a central role in obfuscating information regarding the Pentagon's intriguing newfound interest in "unidentified aerial phenomena," more commonly known as UFOs. Reid was also accused of maliciously misleading the public about Elizondo's involvement with the DoD's quasi-secret UFO program, the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

It's not entirely clear what led to Reid's recent dismissal. However, multiple defense officials familiar with the situation told The Debrief they believed the weight of the numerous past allegations, the disastrous withdrawal of refugees from Afghanistan, and current investigations into misconduct were too significant, and ultimately led to his dismissal.

In an email, Senior Spokesperson for the Department of Defense's Public Affairs Office, Susan Gough, did not refute that Reid had been dismissed. However, the DoD declined to provide any further comment on the matter at this time.

#### SEX...

According to a "Report of Investigation" obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act, in late 2019, Reid was investigated by the DoD's Inspector General's Office regarding four separate complaints of him having sexual affairs with subordinate employees, sexual harassment and creating a "negative work environment."

Two of the complaints accused Reid of having a sexual affair and providing preferential treatment to a female subordinate, identified in the report as "Employee 1."

Various witnesses told IG investigators they had observed Reid and Employee 1 engaging in questionable behavior, including kissing, hugging, and close personal interactions. "They definitely stand closer to each other than I would stand next to any of my [colleagues]," one witness told investigators.

In 2018 and 2019, Reid and Employee 1 took personal trips out of town together on at least two occasions. During a third official trip to Europe in 2018, investigators said Reid and Employee 1 took two days of personal leave to go "sightseeing."

Daily lunches between Reid and Employee 1 also raised eyebrows among co-workers.

According to witnesses, Reid and Employee 1 frequently enjoyed office lunches together, with some accounts saying the door to Reid's office was often seen closed. Several witnesses also described the lunchtime powwows as "very weird."

"[There were] two place settings, like ... a restaurant" complete with "salt and pepper shakers, a side table, and some sparkling water," witnesses were quoted saying.

IG investigators determined that for more than a year, Reid and Employee 1 regularly commuted to work and went to the gym together. One witness described the couple's carpooling as "odd."

"He's the boss, and she's a subordinate," said one witness. "[I have] never seen that type of relationship between a supervisor and subordinate."

Out of twenty witnesses interviewed by IG investigators, only three said Reid and Employee 1's relationship was "solely professional." The remaining witnesses described the couple as "close," "very close," "perceived close," or "inappropriately close." Several witnesses told investigators the relationship between Reid and Employee 1 made them feel "awkward."

Then-Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Kari Bingen told IG investigators she had heard "rumors" that Reid and Employee 1 spent a lot of time together and had even raised the issue with him sometime in 2019. According to the report, Reid told Bingen he was merely "mentoring" Employee 1.

Independent investigation by The Debrief revealed the perception that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate relationship extended far beyond just the offices in OUSD(I&S).

Former senior officials who worked directly for former Secretary of Defense James Mattis and in the White House during the Trump administration told The Debrief it was "common knowledge" that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate, assumed romantic relationship.

One official who worked within the Office of the Secretary of Defense said they had heard a rumor that Reid and Employee 1 had been caught engaging in some type of sexual activity in the Pentagon parking lot. The official, who still works for the Department of Defense, reiterated this was only a rumor.

During interviews, both Reid and Employee 1 denied allegations of being in a sexual affair, both describing their relationship instead as merely a very close friendship.

Employee 1 told IG investigators that she referred to herself as the "[Reid] whisperer and [Reid] interpreter" because "people bring things to me first, and they make me deliver the bad news," which is "kind of my role." For his part, Reid described his interactions with Employee 1 as being akin to a mentor and mentee.

Both Reid and Employee 1 admitted that on occasion, they may have kissed on the cheek or briefly hugged each other, but in a strictly platonic manner. Employee 1 told investigators that all of the kisses she received from Reid were "never uncomfortable" and didn't "feel aggressive or inappropriate or meaningful."

Reid denied providing preferential treatment, saying any added responsibilities or inclusion on travel trips outside of Employee 1's scope of employment were part of his mentorship. Reid said this was done based on guidance by Deputy Undersecretary Bingen to "build up a bench" as part of talent management efforts by the DoD.

Though unmentioned in the IG report, The Debrief learned in its independent investigation that in January 2019, Employee 1 was promoted to a high-level executive position within the newly formed Defense Counterintelligence & Security Agency (DCSA). In November 2019, while the IG Office was conducting its investigation, Employee 1 resigned and left the DoD for the private sector.

Ultimately, the IG Office concluded that Reid had violated DoD Joint Ethics Regulations by "establishing and maintaining a close and unduly familiar relationship with Employee 1, creating a widespread perception of an inappropriate relationship and favoritism."

In a rebuttal to the IG Office's conclusions, Reid said his frequent interactions with Employee 1 were due to an administrative reorganization in February 2019, in an apparent reference to Employee 1's promotion at DCSA.

Short of flatly accusing Reid of lying, IG investigators said his statements "minimized his interactions" with Employee 1 by failing to highlight they had taken personal out-of-town trips and were commuting, eating lunch, and attending the gym together daily, in at least 2018.

While there was considerable circumstantial evidence, the IG's Office ultimately said they could not substantiate that Reid and Employee 1 were engaged in a "sexual affair." Investigators, however, noted they uncovered "many instances of conduct by Mr. Reid and her that were unduly personal and not professional or performance-related."

The report's authors underscored their conclusion by highlighting that Reid kissed Employee 1 on at least one occasion in her office and "routinely in the morning and evening hours during their commute together."

[Editorial Note: During its investigation, The Debrief was able to determine the identity of "Employee 1." However, the individual is no longer in public service, and their identity has therefore been withheld from this report.]

LIES...

In 2020 the DoD Inspector General's Office investigated Reid regarding another allegation that he was involved in an inappropriate sexual affair with a subordinate female co-worker, identified in reports as "Employee 2."

The dynamics of the IG's investigation quickly changed when Employee 2 denied that she had been in a sexual relationship with Reid, instead claiming she had been the victim of repeated sexual harassment.

According to the IG's report, Reid had "kissed and hugged" Employee 2 in the workplace on multiple occasions, something Employee 2 said made her "uncomfortable" and was "unwelcome and inappropriate."

Employee 2 said Reid kissed and hugged her "always in the context of some goodbye" or after a heated exchange as a "let's make up [and] let's hug it out."

During hugs, Employee 2 said she would always try to turn her head away because Reid "would try to kiss her on the 'cheek or closer.'" Employee 2 said Reid would kiss her on the "mouth, side of the mouth, or cheek, depending on how quickly she could move her head."

Employee 2 admitted she had never confronted Reid, who was her supervisor, about the unwanted interactions out of fear of the consequences.

"If you tell Reid, 'I'm really not comfortable with that, that's really inappropriate,' then you have Hell to pay. Your life is miserable. And it just wasn't worth it. So you put up with it," Employee 2 was quoted.

"I just felt like this is a real crappy thing that I have to put up with. ... So, I don't, I mean, it's not like I was like, 'Oh my God, I've been violated. I need to call the sexual assault helpline,'" said Employee 2 when asked how the kisses and hugs made her feel.

"Like, I'm so conditioned to just deal with it. [It] sucks that women have to put up with this, and I'm one of them, and it's just part of doing business."

Ironically, Employee 1 from the first IG complaint told investigators she had witnessed Reid "kiss Employee 2 occasionally," but that it did not "make an impression on [her] as anything concerning or noteworthy."

When confronted with the allegations, Reid told investigators that he had "never sexually harassed anybody, male or female." Reid did not deny, however, that he occasionally hugged or kissed Employee 2, but only on the cheek. Reid said Employee 2 never told him his kisses were unwelcome or gave a "negative response."

"I sit here watching TV with Harvey Weinstein and everything else going on here, and again I'm still in shock that you came in here, and you told me of all the things you included, that I sexually harrassed [Employee 2]," said Reid. "But I did nothing of the sort and did everything to the contrary to help her, and she agreed with the help, and she would be the first to tell you I helped her."

Reid went on to say he thought perhaps Employee 2's allegations of sexual harassment were out of "revenge and retaliation" because he did not support her career advancement. "She took that very negatively - - that [I] didn't have her back."

During their investigation into the sexual harassment allegations, IG investigators said they examined text messages and emails between Reid and Employee 2. Investigators said messages showed Employee 2 "frequently engaging Reid in common interest conversations" and seemed to show "support for his work."

In light of Reid admitting to on occasion kissing or hugging Employee 2, the IG office concluded: "Considering the totality of the relationship between Mr. Reid and Employee 2, we did not find sufficient evidence to determine that Mr. Reid's conduct toward Employee 2 constituted sexual harassment or some other form of misconduct."

The Debrief was able to speak with a female former Pentagon official who was familiar with the IG's 2020 investigation into Reid for sexual misconduct and harassment. The former official requested anonymity out of concern for reprisal. The Debrief verified the former official was indeed in a position to comprehensively understand the workplace dynamics in OUSDI under Reid's leadership.

According to the former official, Reid's inappropriate behavior towards female employees was apparent and widely known amongst the staff at OUSDI. "He was extremely arrogant. It didn't matter who was around, senior civilian staff, attorneys, military officials. It didn't matter. He would still do completely inappropriate things."

The career female defense official said she understood why "Employee 2" in the IG investigation didn't initially report Reid's behavior, and it only came to light due to another allegation of misconduct.

"As a woman working in the Pentagon, which is still largely a boy's club, when you see someone like Reid blatantly behaving like he did, you say, 'Why bother?' Why speak out because all that is going to happen is you're going to be penalized, but nothing will happen to someone like Reid. So you just accept it's not worth it."

"And look what happened," the former female defense official added. "Nothing was done about him sexually harassing one co-worker [Employee 2], while the other co-worker [Employee 1] he was having an affair with got promoted into a senior position. What kind of message does that send?"

Another current female defense official who was not working in the Pentagon during the IG's initial investigation, but whose current position put her in contact with Reid and OUSD(I&S) told The Debrief that she would like to hope things are changing for the better. However, evidence often suggests otherwise.

"Let's be honest here. He [Reid] didn't get run off until he screwed up Afghanistan and a man [ Elizondo] filed an IG complaint," said the current female Defense official.

"As a woman, personally I look at his behavior and think he's a pig," the current female Defense official added. "Professionally, I'd consider him a huge CI [counterintelligence] risk. If I'm a foreign adversary, I realize all I need to do to compromise this guy is wave a skirt in front of him. It's kind of remarkable he was the head of counterintelligence."

In yet another IG complaint during the 2019-2020 time frame, an anonymous co-worker accused Reid of creating a hostile and combative work environment. Of twenty-one witnesses interviewed by IG investigators, one-third gave unfavorable appraisals of Reid's leadership, describing him as "nasty," "gruff," "moody," "unpredictable," "not very communicative," or "incredibly inconsistent."

One witness said Reid could get "angry" and "downright mean" when things weren't going well, and he wanted answers.

"When he's talking to you, like he's interrogating you, [and] talking to you like you're the gum on his shoe, bottom of his shoe. Just no, even basic human respect. I mean it was like he had no time for you," said one witness. "If he was not happy with you, you knew it and felt it."

Twelve witnesses offered a slightly more favorable appraisal, saying Reid was "firm" and "blunt" but also "smart," "strategic," and "successful."

Reid's then-boss, Deputy Undersecretary for Intelligence Kari Bingen, described him as a "pit-bull as in if you give him something and he will kind of be dogged about getting it down."

Bingen admitted there had been "several, or a handful of individuals" who said it had been "really hard to work for him" during exit interviews upon leaving the Pentagon. Bingen, however, told investigators she had seen "flashes of him doing his job very well, him building relationships, [and] him getting things done effectively."

Ultimately, the Inspector General's Office said the negative comments about Reid's leadership "did not rise to the level of violations of the JER," concluding Reid had not fostered a negative work environment.

During their overall investigations in 2020, the DoD IG said they uncovered that Reid had at times used his personal email account to conduct "official DoD business." On 65 occasions, investigators found Reid had used his personal email to share Controlled Unclassified Information.

Reid claimed he had only used his personal email for "rare and extraordinary" situations but agreed, "I probably should have known better." In their final conclusion, the IG Office said Reid violated DoD policies regarding email use, highlighting his later remarks and agreeing "[He] should have known better."

AND UFOS...

In October 2017, the then-Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo, resigned from the Pentagon following a lengthy career in which he had served in various senior intelligence roles.

Elizondo's reason for suddenly departing his employer of over 20 years involved UFOs, or in contemporary parlance, unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP).

Elizondo says he headed up a secretive working group within the Pentagon for over half-a-decade investigating UAP encounters by members of the U.S. military under the moniker of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

Elizondo's sudden October 2017 resignation was in protest after it became clear that some in Pentagon leadership were preventing senior defense officials from being briefed on these concerning UAP incidents.

In December 2017, Elizondo revealed the existence of AATIP in an expose by the New York Times. Following the feature article-which thrust Elizondo, AATIP, and UAP into the limelight-was the release of three DoD videos captured in 2004 and 2015 by the targeting cameras of F/A-18 fighter jets. The Pentagon has since begrudgingly admitted the objects seen in the videos are characterized as UAP.

In the ensuing years, Elizondo has become one of the most prominent and vocal advocates for the formal investigation of these mysterious incidents.

To their credit, the Pentagon and Congressional leadership have backed up Elizondo's most extraordinary claim: That devices of apparent intelligent control and unknown origin are flying in our skies with impunity.

Current Senators, former directors of the CIA, Office of National Intelligence, Deputy Secretaries of Defense, Naval Secretaries, Presidents of the United States, military fighter pilots, and a newly formed and congressionally mandated DoD Office specifically tasked with investigating UAP - have all substantiated Elizondo's core claims.

Perhaps unsurprising given the taboo nature of UFOs, that's not to say there hasn't been some controversy regarding Elizondo's claims.

Specific to the well-known UFO whistleblower, after initially confirming Elizondo ran AATIP since the spring of 2019, the DoD has been steadfast in claiming he had no "assigned responsibilities" in the program. In fairness, over the last 5 years, the DoD's position on AATIP or UAP has been, at best, indecisive.

According to Elizondo and several current and former defense officials that The Debrief spoke with, the Pentagon's inconsistent messaging on Elizondo's involvement in AATIP and general aversion to being open about its interest in UAP is in large part due to one person: Luis Elizondo's former boss at OUSD(I&S).

Or as one current senior Intelligence Official worded it when speaking with The Debrief, "Garry Fucking Reid."

According to documents related to a May 2021 IG complaint filed by Elizondo, which was reviewed by The Debrief, shortly after resigning on October 5, 2017, Elizondo received a call from his former boss Garry Reid.

A "clearly upset" Reid wanted to know what he should do with Elizondo's resignation letter and demanded he come to see him at the Pentagon. When Elizondo declined the invitation, Reid reportedly threatened him, saying he would "tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance."

By November, Elizondo said he received several phone calls from former colleagues at OUSD(I&S) warning him that Reid and "Employee 1" (from the IG complaint) were "coming after him."

This could be written off as an apparently emotional and volatile former boss blowing off steam. However, it would seem, Reid indeed did attempt to make good on his threats.

On December 22, 2017, five days after Elizondo and AATIP made headlines in the New York Times, an investigation into Elizondo and the release of the three DoD videos depicting UAP incidents was launched by the Air Force Office of Special Investigation (AFOSI).

A copy of the final report obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act indicates AFOSI's primary task was to investigate the release of the three UAP videos under the presumption these videos were classified. The report notes the videos were classified as Secret/No Foreign.

The fact that AFOSI investigators initially thought the videos were Secret is intriguing.

The DoD has since admitted the three brief clips were never classified. Additionally, emails obtained through FOIA show that this was abundantly clear as far back as the summer of 2017, when Elizondo was trying to get the videos cleared for public release.

Given that they were indeed unclassified, Elizondo could have, at most, potentially committed an administrative violation for publicly releasing the videos before they had been cleared by the Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review (DOPSR).

From the onset, had AFOSI been aware of this, they would have known that an investigation was pointless since Elizondo was no longer working for the DoD. Nevertheless, the impression that the videos were classified caused it to become a criminal matter, which allowed AFOSI to initiate the investigation.

After over four months of investigation, AFOSI arrived at the same conclusion that should have been abundantly clear from the beginning: "The three videos obtained by the SUBJECT were confirmed to be UNCLASSIFIED." Both AFOSI and the Unauthorized Disclosure Program Management Office considered the matter closed on April 13, 2018.

Copies of AFOSI's final report were forwarded for "Action" to OUSDI, acknowledging OUSDI as the office initially requesting the investigation.

The person working out of OUSDI in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations for the DoD at the time had been Garry Reid.

Speaking under the condition of anonymity, a senior defense official who had firsthand knowledge of the incident told The Debrief they knew for certain that the 2017-2018 AFOSI investigation was done at the behest of Reid as a way of retaliating against Elizondo.

Reid's aim, reportedly, was to try and get Elizondo's security clearance revoked. Treating it as a counterintelligence matter only ensured increased scrutiny.

"OSI all but came back and told him [Reid] it was improper use of their resources. Based on his position, they couldn't actually say that, but if you read between the lines on the report, that's what you see."

According to the Defense official, this was far from the only act of retribution Reid took against Elizondo.

"Reid had USDI Security put an entry in Elizondo's file on Scattered Castles, which is the clearance system used for IC interagency clearance passage, so that if he tried to go to any SCIF in the IC, Reid would get a call and be able to cause questions so that Interagency partners would come to believe there was a 'problem' and not let him in," the Defense official explained.

"This is a stealth administrative way to block someone's access without overtly putting anything out there. These types of admin dirty tricks were perpetrated by Reid against Elizondo over and over again."

Multiple former and current Defense Officials familiar with the matter told The Debrief that going after Elizondo's security clearance had been only one of the administrative dirty tricks Reid played.

Initially, when news of AATIP came to light in 2017, then-Pentagon Spokesperson Dana White acknowledged Elizondo had run the program.

By Spring of 2019, however, the DoD did an about-face, releasing the boilerplate statement that "Mr. Elizondo had no responsibilities with regard to the AATIP program while he worked in OUSDI [the Office of Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence]."

A former senior advisor to Secretary of Defense James Mattis told The Debrief they had been briefed at the Pentagon by Elizondo several times in early 2017 on UAP incidents and were dumbfounded when they saw the DoD's new "no responsibilities" position.

"I actually called PAO and said, 'How can you say that? I was read into this and [was] briefed by him [Elizondo].'" The former advisor says they never provided an adequate explanation for why the DoD was now denying Elizondo's role with the program.

Two current Defense officials told The Debrief they knew that senior leadership at the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), who at the time was managing the DoD's officially sanctioned UAP Task Force, had provided clarifying statements to the Public Affairs Office reflecting Elizondo had been the senior ranking official in the joint working group investigating UAP known as AATIP.

Documents reviewed by The Debrief show that on June 3, 2020, Elizondo emailed the DoD's newly appointed UAP public affairs czar, Susan Gough, requesting a correction to previous statements that more correctly reflected his involvement with AATIP. In the email, Elizondo provided 14 names of individuals ranging from senior Pentagon officials, private contractors, to members of Congress who could verify his involvement.

Each of Elizondo's attempts to correct the record on his former's role with the AATIP program went unrecognized.

Several current and former Defense officials tell The Debrief that the DoD's steadfast denial regarding Elizondo and often inconsistent and confusing public statements on UAP can be traced back to Elizondo's last boss, Garry Reid.

After three years of attempts at clearing his name and setting the record straight, Elizondo finally filed a formal complaint with the DoD Inspector General's Office in May 2021.

In unclassified documents reviewed by The Debrief, Elizondo accused Reid of "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal, and explicit threats."

In the cover letter to his complaint, Elizondo said, "I am fully aware of the magnitude of my allegations against certain individuals in the Department, and I am able to substantiate these claims."

Speaking with The Debrief, Elizondo said part of Reid's vendetta against and misleading statements about his involvement with AATIP are likely related to the fact he was never made aware of the program. "Since I could not trust him, I never indoctrinated him into the program, and instead was working with echelons within the Department above him," said Elizondo.

"I was aware of his perceived misconduct and could not risk the integrity of the program by involving him. Last I heard, he was coaching Pentagon Spokesperson, Susan Gough how to respond to inquiries by the media about me. This would explain the obvious inaccuracies provided to the media about me by Ms. Gough," surmised Elizondo.

**"THE WORST IS YET TO COME" - THE LATEST ON RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE**  
The Inspector General's Office declined to comment on Elizondo's complaint.

Just before Elizondo filed his complaint, the IG's Office announced they were launching an evaluation "to determine the extent to which the DoD has taken actions regarding Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP)."

Both the investigations into Elizondo's complaint and the evaluation of the DoD's handling of UAP are still on going and when it comes to the DoD's handling of UAP, once again all roads lead to Garry Reid.

In August of 2020, the DoD officially announced the establishment of a UAP Task Force to "improve its understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAPs."



However, copies of emails obtained by The Debrief via FOIA show that senior DoD leadership, as high as the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of the Navy, were being briefed on UAP at least a year earlier in 2019. Lawmakers on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Armed Services Committee were also receiving briefings on UAP by 2019.

And while all of these efforts in 2019-2020—including those by the UAP Task Force—were being managed by the Office of Naval Intelligence, the cognizant authority for the DoD's UAP investigations was the Defense Intelligence, Collection, and Special Programs Office at OUSD(I&S), which fell under the direct control of the Director of Defense Intelligence: Garry Reid.

So while Congress was passing legislation requesting preliminary evaluations of UAP incidents and establishing a formal UAP investigative office in the Pentagon, the principal executive overseeing these efforts was Reid.

The same Reid that multiple defense officials say has not only maintained a years-long vendetta against Elizondo but also played a central role in obstructing efforts to formally investigate purported UAP sightings going back to at least late 2017.

Notwithstanding all of this, in November 2021, when the DoD decided to get ahead of an upcoming Congressional mandate, Reid was named as the Executive Secretary of the newly formed UAP investigative office, the verbosely titled the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group (AOIMSG).

With Reid's sudden departure, the Director for Defense Intelligence (Warfighter Support) Air Force Major General Aaron Prupas will likely take over leadership of the AOIMSG, at least for the time being.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...

In light of having been named in multiple past IG complaints; in violation of DoD Joint Ethics Regulations; " and the subject of a still ongoing IG investigation involving allegations of "malicious activities"; miraculously, in July 2021, Reid found himself named as the Director of the DOD Crisis Action Group for Afghanistan.

In this role, Reid served as the lead DoD official overseeing the relocation of refugees and transportation of U.S. embassy staff, American citizens, allies, and other partners during the U.S.'s frantic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Horrible images of desperate Afghans clinging to the landing gear of massive C-17 cargo planes as they took to the sky would suggest that Reid's Afghanistan Crisis Action Group was a complete disaster. And the data would concur.

In a joint press conference with Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby on August 16, Reid said while working closely with the Department of State, the Crisis Action Group was focusing on relocating Special Visa Applications (SIV). "To date, nearly 2,000 Afghans have passed through this process," said Reid.

According to a February 2022 report issued by the Association of Wartime Allies, of the 81,000 SIV applicants who had pending visa applications on the day of Reid's press conference, on August 31, when the final U.S. cargo planes went wheels up, 78,000 were left behind.

Six months after America's withdrawal, AWA collected data on 10,803 of the 78,000 Afghan refugees left behind. Of those surveyed, 30% had been imprisoned by the Taliban; 88% reported loss of employment; 94% reported economic hardship; 70% said they went without food at least once in the last month; 84% reported going without medical care due to angst about leaving home and facing reprisals from the Taliban; and 77% said they had witnessed some form of physical violence against others for their service to the United States.

The State Department has disputed AWA's figure that 78,000 Afghan refugees were left behind, saying in early August 2021, there were about "18,000 SIV applicants." Both organizations agree that only 3,000 SIV applicants were ultimately evacuated by August 31.

So while the State Department's total figure of SIV applicants is considerably smaller than AWA's estimate, it still reflects the U.S. didn't get out nearly 84% of Afghan refugees.

According to some senior Defense officials, including those from the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) and Intelligence Community, Reid and Crisis Action Group out of OUSD(I&S) bear a large part of the blame for the U.S. not being able to get more refugees out of Afghanistan.

Officials tell The Debrief that all evacuation of refugees had to go through Reid's office in OUSD(I&S), which created a bureaucratic bottleneck that often brought operations to a standstill.

Frustrated that some military agencies were still doing everything they could to get refugees out as the Taliban swooped in and seized control of Kabul, Defense officials said OUSD(I&S) ordered all U.S. military helicopters grounded, with permission to fly having to be granted by them.

"JSOC folks and some other agencies were already working to get people out, but USDI and Reid suddenly came in and put everything to a halt. They repeatedly held things up, for no other reason than they just wanted to say they were in charge," one senior JSOC official speaking on the condition of anonymity told The Debrief.

"The military, JSOC, and other agencies, were getting it done. I can't overstate it enough how much USDI and Reid's group just came in and screwed things up."

The bureaucratic ineptitude of the DoD's evacuation process was so incredible that an ad hoc group of former U.S. special operators, aid workers, and intelligence officers with experience in Afghanistan banded together in what was dubbed "Task Force Pineapple" to save as many of their former Afghan allies as possible.

An Afghan SIV applicant who was ultimately left behind told AWA, "We are suffering the worst days of our life. I never go outside my living area. I have [not] left my home since the Taliban took over the country... I have lost my job furthermore, I cannot walk freely in the city/village because the Taliban will arrest me."

#### UNUSUAL PROBLEMS SEEM TO ALWAYS SURROUND REID

Since Spring of 2020, The Debrief had been investigating claims of misconduct by Reid after a current Pentagon official reached out and expressed concerns.

The individual said they knew of the past investigations, and because Reid "had friends in high places," they had little faith in the DoD's formal oversight channels. Hence their decision to turn to the media.

In examining the claims against Reid, The Debrief reached out and spoke with numerous current and former Pentagon and Intelligence officials who had either worked with or were familiar with Reid over the following nearly two years.

Of these individuals, the only remotely favorable evaluation was from one former Senior Advisor who said they "knew about rumors" of past misdeeds, including the alleged affair with Employee 1, but their interactions with Reid were always generally good.

The remaining persons The Debrief spoke with painted a picture of an arrogant and spiteful senior public official, who some seemed afraid of due to his significant power in the DoD's security and law enforcement apparatus.

Being judicious in our investigation and not mischaracterizing someone based merely on others' subjective opinions, The Debrief attempted to further evaluate several individuals' claims about Reid.

On May 18, 2020, The Debrief filed a Freedom of Information Act Request for copies of various communication records, including all of Reid's emails, calendar invites, real-time communications on government cell phones, Blackberry devices, or messages using SameTime or similar computer-based real-time messaging.

On July 27, 2020, The Debrief was informed by OSD's FOIA Office that OUSD(I&S) had replied that our "request is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and does not reasonably describe the documents being processed. Further, based on the scope and terms of your request, the component is not able to reasonably suggest an appropriate, more narrow search/request."

The Debrief was informed it had until the close of business on July 7 to clarify the scope of our request, or the matter would be closed. The cutoff date was twenty days before we were ever initially asked to clarify the request.

OUSD(I&S)'s claim that the original FOIA request was "overly broad" was odd. Initially, The Debrief's legal counsel had drafted a 19-page FOIA request that explicitly indicated what records were sought and exactly where these items could be located.

Adding to the confusion, on the same day The Debrief had filed a FOIA request for Reid's communications, it had made identical requests regarding two other senior DoD officials, one of whom worked in OUSD(I&S) for Reid. The two other exact requests were being processed. Only the one for Reid had faced problems.

When reminded of this, OSD's FOIA Office told The Debrief to disregard the previous concern, and the records request was now being processed.

For more than a year, The Debrief didn't hear anything until October 19, 2021, when OSD's FOIA Office sent the exact same response that OUSD(I&S) claimed our response was "overly broad."

Ultimately, it is unknown why repeated problems have arisen in seeking copies of records pertaining to Garry Reid. The other two identical requests have continued to be processed without issue.

At the time of his dismissal, The Debrief was engaged in legal efforts to facilitate the release of Reid's communication records.

"IT'S A HUGE DEAL"

The ultimate reason for Garry Reid's dismissal from the DoD remains unknown.

When The Debrief reached out to Public Affairs to clarify if Reid had voluntarily resigned or was terminated, the Department of Defense declined to comment.

Current and former Defense officials familiar with the situation said the official claimed reason for Reid's ousting remains a mystery to them as well. However, out of the Officials who spoke with The Debrief, all universally said it was likely from a combination of factors and that investigation into Lue Elizondo's formal complaint by the IG Office likely uncovered all sorts of nasty skeletons.

"Although I cannot confirm what ultimately led to his termination, I can surmise that it was caused, in part, by information contained in my IG complaint," Elizondo told The Debrief.

When asked how they felt on hearing the news, officials The Debrief spoke with said that Reid's departure was long overdue. Many also expressed surprise at his ousting.

"The guy was part of the system for a very long time. To fire him is no joke!" said one former Defense official. Another current senior Pentagon advisor said, "The guy ran all counterintelligence, security and law enforcement for the entire DoD, worldwide. This is a huge deal!"

Some who had known Reid for years expressed disappointment in the overall situation. Prior to going to work in the Pentagon in 2007, Reid had served nearly 30 years in U.S. Army Special Operations, including as the Command Sergeant Major for the Army's 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment, "Delta Force." By all accounts, even those who spoke poorly of Reid's Pentagon behavior, said he had been a respected member of the Special Operations community. "He just lost his way when he got to the Pentagon," said one long-time JSOC official.

Assuming past allegations of misconduct and Pentagon Official's descriptions of his behavior are any indication, Reid's fall from grace will have an immediate positive impact on OUSD(I&S).

When it comes to former Pentagon officials turned advocates for formal scrutiny of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, they say Reid's departure will have a significant positive impact on Government's investigations into UAP.

"It's a really big deal," said Elizondo. "He was one of the biggest obstacles to the DoD's investigations and public transparency of unidentified aerial phenomena."

Given that he was on the receiving end of Reid's ire for several years, The Debrief asked Elizondo how he felt about Reid's removal.

"While I profoundly respect his past military service to our country, obviously in his later career, he forgot his promise to the American people," Elizondo said.

"This action by the Department is significant and should be taken as a warning to others in the Department who continue to obfuscate the UAP topic and deny our previous efforts and findings in the AATIP program as they relate to a legitimate potential threat to the National Security of the United States," Elizondo added.

Before publication, The Debrief sent several unanswered requests to Reid for comment.

"As I indicated before, those involved in the purposeful and deliberate obfuscation of the truth will be held accountable," added Elizondo.

"We are now seeing this process in action."

From "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>  
 To "Reid, Garry P SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)" <(b)(6)@mail.mil>  
 Subject RE: News of Interest: The Debrief  
 Date Wed, 13 Apr 2022 21:58:26 +0000  
 Message-Id <bd6fa48c520348b9930e5f3b1e1944dc@DODIG.MIL>

Good to hear!

Randolph R. Stone

Assistant Inspector General for  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
 Evaluations Component

Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General

Office – (b)(6)

From: Reid, Garry P SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA) <(b)(6)@mail.mil>

Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 5:27 PM

To: Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>

Subject: Re: News of Interest: The Debrief

Yes. Still here, same job. (b)(5)

From: "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b)(6)@DODIG.MIL>

Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 4:33:46 PM

To: "Reid, Garry P SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)" <(b)(6)@mail.mil>, "Reid, Garry P SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)" <(b)(6)@mail.mil>

Subject: FW: News of Interest: The Debrief

Are you still with the DoD? See below

Randolph R. Stone

Assistant Inspector General for  
 Space, Intelligence, Engineering & Oversight  
 Evaluations Component

Department of Defense Office of the Inspector General

Office – (b)(6)

SEX, LIES, AND UFOS: PENTAGON'S HEAD OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OUSTED

<https://thedebrief.org/sex-lies-and-ufos-pentagons-head-of-counterintelligence-and-security-ousted/>

TIM MCMILLAN · APRIL 13, 2022

As the Pentagon's Director for Defense Intelligence and a senior executive in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S), Garry Reid was in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations within the Department of Defense.

This, in addition to heading up the Afghanistan Crisis Action Group, the office tasked with evacuating Afghan refugees during America's withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Now, in an exclusive, The Debrief has learned that Reid was recently dismissed from his duties within the U.S. government.

Before his ousting, Reid had been the subject of a nearly two-year-long investigation by The Debrief. Speaking on the condition of anonymity, multiple current and former Pentagon employees told The Debrief Reid had engaged in wide-ranging misconduct and corruption for years.

In the past four years, the DoD's Inspector General's Office had investigated Reid on numerous allegations, including maintaining a sexual relationship with a subordinate employee, sexual harassment, and fostering a hostile work environment.

In 2020, the IG Office found that Reid had violated Joint Ethics Regulations by creating an appearance of an inappropriate relationship or preferential treatment with a female subordinate and mishandling of Controlled Unclassified Information.

In May 2021, Reid was named in yet another formal IG complaint, this time involving former Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo.

In his complaint, Elizondo accused Reid of playing a central role in obfuscating information regarding the Pentagon's intriguing newfound interest in "unidentified aerial phenomena," more commonly known as UFOs.

Reid was also accused of maliciously misleading the public about Elizondo's involvement with the DoD's quasi-secret UFO program, the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

It's not entirely clear what led to Reid's recent dismissal. However, multiple defense officials familiar with the situation told The Debrief they believed the weight of the numerous past allegations, the disastrous withdrawal of refugees from Afghanistan, and current investigations into misconduct were too significant, and ultimately led to his dismissal.

In an email, Senior Spokesperson for the Department of Defense's Public Affairs Office, Susan Gough, did not refute that Reid had been dismissed. However, the DoD declined to provide any further comment on the matter at this time.

SEX...

According to a "Report of Investigation" obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act, in late 2019, Reid was investigated by the DoD's Inspector General's Office regarding four separate complaints of him having sexual affairs with subordinate employees, sexual harassment and creating a "negative work environment."

Two of the complaints accused Reid of having a sexual affair and providing preferential treatment to a female subordinate, identified in the report as "Employee 1."

Various witnesses told IG investigators they had observed Reid and Employee 1 engaging in questionable behavior, including kissing, hugging, and close personal interactions. "They definitely stand closer to each other than I would stand next to any of my [colleagues]," one witness told investigators.

In 2018 and 2019, Reid and Employee 1 took personal trips out of town together on at least two occasions.

During a third official trip to Europe in 2018, investigators said Reid and Employee 1 took two days of personal leave to go "sightseeing."

Daily lunches between Reid and Employee 1 also raised eyebrows among co-workers.

According to witnesses, Reid and Employee 1 frequently enjoyed office lunches together, with some accounts saying the door to Reid's office was often seen closed. Several witnesses also described the lunchtime powwows as "very weird."

"[There were] two place settings, like ... a restaurant" complete with "salt and pepper shakers, a side table, and some sparkling water," witnesses were quoted saying.

IG investigators determined that for more than a year, Reid and Employee 1 regularly commuted to work and went to the gym together. One witness described the couple's carpooling as "odd."

"He's the boss, and she's a subordinate," said one witness. "[I have] never seen that type of relationship between a supervisor and subordinate."

Out of twenty witnesses interviewed by IG investigators, only three said Reid and Employee 1's relationship was "solely professional." The remaining witnesses described the couple as "close," "very close," "perceived close," or "inappropriately close." Several witnesses told investigators the relationship between Reid and Employee 1 made them feel "awkward."

Then-Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Kari Bingen told IG investigators she had heard "rumors" that Reid and Employee 1 spent a lot of time together and had even raised the issue with him sometime in 2019. According to the report, Reid told Bingen he was merely "mentoring" Employee 1.

Independent investigation by The Debrief revealed the perception that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate relationship extended far beyond just the offices in OUSD(I&S).

Former senior officials who worked directly for former Secretary of Defense James Mattis and in the White House during the Trump administration told The Debrief it was "common knowledge" that Reid and Employee 1 were involved in an inappropriate, assumed romantic relationship.

One official who worked within the Office of the Secretary of Defense said they had heard a rumor that Reid and Employee 1 had been caught engaging in some type of sexual activity in the Pentagon parking lot. The official, who still works for the Department of Defense, reiterated this was only a rumor.

During interviews, both Reid and Employee 1 denied allegations of being in a sexual affair, both describing their relationship instead as merely a very close friendship.

Employee 1 told IG investigators that she referred to herself as the "[Reid] whisperer and [Reid] interpreter" because "people bring things to me first, and they make me deliver the bad news," which is "kind of my role."

For his part, Reid described his interactions with Employee 1 as being akin to a mentor and mentee.

Both Reid and Employee 1 admitted that on occasion, they may have kissed on the cheek or briefly hugged each other, but in a strictly platonic manner. Employee 1 told investigators that all of the kisses she received from Reid were "never uncomfortable" and didn't "feel aggressive or inappropriate or meaningful."

Reid denied providing preferential treatment, saying any added responsibilities or inclusion on travel trips outside of Employee 1's scope of employment were part of his mentorship. Reid said this was done based on

guidance by Deputy Undersecretary Bingen to “build up a bench” as part of talent management efforts by the DoD.

Though unmentioned in the IG report, The Debrief learned in its independent investigation that in January 2019, Employee 1 was promoted to a high-level executive position within the newly formed Defense Counterintelligence & Security Agency (DCSA). In November 2019, while the IG Office was conducting its investigation, Employee 1 resigned and left the DoD for the private sector.

Ultimately, the IG Office concluded that Reid had violated DoD Joint Ethics Regulations by “establishing and maintaining a close and unduly familiar relationship with Employee 1, creating a widespread perception of an inappropriate relationship and favoritism.”

In a rebuttal to the IG Office’s conclusions, Reid said his frequent interactions with Employee 1 were due to an administrative reorganization in February 2019, in an apparent reference to Employee 1’s promotion at DCSA. Short of flatly accusing Reid of lying, IG investigators said his statements “minimized his interactions” with Employee 1 by failing to highlight they had taken personal out-of-town trips and were commuting, eating lunch, and attending the gym together daily, in at least 2018.

While there was considerable circumstantial evidence, the IG’s Office ultimately said they could not substantiate that Reid and Employee 1 were engaged in a “sexual affair.” Investigators, however, noted they uncovered “many instances of conduct by Mr. Reid and her that were unduly personal and not professional or performance-related.”

The report’s authors underscored their conclusion by highlighting that Reid kissed Employee 1 on at least one occasion in her office and “routinely in the morning and evening hours during their commute together.”

[Editorial Note: During its investigation, The Debrief was able to determine the identity of “Employee 1.”

However, the individual is no longer in public service, and their identity has therefore been withheld from this report.]

LIES...

In 2020 the DoD Inspector General’s Office investigated Reid regarding another allegation that he was involved in an inappropriate sexual affair with a subordinate female co-worker, identified in reports as “Employee 2.”

The dynamics of the IG’s investigation quickly changed when Employee 2 denied that she had been in a sexual relationship with Reid, instead claiming she had been the victim of repeated sexual harassment.

According to the IG’s report, Reid had “kissed and hugged” Employee 2 in the workplace on multiple occasions, something Employee 2 said made her “uncomfortable” and was “unwelcome and inappropriate.”

Employee 2 said Reid kissed and hugged her “always in the context of some goodbye” or after a heated exchange as a “let’s make up [and] let’s hug it out.”

During hugs, Employee 2 said she would always try to turn her head away because Reid “would try to kiss her on the ‘cheek or closer.” Employee 2 said Reid would kiss her on the “mouth, side of the mouth, or cheek, depending on how quickly she could move her head.”

Employee 2 admitted she had never confronted Reid, who was her supervisor, about the unwanted interactions out of fear of the consequences.

“If you tell Reid, ‘I’m really not comfortable with that, that’s really inappropriate,’ then you have Hell to pay. Your life is miserable. And it just wasn’t worth it. So you put up with it,” Employee 2 was quoted.

“I just felt like this is a real crappy thing that I have to put up with. ... So, I don’t, I mean, it’s not like I was like, ‘Oh my God, I’ve been violated. I need to call the sexual assault helpline,” said Employee 2 when asked how the kisses and hugs made her feel.

“Like, I’m so conditioned to just deal with it. [It] sucks that women have to put up with this, and I’m one of them, and it’s just part of doing business.”

Ironically, Employee 1 from the first IG complaint told investigators she had witnessed Reid “kiss Employee 2 occasionally,” but that it did not “make an impression on [her] as anything concerning or noteworthy.”

When confronted with the allegations, Reid told investigators that he had “never sexually harassed anybody, male or female.” Reid did not deny, however, that he occasionally hugged or kissed Employee 2, but only on the cheek. Reid said Employee 2 never told him his kisses were unwelcome or gave a “negative response.”

“I sit here watching TV with Harvey Weinstein and everything else going on here, and again I’m still in shock that you came in here, and you told me of all the things you included, that I sexually harrassed [Employee 2],” said Reid. “But I did nothing of the sort and did everything to the contrary to help her, and she agreed with the help, and she would be the first to tell you I helped her.”

Reid went on to say he thought perhaps Employee 2’s allegations of sexual harassment were out of “revenge and retaliation” because he did not support her career advancement. “She took that very negatively – – that [I] didn’t have her back.”

During their investigation into the sexual harassment allegations, IG investigators said they examined text messages and emails between Reid and Employee 2. Investigators said messages showed Employee 2 “frequently engaging Reid in common interest conversations” and seemed to show “support for his work.” In light of Reid admitting to on occasion kissing or hugging Employee 2, the IG office concluded: “Considering the totality of the relationship between Mr. Reid and Employee 2, we did not find sufficient evidence to determine that Mr. Reid’s conduct toward Employee 2 constituted sexual harassment or some other form of misconduct.”

The Debrief was able to speak with a female former Pentagon official who was familiar with the IG’s 2020 investigation into Reid for sexual misconduct and harassment. The former official requested anonymity out of concern for reprisal. The Debrief verified the former official was indeed in a position to comprehensively understand the workplace dynamics in OUSDI under Reid’s leadership.

According to the former official, Reid’s inappropriate behavior towards female employees was apparent and widely known amongst the staff at OUSDI. “He was extremely arrogant. It didn’t matter who was around, senior civilian staff, attorneys, military officials. It didn’t matter. He would still do completely inappropriate things.” The career female defense official said she understood why “Employee 2” in the IG investigation didn’t initially report Reid’s behavior, and it only came to light due to another allegation of misconduct.

“As a woman working in the Pentagon, which is still largely a boy’s club, when you see someone like Reid blatantly behaving like he did, you say, ‘Why bother?’ Why speak out because all that is going to happen is you’re going to be penalized, but nothing will happen to someone like Reid. So you just accept it’s not worth it.” “And look what happened,” the former female defense official added. “Nothing was done about him sexually harassing one co-worker [Employee 2], while the other co-worker [Employee 1] he was having an affair with got promoted into a senior position. What kind of message does that send?”

Another current female defense official who was not working in the Pentagon during the IG’s initial investigation, but whose current position put her in contact with Reid and OUSD(I&S) told The Debrief that she would like to hope things are changing for the better. However, evidence often suggests otherwise.

“Let’s be honest here. He [Reid] didn’t get run off until he screwed up Afghanistan and a man [ Elizondo] filed an IG complaint,” said the current female Defense official.

“As a woman, personally I look at his behavior and think he’s a pig,” the current female Defense official added. “Professionally, I’d consider him a huge CI [counterintelligence] risk. If I’m a foreign adversary, I realize all I need to do to compromise this guy is wave a skirt in front of him. It’s kind of remarkable he was the head of counterintelligence.”

In yet another IG complaint during the 2019-2020 time frame, an anonymous co-worker accused Reid of creating a hostile and combative work environment. Of twenty-one witnesses interviewed by IG investigators, one-third gave unfavorable appraisals of Reid’s leadership, describing him as “nasty,” “gruff,” “moody,” “unpredictable,” “not very communicative,” or “incredibly inconsistent.”

One witness said Reid could get “angry” and “downright mean” when things weren’t going well, and he wanted answers.

“When he’s talking to you, like he’s interrogating you, [and] talking to you like you’re the gum on his shoe, bottom of his shoe. Just no, even basic human respect. I mean it was like he had no time for you,” said one witness. “If he was not happy with you, you knew it and felt it.”

Twelve witnesses offered a slightly more favorable appraisal, saying Reid was “firm” and “blunt” but also “smart,” “strategic,” and “successful.”

Reid’s then-boss, Deputy Undersecretary for Intelligence Kari Bingen, described him as a “pit-bull as in if you give him something and he will kind of be dogged about getting it down.”

Bingen admitted there had been “several, or a handful of individuals” who said it had been “really hard to work for him” during exit interviews upon leaving the Pentagon. Bingen, however, told investigators she had seen “flashes of him doing his job very well, him building relationships, [and] him getting things done effectively.”

Ultimately, the Inspector General’s Office said the negative comments about Reid’s leadership “did not rise to the level of violations of the JER,” concluding Reid had not fostered a negative work environment.

During their overall investigations in 2020, the DoD IG said they uncovered that Reid had at times used his personal email account to conduct “official DoD business.” On 65 occasions, investigators found Reid had used his personal email to share Controlled Unclassified Information.

Reid claimed he had only used his personal email for “rare and extraordinary” situations but agreed, “I probably should have known better.” In their final conclusion, the IG Office said Reid violated DoD policies regarding email use, highlighting his later remarks and agreeing “[He] should have known better.”

AND UFOS...



In October 2017, the then-Director of National Programs Special Management Staff at OUSD(I&S), Luis Elizondo, resigned from the Pentagon following a lengthy career in which he had served in various senior intelligence roles.

Elizondo's reason for suddenly departing his employer of over 20 years involved UFOs, or in contemporary parlance, unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP).

Elizondo says he headed up a secretive working group within the Pentagon for over half-a-decade investigating UAP encounters by members of the U.S. military under the moniker of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP).

Elizondo's sudden October 2017 resignation was in protest after it became clear that some in Pentagon leadership were preventing senior defense officials from being briefed on these concerning UAP incidents. In December 2017, Elizondo revealed the existence of AATIP in an expose by the New York Times. Following the feature article—which thrust Elizondo, AATIP, and UAP into the limelight—was the release of three DoD videos captured in 2004 and 2015 by the targeting cameras of F/A-18 fighter jets. The Pentagon has since begrudgingly admitted the objects seen in the videos are characterized as UAP.

In the ensuing years, Elizondo has become one of the most prominent and vocal advocates for the formal investigation of these mysterious incidents.

To their credit, the Pentagon and Congressional leadership have backed up Elizondo's most extraordinary claim: That devices of apparent intelligent control and unknown origin are flying in our skies with impunity. Current Senators, former directors of the CIA, Office of National Intelligence, Deputy Secretaries of Defense, Naval Secretaries, Presidents of the United States, military fighter pilots, and a newly formed and congressionally mandated DoD Office specifically tasked with investigating UAP – have all substantiated Elizondo's core claims.

Perhaps unsurprising given the taboo nature of UFOs, that's not to say there hasn't been some controversy regarding Elizondo's claims.

Specific to the well-known UFO whistleblower, after initially confirming Elizondo ran AATIP since the spring of 2019, the DoD has been steadfast in claiming he had no "assigned responsibilities" in the program. In fairness, over the last 5 years, the DoD's position on AATIP or UAP has been, at best, indecisive.

According to Elizondo and several current and former defense officials that The Debrief spoke with, the Pentagon's inconsistent messaging on Elizondo's involvement in AATIP and general aversion to being open about its interest in UAP is in large part due to one person: Luis Elizondo's former boss at OUSD(I&S).

Or as one current senior Intelligence Official worded it when speaking with The Debrief, "Garry Fucking Reid." According to documents related to a May 2021 IG complaint filed by Elizondo, which was reviewed by The Debrief, shortly after resigning on October 5, 2017, Elizondo received a call from his former boss Garry Reid. A "clearly upset" Reid wanted to know what he should do with Elizondo's resignation letter and demanded he come to see him at the Pentagon. When Elizondo declined the invitation, Reid reportedly threatened him, saying he would "tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance."

By November, Elizondo said he received several phone calls from former colleagues at OUSD(I&S) warning him that Reid and "Employee 1" (from the IG complaint) were "coming after him."

This could be written off as an apparently emotional and volatile former boss blowing off steam. However, it would seem, Reid indeed did attempt to make good on his threats.

On December 22, 2017, five days after Elizondo and AATIP made headlines in the New York Times, an investigation into Elizondo and the release of the three DoD videos depicting UAP incidents was launched by the Air Force Office of Special Investigation (AFOSI).

A copy of the final report obtained by The Debrief via the Freedom of Information Act indicates AFOSI's primary task was to investigate the release of the three UAP videos under the presumption these videos were classified. The report notes the videos were classified as Secret/No Foreign.

The fact that AFOSI investigators initially thought the videos were Secret is intriguing.

The DoD has since admitted the three brief clips were never classified. Additionally, emails obtained through FOIA show that this was abundantly clear as far back as the summer of 2017, when Elizondo was trying to get the videos cleared for public release.

Given that they were indeed unclassified, Elizondo could have, at most, potentially committed an administrative violation for publicly releasing the videos before they had been cleared by the Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review (DOPSR).

From the onset, had AFOSI been aware of this, they would have known that an investigation was pointless since Elizondo was no longer working for the DoD. Nevertheless, the impression that the videos were classified caused it to become a criminal matter, which allowed AFOSI to initiate the investigation.

After over four months of investigation, AFOSI arrived at the same conclusion that should have been abundantly clear from the beginning: "The three videos obtained by the SUBJECT were confirmed to be UNCLASSIFIED."

Both AFOSI and the Unauthorized Disclosure Program Management Office considered the matter closed on April 13, 2018.

Copies of AFOSI's final report were forwarded for "Action" to OUSDI, acknowledging OUSDI as the office initially requesting the investigation.

The person working out of OUSDI in charge of all counterintelligence, security, and law enforcement operations for the DoD at the time had been Garry Reid.

Speaking under the condition of anonymity, a senior defense official who had firsthand knowledge of the incident told The Debrief they knew for certain that the 2017-2018 AFOSI investigation was done at the behest of Reid as a way of retaliating against Elizondo.

Reid's aim, reportedly, was to try and get Elizondo's security clearance revoked. Treating it as a counterintelligence matter only ensured increased scrutiny.

"OSI all but came back and told him [Reid] it was improper use of their resources. Based on his position, they couldn't actually say that, but if you read between the lines on the report, that's what you see."

According to the Defense official, this was far from the only act of retribution Reid took against Elizondo.

"Reid had USDI Security put an entry in Elizondo's file on Scattered Castles, which is the clearance system used for IC interagency clearance passage, so that if he tried to go to any SCIF in the IC, Reid would get a call and be able to cause questions so that Interagency partners would come to believe there was a 'problem' and not let him in," the Defense official explained.

"This is a stealth administrative way to block someone's access without overtly putting anything out there. These types of admin dirty tricks were perpetrated by Reid against Elizondo over and over again."

Multiple former and current Defense Officials familiar with the matter told The Debrief that going after Elizondo's security clearance had been only one of the administrative dirty tricks Reid played.

Initially, when news of AATIP came to light in 2017, then-Pentagon Spokesperson Dana White acknowledged Elizondo had run the program.

By Spring of 2019, however, the DoD did an about-face, releasing the boilerplate statement that "Mr. Elizondo had no responsibilities with regard to the AATIP program while he worked in OUSDI [the Office of Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence]."

A former senior advisor to Secretary of Defense James Mattis told The Debrief they had been briefed at the Pentagon by Elizondo several times in early 2017 on UAP incidents and were dumbfounded when they saw the DoD's new "no responsibilities" position.

"I actually called PAO and said, 'How can you say that? I was read into this and [was] briefed by him [Elizondo].'" The former advisor says they never provided an adequate explanation for why the DoD was now denying Elizondo's role with the program.

Two current Defense officials told The Debrief they knew that senior leadership at the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), who at the time was managing the DoD's officially sanctioned UAP Task Force, had provided clarifying statements to the Public Affairs Office reflecting Elizondo had been the senior ranking official in the joint working group investigating UAP known as AATIP.

Documents reviewed by The Debrief show that on June 3, 2020, Elizondo emailed the DoD's newly appointed UAP public affairs czar, Susan Gough, requesting a correction to previous statements that more correctly reflected his involvement with AATIP. In the email, Elizondo provided 14 names of individuals ranging from senior Pentagon officials, private contractors, to members of Congress who could verify his involvement. Each of Elizondo's attempts to correct the record on his former role with the AATIP program went unrecognized.

Several current and former Defense officials tell The Debrief that the DoD's steadfast denial regarding Elizondo and often inconsistent and confusing public statements on UAP can be traced back to Elizondo's last boss, Garry Reid.

After three years of attempts at clearing his name and setting the record straight, Elizondo finally filed a formal complaint with the DoD Inspector General's Office in May 2021.

In unclassified documents reviewed by The Debrief, Elizondo accused Reid of "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal, and explicit threats."

In the cover letter to his complaint, Elizondo said, "I am fully aware of the magnitude of my allegations against certain individuals in the Department, and I am able to substantiate these claims."

Speaking with The Debrief, Elizondo said part of Reid's vendetta against and misleading statements about his involvement with AATIP are likely related to the fact he was never made aware of the program. "Since I could not trust him, I never indoctrinated him into the program, and instead was working with echelons within the Department above him," said Elizondo.

"I was aware of his perceived misconduct and could not risk the integrity of the program by involving him. Last I heard, he was coaching Pentagon Spokesperson, Susan Gough how to respond to inquiries by the media about

me. This would explain the obvious inaccuracies provided to the media about me by Ms. Gough,” surmised Elizondo.

#### “THE WORST IS YET TO COME” – THE LATEST ON RUSSIA’S INVASION OF UKRAINE

The Inspector General’s Office declined to comment on Elizondo’s complaint.

Just before Elizondo filed his complaint, the IG’s Office announced they were launching an evaluation “to determine the extent to which the DoD has taken actions regarding Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP).” Both the investigations into Elizondo’s complaint and the evaluation of the DoD’s handling of UAP are still on going and when it comes to the DoD’s handling of UAP, once again all roads lead to Garry Reid.

In August of 2020, the DoD officially announced the establishment of a UAP Task Force to “improve its understanding of, and gain insight into, the nature and origins of UAPs.”

However, copies of emails obtained by The Debrief via FOIA show that senior DoD leadership, as high as the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of the Navy, were being briefed on UAP at least a year earlier in 2019. Lawmakers on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Armed Services Committee were also receiving briefings on UAP by 2019.

And while all of these efforts in 2019-2020—including those by the UAP Task Force—were being managed by the Office of Naval Intelligence, the cognizant authority for the DoD’s UAP investigations was the Defense Intelligence, Collection, and Special Programs Office at OUSD(I&S), which fell under the direct control of the Director of Defense Intelligence: Garry Reid.

So while Congress was passing legislation requesting preliminary evaluations of UAP incidents and establishing a formal UAP investigative office in the Pentagon, the principal executive overseeing these efforts was Reid. The same Reid that multiple defense officials say has not only maintained a years-long vendetta against Elizondo but also played a central role in obstructing efforts to formally investigate purported UAP sightings going back to at least late 2017.

Notwithstanding all of this, in November 2021, when the DoD decided to get ahead of an upcoming Congressional mandate, Reid was named as the Executive Secretary of the newly formed UAP investigative office, the verbosely titled the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group ( AOIMSG).

With Reid’s sudden departure, the Director for Defense Intelligence (Warfighter Support) Air Force Major General Aaron Prupas will likely take over leadership of the AOIMSG, at least for the time being.

BUT WAIT, THERE’S MORE...

In light of having been named in multiple past IG complaints; in violation of DoD Joint Ethics Regulations;” and the subject of a still ongoing IG investigation involving allegations of “malicious activities”; miraculously, in July 2021, Reid found himself named as the Director of the DOD Crisis Action Group for Afghanistan.

In this role, Reid served as the lead DoD official overseeing the relocation of refugees and transportation of U.S. embassy staff, American citizens, allies, and other partners during the U.S.’s frantic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Horroric images of desperate Afghans clinging to the landing gear of massive C-17 cargo planes as they took to the sky would suggest that Reid’s Afghanistan Crisis Action Group was a complete disaster. And the data would concur.

In a joint press conference with Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby on August 16, Reid said while working closely with the Department of State, the Crisis Action Group was focusing on relocating Special Visa Applications (SIV). “To date, nearly 2,000 Afghans have passed through this process,” said Reid.

According to a February 2022 report issued by the Association of Wartime Allies, of the 81,000 SIV applicants who had pending visa applications on the day of Reid’s press conference, on August 31, when the final U.S. cargo planes went wheels up, 78,000 were left behind.

Six months after America’s withdrawal, AWA collected data on 10,803 of the 78,000 Afghan refugees left behind. Of those surveyed, 30% had been imprisoned by the Taliban; 88% reported loss of employment; 94% reported economic hardship; 70% said they went without food at least once in the last month; 84% reported going without medical care due to angst about leaving home and facing reprisals from the Taliban; and 77% said they had witnessed some form of physical violence against others for their service to the United States.

The State Department has disputed AWA’s figure that 78,000 Afghan refugees were left behind, saying in early August 2021, there were about “18,000 SIV applicants.” Both organizations agree that only 3,000 SIV applicants were ultimately evacuated by August 31.

So while the State Department’s total figure of SIV applicants is considerably smaller than AWA’s estimate, it still reflects the U.S. didn’t get out nearly 84% of Afghan refugees.

According to some senior Defense officials, including those from the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) and Intelligence Community, Reid and Crisis Action Group out of OUSD(I&S) bear a large part of the blame for the U.S. not being able to get more refugees out of Afghanistan.

Officials tell The Debrief that all evacuation of refugees had to go through Reid's office in OUSD(I&S), which created a bureaucratic bottleneck that often brought operations to a standstill.

Frustrated that some military agencies were still doing everything they could to get refugees out as the Taliban swooped in and seized control of Kabul, Defense officials said OUSD(I&S) ordered all U.S. military helicopters grounded, with permission to fly having to be granted by them.

"JSOC folks and some other agencies were already working to get people out, but USDI and Reid suddenly came in and put everything to a halt. They repeatedly held things up, for no other reason than they just wanted to say they were in charge," one senior JSOC official speaking on the condition of anonymity told The Debrief. "The military, JSOC, and other agencies, were getting it done. I can't overstate it enough how much USDI and Reid's group just came in and screwed things up."

The bureaucratic ineptitude of the DoD's evacuation process was so incredible that an ad hoc group of former U.S. special operators, aid workers, and intelligence officers with experience in Afghanistan banded together in what was dubbed "Task Force Pineapple" to save as many of their former Afghan allies as possible.

An Afghan SIV applicant who was ultimately left behind told AWA, "We are suffering the worst days of our life. I never go outside my living area. I have [not] left my home since the Taliban took over the country... I have lost my job furthermore, I cannot walk freely in the city/village because the Taliban will arrest me."

#### UNUSUAL PROBLEMS SEEM TO ALWAYS SURROUND REID

Since Spring of 2020, The Debrief had been investigating claims of misconduct by Reid after a current Pentagon official reached out and expressed concerns.

The individual said they knew of the past investigations, and because Reid "had friends in high places," they had little faith in the DoD's formal oversight channels. Hence their decision to turn to the media.

In examining the claims against Reid, The Debrief reached out and spoke with numerous current and former Pentagon and Intelligence officials who had either worked with or were familiar with Reid over the following nearly two years.

Of these individuals, the only remotely favorable evaluation was from one former Senior Advisor who said they "knew about rumors" of past misdeeds, including the alleged affair with Employee 1, but their interactions with Reid were always generally good.

The remaining persons The Debrief spoke with painted a picture of an arrogant and spiteful senior public official, who some seemed afraid of due to his significant power in the DoD's security and law enforcement apparatus. Being judicious in our investigation and not mischaracterizing someone based merely on others' subjective opinions, The Debrief attempted to further evaluate several individuals' claims about Reid.

On May 18, 2020, The Debrief filed a Freedom of Information Act Request for copies of various communication records, including all of Reid's emails, calendar invites, real-time communications on government cell phones, Blackberry devices, or messages using SameTime or similar computer-based real-time messaging.

On July 27, 2020, The Debrief was informed by OSD's FOIA Office that OUSD(I&S) had replied that our "request is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and does not reasonably describe the documents being processed. Further, based on the scope and terms of your request, the component is not able to reasonably suggest an appropriate, more narrow search/request."

The Debrief was informed it had until the close of business on July 7 to clarify the scope of our request, or the matter would be closed. The cutoff date was twenty days before we were ever initially asked to clarify the request.

OUSD(I&S)'s claim that the original FOIA request was "overly broad" was odd. Initially, The Debrief's legal counsel had drafted a 19-page FOIA request that explicitly indicated what records were sought and exactly where these items could be located.

Adding to the confusion, on the same day The Debrief had filed a FOIA request for Reid's communications, it had made identical requests regarding two other senior DoD officials, one of whom worked in OUSD(I&S) for Reid. The two other exact requests were being processed. Only the one for Reid had faced problems. When reminded of this, OSD's FOIA Office told The Debrief to disregard the previous concern, and the records request was now being processed.

For more than a year, The Debrief didn't hear anything until October 19, 2021, when OSD's FOIA Office sent the exact same response that OUSD(I&S) claimed our response was "overly broad."

Ultimately, it is unknown why repeated problems have arisen in seeking copies of records pertaining to Garry Reid. The other two identical requests have continued to be processed without issue.

At the time of his dismissal, The Debrief was engaged in legal efforts to facilitate the release of Reid's communication records.

#### "IT'S A HUGE DEAL"

The ultimate reason for Garry Reid's dismissal from the DoD remains unknown.

When The Debrief reached out to Public Affairs to clarify if Reid had voluntarily resigned or was terminated, the Department of Defense declined to comment.

Current and former Defense officials familiar with the situation said the official claimed reason for Reid's ousting remains a mystery to them as well. However, out of the Officials who spoke with The Debrief, all universally said it was likely from a combination of factors and that investigation into Lue Elizondo's formal complaint by the IG Office likely uncovered all sorts of nasty skeletons.

"Although I cannot confirm what ultimately led to his termination, I can surmise that it was caused, in part, by information contained in my IG complaint," Elizondo told The Debrief.

When asked how they felt on hearing the news, officials The Debrief spoke with said that Reid's departure was long overdue. Many also expressed surprise at his ousting.

"The guy was part of the system for a very long time. To fire him is no joke!" said one former Defense official. Another current senior Pentagon advisor said, "The guy ran all counterintelligence, security and law enforcement for the entire DoD, worldwide. This is a huge deal!"

Some who had known Reid for years expressed disappointment in the overall situation. Prior to going to work in the Pentagon in 2007, Reid had served nearly 30 years in U.S. Army Special Operations, including as the Command Sergeant Major for the Army's 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment, "Delta Force." By all accounts, even those who spoke poorly of Reid's Pentagon behavior, said he had been a respected member of the Special Operations community. "He just lost his way when he got to the Pentagon," said one long-time JSOC official.

Assuming past allegations of misconduct and Pentagon Official's descriptions of his behavior are any indication, Reid's fall from grace will have an immediate positive impact on OUSD(I&S).

When it comes to former Pentagon officials turned advocates for formal scrutiny of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, they say Reid's departure will have a significant positive impact on Government's investigations into UAP.

"It's a really big deal," said Elizondo. "He was one of the biggest obstacles to the DoD's investigations and public transparency of unidentified aerial phenomena."

Given that he was on the receiving end of Reid's ire for several years, The Debrief asked Elizondo how he felt about Reid's removal.

"While I profoundly respect his past military service to our country, obviously in his later career, he forgot his promise to the American people," Elizondo said.

"This action by the Department is significant and should be taken as a warning to others in the Department who continue to obfuscate the UAP topic and deny our previous efforts and findings in the AATIP program as they relate to a legitimate potential threat to the National Security of the United States," Elizondo added.

Before publication, The Debrief sent several unanswered requests to Reid for comment.

"As I indicated before, those involved in the purposeful and deliberate obfuscation of the truth will be held accountable," added Elizondo.

"We are now seeing this process in action."

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Attachment Name : smime.p7s

From "(b) (6) .., OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
 To "O'Donnell, Sean W., HON, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @dodig.mil>, "Stebbins, Steven A., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, "(b) (6) OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, "Roark, Michael J., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, "Stone, Randolph R., SES, OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>, "Zola, Michael C., OIG DoD" <(b) (6) @DODIG.MIL>  
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 Subject News of interest - The UFO briefings on Capitol Hill have begun. Lawmakers aren't impressed.  
 Date Mon, 2 May 2022 16:29:51 +0000  
 Message-Id <84a3807069cc4faab1cd3c00ac147212@DODIG.MIL>

Good Morning,

Please see the article below from Politico Pro, on the recent UAP briefings to the Hill and Sen. Gillibrand's quotes.

The UFO briefings on Capitol Hill have begun. Lawmakers aren't impressed.

Politico Pro – May 2, 2022 | By Bryan Bender

<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2022/05/the-ufo-briefings-on-capitol-hill-have-begun-lawmakers-arent-impressed-00029315?source=email>

Lawmakers receiving the latest secret briefings on UFOs say national security agencies still aren't taking seriously the reports of highly advanced aircraft of unknown origin violating protected airspace.

Members of the Senate Intelligence and Armed Services committees received classified progress reports in recent weeks on a series of new data collection efforts the Pentagon and spy agencies are now required to pursue to more rigorously investigate reports of UFOs, three people with direct knowledge confirmed.

But some leading sponsors of recent legislation want more analysts and surveillance systems dedicated to determining the aircrafts' origin — and not just more reports of their existence.

One of those lawmakers is Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), a member of both committees who has called the phenomena "an urgent issue" and for the first time is expressing her public dissatisfaction at the response.

"Senator Gillibrand believes that the DoD needs to take this issue much more seriously and get in motion," said one of her aides, who requested anonymity in order to discuss private conversations. "They have had ample time to implement these important provisions, and they need to show us that they are prepared to address this issue in the long-term."

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Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) speaks during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing Sept. 28, 2021, on Capitol Hill.

The congressional briefings come four months after Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act requiring the Pentagon to create the Anomaly Surveillance and Resolution Office.

The office, which is supposed to be fully operational by June, was granted the authority to pursue “any resource, capability, asset, or process” to investigate “unidentified aerial phenomena” — the now-widely accepted nomenclature for UFOs.

The Pentagon office is supposed to be developing an “intelligence collection and analysis plan to gain as much knowledge as possible regarding the technical and operational characteristics, origins, and intentions of unidentified aerial phenomena,” according to the legislation.

That means identifying people across the government “to respond rapidly to incidents or patterns of observations.”

The bill, signed into law by President Joe Biden, also required an annual report and semiannual briefings for Congress, including descriptions of all UAP incidents such as those “associated with military nuclear assets, including strategic nuclear weapons and nuclear-powered ships and submarines.”

To respond to Congress’s direction, Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks directed the creation of an Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group to oversee the stepped-up effort and establish the permanent UFO office required by Congress.

Among its tasks is to standardize UAP incident reporting across the military and collect and analyze more intelligence.

“The Department continues to brief Congress on our efforts regarding unidentified aerial phenomena, including our progress in standing up the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group, in accordance with the fiscal 2022 National Defense Authorization Act,” Susan Gough, a department spokesperson, told POLITICO in a statement.

“I cannot comment on specific engagements,” she added.

Expanding investigations of UAPs will require dedicating far more resources and personnel to the task, military and intelligence experts say.

But some members of Congress and their staff are beginning to air their dissatisfaction with the progress in making that happen.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, the top Republican on the intelligence panel, also believes the Pentagon is not aggressively carrying out Congress’ direction.

“Rubio is definitely frustrated,” said one of the senator’s aides, who was not authorized to speak publicly. “They are not moving fast enough, not doing enough, not sharing enough.”

“The administration is aware of the concerns,” he added. “It is not at the level it needs to be.”

Others are more critical, accusing the Pentagon of hiding information from Congress.

“I don’t trust the Department of Defense to get this right since leadership there has always been part of a cover-up,” said Rep. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), a member of the House Transportation Aviation Subcommittee.

“It is clear from the public evidence that we don’t have full control of our airspace,” added Burchett, whose district includes Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where there have been numerous reports of UFO sightings over the decades. “That’s a national security issue and it’s also unacceptable.”

Five current and former military and intelligence officials and contractor personnel privy to the deliberations who were not authorized to speak publicly told POLITICO they believe real progress is being made to compel agencies to take a more proactive approach — and also be more transparent about what they might know about UFO sightings and technologies.

Capitol Hill scrutiny has intensified since 2017, when former Pentagon official Luis Elizondo went public with his concerns. Since then, Navy pilots have come forward with credible testimony of UFO encounters, and the Pentagon began releasing select footage depicting mysterious aircraft captured by fighter jet cameras and ship radars.

“They are putting time in, they are doing work,” said a government contractor who has been enlisted in the new effort. “They are going to put some bodies on it. I think they’ll probably file the reports back to Congress on time. And that is a big plus.”

Others said that while officials are doing a better job of collecting reports of UAPs, they are still reluctant to dedicate more intelligence assets to determine whether some of the reported craft might belong to a foreign nation or if they are extraterrestrial in nature.

“I have seen everything we have [in the files] and I am very confident they are not ours,” said a former senior intelligence official who had authority over the UFO portfolio, referring to classified U.S. aircraft programs.

The continued uncertainty is prompting members of Congress to increase pressure on the Pentagon and spy agencies to do much more than merely collect UAP reports.

The contractor worries that the new Pentagon panel “is going to receive reports and collate them but they’re not going to lead any organized, serious effort to find out what the hell’s going on, nor are they going to be in a position to press anybody else to do that.”

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Rep. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), a member of the House Transportation Aviation Subcommittee.

Congress wants “somebody to get on the stick over there and get to the bottom of it,” the contractor added.

That also means determining where the sightings are most commonly being reported and then cueing technical systems to monitor those areas more regularly — for example, to “have these three satellites collect X amount of hours in X locations.”

“Who’s got all the puzzle pieces, who’s doing serious analysis, and then making informed, intelligent decisions about [intelligence] collection?” he asked.

But it also means “you have to compete with a lot of other priority things that are going to often outrank this,” he added.

Elizondo also said in an interview that he believes an enduring problem is that there are still “pockets of information” on UAPs within the government that are not being shared with the new Pentagon oversight body or Congress.

And when some of those pockets reach oversight committees through other channels, it further undermines their confidence in the government’s ability to seek and provide comprehensive answers.

“When they are made aware of information and data and videos and photos that are not being provided by DoD, it sets up a situation where the left hand doesn’t know what the right hand is doing,” Elizondo said.

Gough, the Pentagon spokesperson, declined to respond to such criticism.

Elizondo also warned that the Pentagon is lumping the most mystifying UAP reports with more traditional drones or other more readily identifiable objects commonly discovered in U.S. airspace, such as weather balloons or discarded rocket and satellite components.

The intent of the new law “is not to associate UAPs as an air clutter issue or space junk,” Elizondo said. “That should not be confused with clearly breakaway technologies that are being employed and demonstrated within our controlled U.S. airspace.”

The government UFO contractor sees signs of momentum to give “the phenomenon” the attention it deserves, but expects Congress will have to take more legislative action.

“I think there are pockets of people in different agencies who are enthusiastic,” he said. “But is it a focused effort? Is there somebody at a high level who is an advocate who owns this problem and is putting together a plan to get the answers that Congress wants? I think the answer to that is no.”

From: (b) (6),, OIG DoD <(b) (6)> @DODIG.MIL>

Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 12:18 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD CTR <(b) (6)> @DODIG.MIL>

Subject: FW: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] The UFO briefings on Capitol Hill have begun.

Lawmakers aren’t impressed.

(b) (6)

Can you please format in an email?

Best,

(b) (6)

From: POLITICO Pro Defense <alert@email.politicopro.com>

Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 12:13 PM

To: (b) (6), OIG DoD <(b) (6)> @DODIG.MIL>

Subject: [URL Verdict: Unknown][Non-DoD Source] The UFO briefings on Capitol Hill have begun. Lawmakers aren’t impressed.

[Image removed by sender. POLITICO Pro]

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By Bryan Bender | 05/02/2022 12:10 PM EDT

[Image removed by sender.] In an image from video provided by the Defense Department from 2015, an unexplained object is seen at center as it is tracked as it soars high along the clouds, traveling against the wind. | Department of Defense via AP



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[Image removed by sender. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) speaks during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing.]

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The contractor worries that the new Pentagon panel “is going to receive reports and collate them but they’re not going to lead any organized, serious effort to find out what the hell’s going on, nor are they going to be in a position to press anybody else to do that.”

“I don’t trust the Department of Defense to get this right since leadership there has always been part of a cover-up”

Rep. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), a member of the House Transportation Aviation Subcommittee.

Congress wants “somebody to get on the stick over there and get to the bottom of it,” the contractor added.

That also means determining where the sightings are most commonly being reported and then cueing technical systems to monitor those areas more regularly — for example, to “have these three satellites collect X amount of hours in X locations.”

“Who’s got all the puzzle pieces, who’s doing serious analysis, and then making informed, intelligent decisions about [intelligence] collection?” he asked.

But it also means “you have to compete with a lot of other priority things that are going to often outrank this,” he added.

Elizondo also said in an interview that he believes an enduring problem is that there are still “pockets of information” on UAPs within the government that are not being shared with the new Pentagon oversight body or Congress.

And when some of those pockets reach oversight committees through other channels, it further undermines their confidence in the government’s ability to seek and provide comprehensive answers.

“When they are made aware of information and data and videos and photos that are not being provided by DoD, it sets up a situation where the left hand doesn’t know what the right hand is doing,” Elizondo said.

Gough, the Pentagon spokesperson, declined to respond to such criticism.

Elizondo also warned that the Pentagon is lumping the most mystifying UAP reports with more traditional drones or other more readily identifiable objects commonly discovered in U.S. airspace, such as weather balloons or discarded rocket and satellite components.

The intent of the new law “is not to associate UAPs as an air clutter issue or space junk,” Elizondo said. “That should not be confused with clearly breakaway technologies that are being employed and demonstrated within our controlled U.S. airspace.”

The government UFO contractor sees signs of momentum to give “the phenomenon” the attention it deserves, but expects Congress will have to take more legislative action.

“I think there are pockets of people in different agencies who are enthusiastic,” he said. “But is it a focused effort? Is there somebody at a high level who is an advocate who owns this problem and is putting together a plan to get the answers that Congress wants? I think the answer to that is no.”

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Ex-official who revealed UFO project accuses Pentagon of 'disinformation' campaign

By Bryan Bender | 05/26/2021 08:09 PM EDT

[<https://static.politico.com/1f/c5/48842823467bbf314c5da5ea8deb/ap20212722614532-1.jpg>]A day after Lue Elizondo filed his complaint, the agency's inspector general announced a probe into Pentagon "actions" on UFOs. | Charles Dharapak, File/AP

The former Pentagon official who went public about reports of UFOs has filed a complaint with the agency's inspector general claiming a coordinated campaign to discredit him for speaking out - including accusing a top official of threatening to tell people he was "crazy," according to documents reviewed by POLITICO. Lue Elizondo, a career counterintelligence specialist who was assigned in 2008 to work for a Pentagon program that investigated reports of "unmanned aerial phenomenon," filed the 64-page complaint to the independent watchdog on May 3 and has met several times with investigators, according to his legal team.

The claim that the government is trying to discredit him comes weeks before the director of national intelligence and the Pentagon are expected to deliver an unclassified report to Congress about UFOs and the government's strategy for investigating such encounters. The report is expected to include a detailed accounting of the agencies, personnel and surveillance systems that gather and analyze the data.

"What he is saying is there are certain individuals in the Defense Department who in fact were attacking him and lying about him publicly, using the color of authority of their offices to disparage him and discredit him and were interfering in his ability to seek and obtain gainful employment out in the world," said Daniel Sheehan, Elizondo's attorney. "And also threatening his security clearance."

Sheehan, a public interest lawyer and activist, has a long history <[https://christicinstitute.org/docs/DanielSheehan\\_CV.pdf?source=email](https://christicinstitute.org/docs/DanielSheehan_CV.pdf?source=email)> of taking on the federal government on behalf of high-profile clients, including defending the New York Times in the Pentagon Papers case as well as one of the Watergate burglars. He is also widely viewed as a provocateur who has an abiding interest in UFOs and has spoken publicly <<https://www.amazon.com/Close-Encounters-Fifth-Kind-Contact/dp/B086D4D3V6?source=email>> about alien visitations. He also served as counsel for the Disclosure Project, led by ufologist Steven Greer, that has sought to force more government transparency on UFOs.

When asked for comment, Elizondo referred questions to Sheehan.

Sheehan maintains the goal of Elizondo's IG complaint is much bigger than clearing his name: He wants to compel the Pentagon to clear up all the ambiguity about what it knows about UFOs.

"Nobody seemed to be taking this thing seriously," Sheehan said of Elizondo's concerns when he left the Pentagon in 2017. "The different units and different groups that are responsible for responding to this particular phenomenon ... they're not briefing each other on this."

"The old dodge," Sheehan says, "is 'oh well, the real problem was that one shop wasn't communicating with the other shop.' That's the classic bureaucratic dodge. I'm trying to get the Defense Department to clarify for the public and media what exactly is the cartography inside the Defense Department for dealing with this particular phenomenon."

A spokesperson for the Defense Department IG's office declined to comment on the status of Elizondo's complaint. "I cannot speculate or deliberate about complaints that our office may have received," said Dwrena Allen. "I certainly cannot confirm or deny the existence of an investigation to the same."

But a day after Elizondo filed his complaint, the IG announced a probe <<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/05/04/pentagon-inspector-general-military-ufo-485356?source=email>> into Pentagon "actions" on UFOs, which is being undertaken by the assistant inspector general for evaluations on space, intelligence, engineering and oversight.

"We may revise the objective as the evaluation proceeds, and we will consider suggestions from management for additional or revised objectives," stated the IG's memo announcing that probe.

It remains unclear whether Elizondo's claims will be found to merit an official investigation, but his legal team says he is scheduled to meet again with investigators from the IG next month.

Elizondo has become a minor celebrity since he retired from the Pentagon in October 2017 and went public about the Advanced Aerial Threat Identification Program, or AATIP, a secret Pentagon effort that was initiated in 2008 by then-Sen. Harry Reid. POLITICO and the New York Times revealed the existence of the office <<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/12/16/pentagon-ufo-search-harry-reid-216111?source=email>> and Elizondo's role in it in December 2017.

Elizondo complained at the time that his Pentagon bosses were failing to take seriously numerous intrusions into military airspace by high-performance aircraft of unknown origin.

"It was during this time I grew increasingly frustrated by the lack of resources and interest by senior leadership," he states in the IG complaint. "UAP reporting to our office was increasing, yet our resources were minimal, and leadership involvement was almost non-existent."

"After increased frustration," he added, "I became alarmed by the frequency and duration of UAP activity in and around controlled U.S. airspace. The instances seemed more provocative, and during one instance, they came within feet of a U.S. fighter aircraft."

After he retired from government service, Elizondo also shared with the media a trio of Navy videos <[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO\\_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO_M0hLIJ-Q&source=email)> he got declassified before he left government service.

He claims he has since endured a coordinated effort to malign his reputation, including Pentagon press statements asserting he had no official role in UFO research, even after his role was officially confirmed. He also alleges a personal vendetta from a Pentagon rival he claims has sought repeatedly to damage his career, including trying to have him investigated for releasing the video after he had been cleared of any wrongdoing.

Elizondo charges "malicious activities, coordinated disinformation, professional misconduct, whistleblower reprisal and explicit threats perpetrated by certain senior-level Pentagon officials," according to the complaint, which includes dozens of supporting documents.

POLITICO is declining to publish the names of the Pentagon officials who are cited in the IG complaint because it is unclear whether they are being investigated.

But Elizondo told the IG he has evidence, in the form of emails, documents and the public record, "which suggests a coordinated effort to obfuscate the truth from the American people while impugning my reputation as a former intelligence officer at the Pentagon."

"These negative actions against me have resulted in great personal and professional challenges to me and my family," he adds in the complaint.

In recounting one episode in the days after he left government service, Elizondo claims a senior official warned him that he would "tell people you are crazy, and it might impact your security clearance."

"I responded ... by telling him that he can take any action he thinks is prudently necessary, but that I was not mentally impaired, nor have I ever violated my security oath," Elizondo wrote in the complaint, saying he did not meet with the official again "after our discussion as I feared he would take retribution against me."

The IG complaint also charges that the Pentagon's press operation has engaged in a disinformation campaign to discredit him by suggesting he was lying about his UFO work.

He cites several public statements asserting the department had no record of his involvement in UFOs even after saying that he did <<https://theintercept.com/2019/06/01/ufo-unidentified-history-channel-luis-elizondo-pentagon/?source=email>> work for AATIP.

"Several internet bloggers were notified ... that I had no duties regarding AATIP and that AATIP did not involve the study of UAPs," Elizondo told the IG. "As a result, the bloggers began to disseminate reporting, accusing me of being a fabricator."

He said when he inquired why the Pentagon had changed its official story about AATIP, he claims one individual directly involved told him he "was not happy with the way this was being handled internally with the Department." The official also said he "was aware I ran AATIP, but forces within the building were telling him not to admit it," according to Elizondo.

The Pentagon public affairs office declined to comment for this story.

The Defense Department this month publicly acknowledged <<http://nickpope.net/wpte19/blog/?source=email>> in a statement that the AATIP program was involved in UFO research, but it has not corrected the record on Elizondo's involvement, he says.

"It goes beyond simple ambiguity," Sheehan said. "There [are] actual discordant narratives that are going on. They're professing a substantial amount of confusion."

Elizondo maintains that the efforts to punish him for coming forward continue. The IG complaint outlines that his release of the three unclassified UFO videos was investigated by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and "there were no findings of me conducting any kind of Unauthorized Disclosure."

But he says he was contacted this April by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency advising him to submit to a new interview to maintain his clearance even though it was renewed in January 2021. And he maintains he was told it was about concerns over whether he violated the rules when he made the UFO videos public.

"Despite a previous favorable AFOSI investigation, I am under accusation of releasing the videos in an unauthorized manner," he wrote in the IG complaint.

Elizondo has continued to publicly maintain <<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/03/25/ufo-sightings-report-478104?source=email>> that he believes the government is covering up what it knows about UFO sightings. And Sheehan also claims Elizondo's experience within the Pentagon's bureaucracy signifies a much deeper resistance to coming clean.

He said there is "this extraordinarily bizarre process going on in the heart of the national security state bureaucracy where general officers, secretaries of defense are not being briefed in on something that is transparently within their jurisdiction."

"That is a profound and fundamental problem that they view as being above their pay grade," Sheehan added. "They know something is going on, and they don't dare go there."

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