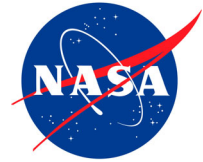


National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001

July 27, 2021

Reply to attn. of: Office of Communications

John Greenewald, Jr.
27305 W. Live Oak Rd.
Suite #1203
Castaic, Ca. 91384
john@greenewald.com

Re: FOIA Tracking Number 21-HQ-F-00500

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This letter responds your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), dated May 7, 2021, and received in this office on June 4, 2021. Your request was assigned the above-referenced tracking number. You seek the following:

a copy of records (which includes videos/photos), electronic or otherwise, of all records pertaining to, and generated during the case of, Leslie KEAN, Plaintiff, v. NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION, Defendant, No. CIV.A.03 2509 EGS. . .

. . . all records pertaining to that case, which includes, but is not limited to, the entire relevant FOIA case files connected to the lawsuit, relevant FOIA processing notes, emails, letters, memos, etc., that pertain to the FOIA cases and lawsuit.

In response to your request we initiated searches in NASA's Office of General Counsel (OGC) and the FOIA Office. With respect to the search in the FOIA Office, while processing a prior FOIA request for similar records (19-HQ-F-00470), the FOIA office learned that the FOIA case file connected to the subject FOIA lawsuit were destroyed pursuant to NASA's records retention schedule. Only one file still existed which included records NASA released to the subject FOIA litigant's attorney, and emails and statements related to the FOIA office's searches for records in response to the lawsuit. As such, for the portion of your request seeking all relevant FOIA case files connected to the lawsuit, we located the case file for 19-

HQ-F-00470, and are providing you with the response letters and records issued in response to that FOIA request.¹

With respect to OGC, a search of that office using information provided in your request located records responsive to your request. We reviewed both the FOIA Office and OGC records under the FOIA to determine whether they may be disclosed to you. Based on that review, this office is providing the following:

207 page(s) are released in full (RIF);
7 page(s) are released in part (RIP);
31 page(s) are withheld in full (WIF);²
13 page(s) not provided were referred to another entity.

NASA redacted from the enclosed documents certain information pursuant to the following FOIA exemptions:

Exemption 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5)

Exemption 5 protects “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency.”

5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). Courts interpret Exemption 5 to incorporate three primary privileges: the attorney work-product privilege, the attorney-client privilege and the deliberative process privilege. NASA invokes the attorney work-product privilege, and the deliberative process privilege.

The attorney work-product (AWP) privilege protects documents prepared by an attorney in contemplation of litigation. It protects material prepared by an attorney or others in anticipation of litigation, preserving the adversarial trial process by protecting material which would disclose the attorney’s theory of the case or trial strategy. The AWP privilege also protects materials that reflect the mental processes of the attorney, when the materials were prepared in anticipation of litigation or for trial. An agency can satisfy the “anticipation of litigation” standard by “demonstrating that one of its lawyers prepared a document in the course of an investigation that was undertaken with litigation in mind,” even if no specific lawsuit has begun. In your case, the information withheld contains NASA attorneys’ opinions, theories of the case, discussion of the facts, assessments of facts, and impressions of the issues presented. For these reasons, NASA withholds the information under the AWP privilege of exemption 5. NASA considered the foreseeable harm that would result from the release of this information and determined that its release would hinder the ability of agency counsel to effectively prepare for and defend the agency in litigation.

¹ Please note that records were previously referred to the U.S. Department of State’s FOIA Office for processing and direct response to the prior FOIA requester; however, because that agency released the referred records in full, they advised we could also release them to you. Thus, they are enclosed with this response.

² Some of the records withheld in full consist of drafts, the final versions of which were filed with the court by the U.S. Department of Justice during the subject litigation and were not located within NASA’s files. The final versions are available in their entirety via the Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) website at <https://pacer.uscourts.gov/>. You may wish to create a PACER account and search for civil case number 03-2509 for instant access to all the filings regarding that case.

The deliberative process privilege is intended to protect the decision-making process of government agencies and to encourage frank discussion of legal and policy issues. The scope of the privilege covers documents reflecting advisory opinions, recommendations, and deliberations comprising part of a process by which government decisions and policies are formulated. To qualify for the deliberative process privilege, a document must be both “pre-decisional” and “deliberative.” Documents are pre-decisional when they precede an agency decision and are prepared in order to assist an agency in arriving at its decision. Documents are deliberative when they comprise part of the process by which government decisions are made. The types of records/information NASA withheld under this exemption consists of draft documents, and recommendations and/or opinions expressed by NASA employees. NASA considered the foreseeable harm that would result from the release of this information and determined that its release would hinder the decision-making process, create a chilling effect on internal deliberations, lead to uninformed decision-making, and public confusion.

Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

Exemption 6 allows withholding of “personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)(emphasis added). NASA invokes exemption 6 to protect the identities of departed/retired employees, the identity of third parties, and any information that could reasonably be expected to identify those individuals.

Referral

Additionally, we referred 13 pages to the Civil Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ). That entity will process those pages under the FOIA and respond to you directly. Should you wish to contact DOJ’s Civil Division, their information is available at the following website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/find-foia-contact-doj/list>.

Fees

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. Because these records fall below the \$50 minimum, however, there is no charge.

Appeal

You have the right to appeal my action regarding your request. Your appeal must be received within 90 days of the date of our final response. Please send your appeal to:

Administrator
NASA Headquarters
Executive Secretariat
ATTN: FOIA Appeals
MS 9R17
300 E Street S.W.

Washington, DC 20546

Both the envelope and letter of appeal should be clearly marked, "Appeal under the Freedom of Information Act." You must also include a copy of your initial request, the adverse determination, and any other correspondence with the FOIA office. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this initial determination should be reversed. Additional information on submitting an appeal is set forth in the NASA FOIA regulations at 14 C.F.R. § 1206.700.

Assistance and Dispute Resolution Services

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at stephanie.k.fox@nasa.gov. For further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request you may also contact Nikki Gramian, Principal Agency FOIA Officer, at nikki.n.gramian@nasa.gov.

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 it offers. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Important: Please note that contacting any agency official including myself, NASA's Chief FOIA Public Liaison, and/or OGIS is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90 day appeal clock.

Sincerely,




Stephanie K. Fox
FOIA Team Lead / Chief FOIA Public Liaison

Enclosures

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenwald, 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>

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

LESLIE KEAN

Plaintiff,

v.

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND
SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

Defendant.

Case No: 03-2509(EGS)

Second Declaration of Margaret A. Roberts

I, Margaret A. Roberts, declare as follows:

1. The purpose of this declaration is to provide additional information and correct inaccuracies in Plaintiff's Statement of Genuine Issues of Material Fact.

2. I am a Senior Attorney in the Office of General Counsel. I was responsible for handling the FOIA appeal submitted by the plaintiff, which included a review of the record and writing a draft determination for consideration by Mr. James L. Jennings, NASA's Associate Deputy Administrator for Institutions and Asset Management. I was also responsible for handling the litigation until January 2005, when I left to begin a one-year detail to Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

3. In the appeal determination, the decision to remand the case back to the FOIA office for a new search was based on a review of the record. It was not based on the 1996 letter from the Washington National Records Center, as stated by the Plaintiff on page 14.

4. I wrote the “Roberts memo,” which under my instruction, was sent by the FOIA Officer, Stephen McConnell to all the FOIA Centers and appropriate Headquarters Offices. My intent in writing the memo was to ensure that those conducting the search knew the 11 items requested (amended initial request), understood that the search needed to be expansive and include repositories of archived and classified materials in addition to program offices and administrative offices, and that the searches should be completed within the month. I also stated in the memo that the requestor had informed NASA of its plan to sue so that the FOIA officers would maintain good records, have an understanding of why I was asking that this request be handled ahead of their current pending requests, and complete the searches within the schedule.

5. The date of January 5th for completing the search was chosen after consultation on December 2nd with Plaintiff’s counsel by telephone. I discussed my intent to provide the plaintiff any responsive documents as quickly as possible and within a schedule that would be of help to her. I also knew that since archived documents needed to be reviewed, a month would be required to complete the work. I believe this schedule was consistent with the Agency’s requirement to conduct a “reasonably calculated” search.

6. In addition to the “Roberts memo”, it is my understanding (and I contemporaneously confirmed) that Stephen McConnell sent the FOIA Center Officers and Headquarters Offices the documents sent by the Plaintiff to assist the Agency in its search and that information was available to those conducting the searches.

7. I followed up by telephone with all the FOIA Officers to ensure that the searches were underway and that particular offices had not been overlooked. In some cases, the offices searched were supplemented with additional offices after a discussion of how particular centers are organized into programs and administrative functions.

8. I also discussed with Patti Stockman, Headquarters Records Manager her efforts to locate documents in the NASA archives, including the Federal Records Center and Jane Odom, Archivist, her efforts in the history office. I was impressed by the diligence of both women to conduct an exhaustive search. I did not help manage the other searches of Headquarters offices.

9. It is my interpretation of the plaintiff's amended FOIA request that the search for "(1) a description of the search conducted regarding her request and any documentation (e.g., e-mails) related thereto;" did not entitle her to documents generated after commencement of litigation even though her request was not date-limited.

10. I do not know of any prior NASA search affidavits relating to NASA's processing of earlier requests. I acted in good faith at all times.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Margaret A. Roberts
Senior Attorney
National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Date

June 18, 2003

Ms. Lee Ellen Helfrich
Attorney at Law
Lobel, Novins & Lamont
1275 K Street, NW
Suite 770
Washington, DC 20005-4048

Dear Ms. Helfrich:

By letter dated May 9, 2003, to the NASA Administrator, you appealed, on behalf of your client, Ms. Leslie Kean, an initial determination under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552 et seq., issued by Ms. Sharon S. Holgerson, FOIA Officer at NASA Headquarters. Your client's initial request, dated January 31, 2003, sought "all data of whatever form including correspondence, telegraphic, electronic, photographs, scientific reports, analyses or tests such as metallurgic analysis, collection records, interviews with civilians . . ." relating to a Kecksburg incident in December 1965, or Acme; NASA fragology files for 1962-1967; and any records on Richard M. Schulherr, Project Moon Dust, "Cosmos 96," and "NASA's involvement of the recovery of the satellite, parts or debris thereof, anywhere in the United States or Canada."

In response to your client's request, a search was conducted at the NASA Headquarters History Office, and no responsive records were determined to exist. You have appealed this determination on a number of grounds.

You state that it is clear that documents on this topic are, or were, in the Agency's possession or control because you have enclosed three with your appeal letter and, therefore, question the reasonableness of NASA's search. One document appears to be a list of NASA files in storage at the Federal Records Center, including one entry entitled "Moon Dust." A second document appears to be a description of "Cosmos 96," printed from a NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Web site, and dated May 6, 2003. The third document is a memo dated May 7, 1968, from R. M. Schulherr, who was apparently a NASA employee, to C.N. Jones, on "Moondust from Columbia." Your research indicates that there are also a substantial number of documents related to fragology that were created by NASA, and you question why the only installation apparently contacted by NASA in processing your client's request was the NASA Headquarters History office. You note that you were informed on April 7, 2003, by Ms. Kellie Robinson of the FOIA Office that a previous FOIA request had been received concerning the same events, and documents were located and released. NASA's initial determination issued to your client did not reference or disclose the existence of the previous FOIA requests, nor cite any reasons for not disclosing the correspondence, nor provide any segregable portions of those documents. Therefore, you seek copies of the earlier FOIA requests relating to the same information and NASA's responses to those requests.

Your client's interest in the information concerns her investigation into the U. S. Government's reaction to events that were deemed confidential forty years ago. You assert that "the public's interest now lies in the historical significance of these events, including an evaluation of government decisions, such as a 'confidential' classification There was a reason that NASA and other federal agencies, including the military, took an active interest in events like the one in Kecksburg and it is now time to evaluate why." Moreover, you seek "access to the identities of the people involved. . .", stating that it is a crucial part of your client's research and evaluation. To support your request, you cite case law holding that "FOIA Exemption 6 does not justify the withholding of information regarding individuals, particularly where the privacy interest is minimal and the public interest in disclosure is strong. The balance of interests under Exemption 6 'instructs the court to tilt the balance in favor of disclosure.' Getman v. NLRB, 450 F.2d 670, 674 (D.C. Cir. 1971.)"

Finally, you make an additional request for documents that were not incorporated in your client's initial letter to the FOIA office. These include "(1) a description of the search conducted regarding her request and any documentation (e.g., e-mails) related thereto; (2) a copy of NASA's draft affidavit on FOIA searches or, in lieu thereof, a copy of affidavits that have been filed on NASA's behalf in FOIA disputes; (3) copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the transfer or disposal of documentation during the early 1960s, and including the transfer of the files listed in Exhibit 3; (4) copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the retention, transfer or disposal of FOIA requests at the time that any earlier request was processed; (5) all documentation relating to NASA's processing of any earlier request(s), and (6) copies of instructional or procedural memoranda, manuals, etc., relating to the process for conducting investigations, such as 'fragology,' that were in force in the 1960s."

Your appeal has been reviewed pursuant to NASA FOIA regulations, 14 CFR Part 1206. This process has involved a review of the initial determination, the search conducted at NASA Headquarters, and your statement of appeal. I conclude that, based on the circumstances of this particular FOIA process, the search may not have been fully adequate, especially because only the NASA History Office was asked to conduct a search on behalf of the Agency. I will, therefore, remand this case to the FOIA Office and direct that the original request be sent to all NASA Centers for further processing in accordance with this appeal.

With respect to the issue you raised about previous FOIA requestors that, in the past, were provided information on the same subject, a new search was conducted in the NASA Headquarters FOIA Office for all responsive records. These documents will be reviewed for releasability under the FOIA, and the Headquarters FOIA Office will issue an initial determination in this regard. One of these documents, which I am releasing to you herewith, is a letter dated March 28, 1996, from the Washington National Records Center to the NASA Records Manager. It states that the National Records Center could not locate the two boxes identified as fragology files, with the accession number 255-68A-2062 (and included in your appeal letter as documents that should have been located as responsive to your client's request). However, NASA will initiate a new search to include these NASA files that may be located at the Washington National Records Center or other NASA archives. These searches will be conducted on an expedited basis, to the degree possible, given that retrieval of any historical documents from NASA archives, stored in remote locations, takes additional time.

I am also directing, by copy of this letter, that the NASA searches include the additional records you requested for the first time in your appeal letter. This new, broader search for NASA records responsive to your client's original request may obviate the need to address, at this time, the other issues raised in your appeal letter. After you and your client receive the initial determinations concerning any NASA records located as a result of this new search, you would be free to renew, at that time, your assertions with regard to those records.

Based on this review, I reverse the Agency's initial determination and direct that additional searches of NASA records be conducted in accordance herewith. This is a final determination and is subject to judicial review under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4), a copy of which is enclosed.

Cordially,

James L. Jennings
Associate Deputy Administrator
for Institutions and Asset Management

2 Enclosures

cc:
PSN/Ms. Holgerson

Full docket text:MINUTE ORDER denying without prejudice [14] Motion for Summary Judgment, denying [17] Motion to Strike. Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment is DENIED without prejudice to a motion for reconsideration after compliance with this Order. Defendant is directed to file a Reply to Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment that specifically addresses the arguments raised in Plaintiff's opposition by no later than 4/22/05. It is further ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion to Strike the declarations attached to Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment for failure to comply with 28 U.S.C. Section 1746 is DENIED AS MOOT on the grounds that Defendant has refiled the declarations to comply with the statute. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on March 29, 2005. (lcegs1,)

PACER Service Center			
Transaction Receipt			
04/27/2005 14:59:33			
PACER Login:	us0796	Client Code:	
Description:	History/Documents	Search Criteria:	1:03-cv -0250 9-EGS
Billable Pages:	1	Cost:	0.08

Full docket text:MINUTE ORDER granting over objection [26] Defendant's Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply. Defendant's reply shall be filed on or before 5/6/05. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on April 25, 2005. (lcegs1)

PACER Service Center			
Transaction Receipt			
05/02/2005 17:36:27			
PACER Login:	us0796	Client Code:	
Description:	History/Documents	Search Criteria:	1:03-cv-02509-EGS
Billable Pages:	1	Cost:	0.08

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On May 9, 2003, Ms. Helfrich appealed an initial Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) determination on behalf of her client, Ms. Leslie Kean, issued by Sharon Holgerson, FOIA Officer at NASA HQ. Ms. Kean sought “all data of whatever form...” relating to a Kecksburg incident in December 1965, or Acme; NASA fragology files for 1962-1967; any records on Richard M. Schulherr, Project Moon Dust, “Cosmos 96,” and any records on “NASA’s involvement of the recovery of the satellite, parts or debris thereof, anywhere in the United States or Canada.” No responsive records were determined to exist. The proposed final determination reverses the initial determination. We conclude that, based on the circumstances, the search at Headquarters may not have been fully adequate, and, therefore, the FOIA Office is requested to initiate a new search and also direct the original request to all NASA Centers for further processing.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001

July 10, 2019

Reply to attn. of: Office of Communications

Mr. Fred Saluga

b6

FOIA: 19-HQ-F-00470

Dear Mr. Saluga:

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), dated April 14, 2019, and received in this office on April 15, 2019. Your request states that you seek the following:

all information/including pictures/reports/ and any other information on the vehicle that crashed at Kecksburg, Pennsylvania on December 9, 1965.

It was reported that NASA people in white coveralls and NASA emblems were at the scene. We all know that it was not a UFO, but a space craft that was either ours or belonged to someone else crashed on that day and was removed on an army truck.

I understand that NASA came to the conclusion that it was a Russian craft. If it was how did NASA come to that conclusion?

In response to your request we learned that NASA was involved in a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit seeking records on the Kecksburg incident in 2003. The FOIA unit conducted a search of its files to locate the case file with the records that were processed for that request/lawsuit. The search located one folder with documents that included records NASA released with some redactions to the FOIA litigant's attorney, and emails and statements related to the NASA FOIA unit searches for records in response to that lawsuit.

During a telephone conversation Nikki Gramian, Principal Agency FOIA Officer, explained to you that, with the exception of the one file discussed above, it appears the remaining case files created in response to the FOIA lawsuit had been destroyed pursuant to the records retention policy NASA has for its FOIA case files. For your information, Under 44 U.S.C. §§

3302-3303, Federal agency heads work with the Archivist of the United States, the head of National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), to create records schedules. Records schedules provide agencies with mandatory instructions (“disposition instructions”) for all agencies’ staff regarding how to maintain the agencies’ operational records and what to do with them when the agencies no longer needs them for current business. The disposition instructions state whether groups, or series, of records are “permanent” or “temporary,” and dictates how long to retain them. Records with historical value, identified as “permanent,” are transferred to NARA. All other records are identified as “temporary” and are eventually destroyed in accordance with the records schedule.

Agencies may not implement records schedules until NARA approves them. Once approved by NARA, retention periods in the schedules are mandatory and authorize the systematic removal of unneeded records from Federal offices. For your reference we are enclosing the NASA records retention policy approved by NARA for FOIA case files. As you will note, the FOIA case files can be destroyed 6 years after the initial determination is issued, or 3 years after final adjudication of a FOIA lawsuit. Since the FOIA lawsuit concluded in 2006, its associated case file and any other responses issued for it have all been destroyed with the exception of the one folder discussed above.

The documents in that folder were reviewed under the FOIA to determine whether they may be disclosed to you. Based on that review, this office is providing the following:

- 72 page(s) are released in full (RIF);¹
- 5 page(s) are released in part (RIP);
- page(s) are withheld in full (WIF);
- 13 page(s) are duplicate copies of material already processed and produced;
- 139 page(s) not provided were referred to another entity.

NASA redacted from the enclosed documents certain information pursuant to the following FOIA exemption:

Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

Exemption 6 allows withholding of “personnel and medical files and *similar files* the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)(emphasis added). NASA invokes exemption 6 to protect the identities of departed/retired employees and other third parties mentioned or referenced in these records and any information that could reasonably be expected to identify such individuals.

Referral

Additionally, we referred 139 pages to the U.S. Department of State. That government agency will process those pages under the FOIA and respond to you **directly**. Should you wish to contact that entity, their information is available at the following website:

<https://foia.state.gov/Contact/Default.aspx>.

¹ All page counts are approximate numbers.

Fees

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$50 minimum, there is no charge.

Appeal

You have the right to appeal my action regarding your request. Your appeal must be received within 90 days of the date of this response. Please send your appeal to:

Administrator
NASA Headquarters
Executive Secretariat
ATTN: FOIA Appeals
MS 9R17
300 E Street S.W.
Washington, DC 2054

Both the envelope and letter of appeal should be clearly marked, "Appeal under the Freedom of Information Act." You must also include a copy of your initial request, the adverse determination, and any other correspondence with the FOIA office. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this initial determination should be reversed. Additional information on submitting an appeal is set forth in the NASA FOIA regulations at 14 C.F.R. § 1206.700.

Assistance and Dispute Resolution Services

For further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request you may contact NASA's Chief FOIA Public Liaison at:

Stephanie Fox
Chief FOIA Public Liaison
Freedom of Information Act Office
NASA Headquarters
300 E Street, S.W., 5P32
Washington D.C. 20546
Phone: 202-358-1553
Email: Stephanie.K.Fox@nasa.gov

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the national Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov
[Telephone: \(202\) 741-5770](tel:(202)741-5770)
[Toll free: 1-877-684-6448](tel:1-877-684-6448)
[Fax: \(202\) 741-5769](tel:(202)741-5769)

Important: Please note that contacting any agency official including the undersigned, NASA's Chief FOIA Public Liaison, and/or OGIS is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90 day appeal clock.

Fees for processing this request are less than \$50.00 and are not being charged in accordance with 14 CFR §1206.503(c). If I can be of further assistance please feel free to contact me at hq-foia@nasa.gov or (202) 358-2462.

Sincerely,

b6



Headquarters
FOIA Public Liaison Officer

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS

SCHEDULE 1

(AFS 1000-1999)

This document is updated frequently; therefore, printed copies may be obsolete. Refer to NASA Online Directives Information System (NODIS) for the current version of NRRS 1441.1.

AFS #	ITEM	SUBJECT AREA OR RECORD TITLE DESCRIPTION OF RECORD SERIES	RETENTION <Authority>
1382	49	<p>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUESTS FILES</p> <p>Files created in response to requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act consisting of the original request, a copy of the reply thereto, and all related supporting files which may include official file copy of requested record or copy thereof.</p> <p>A. <u>CORRESPONDENCE AND SUPPORTING RECORDS</u> (EXCLUDING the official file copy of the copy of the records requested if filed herein).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Granting access to all the requested records. 2. Responding to requests for non-existent records; to requestors who provide inadequate descriptions; and to those who fail to pay agency reproduction fees. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Requests NOT appealed. (b) Requests appealed. 3. Denying access to all or part of the records requested. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Requests NOT appealed. (b) Requests appealed. <p>B. <u>OFFICIAL FILE COPY OF REQUESTED RECORDS</u></p>	<p>DESTROY 2 YEARS AFTER DATE OF REPLY. [GRS 14-11a(1)]</p> <p>DESTROY 2 YEARS AFTER DATE OF REPLY. [GRS 14-11a(2)(a)]</p> <p>DESTROY 6 YEARS AFTER FINAL DETERMINATION BY AGENCY OR 6 YEARS AFTER THE TIME AT WHICH A REQUESTER COULD FILE SUIT OR 3 YEARS AFTER FINAL ADJUDICATION BY THE COURTS, WHICHEVER IS LATER. [GRS 14-11a(2)(b)]</p> <p>DESTROY 6 YEARS AFTER DATE OF REPLY. [GRS 14-11a(3)(a)]</p> <p>DESTROY 6 YEARS AFTER FINAL DETERMINATION BY AGENCY OR 6 YEARS AFTER THE TIME AT WHICH A REQUESTER COULD FILE SUIT OR 3 YEARS AFTER FINAL ADJUDICATION BY THE COURTS, WHICHEVER IS LATER. [GRS 14-11a(3)(b)]</p> <p>DISPOSE OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROPER SCHEDULE ITEM OR WITH THE RELATED FOIA REQUEST, WHICHEVER IS LATER. [GRS 14-11b]</p>

NOTES: Wherever the retention disposition authority cites a GRS schedule or NARA Disposition Authority (DA) number (e.g., N1-255-091), the records are considered media-neutral signifying the retention is applicable to the described records regardless of their format. Only AFS numbers with defined subjects are used. – RETENTION – For items marked Pending Retention Approval, contact your Center Records Manager for information and/or questions.

Stephen McConnell
re: SciFi

On December 2, 2003, I initiated a search of the following program offices at Johnson Space Center (JSC):

AH/Personnel Office, AP/Public Affairs, AA/Center Director, CA/Flight Crew Office, DA/Mission Operations, EA/Engineering, GA/Information Systems, MA/Shuttle Program, RA/White Sands Test Facility, and SA/Space and Life Sciences.

A "no records" response was received from all. I did however, receive a statement from SX/Nicholas Johnson entitled "Statement Regarding Cosmos 96" and a copy of an email Mr. Johnson sent to Leslie Kean dated October 10, 2003. Just for information, DA/Lee Briscoe sent me a couple of websites to view for information on the subject.

I will fax information received to Stephen.

b6

Stella Luna

JSC

Dec 09 03 01:46p

291 483 6889 PAGE 02

DEC 03 15:46 '03

JSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS Fax:713-483-4876

Dec 3 2003 10:36 P.01

W. Thiele //

PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST *04-048*

DUE DATE: *12/12/03*

TO: *SA/S* **b6** [redacted]

FROM: AP121/STELLA LUNA, Coordinator
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Office
Building 2, Room 183, Act. 38612

Records noted on the attached request are believed to be in your files. In order for this office to respond in 10 work days as required by law, this office must receive one copy of the requested information no later than the above due date. If this information is not in your possession, notify this office IMMEDIATELY.

Please provide the time required to search for the requested information:

_____ Hours (Clerical)

_____ Hours (Professional)

Certification

This is to certify that I have searched all files pertaining to the requested records noted on the attached FOIA request and provided the FOIA Office with all the requested information. If all or a portion of the requested records are not included, reasons are given in the "Comments" section below.

SX

35064

b6 [redacted]

Mail Code

Phone

Signature

*Comments: I have never heard of any of the items listed in this FOIA! I have heard of the Cosmos series of Soviet spacecraft. I thought Cosmos 96 might have been the one that dumped nuclear material on Canada, but I looked on the internet and found that I was wrong. I came to work for NASA in June, 1963. In late summer, 1965, I left to attend graduate school for a year. My files for that time period consist of memoes and papers relating to my assignment to study the temperature of the lunar surface for design of the Lunar Module. ~~My~~ My coworkers were primarily geologists and cartographers. I know Dr. **b6** [redacted] traveled to Mexico to find pieces of the famous meteorite Allende. I don't remember anybody else picking up anything.*

To: Stephen McConnell <smcconne@hq.nasa.gov>
From: Margaret Roberts <Margaret.Roberts@nasa.gov>
Subject: Re: List please
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

Good enough. Thanks.

The archived material that needs to be searched under the Kean FOIA is located in records management.

Contact information: ^{b6} [redacted] called me -- works with ^{b6} [redacted] in records management. Her phone number is 202-358-^{b6} [redacted]. Please make sure these boxes are searched thoroughly for all 11 items. Then add whatever documents are responsive to your total list of responsive records and provide all the documents to me with the list. It can be an iterative process, but it needs to happen in a very timely manner. Thanks.

At 03:53 PM 2/2/2004 -0500, you wrote:

I'll be able to provide that to you tomorrow. Today we've been busy with the Columbia Ceremony at Arlington and NASM.

Thanks, Steve

At 01:29 PM 2/2/2004 -0500, you wrote:

Stephen, Can you please provide me the list of documents that you have gotten on the Kean Suit? What do we have as documents that may (or may not ultimately) be released under the FOIA. Remember, you were preparing that for me and now a couple weeks have passed. Please let me know when you can get that to me. Many thanks.

Stephen

Search
needs to
be complete
by

X-Info: ODIN / NASA Glenn Research Center
X-Sender: prbitt@popserve.grc.nasa.gov
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 5.1.1
Date: Mon, 05 Jan 2004 09:54:44 -0500
To: stephen McConnell <smcconne@hq.nasa.gov>
From: Virginia Bittinger <Virginia.Bittinger@grc.nasa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: FOIA Response 03-181

Hi Steve,

Hope your holidays were good. I wanted to forward the GRC response, related to the Leslie Kean request, to you today for review as I'm here today and tomorrow, but will be off the rest of the week.

Attached is the GRC Records Manager/History Officer's no records response. After a thorough search, he has advised that no records were located at GRC in response to the requested documents submitted by Leslie Kean. I reviewed the GRC FOIA Logs from 1997 to present and found that no other FOIA requests had been made for the documents related to the request.

I believe, from your e-mails, that HQ's is going to respond further on this matter if required. If you would like this information provided in a different format, e.g. a letter signed by the GRC denial authority, or if you need additional information, please let me know.

Have a good week.

Ginger


X-Info: ODIN / NASA Glenn Research Center
X-Sender: yykevin@popserve.grc.nasa.gov
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 5.1.1
Date: Thu, 18 Dec 2003 11:08:58 -0500
To: Virginia.A.Bittinger@nasa.gov
From: Kevin P Coleman <Kevin.P.Coleman@nasa.gov>
Subject: FOIA Response 03-181
Cc: Mary.C.Lester@nasa.gov

Hi Virginia,

Here's an electronic version of the FOIA response from the Records Management and History Office. I just signed the hardcopy and you should be receiving it in the mail shortly. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kevin

////////////////////////////////////
Kevin P. Coleman
Records and Electronic Forms Manager
History Officer
Logistics and Technical Information Division
3-9311 M.S. 60-3
////////////////////////////////////

 [FOIA results for Kecksburg1.doc](#)

December 18, 2003

0620

TO: 0610/FOIA Officer

FROM: 0620/Records Manager/History Officer

SUBJECT: Response to FOIA Request 03-181

Described below are the searches completed in response to FOIA Request 03-181 received by this Office on December 3, 2003.

The following searches were made by the Glenn Research Center Records Management Office for FOIA Request 03-181 referencing:

1. References to "KECKSBURG" or "KECKSBURG Incident" or "Acme"
2. NASA Fragology Files for 1962 to 1967
3. Richard M. Schulherr, NASA employee who worked on Project Moon Dust
4. Project Moon Dust
5. Cosmos 96 or Kosmos 96

Searched the Lewis telephone directories from 1965-1970 for Richard M. Schulherr to see if he was an employee of Lewis (Glenn) Research Center during this time. No listing for this individual was found.

Searched NASA GRC Web for information relating to Project Moon Dust, Cosmos 96, Kosmos 96, Kecksburg, Kecksburg Incident, Acme or Richard M. Schulherr trying to find a link to any possible Lewis (Glenn) employees who may have worked on said project. No information was found for Project Moon Dust or Richard M. Schulherr.

Searched NASA Technical Report Server and Aeronautics and Space Database for any reports on Project Moon Dust, Kosmos 96, Cosmos 96, Fragology, Kecksburg, Kecksburg Incident, Acme or mention of Richard M. Schulherr to find a link to any possible Lewis (Glenn) employees who may have worked on the above named topics. Search produced no information that assisted in the search through the Glenn records files.

Reviewed GRC's C-277s, Records Transmittal and receipt Form that describe record box contents in the division storage files for the GRC Center Director, Chief Scientist and Security Offices searching for any information relating to Project Moon Dust, Kosmos 96, Cosmos 96, fragology, Kecksburg, Kecksburg Incident, Acme or files relating to Richard Schulherr. Search produced no findings.

RIF

Reviewed the Lewis telephone directories from 1963-1968 and the titles of each division storage file searching by name for organizations that may have had an interest in Fragology, space object recovery, or analysis of fragments to determine national ownership and vehicle origin. Search of both the telephone directory and the division storage files produced no findings.

Reviewed all C-277 Form, Records Transmittal and Receipt forms describing records transferred to the National Archives and Administration for permanent or temporary storage or destruction of records and no referenced documents were found.

The Glenn History Office conducted searches of its historic files and a search of the entire Imaging Technology Center collection, films, still photos and video, produced no findings for the referenced documents.

No other FOIA requests for the referenced information have been received by the GRC Records or History Office.

Kevin P. Coleman
GRC Records Manager/History Officer

cc:
0620/Official file

0620/KPColeman:cbp:12/18/03

To: Stephen McConnell <smcconne@hq.nasa.gov>
Subject: FOIA Records Search -Ref. DFRC FOIA # 2004-003
Cc: kim.lewis@dfrc.nasa.gov

Steve,

Below is the response regarding the above search per your request:

On December 2, 2003, I initiated a search of the Dryden History Office (Code T) archives for any information related to Moon Dust, the Kecksburg incident, or the named individual. My rationale for initiating the search in this department was that the History Office has an extensive archive and contains records for past projects, and for individuals who worked at or were involved in NASA activities at what, in 1965, was identified as the NASA Flight Research Center. No records were found indicating any involvement with Moon Dust or the Kecksburg incident, in any form. No record was found indicating that the specified individual was here in 1965.

If you need any more information regarding the details of this search, please contact Ms. Kim Lewis, Dryden FOIA/PA Coordinator, at b6
Jennifer L. Baer-Riedhart
Dryden FOIA Officer

--

Jennifer L. Baer-Riedhart
Chief, Public Affairs, Commercialization, and Education Office
MS 4839A
NASA Dryden Flight Research Center
P. O. Box 273
Edwards, Calif. 93523
Phone (661) 276-b6
Fax (661) 276-3566

NASA Vision: To improve life here. To extend life to there. To find life beyond.
NASA Mission: To understand and protect our home Planet. To explore the Universe and search for life. To inspire the next generation of explorers.....As only NASA can.

To: "smcconne@hq.nasa.gov" <smcconne@hq.nasa.gov>
Subject: KSC Search Results related to HQs FOIA #03-181 from Leslie Kean

Steve,

The NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Office initiated a thorough search of our records on December 3, 2003, pertaining to records being sought in Leslie Kean's FOIA request, HQ FOIA 03-181. KSC's search included the KSC library archives; the Center Directors Office; the NASA/KSC Records Manager's Office; the KSC Protective Services & Safeguards Office; the KSC FOIA Office, and the Workforce and Diversity Management Office. As a result of our search, KSC was unable to locate any responsive records. Further, due to the age of these files and NASA records retention schedules/procedures and guidelines (NPG 1441.1C), if these records were required to be kept by NASA, they would have long ago been sent by the Program Offices to the National Archives for storage. Therefore, the KSC Records Manager, Marilee Tewksbury, was tasked to conduct a search of the KSC archive logs dating back to this timeframe. She was unable to find any KSC records of the files requested by Ms. Kean that were transferred to the NASA archives for permanent storage.

KSC conducted its search of the offices noted above as recommended by the action received from the NASA HQs. FOIA Office dated December 3, 2003.

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

From: Stephen McConnell [mailto:smcconne@hq.nasa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2003 2:55 PM
To: foia@hq.nasa.gov; foia@dfrc.nasa.gov; foia@grc.nasa.gov; foia@gssc.nasa.gov; foia@jsc.nasa.gov; FOIA@ksc.nasa.gov; foia@LaRC.nasa.gov; foia@msfc.nasa.gov; foia@ssc.nasa.gov; tpagaduan@mail.arc.nasa.gov; Diane M Sims; Diane.Sims@ssc.nasa.gov; C W Cleghorn; Cheryl.W.Cleghorn@nasa.gov; Joan Belt; Joan.E.Belt@nasa.gov; Kathleen Huddleston; Kim L Lewis; Penny L Myers; Penny.L.Myers@nasa.gov; Penny.L.Myers@nasa.gov; LUNA, STELLA (JSC-AP121) (NASA); Virginia Bittinger
Cc: smcconne@hq.nasa.gov; Kellie@hq.nasa.gov
Subject: FOIA Records Search

Supplemental Information to email sent from this office yesterday pertaining to Leslie Kean's FOIA request.

To All NASA Center FOIA Officers:

Immediate Handling of this FOIA Request is Required.

We have a FOIA request that needs to take priority and be completed on an expedited basis. Please try to complete the search for all responsive records at your Center by **Monday, January 5, 2004.**

The requester has informed NASA that it plans to sue. Therefore, please keep an administrative record of all your search requests and responses, and be prepared to document through an affidavit that your search was thorough and complete. The FOIA request and appeal will be sent to you through interoffice mail. It includes documents sent by the

requester that may provide assistance in your search. Please review the letters once you have received them in the mail.

All responsive records (regardless of whether they are releasable under the FOIA) should be sent to POC: Stephen McConnell, NASA FOIA Officer.

Your search should include the library, program offices, Directors offices, and other offices, as appropriate, all repositories of classified documents, any archives (onsite and offsite), and the FOIA office (send all FOIA files of any previous requests made by others on the same subject). Please be thorough.

Records sought include:

1. All data of whatever form, including correspondence, telegraphic, electronic, photographs, scientific reports, analyses or tests such as metallurgic analysis, collection records, interviews with civilians relating or referring to:
--A December 9 or December 10, 1965 incident [where an object fell from the sky and crashed] in or around Kecksburg or anywhere in Western PA [includes references to Kecksburg or Kecksburg incident or Acme]
--all sightings or incidents reported to have occurred in the U.S. on or about December 9, 1965 relating to this incident.
2. All NASA Fragology Files for 1962-1967 [NASA Fragology files include reports of space objects recovery, analysis of fragments to determine national ownership and vehicle origin].
3. Any records on Richard M. Schulherr, who is believed to have been a NASA officer connected to Project Moon Dust in the 1960 s or later [For example, newspaper accounts connect Mr. Schulherr with NASA s retrieval and testing of other objects of unknown origin found or reported by the public].
4. Any and all records on Project Moon Dust pertaining to the retrieval of foreign objects or objects of unknown origin by NASA personnel, and/or the examination or analysis of debris sent to NASA by any other agencies under Project Moon Dust.
5. Any and all records on Cosmos 96, or Kosmos 96, a Soviet satellite and Venus probe that came down on December 9, 1965, including NASA s involvement in the recovery of the satellite, parts or debris thereof, anywhere in the United States or Canada
6. A description of the search conducted regarding Ms. Leslie Kean s initial request and any documentation (e.g., e-mails) related thereto
7. a copy of NASA s draft affidavit on FOIA searches or, in lieu thereof, a copy of affidavits that have been filed on NASA s behalf in FOIA disputes

8. copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the transfer or disposal of documentation during the early 1960 s, and including the transfer of the files on fragology [or anything relating to the records requested above].
9. copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the retention, transfer or disposal of FOIA requests at the time that any earlier request was processed.
10. All documentation relating to NASA s processing of any earlier request(s)
11. copies on instructional or procedural memoranda, manuals, etc. relating to the process for conducting investigations, such as fragology that was in force in the 1960s.

Stephen L. McConnell

Freedom of Information Act Officer

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20546
Telephone: 202.358.0068
Faxsmile: 202.358.4345

"ONE NASA - ONE FOIA"

To: smcconne@mail.hq.nasa.gov
Subject: Statement from ARC

On January 6, 2003, I initiated a search of my Center by contacting these offices: Office of the Director of Astrobiology and Space Research, with a request to search for documents regarding fragology, the December 9 or 10, 1965 crash incident in Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, Project Moon Dust, a NASA official named Richard Schulherr, Cosmos 96, or Kosmos 96. My rationale for initiating the search in the above office was that it is the only office at ARC that would have responsibility for such records.

To: stephen McConnell <smcconne@hq.nasa.gov>
Subject: Statement Requested

On December 2, 2003, I initiated a search of the Glenn Research Center (GRC) by contacting the Deputy Chief, Logistics and Technical Information Division. This Division has responsibility of the Records Management and History Office records. I requested they initiate a thorough search for documents pertaining to:

1. All data of whatever form, including correspondence, telegraphic, electronic, photographs, scientific reports, analyses or tests such as metallurgic analysis, collection records, interviews with civilians relating or referring to:
 - A December 9 or December 10, 1965 incident [where an object fell from the sky and crashed] in or around Kecksburg or anywhere in Western PA [includes references to "Kecksburg" or "Kecksburg incident" or "Acme"]
 - all sightings or incidents reported to have occurred in the U.S. on or about December 9, 1965 relating to this incident.
2. All NASA Fragology Files for 1962-1967 [NASA Fragology files include reports of space objects recovery, analysis of fragments to determine national ownership and vehicle origin].
3. Any records on Richard M. Schulherr, who is believed to have been a NASA officer connected to Project Moon Dust in the 1960's or later [For example, newspaper accounts connect Mr. Schulherr with NASA's retrieval and testing of other objects of unknown origin found or reported by the public].
4. Any and all records on Project Moon Dust pertaining to the retrieval of foreign objects or objects of unknown origin by NASA personnel, and/or the examination or analysis of debris sent to NASA by any other agencies under Project Moon Dust.
5. Any and all records on Cosmos 96, or Kosmos 96, a Soviet satellite and Venus probe that came down on December 9, 1965, including NASA's involvement in the recovery of the satellite, parts or debris thereof, anywhere in the United States or Canada
6. copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the transfer or disposal of documentation during the early 1960's, and including the transfer of the files on fragology [or anything relating to the records requested above].
7. copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the retention, transfer or disposal of FOIA requests at the time that any earlier request was processed.
8. All documentation relating to NASA's processing of any earlier request(s)

9. copies on instructional or procedural memoranda, manuals, etc. relating to the process for conducting investigations, such as "fragology" that was in force in the 1960s.

I forwarded copies of the original FOIA request dated February 20, 2002; and the NASA Final Decision dated June 18, 2003; to provide the Records Manager/History Officer as much information as possible to conduct the search.

I identified the Records Management/History office as the office responsible to conduct the search because the records being sought were approximately 40 years old. Since this office was unable to identify any documents related to the above subjects, no further GRC organizations were identified to conduct searches.

GRC FOIA Officer

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland
20771



Reply to Attn of: 210
2004

January 12,

MEMORANDUM

TO: Stephen McConnell
FROM: Maria Hutcheson
SUBJECT: NASA Agency Search for Documents (GSFC FOIA #04-022)

On December 16, 2003, I initiated a search of my Center, Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), by contacting all directorates via mass email. The email, which was forwarded by the GSFC FOIA Officer, was sent to directorate chiefs and forwarded to directorate employees. This search was conducted in accordance with normal policy for center wide searches. Any employee with information related to the records sought was urged contact the GSFC FOIA office by December 29, 2003. As of January 8, 2004, no responses have been received.

The records sought included:

1. All data of whatever form, including correspondence, telegraphic, electronic, photographs, scientific reports, analyses or tests such as metallurgic analysis, collection records, interviews with civilians relating or referring to:
 - A December 9 or December 10, 1965 incident [where an object fell from the sky and crashed] in or around Kecksburg or anywhere in Western PA [includes references to "Kecksburg" or "Kecksburg incident" or "Acme"]
 - all sightings or incidents reported to have occurred in the U.S. on or about December 9, 1965 relating to this incident.
2. All NASA Fragology Files for 1962-1967 [NASA Fragology files include reports of

space objects recovery, analysis of fragments to determine national ownership and vehicle origin].

3. Any records on Richard M. Schulherr, who is believed to have been a NASA officer connected to Project Moon Dust in the 1960's or later [For example, newspaper accounts connect Mr. Schulherr with NASA's retrieval and testing of other objects of unknown origin found or reported by the public].

4. Any and all records on Project Moon Dust pertaining to the retrieval of foreign objects or objects of unknown origin by NASA personnel, and/or the examination or analysis of debris sent to NASA by any other agencies under Project Moon Dust.

5. Any and all records on Cosmos 96, or Kosmos 96, a Soviet satellite and Venus probe that came down on December 9, 1965, including NASA's involvement in the recovery of the satellite, parts or debris thereof, anywhere in the United States or Canada

6. A description of the search conducted regarding Ms. Leslie Kean's initial request and any documentation (e.g., e-mails) related thereto

7. a copy of NASA's draft affidavit on FOIA searches or, in lieu thereof, a copy of affidavits that have been filed on NASA's behalf in FOIA disputes

8. copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the transfer or disposal of documentation during the early 1960's, and including the transfer of the files on fragology [or anything relating to the records requested above].

9. copies of the relevant information management manuals, memoranda, etc., that would have governed the retention, transfer or disposal of FOIA requests at the time that any earlier request was processed.

10. All documentation relating to NASA's processing of any earlier request(s)

11. copies on instructional or procedural memoranda, manuals, etc. relating to the process for conducting investigations, such as "fragology" that was in force in the 1960s.

Maria Hutcheson
FOIA Specialist



click on photo for enlargement
Sketch by Charles Hanna

The Kecksburg, PA UFO Incident Petition Drive

**It's time to break the 37 years of government silence
Join our petition drive now!**

- Home
- What happened in Kecksburg
- Print petition
- Sign petition - PA
- Sign petition - US
- Send signed petitions
- Media stories
- Updates
- Links
- Photos
- Contact Us

**If you have
information on the
Kecksburg incident**

We need your help to solve the Kecksburg mystery

Something was seen in the sky which then landed in the woods near Kecksburg, PA on December 31, 1947. Since then, the U.S. government has denied that anything fell - despite testimony from citizens, the partially buried object in the woods and statements from firefighters, reporters, dozens of witnesses, and newspaper accounts confirming a large military response to the area.

For over thirty years, I have attempted to acquire information about the crash in Kecksburg. I have documented the testimonies of dozens of witnesses, created lengthy files on the case, collected newspaper reports about the incident, and produced a video. For more information about this case, visit my website at <http://www.westol.com/~pauf0> and click on "What happened in Kecksburg."

Over the years, many witnesses have come forward and publicly made their experiences known concerning their involvement with the case. I hope that others will now come forward. These people deserve closure. Despite their efforts and mine, and those of many volunteers, the people of Pennsylvania have been denied an explanation.

In the fall of 2002, the SCI FI Channel decided to support a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) effort into the Kecksburg incident. Journalist Leslie Kean spearheaded the FOIA effort, in cooperation with Washington, D.C. law firm Lobel, Novins and Lamont. The Coalition for Freedom of Information was formed by members of this team partly to provide the Kecksburg initiative with a public face. The FOIA initiative has also won the support of John Podesta, President Clinton's former chief of staff. For more information on this, go to www.freedomofinfo.org.

The Pennsylvania petition drive

This year, I launched a statewide petition drive. By collecting thousands of signatures, the people of Pennsylvania can put public pressure on their congressional delegation to request an investigation from the U.S. General Accounting Office. The GAO is the investigative branch of the U.S. Congress, and can only act on a request from a member of Congress in order to act. The GAO is in a position to access documents that are not forthcoming through the FOIA. This local effort is supported by the SCI FI Channel and the Pennsylvania Freedom of Information Coalition.

This website is designed so you, citizens of Pennsylvania, can immediately begin signing the petition, getting as many friends and associates to do the same. You may sign on-line if you wish. However, a copy actually signed by people is much more effective. You can print out copies with space for signatures by clicking the tab to your left. When you have collected signatures, make copies of the petitions and send the originals to me at the address provided.

For those who prefer to sign on-line, you can do so with one click of the mouse. (NOTE: The on-line petition must be signed by PA residents ONLY. Out of state supporters are encouraged to sign for US residents. Hard copies printed and sent to me must be signed by PA residents ONLY. Please sign more than once.)

Talk to your friends, relatives, co-workers. Take the petition to your local clubs, gatherings, parades, with the permission of your town libraries, community centers, churches and businesses to post the petition. Arrange to return at the appropriate time to collect it and mail it to me. Get together with other people in the afternoon (with permission) at your local supermarket or mall collecting signatures.

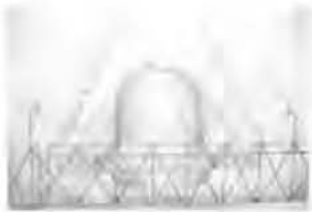
Also, please email this information to your friends, add it to any email lists that you can, and list

from other websites. Contact Pennsylvania media and make them aware of this effort.

It's up to the people of Pennsylvania to show their support for this investigation! ' thousands of signatures! Help us solve the mystery of what landed in Kecksburg!

Stan Gordon
Greensburg, PA
pauf0@westol.com

RIF



The Kecksburg, PA UFO Incident Petition Drive

If you have information on the Kecksburg incident

- Home
- What happened in Kecksburg
- Print petition
- Sign petition - PA
- Sign petition - US
- Send signed petitions
- Media stories
- Updates
- Links
- Photos
- Contact Us

Since the 1965 incident, I have had the opportunity to interview many people who were involved in the Kecksburg UFO incident. Some people witnessed the military activity in the area that night, and some of them saw the odd metallic object in the woods.

I am aware that there are many witnesses to the events at Kecksburg who have never discussed their experience with me. Some may have photographs; others may have been part of a military unit involved in the search, investigation, or recovery of the object.

Now is the time for those people to step forward and support this effort to find out the truth. This is a historic moment for this investigation, because we now have the backing of the SCI FI Channel, the Coalition for Freedom of Information, the Washington law firm Lobel, Novins and Lamont, and the former Chief of Staff to President Clinton, Andrew Podesta.

While many witnesses have gone public, some people for various reasons ask to remain anonymous. Witnesses may contact me confidentially. Your identity will remain hidden if you choose. It is the information you might have that is important. Even a small detail could be a significant clue in solving this mystery.

In addition, many courageous witnesses have gone public, and they need your help. Your testimony can verify other information, and add to the credibility of other people.

Thank you.

Stan Gordon
P.O. Box 936
Greensburg, PA 15601
Paufu@westol.com
724-838-7768

RIF



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Stocks to Watch Wednesday - Reuters (7:19 am)

More

Press Release

Source: Coalition for Freedom of Information

Coalition for Freedom of Information Files Lawsuit Against NASA

Tuesday December 9, 11:27 am ET

Coalition for Freedom of Information Seeks NASA Records of Mysterious 1965 Pennsylvania UFO Incident

Litigation Supported by Clinton Former Chief of Staff John Podesta

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 /PRNewswire/ - On the eve of President Bush's expected announcement about a new initiative with NASA, the Coalition for Freedom of Information (CFI) with support from SCI FI Channel today announced the filing of a lawsuit against the space agency in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The filing comes as a result of the government agency's refusal to release its records concerning the 1965 UFO incident near Kecksburg, PA. Today is the 38th anniversary of the incident.

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"Our lawsuit is aimed at getting NASA to tell the public what it knew and when it knew it," said Ed Rothschild, Executive Director of CFI.

The lawsuit against NASA is the first of several against government agencies, including the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force and the Department of Defense, which have been stonewalling efforts to obtain records on the Kecksburg incident under the Freedom of Information Act. John Podesta, former Chief of Staff for President Clinton and member of the 1997 Moynihan Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy, supports the effort stating that the public has a right to know and that the government should disclose what

happened in Kecksburg.

"Although NASA has released 36 pages of documents, none of those documents pertain to any investigation of the incident by NASA or to related projects within the agency that could shed light on the Kecksburg incident," said Lee Helfrich of Lobel, Novins and Lamont, the Washington attorney filing the suit.

"Furthermore," said Helfrich, "Leslie Kean, Director of Investigations for CFI, clearly demonstrated that NASA has documents responsive to the specific requests she made in CFI's Freedom of Information Act request, but NASA has failed for nearly a year to produce any relevant documents."

On December 9, 1965, witnesses in and near Kecksburg described seeing a fireball in the evening sky, a controlled landing and the systematic military recovery of an object. As reported by local radio and newspapers, U.S. military personnel cordoned off the area, investigated the site, and left without

RIF

ever providing a full report of the incident other than to dismiss it as a meteor.

A year ago, SCI FI Channel and the CFI initiated an effort to obtain classified and other government documents on the Kecksburg crash.

"Since last year, we have supported archivists, researchers and scientists, as well as partnered with investigative reporter Leslie Kean and attorney Lee Helfrich in order to obtain NASA's records in this nearly 40-year old case," said Bonnie Hammer, SCI FI Channel President.

"Now, one year later, despite our serious effort to uncover the facts, NASA still refuses to provide the public with any information," said Hammer. "That is why, today, we are supporting CFI's lawsuit. We are hopeful that our legal system will help us find out what really happened in the woods outside Kecksburg."

As Podesta stated in SCI FI Channel's Kecksburg documentary, "Certainly having the military descend on a United States town, holding people at gunpoint, is not the ordinary way we do business in this country. People should have an explanation about what triggered that sort of military response ... so that people can judge for themselves whether it was appropriate."

"The public has a right to know what happened in Kecksburg," concluded Kean. "Government agencies have an obligation to make public what they know. Instead of a willingness to open up files that rightfully belong to the American people, government bureaucrats are making it as difficult and time-consuming as they can to uncover the facts. We will persevere until we get answers."

In addition to broadcasting landmark documentary programming, the SCI FI Channel is currently lobbying Congress to gain support for more scientific inquiry into these issues. It will premiere UFO INVASION AT RENDLESHAM, hosted by Bryant Gumbel, on December 12, a new two-hour special that exposes one of the most notorious UFO incidents of the 20th century.

Additional information on the Kecksburg incident and the latest on the lawsuit, can be found at: www.freedomofinfo.org

Source: Coalition for Freedom of Information

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...stonewall, beginning with NASA

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**View the CFI's New
Public Service
Announcement
created by
the SCI FI Channel**

TAKE ACTION NOW!

**Sign petition requesting a GAO investigation
into the Kecksburg incident.**

Welcome to the Coalition for Freedom of Information We

Unexplained aerial phenomena, commonly known as UFOs, are real, not the stuff of sci-fi. In the 1950's the Air Force defined them as "any airborne object which by performance characteristics, or unusual features does not conform to any presently known aircraft or missile type, or which cannot be positively identified as a familiar object." There is no known object of origin inherent in the meaning of the word "UFO." It simply means "unidentified."

Phenomena for which there is no scientific explanation have been observed in America's (and the world's) air space for over fifty-five years. Trained observers -- pilots, air traffic controllers, astronauts, military personnel, scientists -- and government agencies have documented spectacular events visually, photographically, and on radar.

Most sightings can be explained. Yet there is a consensus among most researchers that ten percent cannot be explained by natural or artificial causes. Furthermore, because there is no ongoing independent, empirically based scientific research conducted on unidentified aerial phenomena, no one can explain with objectivity or authority what they are.

The appearance of UFOs, particularly in the skies over the U.S., has created an intense interest on the part of the public, researchers and, for many years, by the U.S. Government. According to a 2002 Roper poll, 72% of Americans believe the federal government is not telling us everything it knows about unidentified flying objects. Many investigators believe that significant classified information is being withheld, in addition to physical evidence that should be studied to

In keeping with our society's belief in and commitment to open government, the Coalition for Freedom of Information was formed in 2002. CFI is an independent alliance whose mission is to achieve scientific, congressional, and media credibility for this often misunderstood subject. Our effort hinges on the release of additional official information and the public's right to know the facts.

CFI's goals are to support a new research effort into these phenomena and to seek Congressional cooperation in sponsoring hearings and government inquiries. CFI seeks to bring together credible, qualified experts and observers who have both studied and been exposed to the phenomenon and who believe it to be worthy of further investigation. The media plays a key role in facilitating this process through responsible and serious reporting.

In this site you will find highlights of compelling evidence and testimony on the phenomenon over the past fifty-five years. You can also read the presentations of a panel of scientists who participated in a groundbreaking symposium at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. We have posted material on our investigation using the Freedom of Information Act and our interviews into an unsolved 1965 case in Kecksburg, PA. And, you will find some of the best stories from recent years, along with coverage of CFI's campaign and the results of a national poll. Last but not least, you will discover ways that you can become involved in this effort.

Thank you for your support and interest in our site! We welcome your input and sug

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CAMPAIGN NEWS

"The new initiative is not setting out to prove the existence of aliens. Rather it wants to legitimize the scientific investigation of unexplained aerial phenomena"

CNN, 2002

Latest Press release on NASA documents and newly declassified Air Force documents



November 19, 2003

NASA DOCUMENTS

On October 21, CFI and the SCI FI Channel announced their intent to take legal action against the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to force the release of records concerning a UFO incident in Kecksburg, PA. The next day, a NASA official contacted CFI attorney Les Helfrich and said the agency was forwarding 36 pages of documents responsive to our FOIA request and apologized that it had 'overlooked' sending out the results of its research sooner.

After ten months of pursuing the records in Washington, D.C. through the Freedom of Information Act, NASA had finally responded to public pressure. Yet the documents were not responsive to our request, and provided us with no new information. We will proceed with filing a lawsuit in District Court for the District of Columbia, as soon as we have officially exhausted all administrative procedures so as to comply with the requirements of the court.

To view the NASA documents, go to:

<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/pao/FOIA/Kecksberg-UFO.pdf>

Press conference October 21, 2003

Press release

Bonnie Hammer
SCI FI Channel President

Leslie Kean
Investigative Journalist

Lee Helfrich
Attorney, Lobel, Novins & Lamont

Amber Moulton-Wiseman
History Associates Incorporated

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ROBERT GATTY
Reporter who covered Kecksburg incident

Press Releases

Press Advisory (Oct. 2003 press conference)

SCI FI Channel Challenges Government Secrecy

Press Advisory (Symposium)

CFI Supports Pennsylvania Petition on Kecksburg Incident

News Coverage

SCI-Fi channel may sue NASA for UFO documents
Reuters (New York)
Tuesday October 21, 2003

SCI-FI Seeks Kecksburg Truth
SCI-FIwire
A news service of the SCI-FI channel

"SCI FI Channel Pushing UFO Investigations"
The Associated Press
by David Bauder

"Clinton Aide Slams Pentagon's UFO Secrecy"
CNN
by Richard Stenger

"Podesta Urges Airing of Area 51"
Former White House chief of staff supports openness
Las Vegas Review-Journal
by Tony Batt

"UFO Case Back in Spotlight"
Tribune-Review
by Ann Saul Dudurich

"Abducting the Truth"
SCI FI Magazine
by Kathie Huddleston

"Petition Seeks to Unravel Kecksburg UFO Mystery"
Daily Courier
by Ann Saul DuDurich

"Open UFO Files to Rest of us Earthlings"
Atlanta-Journal Constitution & Knight Ridder/Tribune wire service
by Leslie Kean

"Feds Asked to Shed Light on UFO's"
Las Vegas Sun
by Benjamin Grove

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"UFO? The Public Wants to Know"

The Daily Courier

by Rachel R. Basinger

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Contact:
Ed Rothschild
PodestaMattoon
202/393-1010

NASA CONTINUES TO STONEWALL ON KECKSBURG: NEWLY RELEASED DOCUMENTS RAISE MORE QUESTIONS, SAY SCI FI AND CFI

IN NEW DEVELOPMENT, US ARCHIVES RELEASE TO CFI and SCI FI 2800 PAGES OF DECLASSIFIED AIR FORCE RECORDS

Washington, D.C. – Lawyers for the Coalition for Freedom of Information (CFI) said today that they have concluded NASA is still refusing to comply with a 10-month old FOIA request to release its records on the 1965 UFO incident in Kecksburg. This announcement comes after CFI's careful review of 36 pages released by NASA hours after SCI FI Channel announced its unprecedented support for legal action against the government agency.

"The documents released shed little light on the incident, but are indicative of how hard NASA is trying to prevent the public from finding out what really happened on December 9, 1965," said CFI attorney, Lee Helfrich with the Washington, DC firm of Lobel, Novins, and Lamont.

In another development, last week the National Archives notified researchers for CFI and SCI FI that the U.S. Air Force had declassified some of the records requested. "Our researchers are now poring through these 2800 pages to determine if any are relevant to the Kecksburg incident," said Ed Rothschild, Director for the Coalition for Freedom of Information.

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According to Helfrich, "The day after CFI's press conference (October 21) and on the eve of the airing of SCI FI's Kecksburg documentary (October 24), a NASA official contacted me to say the agency was forwarding 36 pages of documents responsive to our FOIA request and apologized somewhat too profusely that it had 'overlooked' sending out the results of its research at an earlier date."

"CFI was determined to give NASA the benefit of the doubt and to assume that the agency conducted a reasonable, good faith search -- especially given that NASA itself had decided back in June that its initial response to CFI's FOIA request was woefully inadequate," continued Helfrich. "But our trust in NASA's reliability proved to be far too generous. It is difficult not to conclude that NASA's response was simply a ploy to undercut the force of CFI's press conference and the audience for its documentary on Kecksburg."

"NASA's stonewalling leaves us no choice," said Rothschild. "We intend to file a lawsuit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in the coming weeks -- as soon as our attorneys tell us that we have officially exhausted all administrative procedures so as to comply with the requirements of the court."

SCI FI Channel's Hammer also announced that on Friday, November 21 at 9-11 PM (ET/PT), SCI FI will broadcast "Kecksburg UFO: New Evidence," a new special on the Kecksburg UFO incident with updates on the lawsuit, as well as new information and interviews that shed more light on the mysterious 1965 crash.

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Lee E. Helfrich
Partner, Lobel, Novins and Lamont
Executive Summary

October 21, 2003

My name is Lee Helfrich. I'm a partner at the law firm of Lobel, Novins and Lamont and have been assisting the Coalition for Freedom of Information (CFI) with its Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) initiative. I've been asked to give you a very brief summary today. No one up here with me seems to appreciate – that as a lawyer – I get paid by the word.

When CFI started its FOIA initiative a year ago, it faced two hurdles. The first is what we've termed the "ridicule" factor. The second was the bureaucratization of the government's FOIA process.

The Kecksburg incident – like many others – is viewed as a "UFO" story. Today, those three letters are associated in the public's mind with entertainment and *Star Trek* conventions. That we are entertained by the unknown and the prospect for the future is certainly okay. What is not okay is when the popular culture or conventional wisdom overwhelms and excludes the search for real answers. As today's newspapers repeatedly remind us, the line between official fact and fiction is not all that clear.

What today we call the "UFO phenomenon" began as a taxpayer funded, government internal security program administered by the U.S. Air Force. Any object that entered U.S. air space that could not be immediately identified was an "Unidentified Flying Object" – a term coined by the military. Initially, the public was asked by the government itself to report incidents like Kecksburg.

During the time period of Kecksburg, however, the government was also reorganizing this "homeland" security program – a not uncommon bureaucratic maneuver. A by-product of the government's reorganization effort was the re-definition of a "UFO" investigation as an inquiry about space aliens. To patronize and trivialize the honest reports and questions of citizens, whose lives and communities were impacted by a government program is, in my opinion, disgraceful.

In today's environment, the public is often reminded that premature disclosure of government information could harm legitimate national security and law enforcement efforts. The FOIA balances the goal of open government with the government's need for temporary secrecy. At some point in time, however, secrets become stale, and the government's activities, in the words of the Supreme Court, should "be opened to the sharp eye of public scrutiny." This is not an effort to revise history, but to complete it.

As summarized in a 1997 report of a congressional commission, the reality is that access delayed is access denied. Since its enactment in 1966 – and despite its lofty goals – FOIA has become user unfriendly – a bureaucratic maze that can be pursued only by those with extraordinary patience and pocketbooks. An example of this is CFI's experience with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration – NASA.

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In response to CFI's first request letter, NASA came back relatively quickly with a "no records" response. This was one of the many "go away" responses that CFI expected to receive from the federal government at the outset of its FOIA initiative. Most FOIA practitioners steer clear of pursuing "no records" responses, because, to prevail, the requester must show that the agency did not conduct a reasonable, good faith search – a showing that requires the FOIA requester to, in essence, produce government documents responsive to his/her own FOIA request. CFI was prepared to do this – indeed, as you know, it is actively pursuing a parallel investigation. As a result, CFI won its administrative appeal of NASA's "no records" response. CFI has now waited patiently for four months for NASA to produce the results of its promise to conduct an "expedited" search.

For over forty years, we lived with the Cold War and all the fear it engendered. The "UFO phenomenon" – whether it coincided with that War or was a product of it – is an important chapter in our government's operations and our history. As Kecksburg demonstrates, it still has an impact on real people and real communities, who have no agenda other than obtaining honest answers. Aliens may not have invaded Kecksburg in December 1965, but the U.S. military surely did.

In my opinion, Congress did not intend to force the public to litigate over its own history. Unfortunately, the government has created FOIA process in which litigation has become a necessary evil. "Freedom of Information" is being held hostage to a sometimes hostile, and definitely byzantine bureaucracy. For a democracy, that deserves much more ridicule than legitimate curiosity about crop circles or extraterrestrial life.

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Statement Of Lee E. Helfrich
Lobel, Novins & Lamont

October 21, 2003

My name is Lee Helfrich, and I'm a partner at the law firm of Lobel, Novins & Lamont. I am, of course, the lawyer on Coalition for Freedom of Information's Kecksburg team and have been overseeing CFI's Freedom of Information Act initiative, which was announced nearly a year ago. CFI is currently seeking access to documents related to the Kecksburg incident from the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration – NASA.

Before rattling my legal saber and announcing a charge into court, I think its worthwhile to emphasize that neither I nor my clients had any delusions CFI's FOIA initiative was going to be anything other than an uphill battle. Many of you have probably suffered from FOIA frustration. And, thanks to the many dogged reporters and investigators out there, CFI knew what to expect in terms of the government's response to its FOIA requests. CFI was not disappointed – for over a year it received various versions of "go away" from various different Departments and sub-agencies. Because of CFI's parallel investigative effort, it was prepared in advance to play that game.

But before sharing FOIA anecdotes, I think its important to underscore that CFI's FOIA initiative had another strike against it at the start – the conventional wisdom about "UFOs".

When CFI first came to my firm with its proposal, my first response was to laugh. In my dictionary, those three letters – UFO – spelled ridicule. I didn't spend three years in law school, a year at Harvard doing graduate work on the First Amendment, and 20 years in practice to become known as "ET's lawyer." If it weren't for the credibility, talent and support of the people who were involved – John Podesta, Leslie Kean, Ed Rothschild, History Associates, the Sci Fi Channel, among others – I would not have given this proposal a second thought. No one I know of has ever gotten rich off litigating FOIA cases.

There is no doubt that a lot of the stuff out there on the "UFO phenomenon" is hard to swallow. For example, to this day, I still fall within that category of people who think "crop circles" are the product of pranksters with way too much time on their hands. But, let's face it, you can't pick up a newspaper today without being reminded that the line between official fact and fiction isn't all that bright. The Freedom of Information Act was intended to give the public access to all the facts so that they could draw the line themselves. As summarized in a recent Washington Post Op-Ed, the government is not entitled to "promulgate an official version of history and to deride as untrustworthy any challenges to their account."

The conventional wisdom about UFOs – that it concerns small, green alien creatures – is historically inaccurate. For at least 20 years, the United States Air Force – from the late 1940s

through the 1960s – actively investigated reports of unknown airborne objects entering U.S. air space – this was, at the time, part and parcel of our “homeland security” program during the height of the Cold War. The U.S. military coined the term “unidentified flying object”, which like almost everything else in the government, soon became known by its acronym “UFO”. Like today, the public was encouraged to report the unknown. Given the time period, it should not be surprising that the government’s primary focus was on foreign, not alien, spying, but initially the latter was not an officially excluded possibility.

Somewhere along the line, the UFO program became politically disfavored. The official definition of “UFO” was narrowed to “my favorite martian” and the official position was “no proof.” In modern terms, “UFOs” were politically incorrect. Citizens who reported UFOs – thinking they were doing just what the government had “asked of them” – were patronized, marginalized, and ridiculed. The Air Force, rest assured, was still tracking and investigating unknown airborne objects entering U.S. air space. But in true bureaucratic form, that part of the old “UFO” project was spun off in an agency reorganization, and became one of many classified “national security” programs.

The Kecksburg incident was selected as CFI’s FOIA pilot, in part, because it occurred during the time of this reorganization and transformation of the federal government’s “UFO” inquiries. The old Air Force UFO program – called Project Blue Book – was still in operation, but was in the process of being dismantled. The official and publicly available Blue Book file on Kecksburg is interesting mostly because of what it does not contain. What the file does contain are messages between the Blue Book office and the Pentagon exhibiting a curious preoccupation of what to tell the media, with the end result being a decision, completely unsupported at the time, to say it was a “meteorite.” The paucity of documentation in the public file is out of sync with the degree of military interest in the incident as reflected in contemporaneous radio and newspaper accounts.

And then, on the human side, there was Kecksburg – a sleepy little Pennsylvania village chock full of witnesses who would not come forward at the time because of a sense of patriotism, a fear of retaliation, or the anxiety of embarrassment. One resident at CFI’s town meeting explained that he never came forward until recently because of the “ridicule” factor. At the same time, there is nearly universal agreement with the comment of a retired Kecksburg firefighter that the U.S. doesn’t send out the military to check into “shooting stars.” No where on the Pennsylvania turnpike will you see a billboard enticing you to “visit the alien museum and theme park of Kecksburg, PA!!” After nearly 40 years, the residents of Kecksburg still don’t know what happened, but also don’t want to be dismissed as “kooks.”

Personally, I believe that citizens deserve more honesty and respect from their government. Aliens may not have invaded Kecksburg in December 1965, but the U.S. military surely did.

Coincidentally, shortly after Kecksburg – in 1966 – Congress enacted the Freedom of Information Act so that “any person” could make a request to review documentation relating to the operation of the federal government. As the Supreme Court held: “[d]isclosure, not secrecy, is the dominant objective of the Act.” “[T]he FOIA’s central purpose is to ensure that the Government’s activities be opened to the sharp eye of public scrutiny.” Put simply, people have

a right to know what their government is up to and why.

Congress recognized that there should be exceptions to immediate public disclosure. Over the past few months, the news media has reported on some of the current efforts to delay release of information that, for example, could harm national security or law enforcement interests. Congress, however, intended to put the burden on the government to prove that documents should not be released for public inspection – the presumption of FOIA is open government.

Unfortunately, the government's view of its obligations to the public under FOIA has never been in sync with Congress's original intent.

Take for example the FOIA bureaucracy. Not only does each federal department have a FOIA office; typically each agency within a Department will have a FOIA office. Each Department will have its own set of regulations applying the FOIA. The Defense Department regulations, for example, number over 50 pages; each page contains two columns of rules in small print.

Somewhere in every department's set of regulations will be the "helpful" advice that your FOIA request will be processed more quickly if it is directed to the appropriate subagency. For the DoD that will not only include its own subagencies, but also the Departments of the Army, Air Force, etc and each of those Departments' respective subagencies and regulatory tomes. Even assuming that an agency name explains its function, the constancy of government reorganization makes even this first step inordinately difficult. In CFI's case the Headquarters, U.S. Army Support Detachment, Oakdale, PA facility is now called the Charles E. Kelly Support Facility. In 1965, Oakdale was under the jurisdiction of a Fort Custer in Michigan, it now reports to Fort Dix in New Jersey.

To make this maze more user non-friendly, there is typically an address hidden within the regulations where the public can write in the event that there "is uncertainty" about what subagency might have the record being sought. CFI wrote to one of the DoD offices for the "uncertain", which responded that it did not have the documents CFI requested because DoD's FOIA program was "decentralized" – in other words the burden is on the public to figure out the agency paper trail. Fortunately, because of CFI's research, FOIA requests were also made to DoD agencies on various rungs of the bureaucratic ladder.

If you can get beyond the "who's on first" phase of the FOIA, you get to move to the "name that document phase". The Army, for example, told CFI that we had not described what we wanted with sufficient specificity to enable it to even conduct a FOIA search. Its regulation on specificity advises the public to provide "descriptive information" that "is event related and includes the circumstances that resulted in the record being created or the date and circumstances surrounding the event the record covers." Apparently, for the Army, CFI's data establishing, *inter alia*, the participation of the Army, and military personnel from the U.S. Army Support Detachment in Oakdale, Pennsylvania in a publicly acknowledged investigation of an unknown object reported at 4:45 pm and referred to the military shortly thereafter by the Pennsylvania State Police on December 9, 1965 didn't give the Army a clue about where to start looking.

A variation on the same theme was NASA's "no records" response to CFI's first request letter.

CFi, however, was prepared to show NASA that documents did exist in its files. This resulted in a successful administrative appeal on a particularly difficult FOIA issue. Most FOIA practitioners steer clear of pursuing "no records" responses. Since winning the administrative appeal, CFi has waited patiently for four months for NASA to realize on its promise for an "expedited" response.

Responses like these are not atypical and certainly do not capture the full extent of the FOIA run-around. Thus, even if you know document's title, author and location, bureaucratic roadblocks still abound and FOIA officers spend an inordinate amount of time looking for ways to deny the public access to documents that they concede exist. The Justice Department's "Overview" manual on application of FOIA exemptions by federal agencies is over 980 pages long and two inches thick. A handy supplement is its 560 page case list.

Through its research, CFi knew that earlier attempts to access documents related to the "UFO phenomenon" had been denied based "national security" classification; a somewhat odd classification for material related to a subject which the government formally declared in 1969 did not pose a threat to national security. In an exercise of common sense, the Clinton Administration issued an Executive Order in 1996, which was intended to open for public review older classified records. The following year, a congressional commission issued a report finding that not much declassification had yet occurred, which was at least in part due to many years of rubber stamping classifications on documents that posed little if any threat other than embarrassment. The Bush Administration, of course, has tightened the classification program – still, documents as old as those relating to Kecksburg remain presumptively open.

But even if you can escape the classification "tug of war", there is still the "needle in the haystack". All over the country there are government warehouses filled with tons of boxes of history, the volume of which increases every year. What is legitimately classified today may be lost in the black hole of the federal records management system. In short, access delayed may very well be access denied. Indeed, one of the warehoused boxes that CFi identified as containing "UFO" material is listed on the official warehouse index as "lost." It was lost after a FOIA request by Kecksburg resident. This isn't fiction, its fact – and any speculation therefrom is solely the responsibility of government secrecy, aided and abetted by record management disarray and bureaucratic inertia.

In short, the government's FOIA process is a game of attrition. For those with patience and a pocketbook – like CFi – playing the litigation card has become a necessary evil. Moreover, more and more litigation is not aimed at ending the game, but is simply a strategic phase aimed at putting pressure on a bureaucracy that views FOIA requesters as the "enemy" or a "nuisance". In my opinion, this is not what Congress intended in 1966– judicial review was supposed to be the exception, not the rule. But then again, Congress also intended public disclosure to be the rule, not the exception. The public should not have to litigate over its history.

For forty years, we lived with the Cold War and all the fear it engendered. Indeed, one of the most noted "UFO de-bunkers" has theorized that the Soviet Union had a vested interest in maintaining the "UFO myth" in order to cover up military and "space race" mistakes of the 1960s. What our institutional incentives were remain hidden. The UFO phenomenon – whether it coincided with that War or was a product of it – is as an important chapter in our government's

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operations and our history. It still has impact on real people and real communities.

In the last few years, a spate of books have been published about the Cold War, some have been serious, like John Earl Haynes and Harvey Klehr's "In Denial," and some silly, like Ann Coulter's "Treason." It is interesting that these new revelations and spins are in large part due to information from the archives of the Soviet Union, which became available, albeit temporarily, only after its collapse. The healthy historical debate continues, but based upon documentary snippets that take the dialogue to a new level only because of the collapse of a major power, some of the files of which were opened for a short time while it was reorganizing its own government. As Marquette University's Athan Theoharis, a leading Cold War scholar, has noted, these new books and the new information raise further questions about the official version of our history, and what our government was doing and why. These efforts don't revise history, they complete it.

On our side, unfortunately, "Freedom of Information" is still being held hostage to a sometimes hostile, and definitely byzantine bureaucracy. In a democracy that deserves more ridicule than legitimate curiosity about crop circles and extraterrestrial life.

Background on the Kecksburg Incident

An object landed in the tiny town of Kecksburg, PA on December 9, 1965. It was observed as a fireball in the sky across several U.S. states and Canada. Four witnesses have provided independent, corroborated descriptions of the object and its location in the Kecksburg woods. Dozens of others - including fire fighters, newspaper reporters, and a news director at radio station WHJB who was on the scene taping interviews - describe the military presence at the crash site, the cordoning off of the area, and the retrieval of an object transported by an army truck. Many witnesses have provided signed affidavits for investigator Stan Gordon, who has been working on the case for over three decades. (For more information, see Gordon's website at <http://www.westol.com/~pauf0>.)

At the scene, officials told residents that a meteor crashed. The next day, the U.S. Government declared that nothing fell that night and nothing was found. This is the official U.S. Government position. However, witness reports and newspaper articles at the time clearly establish that something fell and that it maneuvered in the sky before impact. In all likelihood, the object was either a highly advanced space probe or an unknown object from outer space.

The files of Project Blue Book, the official Air Force investigation into UFOs terminated in 1969, state that no space debris entered our atmosphere that day. "Aluminum type" fragments were retrieved in Michigan and sent to Project Blue Book. (Where are they now?) A Blue Book memo says that no object was found in Pennsylvania. (Blue Book only had a "Secret" clearance and had the role of reporting information to the public; it is likely that the retrieval of this object was classified higher than Secret and thus Blue Book may not have been informed.)

A Russian space probe, Cosmos 96, malfunctioned on the same day as the Kecksburg object, and this has been suggested by some as a plausible explanation. However, data provided by the US Space Command shows that Cosmos 96 came down over Canada at 3:18 am; the crash in Kecksburg occurred at approximately 4:45 pm. Orbital coordinates obtained from the Goddard Space Center also prove that Cosmos 96 did not come down in Kecksburg. The Russian Space Agency (equivalent of our NASA) stated that it could make no correlation between Cosmos 96 and the incident at Kecksburg. The Russian Embassy also stated that there is no proof that any Soviet spacecraft landed in Kecksburg. In addition, witness descriptions of the object do not fit the size or other characteristics of Cosmos 96 or possible debris from it, as far as we know.

No matter what it is, the issue here is the public's right to information, especially 37 years after the incident.

RIF

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



August 2, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

Office of Public Affairs

Ms. Lee Ellen Helfrich
Lobel, Novins & Lamont
1275 K Street, NW
Suite 770
Washington, DC 20005-4048

Dear Ms. Helfrich:

On July 21, 2006, defendant filed its opposition to plaintiff's motion for summary judgment in the *Kean v. NASA* Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) litigation. In the accompanying declaration of Kellie Robinson, she noted that some potentially responsive records in two files were being referred to other agencies for FOIA processing. The following documents have been reviewed by outside agencies and are now being released:

- (a) 46 pages of documents which originated with the Australian Government. (Encl 1)
- (b) nine pages of a 10 page document from the Smithsonian Institution. (Encl 2)
The remaining page has been referred to the Air Force for its assessment.
- (c) 93 pages of documents from the State Department. (Encl 3)

We have also referred 32 pages to the Air Force, including the one described above, for its assessment and declassification, if appropriate. We are currently waiting for the Air Force to complete this process.

Lastly, 12 pages of agency documents which were referenced in the February 25, 2004, statement and adopted in the June 15, 2004, declaration by Stella Luna, NASA Johnson Space Center FOIA Public Liaison Officer, are also included in this release. (Encl 4)

Sincerely,



Stephen L. McConnell
Chief, FOIA Public Liaison Officer

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National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 26, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

HQ 03-181

Department of State
Attention: Charlene Wright-Thomas
Director, Office of IRM Programs and Services, SA-2
5th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20522-6001

FR 200603605
FRUS/IMR
Kean, Leslie

Dear Ms. Wright-Thomas:

This agency has received a request under the Freedom of Information Act, from the Leslie Kean, for information concerning NASA agency records.

During a review of responsive records this agency revealed 93 pages documents that originated from your agency. A copy of their request (encl 1), expanded search criteria (encl 2) and your documents (encl 3) are forwarded for your appropriate action and direct reply to the requester.

We request consideration under expedited processing since we are currently under litigation involving this specific FOIA request and these documents were found during an additional review of our agency records in response to the requesters Motion for Summary Judgment to the United States District Court.

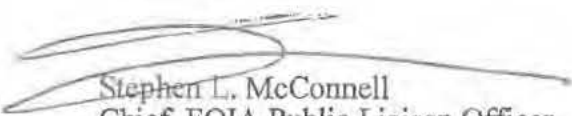
We will need an evaluation of your timeline NLT Friday, July 28, 2006 to complete your processing of this referral. Expedited processing is requested due to the matter being under litigation. We are required to provide your response to our Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) and the US District Court on that estimated processing time.

If I can be of any additional assistance please contact me at (202) 358-2265.

I trust this will be of assistance to you.

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Sincerely,


Stephen L. McConnell
Chief, FOIA Public Liaison Officer

Enclosure(s)

06 JUL 26 PM 2:26

~~Referred to Dept. of State~~

Enclosure 1

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TECHNIC
WRE 36

*AA-
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Mr. Jim Morrison

*As promised,
regards Bansley.*



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TECHNICAL NOTE
WRE 36



DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE SCIENTIFIC SERVICE
WEAPONS RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT
SALISBURY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

TECHNICAL NOTE WRE 36

RE-ENTRY OF SPACE VEHICLE FRAGMENTS
INTERIM ANALYSIS OF THE "BOULLJA BALL"

P. M. TWISS



COPY-NO. 29

JANUARY 1964

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DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE SCIENTIFIC SERVICE
WEAPONS RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT

TECHNICAL NOTE WRE 36

RE-ENTRY OF SPACE VEHICLE FRAGMENTS
INTERIM ANALYSIS OF THE "BOULLIA BALL"

P.M. Twiss

S U M M A R Y

A description is given of a light metal sphere found in a remote part of Australia. To test the hypothesis that the sphere came from a space vehicle, an analysis is made of the likely re-entry history of the sphere during decay from circular orbit.

It is concluded that the sphere originated in a U.S. space vehicle in orbit, and it is shown that the sphere would survive re-entry whether or not it were shielded by additional material burnt or melted off during re-entry. Further analysis is indicated which should decide whether this particular sphere was in fact shielded during part of the re-entry.

POSTAL ADDRESS: The Director, Weapons Research Establishment,
Box 1424E, G.P.O., Adelaide, South Australia.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Instances of the successful re-entry of fragments of space boosters(1), and at least one example of the successful re-entry of fragments from a decaying satellite vehicle(2) have been reported. Gallaber and Situlkin(1) have shown that steel discs may generally be expected to survive re-entry. So far as is known, all fragments reported have been irregularly shaped and subject to considerable melting and erosion during re-entry.

On April 8th, 1963, a light sphere, 14.75 in. diameter and weighing 11.5 lb, was discovered in a remote part of Australia, the location was approximately Latitude 30° 03' S, Longitude 141° 50' E. The sphere was lying on the surface of sandy country which is broken up by some rocky areas. It is not known how long the sphere had been there since it was found in an infrequently visited portion of a 35 000 acre grazing area, and investigations of the many reported sightings of falling objects which were received following subsequent publicity revealed no relevant information. On June 29th, 1963, a second sphere was found approximately 40 statute miles NNW of the first sphere, at Latitude 29° 32' S, Longitude 141° 34' E.

The first sphere - which has come to be known as the Boullia Ball, since it was found on Boullia Station property - has been examined by staff of Weapons Research Establishment. The second sphere has received only a cursory examination by W.R.E.; it is approximately 16.6 in. diameter and weighs 21.6 lb.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE BOULLIA BALL

The Boullia Ball is shown in figure 1 and a dimensioned sketch is given in figure 2. The ball is spherical within 0.006 in. except for the small, slightly flattened area shown and consists of two hemispheres welded together. Considering the weld as the equator, the two bosses are at the poles. One of the bosses is a mounting or locating lug integral with the sphere, while the other (also integral) provides access to the interior and carries a threaded portion with a nut. Both bosses carry small amounts of fused metal; the fused metal in the hole through the surface effectively seals the sphere. The thread on the boss and nut conforms to 1 in. 14 TPI American National Fine; in the condition as found the nut turns quite freely on the boss but is prevented from turning right off by the fused metal at the end. In the course of examination, the sphere was sectioned through the poles in a plane at right angles to the equatorial weld. The pressure inside was below atmospheric; tests for halogen gases were negative.

Analysis of the sphere material carried out by the Defence Standards Laboratories revealed that it is composed of titanium 90%, vanadium 4% and aluminium 6%; this corresponds to ASTM B265/58T Grade V. The fused metal on the bosses at the poles of the sphere is the same alloy with traces of magnesium, aluminium, iron, copper and nickel. The sphere is covered with a non-uniform surface residue, mainly black in colour, this is visible in figure 1, and it gives the appearance of having been subjected to high temperatures. Microscopic examination of the structure of the material bears out the belief that the sphere has been exposed to high temperatures. ASTM B265/58T Grade V is an alpha-beta titanium alloy with beta transformation temperature of 1825 ± 20°F, (reference 3). The distinct change in structure of the alloy when heated to or beyond the beta transformation temperature makes it possible to determine whether this temperature has been reached. Examination by Defence Standards Laboratories of sections of two diametrically opposite specimens (remote from the weld) confirmed that the beta transformation temperature has been exceeded at the sphere surface. The transformed structure penetrates to a depth of only 0.0005 in. approximately, indicating that the majority of the sphere wall has

temperature of 1825° F. The examination revealed some local areas on the outer surface, also, possibly, local areas of melting and fusion, though the last two characteristics are not well defined. Significant difference in the structures observed in the diametrically opposite specimens taken from the skin near the bosses gave similar results. The fused metal has actually flowed on the boss material; in fact, the transformed structure penetrates to a depth of approximately 1/8 inch metal on the bosses shows a coarse grained acicular structure characteristic of metal after re-oxidation. The fused zone contains some massive oxides and nitrides. The uniformity of the skin crystal structure indicates that the sphere was rotating during re-entry and was thus uniformly heated over its surface.

Analysis proved negative, showing only the normal background count. Measurements have been conducted for the radioactive isotopes which are likely to be present in the sphere as a result of the bombardment by the high-energy corpuscular radiations in the atmosphere. It has been pointed out(2), the positive identification of certain isotopes in the sphere is the most convincing evidence for believing that an object has spent some time in the atmosphere. In this instance, the long period which has elapsed since the discovery of the sphere, together with the unknown length of time and discovery, will strongly influence the conclusions which can be drawn from an isotope survey. In contrast, the laboratory examination(2) of the sphere in 1960 was begun only fifty hours after re-entry.

The sphere is a hexagonal nut showed it to be of an austenitic stainless steel type, 304, 8% nickel type, and containing approximately 0.6% molybdenum. The sphere is an expression of a very high quality piece of fabrication in a modern shop. These circumstances led to the suggestion that the sphere came from a shop, and an analysis has been made of the likely re-entry history of such a body to test this belief.

3. THE ESTIMATED RE-ENTRY HISTORY

As follows generally the method given by Chapman(4). It is basic to all re-entry calculations, so it is necessary to fix the appropriate C_D for this sphere during re-entry; if the major phenomena are free-molecule flow then C_D will be(5) about 2.2, while if free-molecule flow prevails C_D will be(6) about 0.92, hence $\frac{W}{C_D A}$ may range from 4.4 to 10.5. The Reynolds number at peak heating(4) is approximately 10^4 for both values at an altitude of approximately 240 000 ft. For the sphere at the critical heating period, $K_n < 0.01$, so that continuum flow will prevail. In view of the Reynolds number, laminar flow is indicated. With the value of $\frac{W}{C_D A}$ thus established at 10.5 lb ft^{-2} , the velocity of the sphere may be computed from the generalised functions given by Chapman(4). The variations of velocity, flight path angle, range and time are shown as functions of altitude in figures 3 and 4; the sphere re-enters the period from re-entry at approximately 330 000 ft. where the

velocity is 0.995 of circular orbit velocity, down to an altitude of 100 000 ft. The terminal flight path angle is 90°, and, with C_D = 0.1 in the subsonic flow region, the impact velocity is 280 ft/s.

In estimating the wall temperature rise for the sphere account is taken of the laminar convective heat input and the surface radiation output; the radiant input from the gas cap is neglected(7). The sphere is assumed to be rotating during the re-entry period, so that the heat input is uniformly distributed over the surface, likewise the entire surface is assumed to radiate. Reismann and Journey(8) have shown that relatively low rotation rates are adequate to attain the surface temperature reductions which accompany the rotation. The sphere shell is assumed to be thermally thin, thus radial temperature gradients are neglected. The total heat stored in the shell is equated to the resultant inward heat flow, giving:

$$Wc \frac{dT_w}{dt} = q_{in} - q_{out} \tag{1}$$

where c is the specific heat of the sphere material. The specific heat of ASTM B265/58T Grade V varies(3) with temperature; a constant value of c = 0.23 is adopted here, this value corresponds to a temperature of 2000°R.

The laminar convective heat transfer to any point on the sphere may be written:

$$q = K_1 q_s$$

where q_s is the convective heat transfer at the stagnation point

K₁ is the factor which takes into account the variation in heat input over the sphere surface.

Using the expression developed in reference 4:

$$q_s = 590 \left(\frac{W}{C_D A R G} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{\cos^3 \phi} \text{ B.t.u./ft}^2 \text{ sec} \tag{2}$$

where q̄ is a dimensionless function proportional to the heating rate
φ is the local flight path angle.

The variation of K₁ adopted for the windward hemisphere is that due to Lees(9), and K₁ is assumed constant over the leeward hemisphere at its value at 90° to the flow. Integration over the sphere surface yields:

$$q_{in} = 0.335 q_s S$$

Hence, by substitution in(2):

$$q_{in} = 684 \frac{\bar{q}}{\cos^3 \phi} \tag{3}$$

In evaluating q̄ from Chapman's Z functions it is assumed that q̄ and hence q_{in} are zero at ū = 0.995. The variation of the aerodynamic heating rate with altitude from equation(3) is shown in figure 5.

The total surface radiated heat output is given by:

$$q_{out} = \epsilon B T_w^4 S \tag{4}$$

where ϵ is the surface emissivity

B is the Stefan-Boltzmann constant.

The emissivity is taken to be that of pure titanium oxidised grey (reference 3), hence $\epsilon = 0.55$, and is roughly constant above 1000°R . This value for ϵ is probably conservative, so results are also given for $\epsilon = 0.7, 0.8$.

Substitution of equations (3) and (4) in equation (1), together with appropriate values of the constants, yields the following differential equation for sphere wall temperature:

$$\frac{dT_w}{dt} = 259 \frac{q_{\infty}}{\cos^2 \phi} - 0.86 \times 10^{-16} \epsilon T_w^4 \quad (5)$$

On the assumption that the sphere is rotating before re-entry, the initial temperature can be estimated by the method of Schmidt and Hanawalt(10); the initial temperature adopted here is 500°R . Equation (5) has been integrated for $\epsilon = 0.55, 0.7$ and 0.8 ; the resulting wall temperatures are shown as functions of altitude in figure 6.

Subsequent to this analysis, the results of Gasley and Masson(11) for the spinning Vanguard satellite were discovered in reference 12, (the original source is unavailable). Their results are compared with the present ones for $\epsilon = 0.8$ in figure 7. It is apparent that very different values for the initial temperature of the spheres in orbit have been assumed, but that the re-entry temperatures histories are roughly comparable.

4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

It is immediately apparent from figure 6 that the sphere may be expected to survive re-entry by decay from circular orbit, as the skin temperature never reaches the melting temperature. It is felt that a surface emissivity of at least 0.7 would apply because of the blackened oxide coating on the skin surface, hence the peak temperature reached during re-entry would be about 300°F below the temperature at which melting first occurs with this material. It is not known what units were connected to the bosses, but if, as seems likely, these were comparatively thin pipes or structural members, then melting of these units could quite easily occur owing to their small heat capacity, while the main sphere remained solid.

Study of the material structure shows that temperatures of the order of those indicated in figure 6 have been reached on the outer surface of the sphere. However, it seems likely that with such a good heat conductor as the sphere, alloy, the high temperatures would penetrate further into the skin than the micro-analysis shows. This would appear to indicate that the sphere was shielded during at least part of the re-entry, and that after the shield was burnt off the sphere was subjected to a heat pulse of shorter duration than that indicated in figure 5. The discovery of the second sphere so close to the Boullia Ball is strong evidence that break-up of the main vehicle structure carrying the balls occurred after re-entry, rather than at some earlier time during orbit. The lack of significant radiation count reported earlier could also be construed as being due to the sphere being well shielded by the space vehicle structure until late in the orbit life; however, the paucity of the radiation evidence, and the unknown length of time between re-entry and discovery preclude much weight being given to this evidence. An attempt is being made to answer this question as to whether or not the sphere was shielded during part of its re-entry, by solution of the equations for temperature gradient in the skin when subjected to the transient

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heating rate shown in figure 5. If, as seems likely, the solution indicates a deeper penetration of the beta transformation temperature than the micro structure demonstrates, it may be concluded that shielding did occur during part of the re-entry. It will not be possible to work back from the measured penetration of the beta transformation temperature to determine the point at which the shielding disintegrated because of the impossibility of fixing the sphere temperature when initially exposed to the stream. Also, the velocity and trajectory history of the shielded sphere would be markedly different from those calculated here for the sphere, so these further initial conditions for computation of the sphere temperature history following loss of the shielding would be unavailable.

Though all the evidence is circumstantial, there can be little doubt that the Boullia Ball and its companion were once part of a space booster, or a space craft. That the balls are of U.S. origin seems certain also, particularly as there are many published photographs and descriptions of U.S. rocket vehicles showing similar titanium spheres on board. To have reached their final impact points by ballistic sub-orbital flight from the major U.S. launching sites on the east and west coasts of U.S.A. would have required flight path angles at re-entry which would have resulted in almost certain destruction of the balls - re-entry at an angle of only 4° would result in an increase in peak heating rate of more than 50% over that experienced during orbital decay, and even though the flight time from re-entry to impact is considerably reduced when re-entry occurs at a finite angle, the temperatures induced would be sufficient to destroy an unprotected sphere of this type; most probably, destruction would also occur with shielding present during part of the re-entry, unless very special shields were used.

Hence it is concluded that the Boullia Ball was once part of a U.S. space vehicle in orbit. The really interesting point brought out is that the sphere would survive re-entry by decay from circular orbit without any shielding; whether this particular sphere was shielded or not should be answered by the further analysis.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author gratefully acknowledges the assistance of P.H.O. Pearson who programmed equation (5) for digital solution. All studies of the crystal structure of the skin were carried out by Defence Standards Laboratories, Finsbury, South Australia.

NOTATION

A	cross-sectional area of sphere
B	Stefan-Boltzmann constant, 0.48×10^{-12} B.t.u./ft ² sec ⁰ R ⁴
c	specific heat, B.t.u./lb ⁰ R
C _D	drag coefficient
g	acceleration due to gravity, 32.2 ft/s ²
K ₁	$\frac{q}{q_s}$
K _n	Knudsen number
q	convective heat transfer rate per unit area
q _s	convective heat transfer rate at stagnation point
\bar{q}	dimensionless function proportional to heat transfer rate (reference 4)
R	radius of sphere, ft
S	surface area of sphere, ft ²
T _w	temperature of sphere surface, ⁰ R
\bar{u}	ratio of velocity component normal to radius vector to circular orbital velocity
W	weight of sphere, lb
ε	emissivity of sphere surface
φ	flight path angle relative to local horizontal

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No.	Author	Title
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3	American Society for Metals	"Metals Handbook." American Society for Metals, Metal Park, Ohio, 8th ed. pp.1154-1155, 1961.
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Figure 1

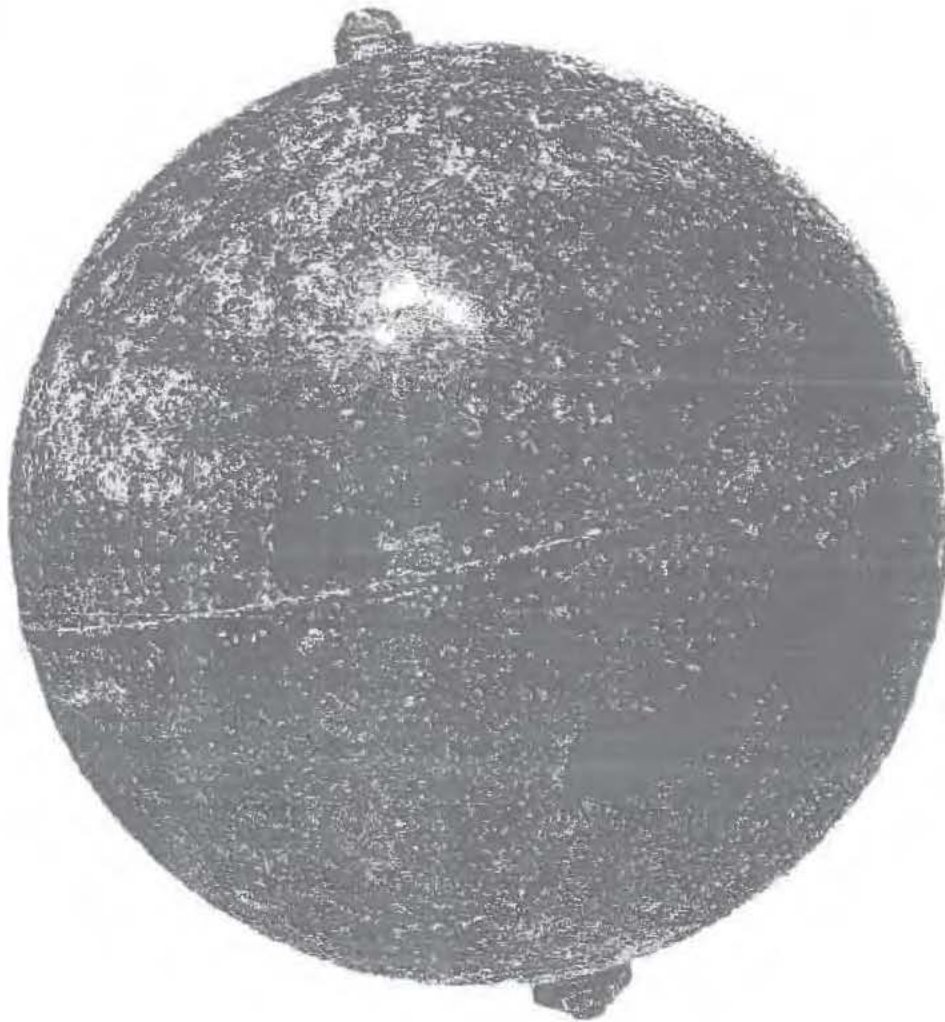


FIGURE 1. THE BOULLIA BALL.

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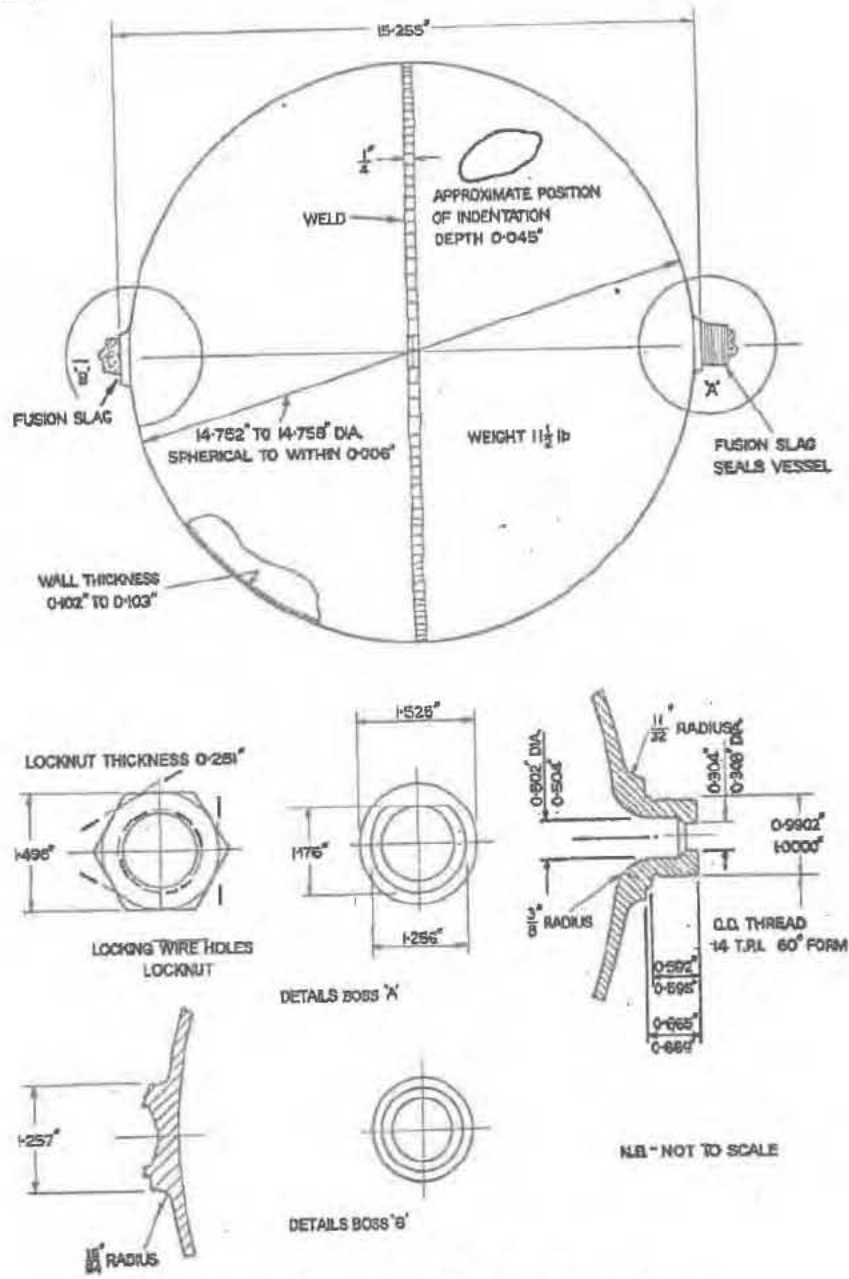


FIGURE 2. DIMENSIONS OF THE BOULLIA BALL

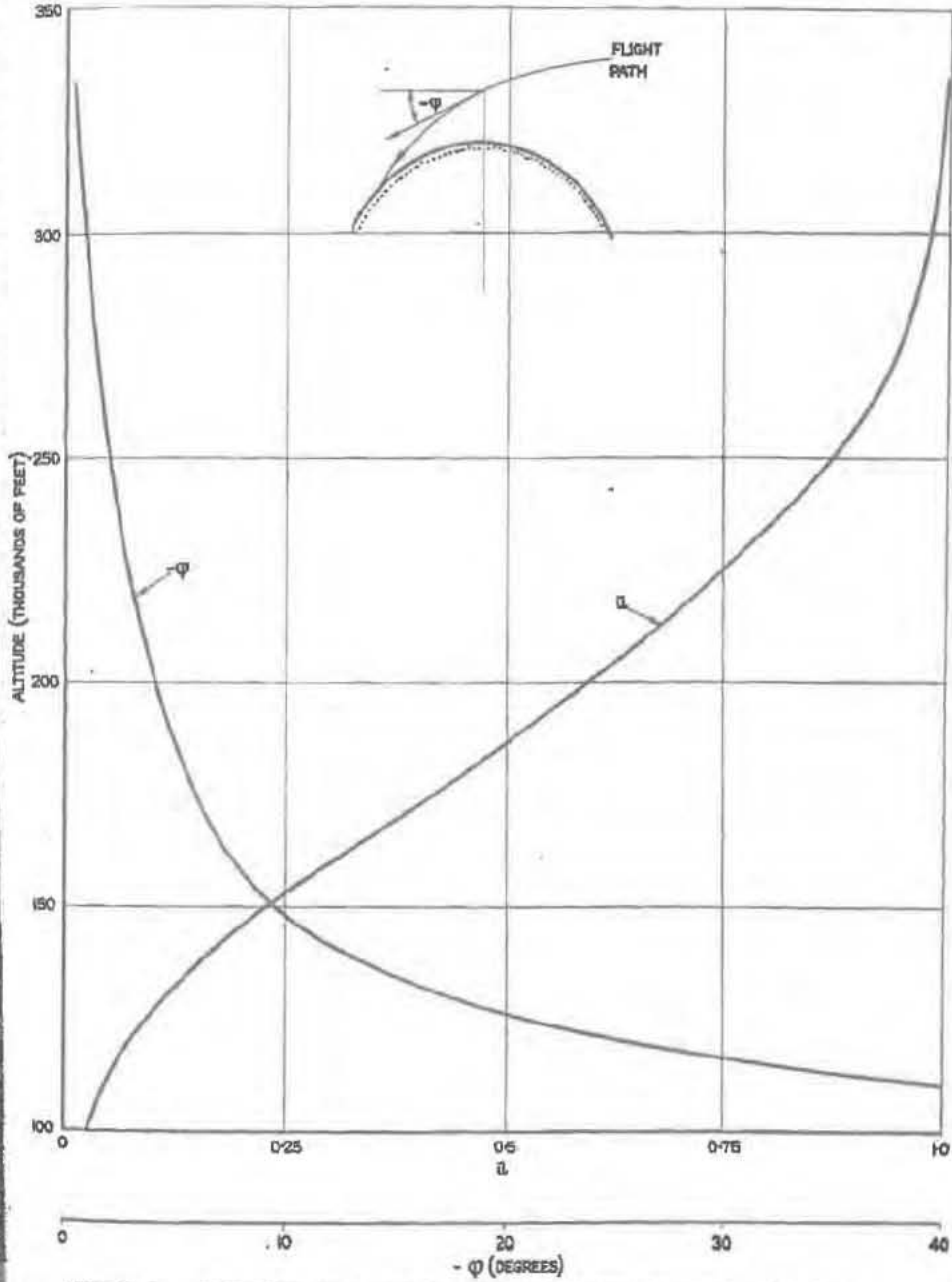


FIGURE 3. VARIATION OF VELOCITY AND FLIGHT PATH ANGLE WITH ALTITUDE

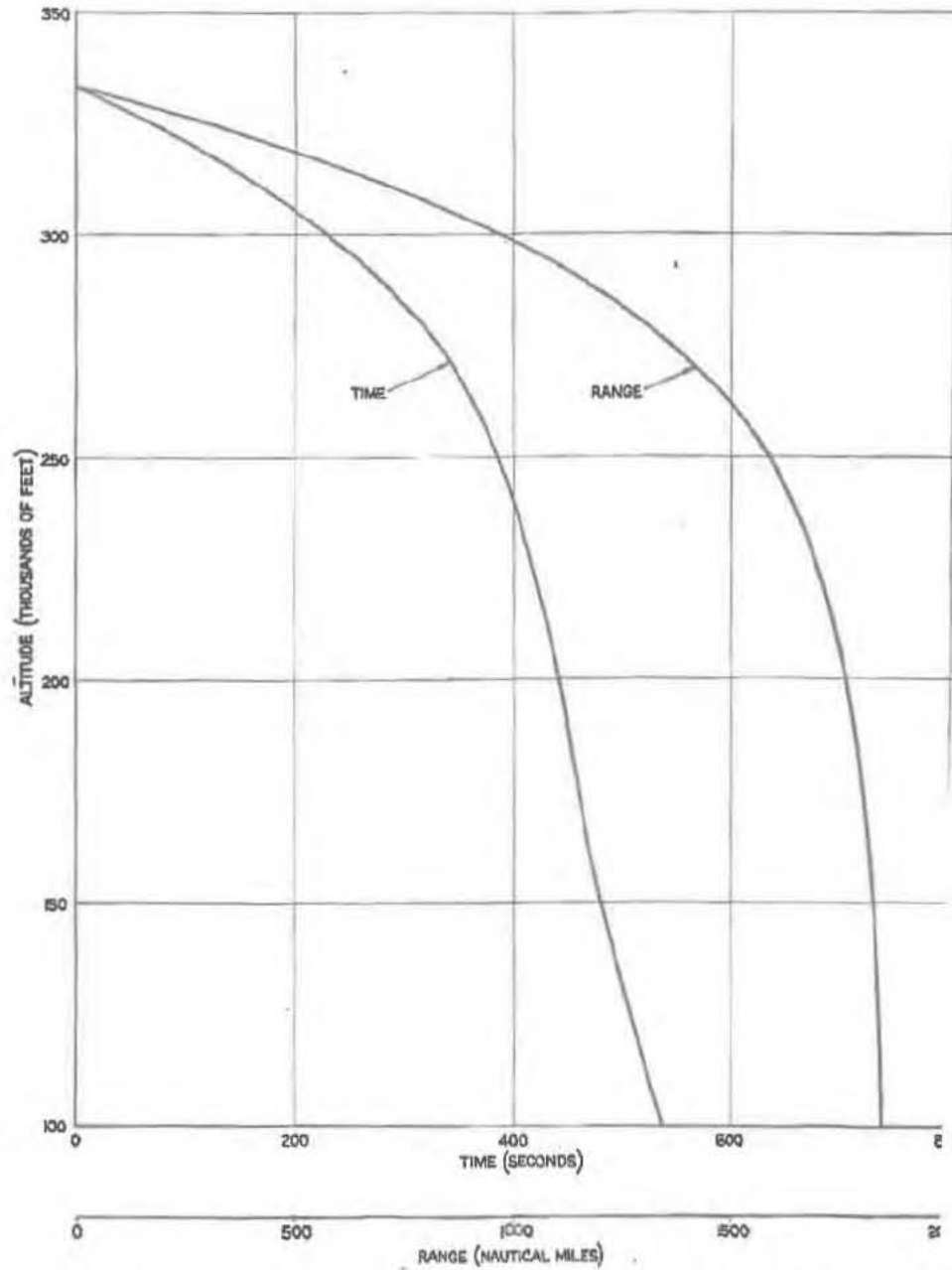


FIGURE 4. TIME AND RANGE FROM RE-ENTRY AS FUNCTIONS OF ALTITUDE

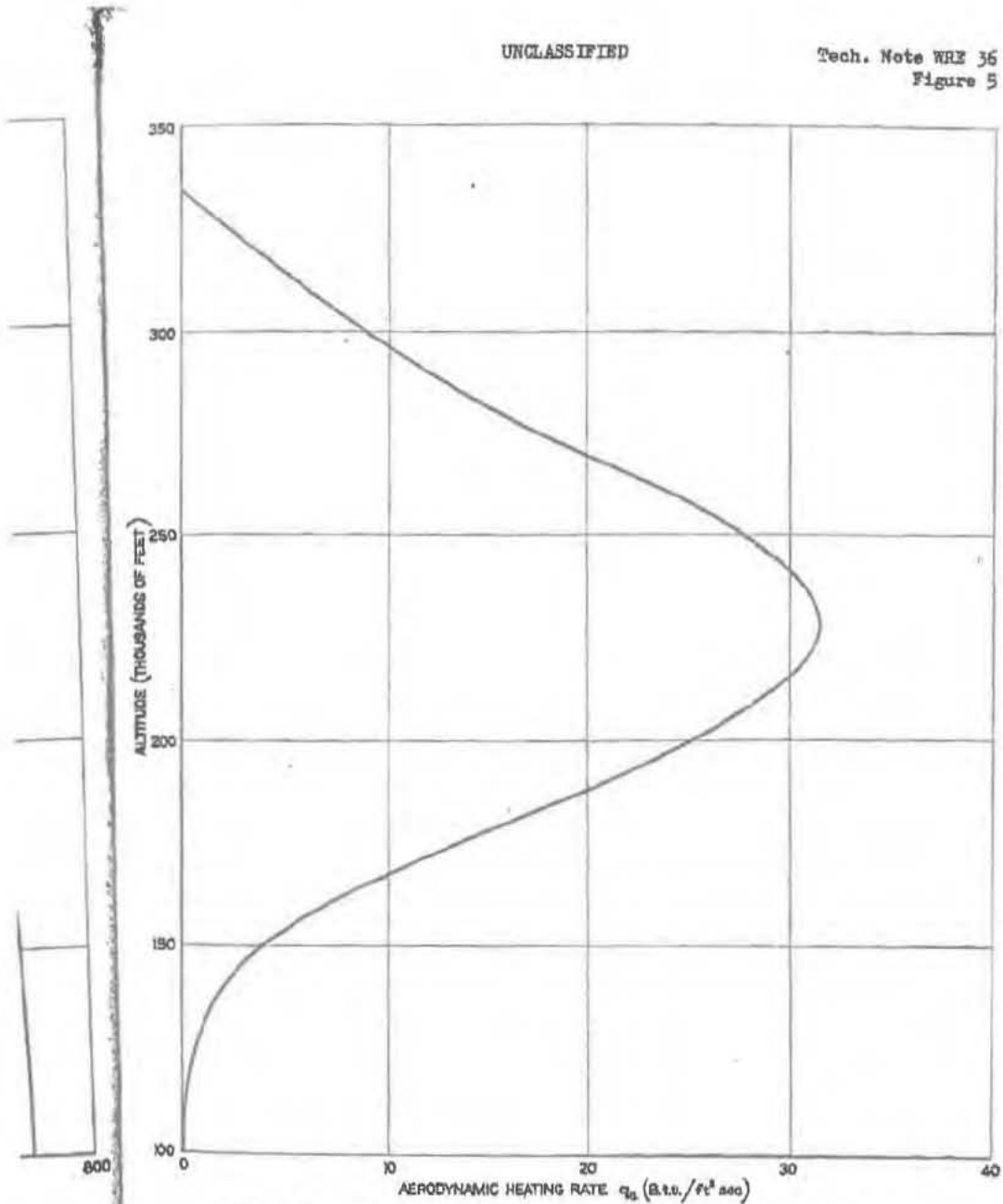


FIGURE 5. VARIATION OF AERODYNAMIC HEATING RATE WITH ALTITUDE

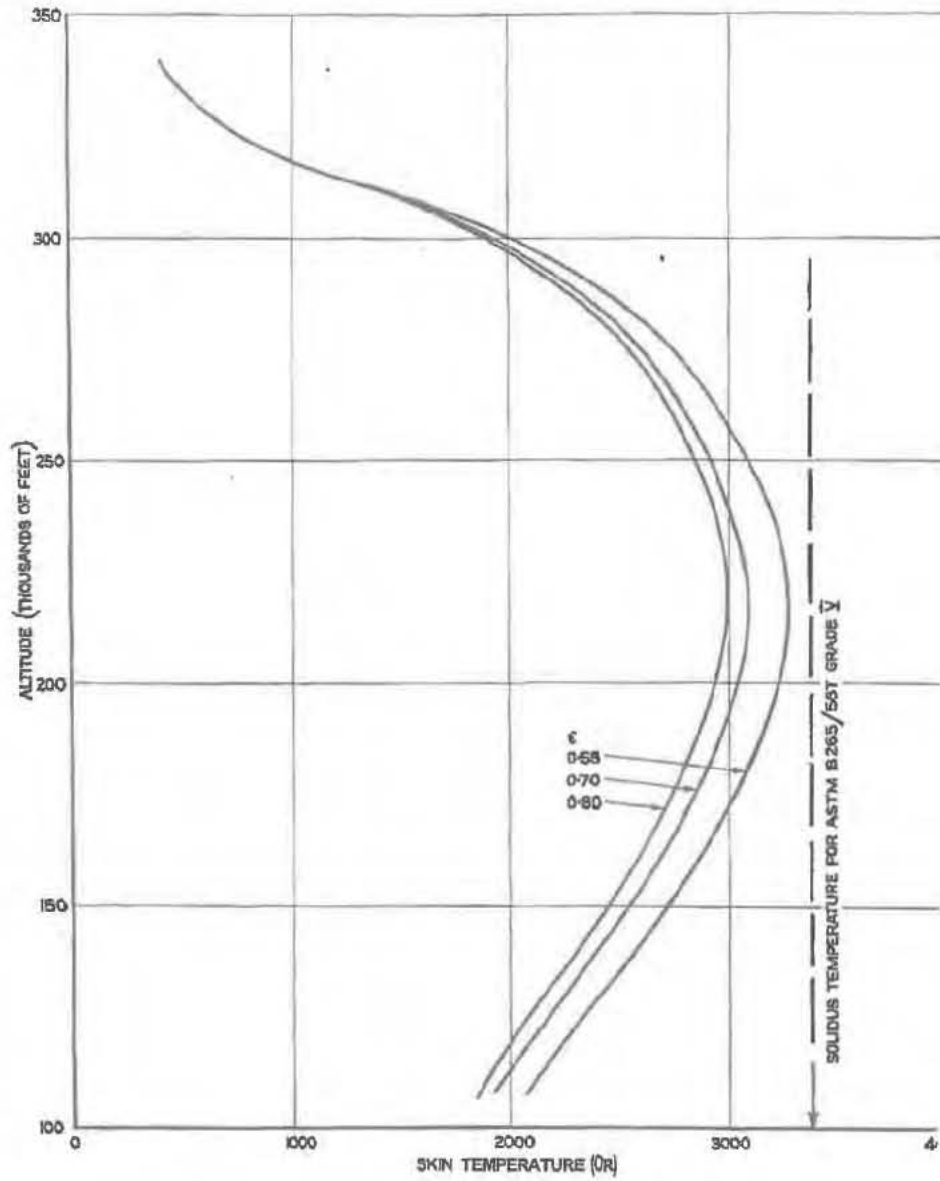


FIGURE 6. SKIN TEMPERATURE VARIATION WITH ALTITUDE

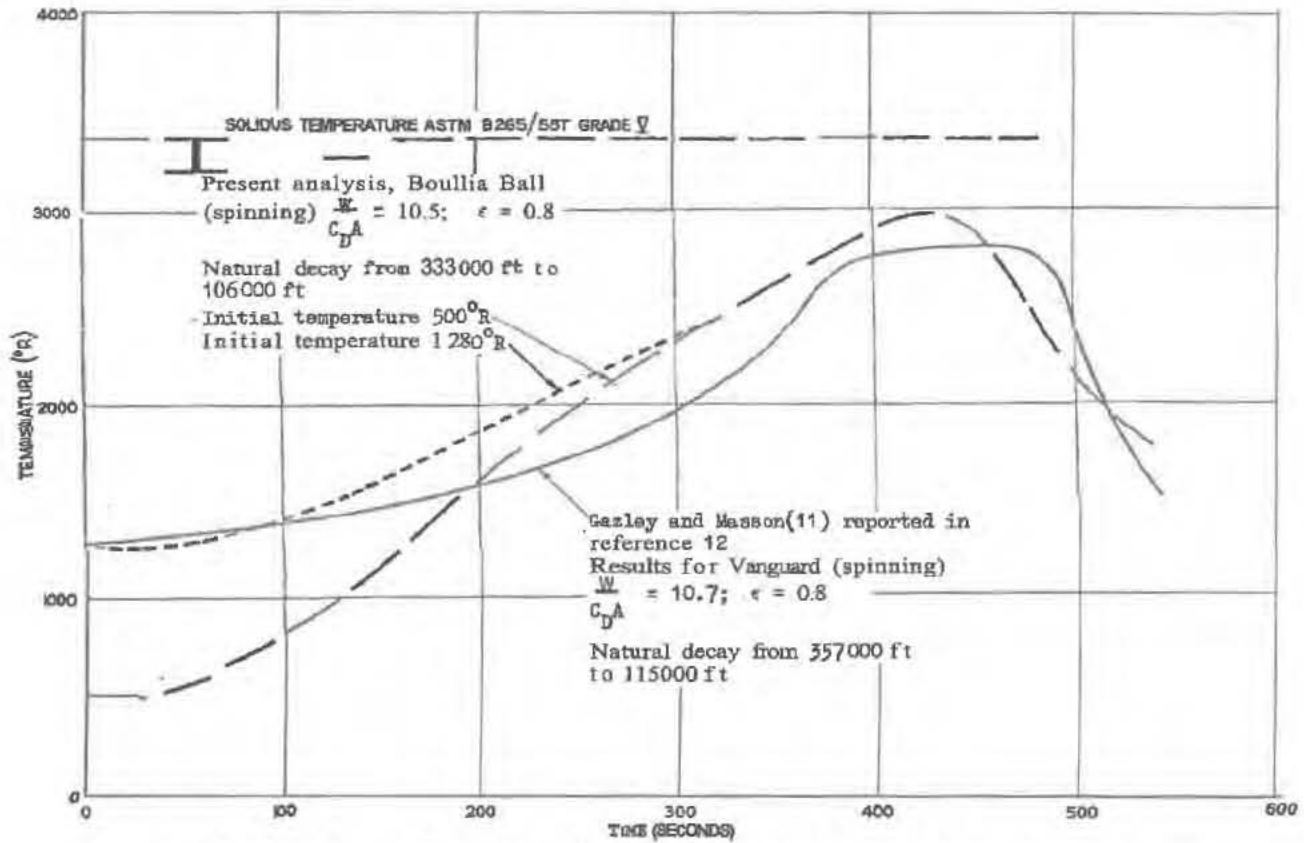


FIGURE 7. COMPARISON OF BOULLIA BALL AND VANGUARD SATELLITE RE-ENTRY HISTORIES

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Tech Note WRR 36
Figure 7

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1 material burnt or melted off
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this particular sphere was in
part of the re-entry.

Recovery

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

1504/R2

August 3, 1965

Office of the Assistant Administrator for
International Affairs
National Aeronautics & Space Administration
Washington D.C.

Attn: Mr. C. Jones

Dear *Carl,*

Further to our discussion of a week or so ago,
I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have written to Head
Office, Department of Supply, regarding the recovered
pressure vehicles. I hope you agree that this represents
a reasonable interpretation of our discussion; I shall
keep you informed of future developments.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

D. BARNSELY
Defence R & D Attache

UUG23



IN WOLF PLACE BOX 1501/B2

August 3, 1965

Secretary
Department of Supply
MELBOURNE

Attn: Mr. M.I. Homewood

Dear

Recovered Pressure Vehicles

With reference to the above subject and in particular in relation to the final paragraph of your 0157/101/3 of July 7 I recently had a discussion with NASA Head Office concerning the present position regarding these recovered pieces of space vehicles. As you probably already know, these spheres were part of Agena vehicles used both by NASA and the USAP for a variety of space research roles. It is not known (or at least I am not told) which particular launch vehicles these come from, but I suppose if we really wished we could obtain this information if it is of any value to us.

On the subject of where these remains should eventually reside, the NASA feeling is that they would very much like to retain the second sphere in fact and to place it in the Smithsonian Institute exhibit adjacent to an Agena vehicle recently presented to the Smithsonian by the Lockheed organization. Their general plan would be to have the fact that this pressure vehicle was recovered in fact in Australia and to show it alongside the identical bottle when installed in the vehicle. Naturally with this intention in mind NASA is very reluctant to cut this sphere or to section it in anyway. They have suggested that they would be very happy to put on display the fact that this ball had been discovered by Mr. Mackinnon. This display would probably comprise of a photograph of Mr. Mackinnon plus various photographs showing the locality in which it was found together with any other relevant information which might be considered appropriate.

With regard to the first sphere, I understand that both halves are in the U.S. and that NASA would be willing to supply a portion of one half for any use we may wish. I am not sure exactly how both these halves have been committed by NASA but I would appreciate receiving your advice regarding what further action you would like me to take.

In summary then, the U.S. is very keen to retain the second ball in its complete condition and is willing to acknowledge its recovery in Australia in the Smithsonian exhibit. With regard to the first sphere, if we wish to have a piece for use in a historic museum I am sure that the U.S. would be willing to make an appropriate piece available.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

D. Bamsley
D. BARNSELY, Defence R&D Attache

c.c. Mr. C. Jones, AASA

00024

F. I. C. Johnson
RS 1166



OFFICE OF THE DEFENCE
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ATTACHE
1714 RYE STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20541
TELEPHONE 452-2400 EXT. 284

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

23rd November, 1966.

OR BRIT PLANS 4825: 2953/22

Office of International Programmes,
National Aeronautics & Space Administration,
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.,
WASHINGTON D.C.

Attention Mr. Carl N. Jones.
Director, Operations Support.

Dear Carl,

You will recall that in May last you wrote to Mr. Barnsley in connection with the Bouilla and Johnson Balls and in particular requested:-

- (a) A photograph of the finder.
- (b) A map indicating the location of the Mt. Sturt Station, and
- (c) A photograph of the area where the sphere was found.

Des Barnsley forwarded this request to Supply Headquarters and I have now received a reply from Mr. M. I. Honeywood.

As a matter of record, the brief history provided by NASA credits Mr. Keith McKinnon with finding the Ball whereas, in fact, it was discovered by a stockman named Johnson who works for Mr. McKinnon. The latter is the Manager of the Mt. Sturt Station and it was he who made the Ball available to the Department of Supply.

The best we can do is to provide a photograph of Mr. McKinnon with the Ball (showing also the type of country in which the Ball was found) and a map indicating the location of the Mt. Sturt Station. I therefore have pleasure in enclosing these herewith and hope they will be of use to you and to the Smithsonian Institution.

Yours sincerely,

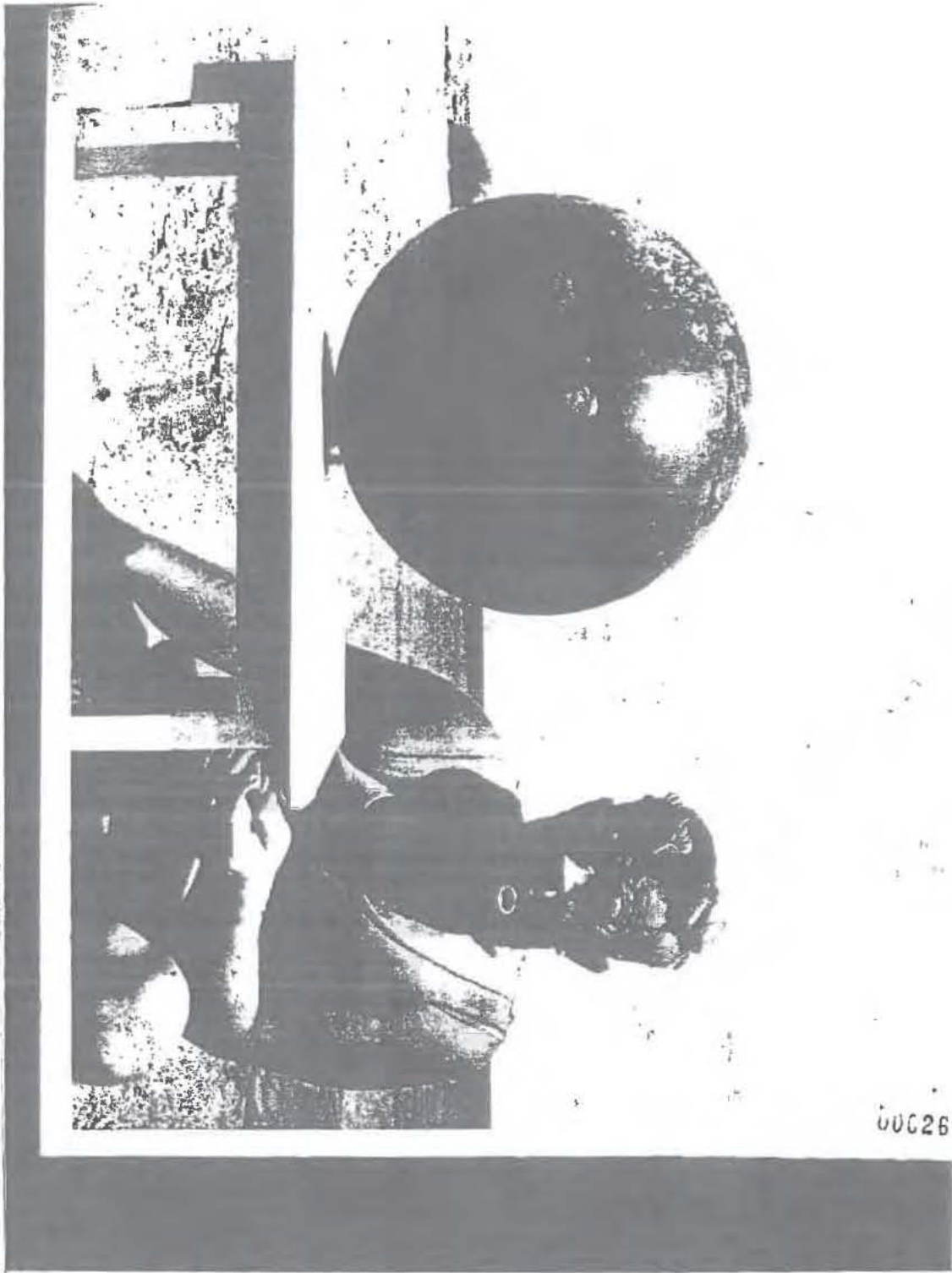
Ray Garrod

R. I. GARROD,
Defence Research & Development Attache.

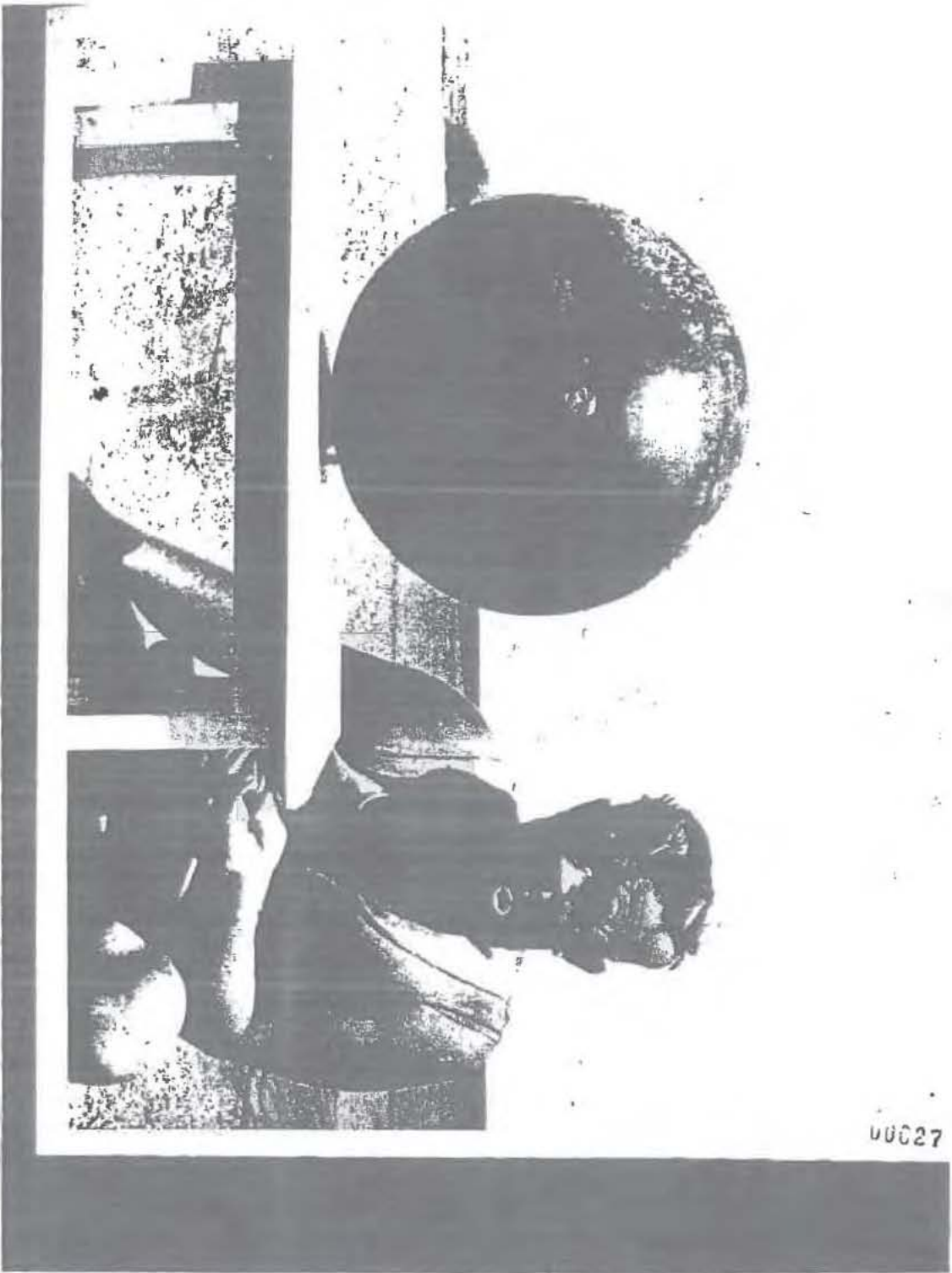
*Info
Find location
at Smithsonian
by
Thomas Smith
with egg*

*Group returned per
my letter in 1965
forwarded by committee
to my attention limits
concluded ship's report 1966.*

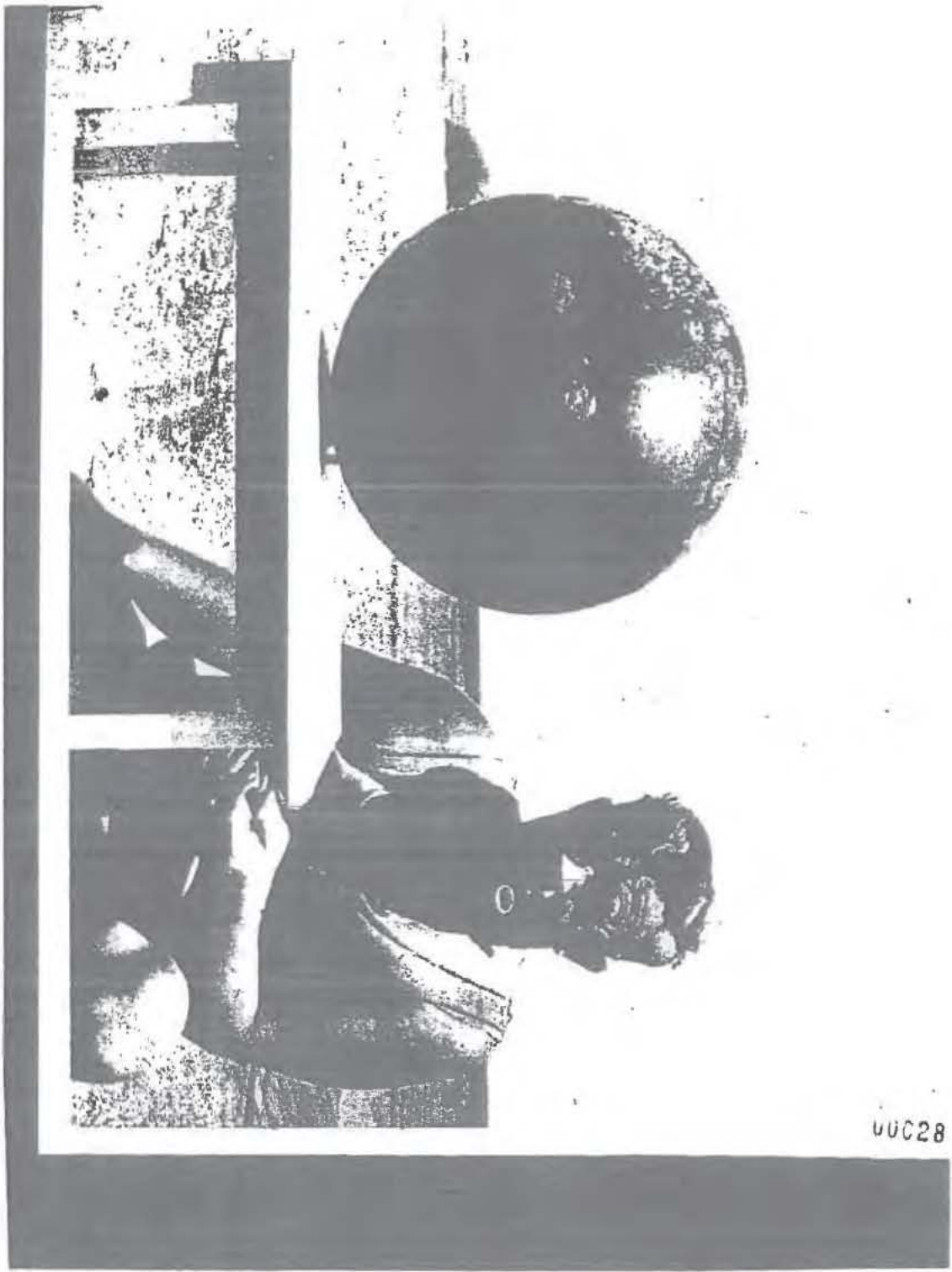
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OFFICE OF THE DEFENCE
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ATTACHE
2901 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON 25, D.C. (EO 4877)
TELEPHONE 202-672-2122



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE 9912/R2

February 19, 1964

Assistant Administrator
International Programs
National Aeronautics & Space Administration
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington 25 D.C.

Attention: Mr. J. Morrison

Dear *Jim,*

You will recall that recently we had discussions regarding the sphere which was found in Australia last year and that I mentioned that Peter Twiss had prepared a paper dealing with the re-entry of the object and that he proposes to submit this to the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics for publication in their Journal. As I mentioned to you this report stated that the object was almost certainly of American origin. You also had no objection to the publication of a paper containing such a remark and requested that if possible could you obtain a copy of Peter's draft. I am enclosing my office copy of this draft which you may have on loan but if you wish to make a copy for your own use I have no objection. I hope that you find the information contained in this report of some interest and I am sure that Peter Twiss would be happy to engage in any technical discussions that may arise concerning the subject matter. I should appreciate the return of the original in due course.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

D. Barnsley

D. BARNSELEY
Defence Research & Development
Attache

00029



Frag's

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER 9912/R2

February 15, 59

Assistant Administrator
International Programs
National Aeronautics & Space Administration
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington 25 D.C.

Attention: Mr. J. Morrison

Dear *Jimmie*,

You will recall that recently we had discussed regarding the sphere which was found in Australia and that I mentioned that Peter Twiss had proposed dealing with the re-entry of the object and that he was to submit this to the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics for publication in their Journal. In your report you stated that the object was almost certainly of American origin. You also had no objection to the inclusion of a paper containing such a remark and requested that I could you obtain a copy of Peter's draft. I am enclosing office copy of this draft which you may have on loan but I wish to make a copy for your own use. I have no objection to hope that you find the information contained in this of some interest and I am sure that Peter Twiss would be happy to engage in any technical discussions that may concern the subject matter. I should appreciate the return of the original in due course.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

D. Barnsley

D. BARNESLEY
Defence Research & Development
Attache

40030

Handwritten notes:
This is a copy of the report on the
sponsored by the National Institute
of Standards and Technology.

RESEARCH REPORT

Report No. 100

U.S. Air Force Establishment, Ottawa, Canada

A description is given of a light bulb
made part of Australia. To test the hypothesis
that the sphere was fired from a U.S. orbit
history of the sphere firing away from Australia
concluded that the sphere originated in a U.S. orbit
orbit, and it is shown that the sphere would burst
either or not it were shielded by additional mass.
should decide whether this particular sphere
during part of the re-entry.

The author wishes to thank the personnel of the
Department of Supply, to publish this paper.

Principal Scientific Officer, Ottawa, Canada
October 1954.

Italian

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provides means to the interior of the
tube. Each piece carries a weight of 200 g.
in the hole through the tube. The
thread on the inner end of the tube
is in the center of the hole. The
tube is prevented from turning off by the
weight. In the course of the test, the
tube is placed in a plane at right angles to the equatorial
pressure inside was below atmospheric pressure for both
specimens.

Analysis of the specimens which failed during
the test in the laboratory revealed that the specimens
contained 4% and 4.5% of hydrogen. This corresponds to the
the second metal on the blocks at the point of
failure with traces of hydrogen, the specimens
The sphere is covered with a coating
in color, this is visible in Fig. 1. The
having been subjected to high temperatures
of the structure of the material has been
has been exposed to high temperatures. The
alpha-beta titanium alloy (Ti-6Al-4V) is
1825 ± 20° F (Reference 1). The
alloy when heated to or above 1825° F. The
is possible to determine the temperature
Standard Methods for the Determination of
of the specimen (specimens from the work
The transformation to the alpha phase is
The specimens obtained from the test were
approximately, indicating that the majority of the
exceeded a temperature of 1825° F. The hardening
result of blistering on the outer surface, also, possibly
rolling and surface oxidation, though the last two
not well defined. There is no significant

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observed in the diametrically opposite specimens. Specimens from the skin near the bosses gave similar results except fused metal had actually fused on the boss material; in this latter case the transformed structure penetrates to a depth of approximately 0.02 in. The fused metal on the bosses shows a coarse grain structure typical of re-crystallization after welding. The metal also contains some passive oxides - probably oxides and nitrides. The uniformity of the skin crystal structure indicated that the metal was melting during re-entry and was thus subjected to fusion during its surface.

Radiation examination proved negative, showing no background counts. No detailed tests have been conducted for radioactive isotopes which are likely to be formed from the high-energy corpuscular radiations in space. However, the positive identification of certain isotopes is the strongest evidence for believing that an object has been in space, and, in certain circumstances, the concentration of a trace measure of the period of exposure. In this instance, the period which has elapsed since the finding of the ball, the unknown length of time between re-entry and discovery, will influence the conclusions which can be drawn from an analysis. In contrast, the laboratory examination of fragments of the 1960s was begun only fifty hours after re-entry.

Analysis of the hexagonal nut showed it to be a ferritic stainless steel of the 18% chromium, 8% nickel type, and approximately 0.6% molybdenum and 0.4% copper.

The overall impression of a very high quality of fabrication in a modern material found in these circumstances is the suggestion that the sphere came from a space vehicle, and has been made of the likely re-entry characteristic of such a vehicle.

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3. THE ESTIMATED RE-ENTRY HISTORY

The analysis follows generally the method of Chapman⁴.

The ratio $\frac{W}{C_p A}$ is basic to all re-entry calculations, so it is necessary to fix a value of C_p appropriate to the flow period; if the major phenomena occur during the free molecule flow period then C_p will be⁵ about 22, while if convection prevails C_p will be⁶ about 0.92, hence $\frac{W}{C_p A}$ may range from 10.5. The Reynolds number at peak heating⁴ is approximately both values of $\frac{W}{C_p A}$ occurring at an altitude of 240,000 ft. For the sphere at these altitudes the Knudsen number $Kn \ll 0.01$, so that continuum flow will prevail throughout the critical heating period. In view of the Reynolds number, a free flow may be expected. With the value of $\frac{W}{C_p A}$ of 10.5 lb.ft⁻², the re-entry history of the sphere may be described by the generalised functions developed by Chapman⁴. The flight path angle is 90°, and, with $C_p = 0.1$ in the subsequent calculations, the impact velocity is 230 ft/sec.

In estimating the wall temperature rise for the sphere account is taken of the laminar convective heat input and the radiative output; the radiant input from the gas cap is neglected. The sphere is assumed to be rotating during the re-entry period, so that the heat input is uniformly distributed over the surface, likewise the surface is assumed to radiate. Reissner⁸ has shown that, for low rotation rates are adequate to attain the surface temperature distributions which accompany the rotations. The sphere shell is assumed to be thermally thin, thus radial temperature gradients are neglected. The total heat stored in the shell is equated to the resultant temperature rise, giving:

$$Wc \frac{dT_w}{dt} = \rho \int_{A_s} \frac{dQ}{dt} \quad (1)$$

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where c is the specific heat of the sphere material. The specific heat of MIL 3205/32T Grade V varies with temperature. A value of $c = 0.23$ is adopted here, this value corresponds to a temperature of 2000°R.

The laminar convective heat transfer to any point on the sphere may be written:

$$q = K_1 q_s$$

where q_s is the convective heat transfer at the stagnation point and K_1 is the factor which takes into account the variation in heat input over the sphere surface.

Using the expression developed in Reference (4)

$$q_s = 590 \left(\frac{W}{D^2 \text{ MKY}} \right)^{1/2} \frac{\bar{q}}{\cos^3 \phi} \text{ BTU/ft}^2 \text{ sec.}$$

The variation of K_1 adopted for the windward hemisphere is due to $\cos^3 \phi$, and K_1 is assumed constant over the leeward hemisphere. Its value at 90° to the flow. In evaluating \bar{q} , for the leeward hemisphere it is assumed that \bar{q} and hence q_s , are zero at $\phi = 90^\circ$. The variation of the aerodynamic heating rate with altitude is shown in Fig. 3.

The total surface radiated heat output is

$$q_{\text{out}} = \epsilon B T_{\text{m}}^4 S$$

The emissivity is taken to be that of pure titanium oxide (Reference 3), hence $\epsilon = 0.55$, and is roughly constant over the surface. This value for ϵ is probably conservative, so results are given for $\epsilon = 0.7, 0.8$.

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Substitution in Equation (1) together with a proper value of the constants, yields the following differential equation for wall temperature:

$$\frac{dT_{w}}{dt} = -259 \frac{V}{\cos^2 \phi} - 0.86 \times 10^{-11} \epsilon T_{w}^4 \dots \dots \dots (5)$$

On the assumption that the sphere is rotating before re-entry, the initial temperature can be estimated by the method of Schmidt and Hancock¹⁰; the initial temperature adopted here is 500°E. Equation (5) has been integrated for $\epsilon = 0.55, 0.7$ and 0.8 ; the resulting temperatures are shown as functions of altitude in Fig. 4.

Subsequent to this analysis, the results of Gaslay¹¹ for the spinning Vanguard satellite were discovered in Moscow (the original source is unavailable). Their results are the present ones for $\epsilon = 0.8$ in Fig. 5. It is apparent that different values for the initial temperature of the sphere have been assumed, but that the re-entry temperature is roughly comparable.

4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

It is immediately apparent from Fig. 4 that the sphere is expected to survive re-entry by decay from circular orbit if the temperature never reaches the melting temperature. If the surface emissivity of at least 0.7 would apply because of oxide coating on the skin surface, hence the peak temperature during re-entry would be about 300° F below the temperature at which melting first occurs with this material. It is not known what the melting point of the material is, but if it is as high as 2000° F, as is likely, these results indicate that the sphere would survive re-entry.

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Study of the material structure shows that the order of those indicated in Fig. 4 have been made. However, it is known that the surface of the sphere is a poor heat conductor as the sphere alloy, the high temperature would appear to indicate that the sphere was shielded due to part of the re-entry, and that after the shield was burnt off the sphere was subjected to a heat pulse of shorter duration as indicated in Fig. 3. The discovery of the second sphere at the Seattle Ball is strong evidence that break-up of the sphere structure occurred after re-entry, rather than at an earlier time during orbit. The lack of significant re-entry is reported earlier could also be considered as being due to the well shielded by the space vehicle structure until late in the re-entry. However, the quality of the radiation evidence, and the time of time between re-entry and discovery preclude such a possibility. It is to the evidence. An attempt is being made to answer this question as to whether or not the sphere was shielded during part of its re-entry by solution of the equations for temperature gradient in the sphere subjected to the transient heating rate shown in Fig. 3. It is likely, the solution indicates a deeper penetration of the heat conduction temperature than the more structure demonstrated in Fig. 3. It is concluded that shielding did occur during part of the re-entry. It will not be possible to work back from the measured penetration of the heat transformation temperature to determine the point at which shielding discontinued because of the impossibility of the sphere temperature when initially exposed to the stream. Also, the re-entry and trajectory history of the shielded sphere would be very different from those outlined here for the sphere, as the shielding initial conditions for computation of the sphere temperature are very different from those outlined here for the sphere, as the shielding would be unavailable.

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Though all the evidence is circumstantial, there is little doubt that the Boullie Ball and its companion were once part of a space booster, or a space craft. That the balls are of U.S. origin seems certain also, particularly as there are many published photographs and descriptions of U.S. rocket vehicles showing similar spheres on board. To have reached their final impact point by ballistic sub-orbital flight from the major U.S. launching sites on the east and west coasts of U.S.A. would have required flight path angles at re-entry which would have resulted in almost certain destruction of the balls. Re-entry at an angle of only 4 degrees would result in an increase in peak heating rate of more than 50% over that needed during orbital decay, and even though the flight time to re-entry to impact is considerably reduced when re-entry occurs at a shallow angle, the temperatures induced would be sufficient to destroy an unprotected sphere of this type; most probably, destruction would also occur with shielding present during part of the re-entry, if very special shields were used.

Since it is concluded that the Boullie Ball was a part of a U.S. space vehicle in orbit. The interesting point brought out is that the sphere would survive re-entry by decay from circular orbit without any shielding; whether this particular sphere was shielded or not should be answered by the further analysis.

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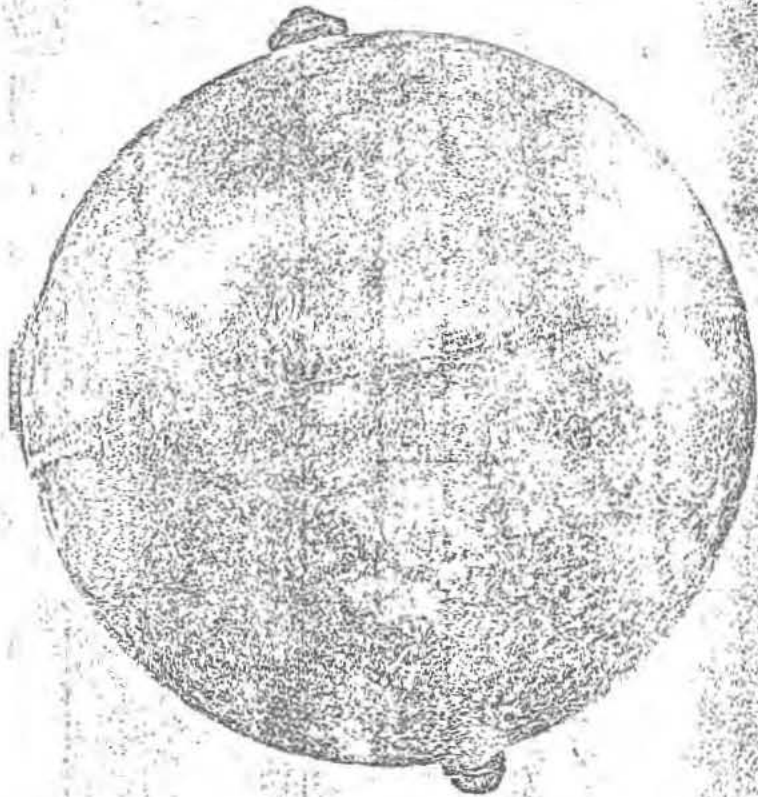
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REFERENCES

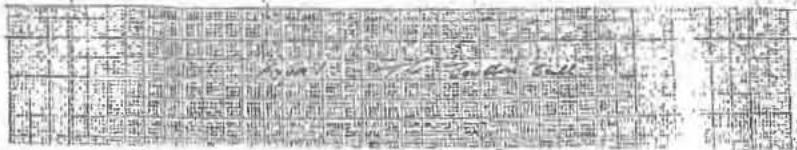
1. Jalliban, W.H. and Ribickin, K., "Successful re-entry of space fragments from a decaying earth orbit" AIAA J. 1, 2, 1105 (1963).
2. Lundquist, G.A., et al., "Re-entry and recovery of the satellite 1960 g 1". Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., Special Report No. 109 (December 1961).
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7. Godekin, G. and Howe, J.T., "Recent developments in the theory of momentum and energy transfer at hyper velocities", IAS Report No. 2, 291-301 (November 1962).
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11. Carley, G. Jr. and Kannon, D.J., "A recoverable satellite", Rand Report P-956, The Rand Corporation (February 1957).
12. Fetisov, N.V., "Recovery techniques for manned satellites", VIIIth International Astronautical Congress, Barcelona, Spain (Wien Springer Verlag, 1958) pp. 300-316.

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(N.B. This is a reproduction of original photo. H. H. Howard.)



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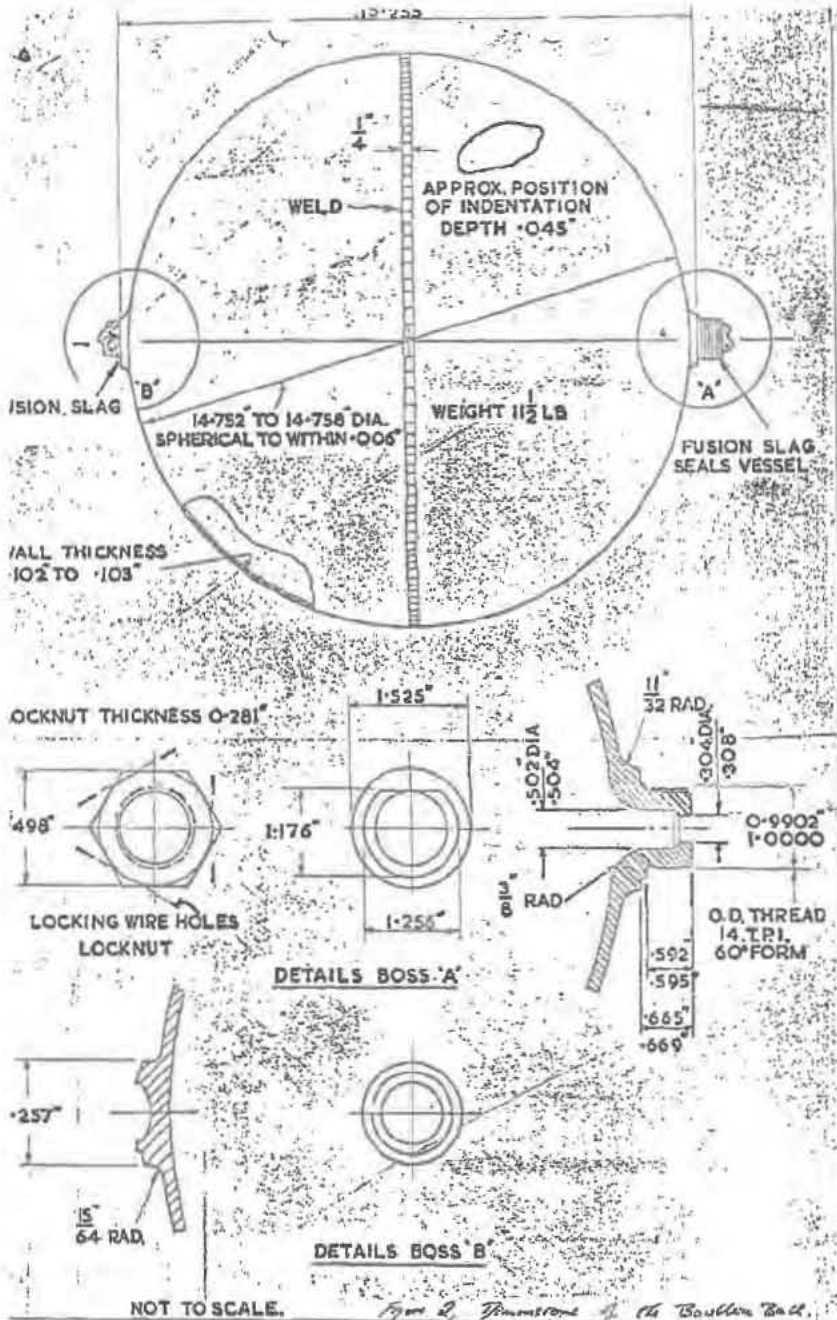
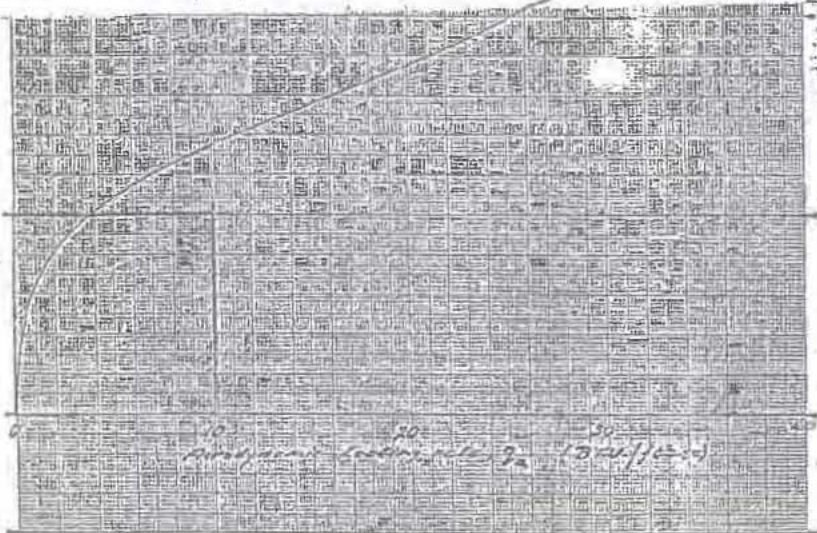
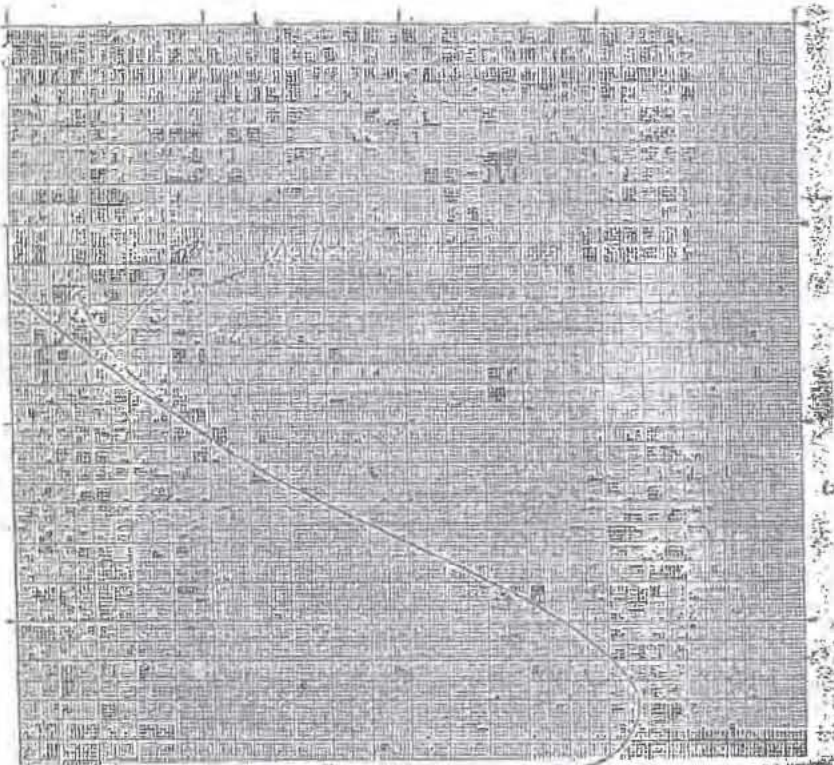


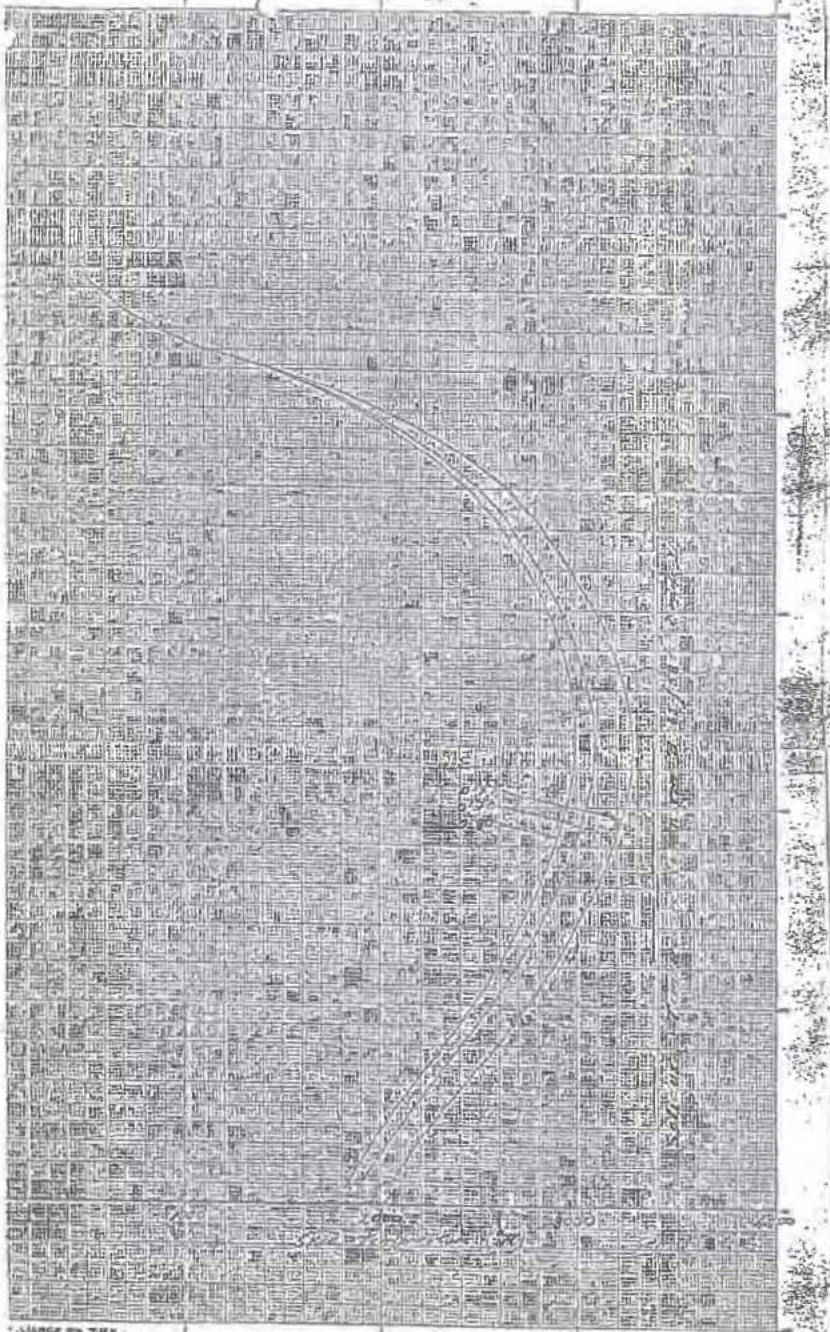
Fig. 2. Dimensions of the Bomble Ball.

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ALLIANCE No. 1243
 Figure 3 Variation of aerodynamic heating rate with altitude
 HANCOCK & HALDEN - BOSTON

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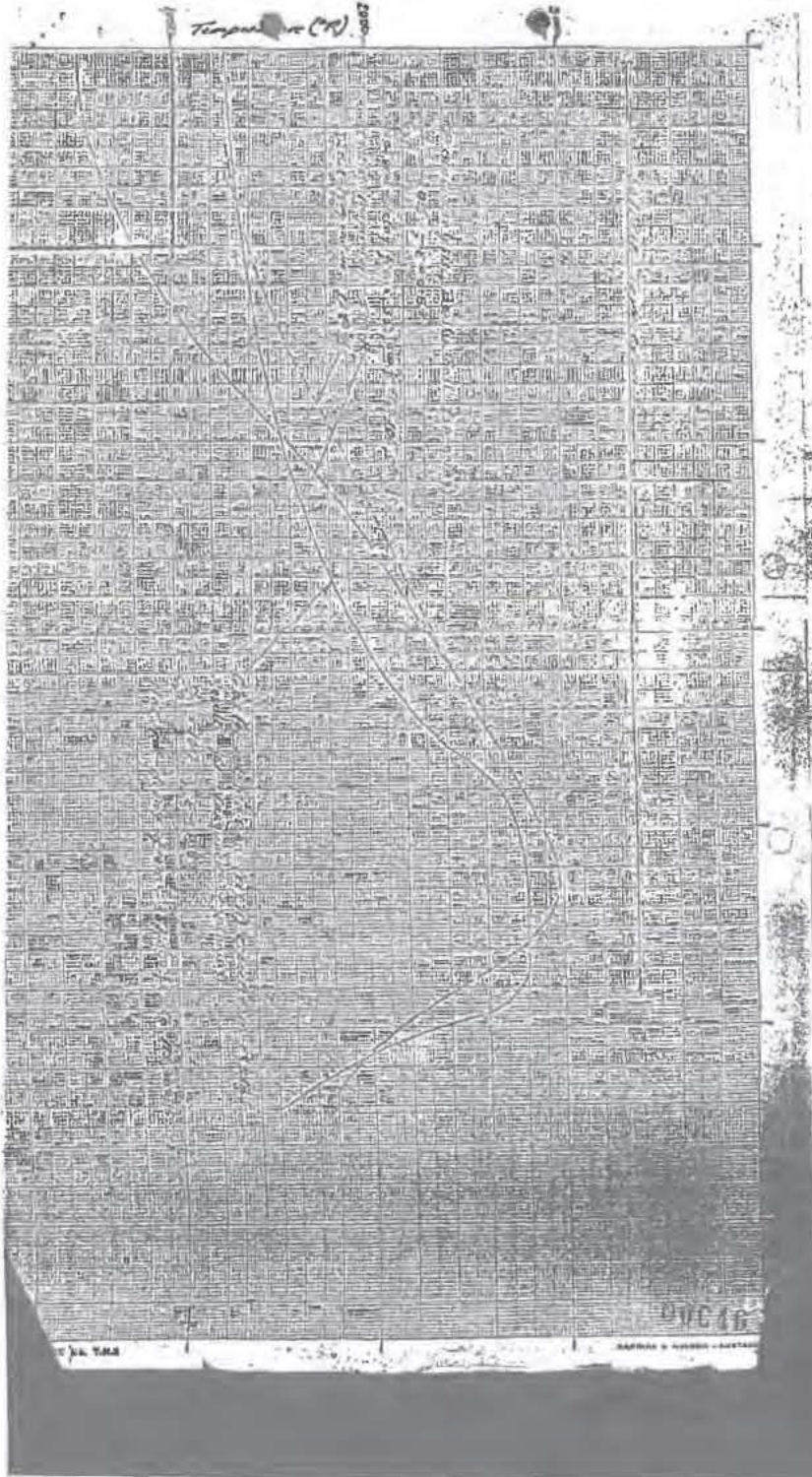


UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
1908

Skin temperature reduction with altitude

HARRIS & HALLIDAY - MONTREAL

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Enclosure 2
Smithsonian
documents



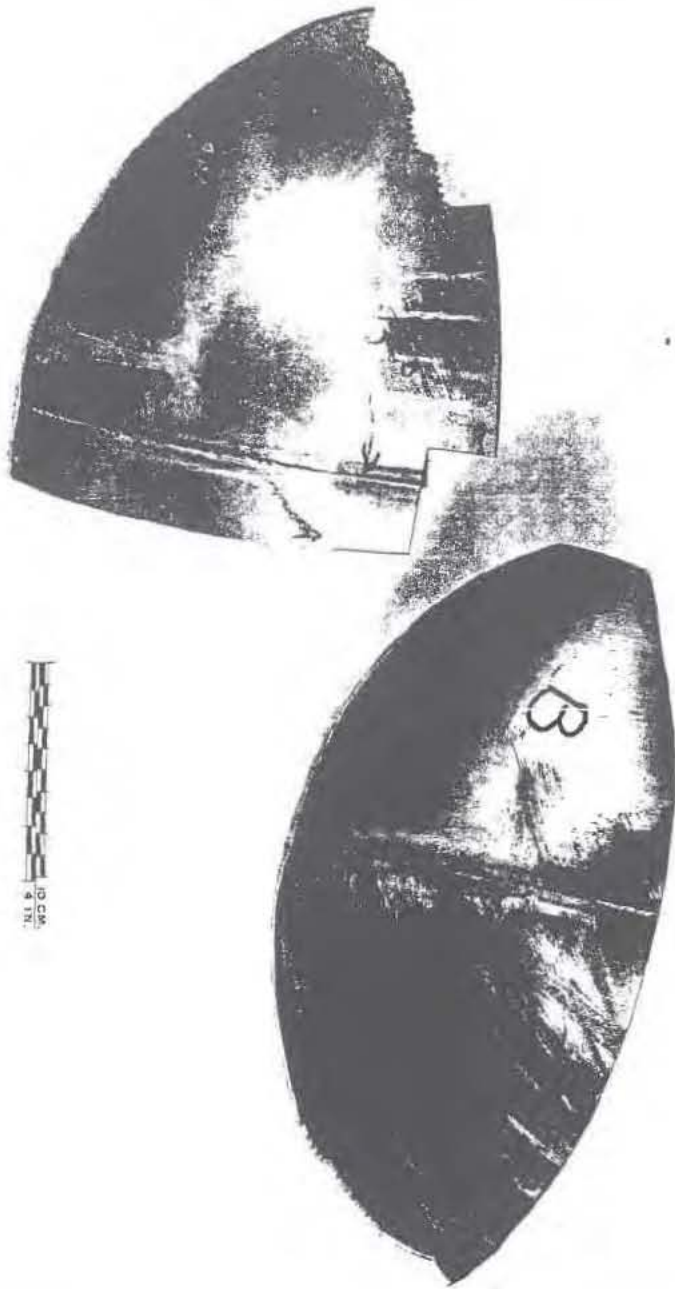
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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY
80 GARDEN STREET CAMBRIDGE MASSACHUSETTS 02138

2-223

7 Nov 11 1965

February 1, 1965

Mr Leo K. Acernethy
Office of Manned Space Flight
Apollo Operations
NASA Headquarters
Washington, D. C. 20546

Dear Leo:

On Friday, January 29, I was visited by Majors Albert Macsata and Paul Fatselchuk, U.S. Air Force, Hanscom Field, Bedford, Mass. They were on behalf of the Foreign Technology group at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Presumably this is an Air Force contact which you had said to expect.

The Air Force officers were afforded an opportunity to examine the Warlo Objects. In addition, they were given a document containing these pages of text and one figure describing the discovery of the objects and a description of them. A copy of this document is enclosed for your information. A cover page has been added referencing NSG 563, and giving the document a number. The officers were also provided with a set of the 6x10 inch photographs of the objects, identical to the set which we transmitted to you on January 29.

For analysis at the Foreign Technology laboratories, the Air Force representatives were given four small specimens: A sample of the fabric laminate from piece no. j, a sample of "asbestos" composition of piece no. 4, a sample of the gasket material in piece no. 3, and a portion of the charred fabric enlarged in one of the photographs.

Major Macsata promised to relay to us any findings from these samples which come to his attention.

Sincerely yours,

Charles A. Lundquist
Assistant Director

Enclosure

110605

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY

Technical Report No. 1
NEG 563

Preliminary Report
The Merlo Objects

January 29, 1965
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

00006

THE METEO OBJECTS

1. Discovery of the objects.

On January 16, 1965, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observing Station in Villa Dolores, Argentina, sent the following TX to the SAO Headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.:

ONE CORDOBA PAPER CARRIED A REPORT OF AN OBJECT THAT FELL NEAR MENDOZA ON JANUARY 14. FROM THAT PHOTO IT LOOKS LIKE PART OF A ROCKET CASING. THE OBJECT MEASURES 4 METERS 50 LONG 1 METER 20 IN DIAMETER AND APPROXIMATELY 70 KILOS WEIGHT. PRINTED ON THE CASING ARE THE LETTERS NASA 1003. THE OBJECT HAS APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND HOLES OF ONE CENTIMETER DIA. AND SEVERAL ENGRAVED HEAT INDUMENTS.
NEXT SUBJECT. A METAL SPHERE REPORTED FELL NEAR CORDOBA ON DECEMBER 25 AT 1900Z. DIMENSIONS ARE 82 CENTIMETERS IN DIAMETER AND APPROXIMATELY 80 KILOS WEIGHT. DIAMETRICALLY PERFORATING FROM THE SPHERE ARE TWO SETS OF THREADS THAT ARE NOT METRIC. THE OBJECT CARRIED NO DESCRIPTION BUT SHOWS EVIDENCE HEAT WELDED TOY AND THE GROUND WAS BURIED AROUND THE OBJECT. WELD MARKS ARE VISIBLE.
THE OBJECTS ARE REPORTED AT THE CORDOBA AERONAUTICAL INST. FOR SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS. WE ARE CHECKING THE REPORTS AND WILL KEEP YOU POSTED.
16/212Z JAN

This message was followed on January 20 by the message:

IN REFERENCE TO OUR 16/212Z WE HAVE FURTHER REPORT OF OTHER EVIDENCE OF POSSIBLE SPACE MATERIAL. WE NOW HAVE IN OUR HANDS TWO PIECES OF MATERIAL WHICH APPEARS TO BE OF INSULATING QUALITY. THESE PIECES ARE PARTIALLY BURNED AND IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE OBJECT FROM WHICH THEY CAME IS 80 CM LENGTH. WE INTEND TO PICK UP OBJECT IN THE MORNING FOR INSPECTION.
20/205Z JAN

This last group of objects was found on the side of a hill in rocky terrain near the village of Marlo, Province of San Luis. Personnel of the Observing Station visited the site where the objects were found. They sent a TX on 27 Jan. which included the following commentary:

FOLLOWING OUR INVESTIGATION THE ORIGINAL WITNESS OF THE INCIDENT WAS SOUTHER CAL. CH. QUINTERO SR. MESSERA ON THE HIGHWAY SHE STATED SHE HAD NOT SEEN THE INCIDENT OCCUR BUT HEARD A LOUD NOISE SIMILAR TO THAT OF THUNDER BUT GROWING IN INTENSITY WITH A SUSTAIN QUIET. THE NEXT DAY SHE COULD GIVE HER AGE 21 OR 22 DEC 1904 AT 1830Z SHE DID NOT ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF THE NOISE BUT ON 24 DEC 1904 WHEN HERDING HER GOATS SHE CAME ACROSS THE OBJECT AND REPORTED SR. GALLARDO WHO TOOK THE OBJECT

(more)

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TO HIS HOME AND LATER GAVE IT TO US. ALSO TO BE NOTED
 THAT YESSERA HEARD THE EXPLOSION IN HER HOME AT AN ESTIMATED
 DISTANCE OF 800 METERS SOUTH-EAST OF THE SITE. IT WAS ALSO
 REPORTED TO US THAT AT LEAST SEVERAL PIECES OF THE NARROW
 EXPLOSION WERE TAKEN TO HER HOME BY HERSELF FIRST IN
 THE AREA AND A PIECE OF SPINAL BARKER BURNED WAS STOLEN FROM
 HER. CALLIANO AID TO ED WILSON AS TO ITS WHEREABOUTS
 07/05/68 JEM .

Five major objects from the Marlo site, obtained in this manner,
 were shipped to the SAO Headquarters. As far as known to SAO, the
 other objects in news reports are held by Argentine authorities.

5. Description of the objects.

The five Marlo objects can be fitted together to form a
 rocket nozzle in essentially complete form. This is illustrated
 in figure 1. The five pieces are numbered for identification. The
 following observations can be made relative to the individual pieces:

Pieces 1, 2 & 3 are deeply charred inside and relatively
 clean on outside.

Pieces 4 & 5 show evidence of high temperatures on outside.
 Also possibilities of molten metal splashes.

Pieces 1, 2 & 3 are approx. 1 inch thick, composed of
 plastic impregnated fabric wound spirally in a conical form
 (conical at approx. 45° on pcs. 1 & 2 and more cylindrical
 on conical section of pc. 3).

Pieces 4 & 5 appear to have peeled off exterior. They
 are approx. 1/8 inch thick and are made of an asbestos-like
 fibre imbedded in a hard matrix with one layer of fabric on
 internal surface (next to pcs. 1, 2 & 3).

Piece 3 has short section of what appears to be a flange
 or heavier section of a piece similar to pc. 4 adhering at
 largest diameter. This flange has grooves in axial direction
 approx. 1-7/8 inch apart which look like half bolt clearance
 holes. Also, a portion of a gasket or seal groove with a
 short length of a rectangular section gasket in place.

Pieces 1, 2 & 3 show some ovality but without evidence
 of longitudinal fractures.

(more)

00008

Piece 4 has impression of conical band approx. $3-21/32$ wide (measured on conical surface) and approximately 20 mills deep.

Piece 4 has an area of yellowish brown deposit on external surface.

Piece 5 has several areas showing a deep blue iridescent appearance. Also evidence of molten metal splashes. Also small pieces of unknown material near throat on external surface. In addition there is a curved section at one end conforming to throat section curvature and a cylindrical section at the other end conforming to cylindrical section of piece 1.

Measurements.

Seal groove: Width = 0.193 in.
Depth = 0.100 in.

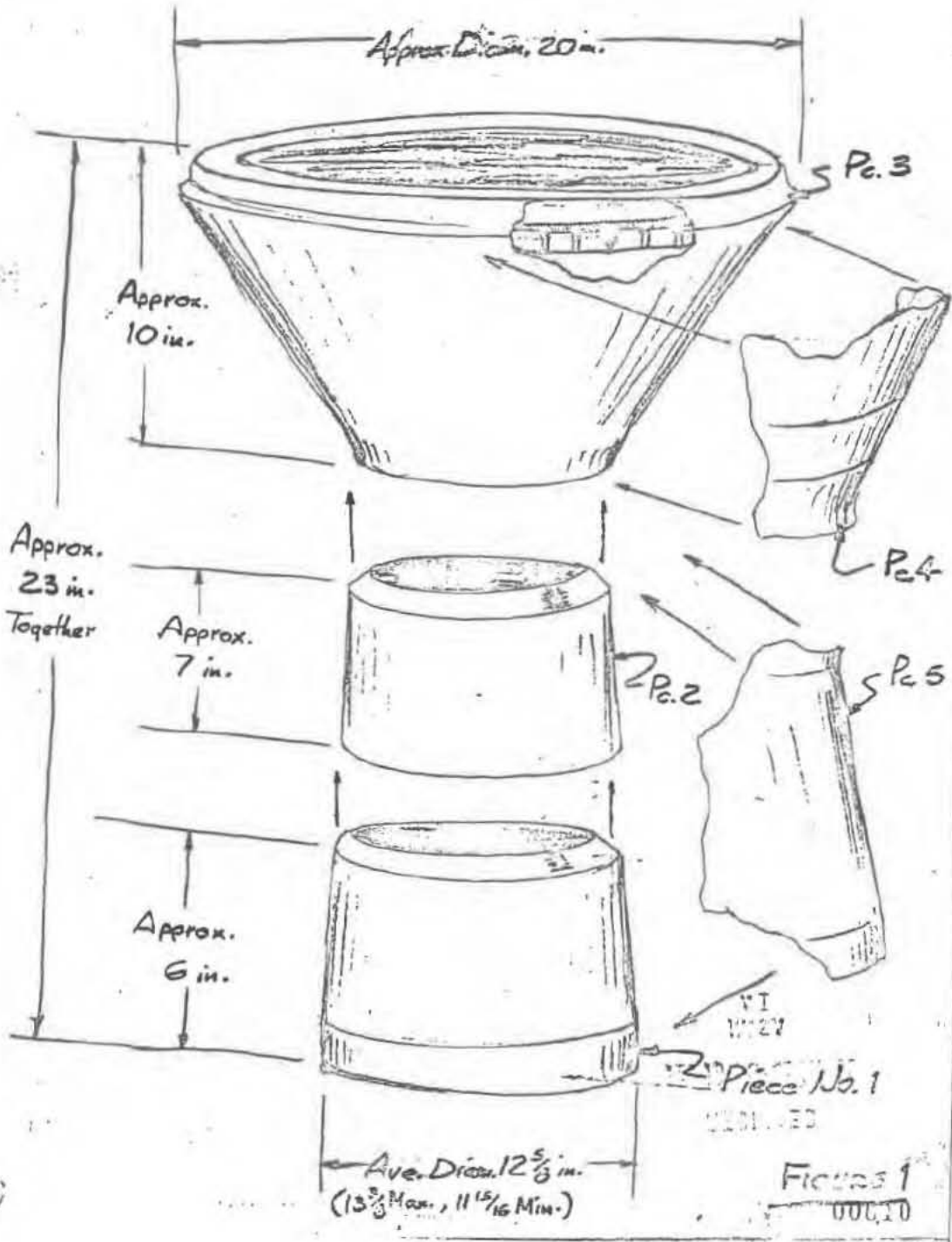
Bolt clearance: Diam. = 0.257

Weights: Pc. No. 1 = 9.0 lbs.
2 = 9.2
3 = 29.7
4 = 0.9
5 = 1.25

Total = 41.05 lbs.

675
7/9/65
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
Cambridge, Mass.

00009



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



August 2, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

Office of Public Affairs

Ms. Lee Ellen Helfrich
Lobel, Novins & Lamont
1275 K Street, NW
Suite 770
Washington, DC 20005-4048

Dear Ms. Helfrich:

On July 21, 2006, defendant filed its opposition to plaintiff's motion for summary judgment in the *Kean v. NASA* Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) litigation. In the accompanying declaration of Kellie Robinson, she noted that some potentially responsive records in two files were being referred to other agencies for FOIA processing. The following documents have been reviewed by outside agencies and are now being released:

- (a) 46 pages of documents which originated with the Australian Government. (Encl 1)
- (b) nine pages of a 10 page document from the Smithsonian Institution. (Encl 2)
The remaining page has been referred to the Air Force for its assessment.
- (c) 93 pages of documents from the State Department. (Encl 3)

We have also referred 32 pages to the Air Force, including the one described above, for its assessment and declassification, if appropriate. We are currently waiting for the Air Force to complete this process.

Lastly, 12 pages of agency documents which were referenced in the February 25, 2004, statement and adopted in the June 15, 2004, declaration by Stella Luna, NASA Johnson Space Center FOIA Public Liaison Officer, are also included in this release. (Encl 4)

Sincerely,


Stephen L. McConnell
Chief, FOIA Public Liaison Officer

Enclosures

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 26, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

HQ 03-181

FR 200603605
FRUS/mr
Kean, Leslie

Department of State
Attention: Charlene Wright-Thomas
Director, Office of IRM Programs and Services, SA-2
5th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20522-6001

Dear Ms. Wright-Thomas:

This agency has received a request under the Freedom of Information Act, from the Leslie Kean, for information concerning NASA agency records.

During a review of responsive records this agency revealed 93 pages documents that originated from your agency. A copy of their request (encl 1), expanded search criteria (encl 2) and your documents (encl 3) are forwarded for your appropriate action and direct reply to the requester.

We request consideration under expedited processing since we are currently under litigation involving this specific FOIA request and these documents were found during an additional review of our agency records in response to the requesters Motion for Summary Judgment to the United States District Court.

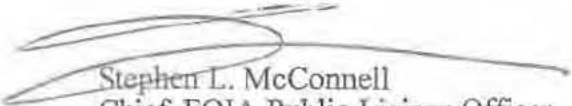
We will need an evaluation of your timeline NLT Friday, July 28, 2006 to complete your processing of this referral. Expedited processing is requested due to the matter being under litigation. We are required to provide your response to our Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) and the US District Court on that estimated processing time.

If I can be of any additional assistance please contact me at (202) 358-2265.

I trust this will be of assistance to you.

0068

Sincerely,


Stephen L. McConnell
Chief, FOIA Public Liaison Officer

Enclosure(s)

06 JUL 26 PM 2:26

~~Referred to Dept. of State~~

Enclosure 3

State Department
documents

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

NASA

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87

Action

SS

Info

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OR 152322Z

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 501
INFO RULPAL/USCINCSO FOR POLAD
RUCKHC/CINCLANTFLT
STATE GRNC

BT

SECRET OCTOBER 15

024
25
12600
1965 OCT 15 PM 7 58

ACCORDING MESSAGE 142110Z FROM 1127 USAF/FLDACTYGP; FORT BELVOIR;
REFERENCE SUBJECT "MOON DUST", SOVIET SATELLITE SPUTNIK 4
EXPECTED FALL SOUTH PACIFIC LATITUDE 41S LONGITUDE 84W EARLY
OCTOBER 15.

IN ABSENCE US NAVAL VESSELS THIS AREA, MESSAGE INSTRUCTED
MILITARY ATTACHES SANTIAGO CONTACT CHILEAN ARMED FORCES TO
DETERMINE WHETHER THEY CAN ASSIST UN RECOVERY OF SATELLITE WITH
KNOWLEDGE SOVIET AUTHORITIES. ON BASIS THIS CONTACT CHILEAN
NAVAL SHIP BLANCO NOW ATTEMPTING LOCATE AND RECOVER SATELLITE.
IF BLANCO SUCCESSFUL, REMOVE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT ON BASIS
DIRECT AND DISCREET US NAVAL (UNITAS) CONTACTS WITH CHILEAN
NAVY LATER MAY TURN SATELLITE OVER TO U.S. NAVAL FORCES UNITAS.

PAGE 2 RUESNA 33 SECRET

HOWEVER IN EVENT THIS NOT POSSIBLE AND CHILEAN NAVY RETAINS
POSSESSION AND TURNS MATTER OVER TO GOC FOR DECISION, WE
ESTIMATE THAT GOC VERY LIKELY WILL SURRENDER SATELLITE TO SOVIE
AUTHORITIES UPON REQUEST.

THIS MESSAGE IS TO INFORM DEPARTMENT OF SITUATION AND TO REQUEST
YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE. DUNGAN

BT

ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O, 10/15/65, 8:05 P.M.

NOTE: PASSED NMCC, WHITE HOUSE, 10/15/65, 8:27 P.M.

HANDLED LINDIS PER S/S-O.

SCI says: No response
USN not saying
Apparently no pick-

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify

Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x(X)

() Declassify after

With concurrence NASA (not)obtained

IPS by A. M. [signature] Date 7-27-06

SECRET

00001

00001

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Lt Aug 24 2001
Reviewer: [signature]
Date: 7/1/00

N2

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

08806

INDICATE COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

SECRET

59
59

ACTION: Amembassy SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE 370

Oct 16 12 58 AM '61

INFO: Amembassy LIMA PRIORITY 418
Amembassy PANAMA PRIORITY 345
USGINSO FOR POLAD PRIORITY
GINGLANTFLT PRIORITY
DOD PRIORITY

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Lit. Aug. 3, 2005
Reviewer: P. Wick
Date: 7/3/08

LIMDIS

Embtel #101 501

No rpt No change instructions contained USAFFLDACTYGP,
Belvoir Belvoir msg.
Fort/Belvoir msg.

If any indication object to be returned to Sovs, Ambassador
and Attaches should make every effort to insure Blanco, after
Panama.
recovery, proceeds directly to Lima or ~~xxxxxx~~ Further instructions
to follow.

END.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() (X)
() Declassify after _____
With concurrence WPK/11 (not)obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date _____

RUSK

Drafted by: CT per [Signature]
SCI: CThomas:du 10/16/65

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: S/SO - Marshall Noble

Cleances:
EUR - Mr. Strenge
INR - Mr. McAfee
ARA - Mr. Sayre
G/PM - Mr. Kitchen
REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

SECRET

AIRGRAM

N3
SP 16 45

FOR RM USE ONLY

SGI-4		
RM/R	REP	AF
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	USUN	G/PM
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AGR	COM	FRS
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
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ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	10	3
OSD	USIA	NSA
25	8	3
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A-257 **CONFIDENTIAL**

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir
 () Release () Declassify () Exempt from Declassification () Declassify
 Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x(X) ()
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 With concurrence _____ (not)obtained ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
 IPS by _____ Date _____ RM/AN BRANCH

1965 SEP 23 PM 4 03

HANDLING INDICATOR

Fragments

FROM : Amembassy BUENOS AIRES DATE: September 22, 1965

SUBJECT : Recovery of Space Vehicle Fragments

REF : Department's A-211 of June 15, 1965 and Previous

Enclosed is a copy of the Argentine Foreign Ministry Note No. 792 of May 14, 1965, along with an unofficial English translation thereof, as well as a copy of the Embassy's note in reply thereto, No. 294 of May 21, 1965. It will be noted that the Foreign Office note does not, as suggested in the reference airgram, constitute a rebuff of the Embassy's efforts to obtain the space fragments for the United States Government. The Embassy welcomed the data in the referenced airgram concerning the U.N. General Assembly's Resolution 1962 (XVIII) setting forth the obligation of states to return to the country of origin space objects which had fallen upon the former's territory or found in their possession. It was not deemed desirable to refer to this information in negotiating the return of the fragments found in Argentina unless it became clear that the Argentine Government was not disposed to return them to the United States.

On September 13 the Embassy received from the Argentine Foreign Ministry note No. 1584 of September 10, 1965, in which it specifies the procedure to be followed by the Embassy, or its attached agencies, in order to obtain physical possession of the fragments. The note also enclosed a voluminous report prepared by technicians of the Argentine Government based on an examination of the fragments and through which the Argentine Government concluded the objects were of United States origin. The report may be retained by the United States Government and is being forwarded to appropriate authorities in the United States through the office of the Air Attaché at this post. Foreign Office officials have informed Embassy officers that the Argentine Government would be greatly interested in any comments United States scientists and technicians might offer with respect to the report on the fragments enclosed with the Foreign Ministry note.

DECLASSIFIED
 NASA Lit. Aug 3, 2005
 Reviewer: [Signature]
 Date: 11/1/86

1965 SEP 23 PM 5 46

COPY FLO-PBR

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FORM DS-323

CONFIDENTIAL
"Group 3"

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

In Out

(Trans) by: POL: CAGendreau: bkb: Sept. 20, 1965

Contents and Classification Approved by: [Signature]

Clearances: USAIRA-Col. L. E. May

COMUSMILGRP-Gen. R. B. Spragins
EA: A. C. Hewitt

The Foreign Office has been informed by the Embassy that it may advise the Argentine Ministry of Defense that it is anticipated that the fragments will be received from the pertinent Argentine Government Agency (D.I.N.F.I.A.) at Córdoba, Argentina, by a United States Air Force C-118 aircraft (Flight No. 405) on October 2, 1965. The aircraft is based at Albrook Air Force Base, Canal Zone, and will stop at Córdoba enroute to Santiago, Chile, after entering Argentina from Montevideo, Uruguay. Liaison with Argentine authorities in connection with the loading operation will be undertaken by an officer of the United States Army Mission establishment at Córdoba.

Copies of the Foreign Ministry note No. 1584 are enclosed as well as an unofficial English translation of it. It will be noted that the Foreign Ministry has classified this note "Confidential".

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

Ellwood M. Rabenold Jr.

Ellwood M. Rabenold, Jr.
Counselor of Embassy
for Political Affairs

Enclosures:

1. Copy of Foreign Ministry Note 792 of May 14, 1965
2. Unofficial English Translation of Foreign Ministry Note 792
3. Copy of Embassy's Note No. 294 of May 21, 1965
4. Copy of Foreign Ministry Note No. 1584 of September 10, 1965
5. Unofficial English Translation of Foreign Ministry Note No. 1584

CONFIDENTIAL

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PODER EJECUTIVO NACIONAL
MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y CULTO

D.A.N.
No. 792

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto presenta sus saludos a la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América y tiene el agrado de llevar a su conocimiento que la Secretaría de Aeronáutica ha informado que en el Instituto de Investigación Aeronáutica y Espacial se encuentran los siguientes elementos de vehículos espaciales, que fueron hallados en el territorio argentino, entre diciembre de 1964 y febrero del corriente año:

Dos recipientes esféricos, que fueron encontrados próximos a la localidad de Tío Pujio (Córdoba).

Un recipiente cilíndrico, encontrado en San Miguel (Mendoza).

Un artefacto que contenía elementos de equipos electrónicos, hallado en Las Aguadas (San Luis).

Sometidos estos elementos al correspondiente peritaje de las autoridades competentes en la materia, éstas han determinado que los mismos corresponden a vehículos espaciales lanzados desde los Estados Unidos de América, estableciéndose al mismo tiempo la composición química y física del material empleado en su construcción así como el contenido de los recipientes.

Consecuente con la tradicional política de colaboración recíproca que ha caracterizado a nuestro país en sus relaciones con los Estados Unidos de América y con el fin de no interrumpir el permanente cambio de información científica que la Comisión Nacional de Investigaciones Espaciales mantiene con Organismos americanos dedicados a la investigación espacial, esta Cancillería se complace en poner esta información en conocimiento de la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América, a los efectos que estimare pertinente, como asimismo los resultados obtenidos del peritaje y de los objetos en sí.

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto reitera a la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América las expresiones de su más distinguida consideración.

Buenos Aires, 14 de mayo de 1965.

A LA EMBAJADA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA
BUENOS AIRES

Unofficial Translation

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE POWER
Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship

D.A.N.
No. 792

The Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honor to inform it that the Secretariat of Aeronautics has reported that the following elements pertaining to space vehicles are presently located in the (National) Institute of Aeronautical and Space Research and were found in Argentine territory between December, 1964 and February of the present year:

Two spherical containers found near the town of Tío Pujio (Cordoba).
One cylindrical container found in San Miguel (Mendoza).
One artefact containing electronic equipment parts.

These artefacts having been submitted for expert examination by authorities competent in the matter, the latter have determined that the same belong to space vehicles launched from the United States of America, and have also established the chemical and physical composition of the materials employed in their construction as well as the contents of the containers.

Faithful to the traditional policy of reciprocal collaboration which has characterized our country in its relations with the United States of America and to the end of not interrupting the permanent exchange of scientific information which the National Commission of Space Research maintains with American organizations dedicated to space research, this Chancellery is pleased to bring this information to the attention of the Embassy of the United States of America for such purposes as it may deem appropriate as well as the results obtained by expert study and the objects themselves.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship renews to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

Buenos Aires, May 14, 1965

To the Embassy of the United States of America,
Buenos Aires.

No. 294

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic and has the honor to refer to its note No. 792 of May 14, 1965 which informed the Embassy that agencies of the Government of the Argentine Republic have identified several objects found in Argentine territory as elements pertaining to space vehicles launched by the United States of America.

The Embassy wishes to express its pleasure in learning that the Government of the Argentine Republic has recovered the artefacts described in the Ministry's note as well as its appreciation for having brought to the Embassy's attention, in accordance with the Argentine Government's traditional policy of reciprocal collaboration with the United States of America in furtherance of an uninterrupted exchange of scientific information, the information that the artefacts have been identified as pertaining to space vehicles of United States' fabrication.

In accordance with the offer contained in the Ministry's note, the Embassy wishes to confirm that it would be pleased to receive for transmittal to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States of America the results of the examination of the artefacts conducted by the Instituto de Investigación Aeronautica y Espacial in connection with its efforts to identify the objects and would be pleased to undertake with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship whatever steps may be suitable in order to acquire the objects recovered so that they may be returned to the United States where further examination might be accomplished.

The Embassy of the United States of America takes this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of the United States of America,
Buenos Aires, May 21, 1965.

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PODER EJECUTIVO NACIONAL
MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y CULTO

D.A.N.
No. 1584

CONFIDENCIAL

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto presenta sus atentos saludos a la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América y tiene el agrado de referirse a su nota N° 294 de fecha 21 de mayo próximo pasado, relativa a restos de vehículos espaciales hallados en distintos puntos de la República Argentina.

De acuerdo a lo informado oportunamente a esa Embajada por nota N° 792 del 14 de mayo de 1965 y a lo solicitado por esa Representación diplomática en su nota N° 294, se tiene a bien comunicar a la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América que los restos de vehículos espaciales se encuentran a su disposición en la Escuela de Aviación Militar de Córdoba donde podrán ser retirados. A tal efecto, se agradecerá de esa Embajada tener a bien hacer saber con bastante anticipación la fecha en que se procederá a retirarlos a fin de que la Cancillería pueda informar a las autoridades competentes la nómina del personal que las retirará el medio que utilizará para su transporte y el día y hora en que el mismo se efectuará.

Asimismo, se adjunta a la presente - para no interrumpir el permanente cambio de información que la Comisión de Investigaciones Espaciales mantiene con organismos estadounidenses dedicados a investigaciones de la misma naturaleza-, copia del "Estudio y peritaje de elementos de vehículos espaciales caídos en Tío Pujio (Córdoba), San Miguel (Mendoza) y en La Aguadas (San Luis).

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto reitera a la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América las expresiones de su más distinguida consideración.

Buenos Aires, 10 de septiembre de 1965.

A LA EMBAJADA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA,
BUENOS AIRES.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE POWER

Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship

D. A. N.

No. 1584

CONFIDENTIAL

The Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America, and has the honor to refer to its Note No. 294 of May 21, 1965 relative to the remains of space vehicles found in distinct points of the Argentine Republic.

In accordance with information opportunely provided the Embassy by Note 732 of May 14, 1965, and to the request by the Embassy in its Note No. 294, it is a pleasure to inform the Embassy of the United States of America that the remains of the space vehicles are at its disposition at the School of Military Aviation of Córdoba, where they may be obtained. To this end it would be appreciated were the Embassy to be so kind as to indicate with sufficient anticipation the date on which it will undertake to obtain them, so that the Chancellery may inform the pertinent authorities of the list of personnel which will retire them, the means to be utilized for their transport, and the day and hour on which the operation will be effected.

Moreover, there is enclosed -- so as not to interrupt the permanent exchange of information which the Commission of Space Research maintains with United States organizations dedicated to research in the same area -- a copy of the "Study and Expert Examination of Elements of Space Vehicles Fallen in Río Pujio (Córdoba), San Miguel (Mendoza), and in Las Aguadas (San Luis)".

The Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship renews to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

Buenos Aires, September 10, 1965

(Initial)

CONFIDENTIAL

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INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

154800-1
NY
NASA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

42
Action
55
Info

CONTROL: 19960
RECD: DECEMBER 27, 1965
9:55 A.M.

Free

FROM: MADRID
ACTION: SECSTATE 755

024
26

C O N F I D E N T I A L DECEMBER 27

DEPARTMENT. PASS. NASA

REF DEPTEL 722

EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT PURSUANT PRESENT POLICY AIR FORCE HAS ACTION RESPONSIBILITY FOR CASES OF TYPE MENTIONED REFTEL; AIR ATTACHE, IN TOUCH WITH SPANISH AIR FORCE AND INTA, HAS TAKEN PHOTOGRAPHS OF SPACE OBJECTS AND OTHER NECESSARY STEPS, AND SEEKING OBTAIN LOAN OF OBJECTS FOR EXAMINATION BY US AGENCIES.

INTA'S PEREZ MARIN ASKED NASA REPRESENTATIVE TARDANI TO CABLE NASA ON DISCOVERY OF OBJECTS AND REQUEST INFORMATION ON FRAGMENTS AND SOURCE. SUGGEST NASA REPLY INTA THANKING PEREZ MARIN FOR NOTICE AND RECOMMENDING FURTHER ACTIVITY BE COORDINATED WITH AIR ATTACHE. LATTER REPORTING DEVELOPMENTS THROUGH OWN CHANNELS.

1127TH FIELD ACTIVITIES, FORT BELVOIR, IS HANDLING PROJECT MOON DUST COORDINATION IN WASHINGTON. GP-3 FISHBOUR

NOTE: PASSED NASA 12-27-65

Handled as LIMDIS

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 7, 2005
Reviewer: *M. Mah*
Date: *7/3/06*

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

CONFIDENTIAL

() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify

Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

() Declassify after

With concurrence *NASA* (not) obtained
IPS by *[Signature]* Date *7-27-06*

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DRAFT
WFH:mlf
12/29/65

AmEmbassy MADRID

Ref: Embtel 755

Embassy requested express to Perez-Marín NASA's deepest appreciation for notification of fragments and convey to him information intended for him in first paragraph Deptel 722. NASA has no objection use of air attache ~~as channel~~ for obtaining U.S. possession of fragments this instance if Embassy determines Perez-Marín agreeable.

L.A. Ambassador HAO - 12/29

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

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With concurrence MACA (not) obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. 4033, 2005
Reviewer: <u>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>7/27/06</u>

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GROUP 3
downgraded at 12 year
intervals; not
automatically declassified

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

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RUEAHQ/NASA

STATE GRNC

BT

CONFIDENTIAL DEC 27

DEPARTMENT PASS NASA

REF DEPTEL 722

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
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With concurrence NASA (not)obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 7-27-06

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. 04-3, 005
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7-31-06

EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT PURSUANT PRESENT POLICY AIR FORCE HAS ACTION RESPONSIBILITY FOR CASES OF TYPE MENTIONED REFTEL. AIR ATTACHE, IN TOUCH WITH SPANISH AIR FORCE AND INTA, HAS TAKEN PHOTOGRAPHS OF SPACE OBJECTS AND OTHER NECESSARY STEPS, AND SEEKING OBTAIN LOAN OF OBJECTS FOR EXAMINATION BY US AGENCIES.

INTA'S PEREZ MARIN ASKED NASA REPRESENTATIVE TARDANI TO CABLE NASA ON DISCOVERY OF OBJECTS AND REQUEST INFORMATION ON FRAGMENTS AND SOURCE. SUGGEST NASA REPLY INTA THANKING PEPEZ MARIN FOR NOTICE AND RECOMMENDING FURTHER ACTIVITY BE

INTA'S PEREZ MARIN ASKED NASA REPRESENTATIVE TARDANI TO
CABLE NASA ON DISCOVERY OF OBJECTS AND REQUEST INFORMATION
ON FRAGMENTS AND SOURCE. SUGGEST NASA REPLY INTA THANKING
PEPEZ MARIN FOR NOTICE AND RECOMMENDING FURTHER ACTIVITY BE
COORDINATED WITH AIR ATTACHE. LATTER REPORTING DEVELOPMENTS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 2 RUEHCR 1660R C O N F I D E N T I A L
THROUGH OWN CHANNELS.

1127TH FIELD ACTIVITIES, FORT BELVOIR, IS HANDLING PROJECT I
MOON DUSZ COORDINATION IN WASHINGTON. GP-3.

FISHERBOURNE

BT

REC 51 3 51 611 02

RECEIVED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ORIGIN/ACTION

SCI-4*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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FOR RM USE ONLY

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OSD	USIA	NSA
21		3
37	REC	8

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

59

TO : Department of State

REFAN ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION SEARCH

HANDLING INDICATOR

FROM : Embassy Buenos Aires

DATE: March 6, 1965

SUBJECT: Recovery of Possible Space Vehicle Fragments

REF : CONFIDENTIAL Air Attache Messages C-13 of 11 Feb, C-8 of 26 Jan., C-7 of 18 Jan., C-6 of 15 Jan. and C-5 of 14 Jan. Also CONFIDENTIAL IR's 18040008 65 of 26 Jan. and 18040067 65 of 20 Jan. Embassy's A-763. 16133

Present status of Embassy's knowledge of objects which fell in Argentina in December is described in reference documents.

Some additional information regarding markings is contained in attached note from Ing. Conrado ESTOL, Head of the Technical Division of the Argentine Space Commission.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

For the Ambassador

() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify

Ellwood M. Rabenold Jr.

Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

Ellwood M. Rabenold, Jr.,
Counselor for Political Affairs

() Declassify after

With concurrence NASA (not) obtained

IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

Aberne the

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 31 2005
Reviewer: <u>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>7/31/00</u>

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In Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by:

SCI: R. [Signature]

Contents and Classification Approved by:

DGI: [Signature]

Cleances:

Ext: [Signature]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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765

TO : Department of State 1955 FEB 22 AM 9 11
ATT : Office of International Scientific Affairs

ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION SECTION

freq

FROM : Embassy Buenos Aires DATE: FEB 19 1955

SUBJECT: Recovery of Possible Space Vehicle Fragment

REF : DEPTELS 692 and 760

Embassy is attempting to obtain the objects which fell in Argentina in late December. Air attaché has been in touch with Air Force officials in Cordoba and the Scientific attaché had previously discussed with Argentine Space Commission Officials.

In a discussion on February 16 with Ing. Teofilo TABANERA, Presidente, Comision Nacional de Investigaciones Espaciales the Scientific attaché transmitted Mr. PETERSON's message. Ing. Tabanera expects a full report on the investigation by the Cordoba Aeronautical Institute for special investigations within one to two weeks. At that time he has promised that the pieces could be delivered on receipt of an official U. S. request. This is on the assumption that the objects are in fact from the U. S. Tabanera believes there is little doubt that they did originate from a U. S. space vehicle. If examination of the report indicates that the objects are likely of U. S. origin an official request for their return will be submitted. The contents of the report will presumably be available without official request.

The Scientific Attaché was further informed that Tabanera's efforts in our behalf have been considerably hampered by the fact that certain Argentine Government officials are angry because a previous fallen object was

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

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Contents and Classification Approved by: [Signature] [Signature]

Clearance: Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()
() Declassify after
With concurrence [Signature] (not) obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 2 27 06

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Lit. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7/31/07

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picked up near the Villa Dolores tracking station of the Smithsonian Institute and shipped to the United States by the head of the tracking station without clearance from Argentine officials. The head of the station then wrote a letter to the Argentine Space Commission reporting what had been done. This letter made matters worse because it was a written admission that responsible U. S. officials had violated the International agreement in recovery of space vehicle fragments. Tabanera is now attempting to have the head of the tracking station change the letter so that violation of the agreement is not a matter of record. It must be emphasized, and Tabanera recognizes, that the action of the tracking station head was taken in complete innocence and good faith. All tracking station personnel should be made aware of the desirability of working through the officials of the host country in matters of this kind.

Tabanera is definitely working in our behalf to facilitate the return of the objects to NASA. It is suggested that matters be left in his hands without too much pressure at this point, even though this may mean some delay.

For the Ambassador

Ellwood M. Rabenold Jr.

Ellwood M. Rabenold, Jr.
Counselor for Political Affairs

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: <i>7/31/07</i>

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N9
Fragment

D R A F T
CJS:mlf 2/17

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug. 3, 1995
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7/31/06

TO: PRETORIA

NASA understands that an object possibly from an orbiting spacecraft
[has recently] fallen^{Nov 12} to earth near Pretoria. Embassy requested
attempt obtain and send object to NASA for analysis to determine if
part of US space vehicle. Forward on expedited basis to NASA
Headquarters, Code MAO, Washington, D.C. 20546.

FYI. Preliminary information ~~through DOD~~ indicates object may be from
USSR vehicle. End FYI.

Not sent, since
2/20 Air message
indicates object
being sent.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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ACTION: Amembassy BUENOS AIRES 692

JUN 10 6 15 PM '65

NASA understands that in mid or late December, a 33-inch metal sphere fell near Villa Maria, and an aluminum cylinder approximately 13 feet long by 5 feet diameter near San Miguel. Embassy is requested seek permission from GOA to send objects to NASA for analysis to determine if these were part of US space vehicle. Fragments should be forwarded on expedited basis to Leo X. Abernethy, ~~NSA~~ ^{NASA} Headquarters, 600 Independence Avenue, Code MAO, Washington, D.C. 20546.

FYI, Preliminary information through DOD indicates possibility that fragments are from NASA vehicle. END FYI.

RUSK

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: P. [unclear]
Date: 7/3/06

Q. [unclear]

Drafted by: NASA: Carl Jones SCI: JMM/ [unclear]	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Robert P. Packard
Clearance: APU: Mr. Barten [unclear]	

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 IPS by [unclear] Date 7 27 06

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CNJ:KPMautner:mlf
May 26, 1966

AmConsul CURITIBA

Info: AmEmbassy Rio de Janeiro

Ref: Curitiba Tel 7, sent Rio UNN May 25
~~Deptel to Recife~~ ~~Repeated Rio~~

In order determine whether reported objects are part of U.S. spacecraft, acquisition of fragments and forwarding to NASA for identification and analysis urgently requested. In support of acquisition, in case of necessity, it will be recalled that UN resolution of 13 December 1963 confirms that ownership of spacecraft component parts remains with country of registry (origin).

(FYI:) Description given in Curitiba's #7 insufficient for identification.

↓ Inscription "NASA-140" is not repeat not believed to be accurate.

Please re-check. END FYI.

clear-d (in substance): MAZ, Schubert

Handwritten notes and initials on the right side of the page.

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IPS by AW/SJA Date 7-27-86

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3 2005
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7/27/86

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Classification

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LUSAKA - Immediate 83

Info: STATE 14105

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: P. [unclear]
Date: 7/21/02

Ref: Embtel 147

FYI Fragment likely to be part of Apollo probe AS 203 which launched July 5 and disintegrated same day, but positive identification only possible upon analysis. END FYI.

NASA requests Embassy make certain it can take possession of fragment if NASA ~~sees~~ sees possibility of airlifting it to US for analysis. In case of necessity UN resolution of Dec 13, 1963 may be cited which states in para 7, QUOTE the state in whose registry an object launched into outer space is carried shall retain jurisdiction and control over such object, and any personnel thereon, while in outer space. Ownership of object ~~is~~ launched into outer space, and of their component parts, is not affected by their passage through outer space or by their return to earth. Such object or component parts found

Drafted by: NASA:KFMattner

Tel. Ext. Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: S/S-O: Mr. Akins

Closure: Cleared in substance - NASA:CNJones
SCI:MSmith

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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IPS by Date 9-27-06

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Classification

[beyond the limits of the state of registry shall be returned [EI to that state, which shall furnish identifying data upon request prior to return. UNQUOTE

In case of press inquiries unclassified portion of State Cirtel 2116 of April 28 may be used.

END

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin
SCI
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ACTION: ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC AND
CONSULAR POSTS

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BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

FYI On January 29, 1964 NASA launched from Cape Kennedy
by means of a Saturn I vehicle, a dummy payload weighing approximately
87,700 pounds

The purpose of the launch was to test the Saturn I vehicle.

It is currently estimated that the re-entry will occur at
approximately 10:00 a.m. somewhere between 32°
Latitude and 32° South Latitude.

The re-entry portion of the payload consists of 18,500 pounds
of sand, used as ballast, which will disperse harmlessly. In addition
there are 2300 pounds of hardware which will re-enter. NASA
estimates the number of fragments from the re hardware as 32, ranging
from 6 to 154 pounds in weight. Of these 32 pieces, there is a
guidance package of 150 pounds, six pieces consisting of combustion
chambers and nozzles of 150 pounds each, one guidance package
weighing 104 pounds and 10 titanium spheres weighing approximately
75 pounds each.

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Declassify on: automatic and
date for review: SCI - T. H. E. Nashitt

USIA - Mr. Kaushan (questions and answers only)
P - Mr. Dillon (informant)
Mr. Meeker

USIA - Mr. [Name] (informant)

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FORM DS-322

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IPS by [Signature] Date 11/21/06

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7/31/06

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The foregoing estimate of objects which will re-enter is based on a confidence level of 95 percent and the dispersal area is 2500 x 50 Nautical Miles. As of this writing no precise area of re-entry has been determined. END ENCL.

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In the event any debris is reported as having ~~it~~ fallen from any object placed into orbit by the US all posts may use the following guidance in event of press or public inquiries:

No response other than those should be given without further reference to Department. No information should be volunteered.

If a sighting prompts a question concerning the possibility of a space fragment's endangering human life or property: This problem has been carefully studied. The possibility is quite remote. Any discussion of such an improbable incident would be heavily conjectural.

If asked about the origin of an object that has been reported to have been sighted or to have impacted: This mission (government) does not conjecture on the origin of an ~~man~~ object. We do desire to obtain, analyze and attempt through to establish the origin of such an object.

If asked about a fragment which has been recovered and delivered to US Government officials: The object will be subjected to study and a report.

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will be made to the government when analysis has been completed.

END UNCLASSIFIED

Posts are requested to notify Department immediately in event debris has been sighted or has ~~fallen into~~ fallen in territory host country.

GP-4

END.

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N14

Draft statement concerning re-entry of objects in space

Since 1957 approximately 2300 objects which have been put into space (or identified fragments thereof) have escaped earth orbit, are in orbit or have decayed.

Of these 2300 objects, approximately 1107 have decayed. 1070 have either been consumed during re-entry or have impacted on bodies of water or in uninhabited areas of the earth.

Thirty-seven fragments which impacted on the earth have been found. So far as is known none has caused personal injury or property damage.

Eighty-five per cent of the earth's surface is water or sparsely populated land.

Despite the large number of meteorites known to have impacted the earth, there is no known case of their having caused bodily injury or property damage.

It is possible that a re-entering spacecraft fragment could cause injury or damage in a freak accident but all experience is to the contrary.

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: <i>R. Peak</i>
Date: <i>7/31/06</i>

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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IPS by A. White Date 7-27-06

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Origin ACTION: Ambassador LIMA

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Total STATE: 18089

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TO Press guidance remains as stated State's 2115 of April 29, 1966

P

USIA to which may be added the following if inquiry received regard-

NSC

ing liability in the event of injury or damage caused by a

INR

CIA fragment: The US would want to obtain, analyze, and attempt

NSA

DDI to establish the origin of such a fragment. Until that was

DDP

done, the Embassy could not speculate on the matter of liability.

DDF

The US has subscribed to the principles of the UN Resolution

DDG

of December 13, 1963, concerning liability for damage caused

DDH

by objects launched into outer space.

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NASA Lit. Aug 3 20 55
Reviewer: P. [Signature]
Date: 7/31/00

Drafted by: NASA REF [Signature]

Tel. Ext. 6751

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

SGI - Col. James W. Milnes

Classified: ~~SECRET~~

ARA/EF - Miss Denton

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CORRECTED MESSAGE

NASA

GROUP 4
Downgraded at 3 year
intervals; declassified
after 10 years

1966 SEP 10 14

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: <i>11/1/00</i>

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 438

SEPTEMBER 02

SUBJECT: SPACE FRAGMENT

REF: STAGE 18060 AND 28018 AND LUSAKA 274

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld,
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 IPS by *[Signature]* Date *9 27 06*

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... FROM MFA CONFIRMING THAT
SUSPECTED SPACE FRAGMENT FELL NEAR MUSHINGASHI VILLAGE
ON JULY 9.

2. MFA SAYS FRAGMENT MEASURES 17 BY 11 FEET, IS MADE OF ALUMINUM "98 PERCENT CONTENT", AND APPEARS TOO LARGE FOR PICKUP BY ZAMBIA AIR FORCE CARIBOU UNLESS CUT INTO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 2 RUQSON 438K C O N F I D E N T I A L
PIECES.

3. MFA SAYS FRAGMENT PRESENTLY LOCATED AT MUSHINGASHI AIRSTRIP AND SUGGESTS QSG MAY WISH DECIDE WHETHER FRAGMENT "SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED BY APPRIATE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES WHO WOULD ALSO DECIDE WHICH OF THEIR AIRCRAFT COULD OPERATE FROM SAID STRIP".

4. ON BASIS FOREGOING, GOT MFA PERMISSION TO DISCUSS RECOVERY WITH DEPT CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS, WHO SUPPLIED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON MUSHINGASHI ALSO MUSINGASHI) STRIP.

A. LOCATION: 12 DEGREES 52 NINUTES SOUTH 27 DEGREES 06 MINUTES EAST, JUST WEST OF MUSHINGASHI RIVER NEAR KATATA ABOUT 25 MILES WEST OF ST. MARY'S MISSION.

B. ELEVATION: 4050 FEET "A.M.S.I."

C. CONDITION: DCA AERODROME INPSECTION REPORT OF JULY 1, 1966 REFERS TO AERODROME AS UNLICENSED. IN PAR

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C. CONDITION: DCA AERODROME INSPECTION REPORT OF JULY 1, 1966 REFERS TO AERODROME AS UNLICENSED, IN POOR CONDITION AND NOT UP TO REQUIRED STANDARD.

D. RUNWAY: 090 DEGREES/270 M - 2700 FEET BY 100 FEET OF WHICH APPROXIMATELY 2000 FEET BY 40 FEET HAS BEEN COMPACTED. GRASS PLANTED DURING RAINS HAS TAKEN ON

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PAGE 3 RUQSOH 438K C O N F I D E N T I A L

ABOUT 1500 BY 40 FEET. OVERALL STRIP AREA, 4200 FEET BY 300 FEET, STILL HAS STUMPS OF 3 TO 4 FOOT HEIGHT BETWEEN RUNWAY EDGES AND 150 FEET EITHER SIDE OF CENTER LINE.

E. OVERRUNS: 600 BY 100 FEET CLEARED AREA ON EASTERN END AND 900 BY 100 FEET CLEARED AREA ON WEST END.

F. GRADIENT: APPRECIABLE GRADIENT SLOPING DOWN TO EAST TOWARD MUSHINGASHI RIVER).

G. APPROACHES: CLEAR TO 1:50 APPROACH GRADIENT EXCEPT FOR PORTION OF FAN-OUT ON WESTERN APPROACH.

H. OTHER: WHITE CONCRETE MARKINGS TO REQUIRED STANDARD, BUT NO PARALLEL STRIPS ON THRESHOLDS. SERVICEABLE WINDSOCK ON 20 FOOT MAST WEST SIDE OF PARKING AREA WHICH IS 150 BY 120 FOOT CLEARED AREA ADJACENT TO CLINIC ON SOUTH). NO FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT. STRIP NOTAMMED AS "DANGEROUS."

" TO EARLY IN THE DAY WAS NECESSARY LAND ONLY ON VERY CENTER

60011

5. IN EARLY JULY WAS NECESSARY LAND ONLY ON VERY CENTER PART OF RUNWAY DUE TO SOFT EDGES, BUT DCA OFFICIALS FELT RUNWAY PRESENTLY LESS DANGEROUS SINCE GROUND HARD TOWARD END LONG DRY SEASON. WILL PROBABLY BE CLOSED TO

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PAGE 4 RHQSON 438K C O N F I D E N T I A L

ALL AIR MOVEMENTS AFTER RAINS BEGIN LATE OCTOBER.

6. OFFICIALS THOUGHT IT JUST POSSIBLE C-130 COULD MANAGE LANDING. AM PURSUING POSSIBILITY HAVEING LOCKHEED MERCULES PILOT IN NDOLA TAKE LOOK AT STRIP AND ADVISE. ONE OFFICIAL BELIEVED WEIGHT OF FRAGMENT MIGHT NOT BE TOO MUCH FOR LOCAL HELICOPTER IF COULD BE SLUNG SO AS NOT TO SWAY DANGEROUSLY.

7. UNIVERSITY "EXPERT" TESTED PIECE OF FRAGMENT AND FOUND IT HAD DENSITY 2.73 GRAMS PER CUBIC CM. WITH 89.9 PERCENT ALUMINUM, 0.3 PERCENT MAGNESIUM, 0.3 PERCENT MANGANESE, 1.5 PERCENT COPPER AND 8.0 PERCENT SILECONE. OF 26 CASTING ALLOYS AVAILABLE, HE FOUND ONLY "RED X-8" HAD SAME DENSITY AS FRAGMENT SAMPLE. GLUE WHICH USED TO SECURE HONEYCOMBED SECTION OF FRAGMENT FOUND TO MELT AT 200 DEGREES CENTIGRADE.

8. TOOK TWELVE MEN TO CARRY FRAGMENT THRU DIFFICULT TERRAIN TO STRIP, BUT 4 MEN COULD LIFT. SUFFICIENT LOCAL MANPOWER TO HELP LOAD.

9. PLEASE ADVISE CURRENT NASA THINKING ON BEST REMOVAL

00012

8. TOOK TWELVE MEN TO CARRY FRAGMENT THRU DIFFICULT TERRAIN TO STRIP, BUT 4 MEN COULD LIFT. SUFFICIENT LOCAL MANPOWER TO HELP LOAD.

9. PLEASE ADVISE CURRENT NASA THINKING ON BEST REMOVAL PLAN. BELIEVE WAY NOW CLEAR MAKE ARRANGEMENTS AT WORKING LEVEL.

GP-4 EDMONDSON

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BT

24 5 1964
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DRAFT
September 19, 1966

AmEmbassy LUSAKA

Reference: Lusaka 474

1. NASA only interested in fragment for technical evaluation if economically and politically feasible. Technical evaluation of this particular fragment not repeat not critical to program. Department believes high repeat high level approach at this time not repeat not warranted, but consider it important that principle of UN Resolution 1962 ^{of Dec 13, 1963 (State 14105 and} copy pouched September 15) be maintained; i.e., that ownership not affected by passage through outer space or by return to earth and that object or component parts found beyond the limits of the launching state shall be returned to that state. Request you continue patient but firm insistence that fragment be returned. ~~shall be returned to that state~~

2. FYI. NASA does not contemplate sending official for identification purposes since identity does not appear to be in dispute, but if Embassy believes NASA ~~expert~~ can be of assistance to Embassy by identifying fragment, NASA willing send one. End FYI.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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NASA Ltr. # 2005
Reviewer: <u>[signature]</u>
Date: <u>10/15/06</u>

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3. Zambian fragment part of Apollo AS-203, of which another similar fragment landed in Peru July 9, 1966. That fragment returned to US same month for analysis. FYI. If desired US willing return portion to Peru for historic and display purposes, but wishes not^{to} have this made part of a deal. End FYI.

4. FYI. Launch of Apollo AS-203 not yet registered with UN but is included in report currently being forwarded. This is normal lag between launch and registration. End FYI.

5. In discussions with officials GRZ the following additional arguments may be drawn on as appropriate:

a. Resolution 1962, known as QTE Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space UNQUOTE, was passed unanimously by the 18th General Assembly. Zambia not then an independent state, but all African members of UN at that time supported the Resolution as did US and USSR. Following are African states which became UN members after passage of resolution: Zambia, Gambia, Malawi and Kenya.

b. Twenty pound metal fragment recovered Manitowoc, Wisconsin

1962 identified as of Soviet origin and returned to USSR by US.

The small number of fragments of US origin ~~so far~~ found returned promptly by finder countries.

Concurrence: MAO/Schulherr /s/ in draft

G/Shafer _____

~~Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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N18

DRAFT-September 15, 1966

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Ambassy LUSAKA

STATE:

REF: Lusaka 474

1. NASA interested in fragment for technical evaluation only if economically and politically feasible. Technical evaluation ~~fragment~~ ^{of this particular} fragment not repeat not critical to program. Department believes high repeat high level approach ^{at this time} not repeat not warranted, ^{but} Consider it important that principle of UN Resolution 1962 (copy pouched September 15) be maintained; i.e., that ownership not affected by passage through outer space or by return to earth and that object or component parts found beyond the limits of the launching state shall be returned to that state. Request you continue patient but firm insistence that fragment be returned.

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NASA Ltr. Aug 31 2005
Reviewer: <u>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>7/27/06</u>

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- 2 -

3. Zambian fragment part of Apollo AS-203, of which another, ^{similar} fragment landed in Peru July 9th 1966. That fragment returned to US same month / ^{or} ~~US will make~~ analysis, ~~and~~ FYI. If desired ^{US} will ^{lag} return portion to Peru for historic and display purposes, *but wishes not to have this made part of a deal. END FYI*

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b. Twenty pound metal fragment recovered Manitowoc, Wisconsin 1962 identified as of Soviet origin and returned to USSR by US;

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- 3 -

[e. Fragment recovered Brazil May 1966 returned US June 7, 1966; after analysis portions being returned to Brazil for historic and display purposes; and

d. Metal sphere recovered on open sea April 1966 off coast Brazil by local fishermen returned to US June 1966. Numerous other cases of returned fragment can be cited.]

GP-4

~~The Few for~~

The small number of fragments of US origin
so far found returned ^{promptly} without fail by countries where ~~found~~
found under countries.

being checked with Meeker

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

219

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 15, 1966

Memorandum for:

AF/AFSE	Mr. Michael Hoyt
AF/AFI	Mr. Paul O'Neill
✓ NASA	Mr. Karl Mautner
L	Mr. Leonard Meeker
L/UNA	Mr. H. Rowan Gaither
G/PM	Mr. Scott George

SUBJECT: Telegram to Lusaka re Fragment

Attached is a substitute for the draft you received yesterday. May I please have your clearance.

James W. Milner
James W. Milner
Colonel, U. S. Army
Office of Outer Space Affairs

Attachment:

Draft Telegram to Lusaka

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: 7/31/06

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 With concurrence *NASA* (not) obtained
 IPS by *[Signature]* Date 7-27-06

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DRAFT - Sept. 13, 1966

CONFIDENTIAL

Amembassy LUSAKA
STATE
REF: Lusaka 474.

new draft

only
NASA ^{only} interested in fragment for technical evaluation if possible obtain with reasonable expense and effort. Technical evaluation fragment not repeat not critical. More important ^{however,} establish principles set forth in UN Resolution of December 13, 1963 (State 14105) that ownership is not affected by passage through outer space or by return to earth and that object or component parts found beyond the limits of the state of registry shall be returned to that state. Thus Department's position is one of being patient but firm in insisting that ^{not} fragment be returned or if recovery/practicable US ownership be admitted.

NASA ^{is} ~~contending~~ to send official for identification of fragment, if this helpful in making point of principle.

In discussions with officials GRZ ~~the following~~ ^{it} may be ~~mentioned that~~ drawn on as appropriate:

Twenty pound metal fragment recovered street Manitowoc, Wisconsin 1962 identified as of Soviet origin

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With concurrence 9/13/81 (not)obtained _____
IPS by A.M. [signature] Date 7 27 06

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: [signature]
Date: 7/31/06

and returned to USSR by US. ^{(The few} ^{of US origin)} ~~Other~~ fragments have been returned to US without fail by countries in which they have been found.

[2. Fragment recovered Brazil May 1966 returned US June 7, 1966; after analysis portions being returned to Brazil for historic and display purposes;

3. Metal sphere recovered on open sea April 1966 off coast Brazil by local fishermen returned to US June 1966; and

4. Fragment recovered Peru July 9, 1966 tentatively identified from same vehicle as Zambia fragment returned US July 1966. Numerous other cases of returned fragments can be cited.]

FYI. Apollo AS-203, of which Zambian fragment most likely a part, not yet registered with UN but is included in report currently being forwarded (This is normal lag between launch and registration). ~~However~~ ~~launching was reported to COSPAR~~ END FYI.
GP-4

SCI:JWMilner:vml
September 13, 1966

N21

DRAFT-September 15, 1966

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Ambassy LUSAKA

STATE:

REF: Lusaka 474

1. NASA interested in fragment for technical evaluation only if economically and politically feasible. Technical evaluation ^{Zambia in this instance} fragment ^{not repeat} not critical to program. Department believes high repeat high level approach not ^{at this time, but} repeat not warranted. Consider it important that principle of UN Resolution 1962 (copy pouched September 15) be maintained; i.e., that ownership not effected by passage through outer space or by return to earth and that object or component parts found beyond the limits of the launching state shall be returned to that state. Request you continue patient but firm insistence that fragment be returned.

2. FYI NASA does not contemplate sending official for identification purposes since identity does not appear to be in dispute. ^{but, p} If Embassy believes NASA expert can be of assistance to Embassy by identifying fragment, NASA willing send one. END FYI.

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: 7/31/04

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With concurrence NASA (not)obtained

IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

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- 2 -

3. Zambian fragment part of Apollo AS-203, of which another, ^{similar} fragment landed in Peru July 9, 1966. That fragment returned to US same month / ~~US will make~~ analysis, ~~and FYI~~. If desired ^{US} will ^{leg} return portion to Peru for historic and display purposes, *but wishes not to have this made part of a deal. END FYI*

4. ^{FYI} Launch of Apollo AS-203 not yet registered with UN but is included in report currently being forwarded. This is normal lag between launch and registration. *END FYI*

5. In discussions with officials GRZ the following additional arguments may be drawn on as appropriate:

a. Resolution 1962, known as QTE Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space UNQUOTE, was passed unanimously by the 18th General Assembly. Zambia not then an independent state, but all African members of UN at that time supported the Resolution as did US and USSR. Following are African states which became UN members after passage of resolution: Zambia, Gambia, Malawi and Kenya.

b. Twenty pound metal fragment recovered Manitowoc, Wisconsin 1962 identified as of Soviet origin and returned to USSR by US;

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CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

[c. Fragment recovered Brazil May 1966 returned US June 7, 1966; after analysis portions being returned to Brazil for historic and display purposes; and

d. Metal sphere recovered on open sea April 1966 off coast Brazil by local fishermen returned to US June 1966. Numerous other cases of returned fragment can be cited.]

GE-4

~~The following~~

The small number of fragments of US origin so far found returned without fault by countries where they found ~~finder~~ ^{promptly} countries.

being checked with Meeker

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1966
SEP 12 10 00 AM '66
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NASA Ltr. Aug 9, 2005
Reviewer: <i>PKH</i>
Date: <i>7/31/02</i>

KFMautner:mif
Sept. 26, 1966

*Given Col. Mike
9/26/66*

AmEmbassy LUSAKA

Reference: Lusaka 474

*Received OK
from Mr. Hausman
9/28*

1. NASA regards technical evaluation of this particular fragment as not repeat not critical to program; therefore, is (only) interested in obtaining fragments if this can be accomplished economically and without political difficulties. Department believes high repeat high level approach at this time not repeat not warranted, but considers it important that principle of UN Resolution 1962 of December 13, 1963 (State 14105 and copy pouched September 15) be maintained; i.e., that ownership not affected by passage through outer space or by return to earth and that object or component parts found beyond the limits of the launching state shall be returned to that state. Request you continue patient but firm insistence that fragment be returned.

FYI. Definite identification of fragment cannot be made without personal inspection and, possibly, analysis but, based on information provided by Embassy, there is strong presumption that fragment is from U.S. space vehicle. Accordingly, NASA does not contemplate sending official for

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 IPS by A. M. [Signature] Date 7 27 06

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identification purposes. However, if Embassy believes NASA expert can be of assistance to Embassy by identifying fragment, NASA willing send one. If U.S. ownership acknowledged by GOZ, NASA prepared endeavor to retrieve fragment. End FYI.

2. Zambian fragment believed part of Apollo AS-203. Similar fragment from same vehicle landed in Peru July 9, 1966. That fragment returned to U.S. same month for analysis. FYI. If desired, U.S. willing return portion to Zambia for historic and display purposes, but wishes not to have this made part of a deal. End FYI.

3. FYI. Launch of Apollo AS-203 not yet registered with UN but is included in report currently being forwarded. This is normal lag between launch and registration. End FYI.

4. In discussions with officials GRZ, the following additional arguments may be drawn on as appropriate:

a. Resolution 1962, known as QTE Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space UNQTE, was passed unanimously by the 18th General Assembly. Zambia not then an independent state, but all African members of UN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3

at that time supported the Resolution as did U.S. and USSR. Following are African states which became UN members after passage of resolution: Zambia, Gambia, Malawi, and Kenya.

b. Twenty-pound metal fragment recovered Manitowoc, Wisconsin 1962 identified as of Soviet origin and returned to USSR by US.

c/ Any fragments of US origin reported found have been returned by finder countries.

Clearance: MAO/Schulherr (in draft attached)

G/Shafer (in draft attached 9/19)

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00028

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. April 3, 2005
Reviewer: <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: 7/31/06

L. O. U.

N23

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 IPS by *[Signature]* Date *9 27 06*

From: AmEmbassy LUSAKA

Embassy has note from MFA dated September 20 which:

- a. Says fragment has been identified by competent Zambian authorities as being of American origin.
- b. Confirms that "fragment is available for study by appropriate American authorities but may not be removed from Zambia for such examination.
- c. Express "deep concern over this incident which, but fortuitous well absence of property and people on place of incidence could/have caused extensive damage"

Embassy will await Department instructions before making formal reply. Intend discuss matter at appointment next ^{week} with regular MFA permanent secretary who has just returned ~~z~~ after long absence from Ministry. and will hopefully be more amenable to logical persuasion than his other officials have been.

Will give him copy UNGA resolution 1962 provided by Department.



INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

*CM -
SBB?
letters?*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

N24

33
Action
SCI

Info

FE
INR
CIA
NSA
NASA
RMR

Control: 15703
Rec'd: February 24, 1964
7:13 a.m.

FROM: Canberra

ACTION: Secstate 639

DATE: February 24, 4 p.m.

Pressure Vessels for NASA

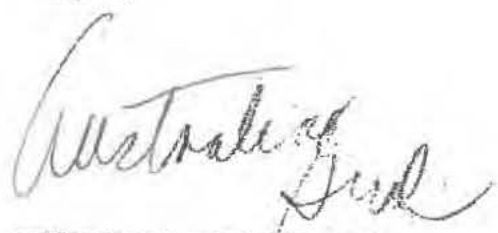
DEPTEL 369, EMBTEL 403

Department of Supply has succeeded in obtaining other pressure vessel from rancher who found it, and has given it to Embassy. Vessel, which is intact, being forwarded to Department by unaccompanied air pouch, addressed inside to addressee DEPTEL 369. Vessel is in condition in which it was found, except for removal of one bolt and several new looking scratches made by metallurgist at Broken Hill.

It was given voluntarily to US by Keith McKinnon, rancher who discovered it. McKinnon has asked (1) for any information available regarding its origin and history and (2) if half of object can be returned to him as souvenir when US has completed analysis. Ambassador has written thank you notes to McKinnon (address Mr. Sturt, via Milparinka, New South Wales) and to Minister for supply Fairhall for his cooperation in turning over both halves of original vessel and securing second one. Recommend appropriate NASA official also write letters of appreciation to McKinnon and Fairhall.

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IPS by J. Mc Date 7 27 06

BATTLE



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NASA Ltr. Aug 9, 2005
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7/3/06

00030

AIRGRAM

F 16 AT A 7
FOR PM USE ONLY
Code: 1140
HANDLING INDICATOR
Alternately
CJm

A-47
NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

TO : Department of State

INFO : American Embassy RIO DE JANEIRO

DATE OF DISTRIBUTION

N25

FROM : American Consulate BELÉM

DATE: 20 March 1964

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object Falls in State of Acre

REF :

The Belém newspaper, O LIBERAL, has carried large-scale coverage of the arrival in Belém of a supposed "satellite" that fell to earth some time in the second week of March in the area of Tarauaca, north-central part of the State of Acre. According to the rubber gatherer who witnessed the descent of the "satellite", it fell at a reduced speed with a slight spiral spin. He went on to note that flames could be seen coming from two ends of the object as it came down. The following day, when he retrieved the object, it lay in a burned area.

On March 18, 1964, the local reporter for O LIBERAL turned the "satellite" over to Brigadeiro Armando Menezes, Commander of the Belém-headquartered First Air Zone. At the invitation of Brigadeiro Menezes, representatives of the Consulate were permitted to view the "satellite". The object is a hollow sphere, 52 inches in circumference and weighs some eleven kilos. The sphere was constructed by welding together two hemispheres, the weld being an obvious marking on the surface of the object. The outer skin of the "satellite" has undergone considerable exposure or burning but the signs of an earlier over-painting can still be seen; one half painted a uniform dark color while the other half of the sphere is divided between eight conical (pie) slices of alternating dark and lighter color. The sphere has two stems with threaded openings on opposite sides, for clockwise nut tightening. One part appears to have been heat fused onto its stem. In other respects the "satellite" is in unusually good condition (almost without dents) for an object that "fell to earth".

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FORM DS-323

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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Date

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9ASA (not obtained)
Date 7-27-86
atch 4

Assistant Director (Astronautics)

Page 1-47
from Balen dated
20 March 1964

Brigadeiro Menezes proposes to send the "satellite" to the office of the Chief of Staff of the Brazilian Air Force in Rio de Janeiro for further investigation. The Brigadeiro is somewhat doubtful that the sphere even was part of a "satellite", but, like the Consulate representatives, at an equal loss to state what it is. One hypothesis is that it is a fuel tank of some type.

There are attached the following pictures of the object:

- ✓ 1. The "satellite"
- ✓ 2. Close up of fused stem
- ✓ 3. Brig. Menezes pointing to fused stem.

Clippings from the newspaper O LIBERAL are also attached.

Lyman Bloom
Lyman Bloom
American Consul

Enclosures: Photos: 6 copies each for the Department
1 copy each for the Embassy

CLIPPINGS: 6 copies each for the Department
1 copy each for the Embassy

CC: Minister Mein, American Embassy, Rio de Janeiro
Science Attache, American Embassy, Rio (with enclosures)
Air Attache, American Embassy, Rio (with enclosures)

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Sincerely

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Air

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 IPS by S. G. H. E. Date 7 27 06

DECLASSIFIED
 NASA Ltr. Aug 31 2005
 Reviewer: [Signature]
 Date: 7 5 06

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

SCI 30

1-1 SAUD-US

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NEA-10

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TR	XMB	AIR
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OSD	USIA	NSA
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VSF	NASA	SMI
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A-57
NO.

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1965 OCT 27 3 32
HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : JIDDA

RM/AN
ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
BRANCH

FROM : Amconsul DHAHRAN

DATE: October 27, 1965

SUBJECT: Aramco Recovers Two al-Hadidah Meteorites

REF : A. Department's Telegram 88, October 13, 1965; B. Congen Telegram
 NEA 105 to Department; C. Department's Telegram 94; D. Congen Telegram
 111 to Department
 LNEA

During his extended stay in Saudi Arabia earlier this year to prepare an illustrated article on the Kingdom for the National Geographic Magazine, Mr. Thomas J. ABERCROMBIE was taken to the well-known al-Hadidah craters (50° 28' E 21° 30' N) in the Rub al-Khali by an Aramco bedouin guide. Mr. Abercrombie viewed and photographed a large meteorite near the crater, estimating its weight at two tons.

Upon returning to Washington, Mr. Abercrombie discussed the meteorite with the Smithsonian Institution, which expressed an interest in recovering it for study and analysis (Reference A). Stimulated by messages between Mr. Abercrombie and Aramco President Mr. Thomas C. BARGER, Aramco sent a team to al-Hadidah crater to recover the meteorite, using heavy equipment already available at a seismographic field camp north of Ubaylah. The team recovered not only the large meteorite seen by Mr. Abercrombie but also a smaller one 200 yards farther south.

Both meteorites were trucked to Dhahran and have since been found to weigh 4,800 pounds and 470 pounds respectively. The larger one was estimated by the team in al-Hadidah to weigh 1,100 pounds (Reference B), but Mr. Abercrombie's estimate proved to be much closer. Both meteorites are of the iron family and have a high specific gravity. Enclosure No. 1 gives extracts from an Aramco report on the team's visit to al-Hadidah and on the preliminary examination of the meteorites.

Enclosure:

(1) Excerpts from Aramco Report on al-Hadidah Meteorites

Decontrol following October 27, 1966

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In Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by:

CCHeld, mtd

10/27/65

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearances:

WUC03

1965 OCT 29 PM 9 20

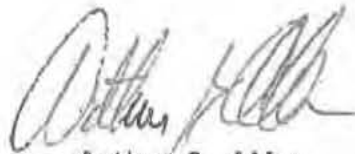
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On October 27, Aramco suggested that appropriate efforts be made to obtain SAG approval for sending the smaller of the meteorites to the Smithsonian for study, in the thought that the smaller would serve the Smithsonian's purpose, that SAG would more readily agree to export of the smaller if the larger were retained for exhibit in the Kingdom, and that shipping costs would be lower for the smaller. The company instructed its representatives in Jidda and Washington to make appropriate contacts to pass its suggestion to the agencies concerned. The company also stated that it is willing to crate and arrange shipment of either meteorite, although costs of shipment from Dammam to Washington cannot be borne by Aramco. As was mentioned in Reference C, the company suggested that Embassy Jidda brief Minister of Petroleum Zaki Yamani on the matter, since SAG will undoubtedly rely on his advice and judgment regarding export of the meteorite to the United States.

Comment: Aramco geologists and other researchers had long wanted an excuse to do something about the al-Hadidah meteorites, and company officials jumped at an excuse to effect recovery of the two relatively easily retrievable ones. Aramco presumed that it would be called upon to supply the equipment and geographic expertise in any event, and it moved rapidly to bring in the meteorites once there was stimulus to do so. The company did not view with enthusiasm Mr. Abercrombie's receiving acclaim for the "discovery" of an object that had long been of interest to Aramco and that it would undoubtedly do the work of recovering anyway. The company desires that its action not be made known in general until SAG has been informed of the whole project.



Arthur B. Allen
American Consul General

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NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 1905
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7/5/66

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Enclosure 1
A-57 from Dhahran

EXCERPTS FROM ARAMCO REPORT ON AL-HADI'DAH METEORITES

....The rim of the main crater was quite distinct, its outline marked with white rock and black fused silica; although a northern sector had been drifted over with sand. The crater appears much deeper from the ground than it does from the air; we estimated it to be 25 feet deep....

....The meteorite, which appeared to be nearly pure iron with a thin, dark brown oxide crust, was in the form of a shallow cone. The pitted but roughly level top surface was about three and one-half feet in diameter. As viewed from the side, the iron tapers to a smooth, blunted point. The depth of the cone was about 18-24 inches. The meteorite is obviously of the "oriented" type. The blunt point of the cone, or "head", was downward, and the iron was immersed in drift sand nearly to the top flat surface. There was some fused silica in the vicinity of the iron, but none apparently immediately beneath it or in contact with it. The piece was photographed in place and then turned over with the bulldozer and lifted onto the trailer with the Kenworth A-frame. Its weight was later determined to be about 4,500 pounds, (sic: 4,800 pounds).

That evening Tahir, the Kenworth driver, discovered another, apparently unoriented, meteorite southeast of the first location. This was smaller, weighing 470 pounds, and more deeply oxidized. There was no fused sand near it. This was also photographed and loaded onto the trailer.

Hadban, our guide, told us that he and his fellow tribesmen knew of five pieces of iron in all. Two we had found; but there were three more, he said. These meteorites are said to be uncovered at different times as the low dunes move over them. Hadban showed us two locations, now covered with dunes; where he had seen irons of about the same size as those we had already found. Another, much larger, he had heard of but had not seen himself. He had heard his friends describe the location and showed us where it is supposed to lie.

The following is a list of the locations of the two recovered meteorites and approximate locations of the three others as pointed out by Hadban. All azimuths are magnetic; they and the distances are measured from the triangulation station on the main crater rim.

1. To meteorite found by Abercrombie: azimuth 196° ; distance 383 meters
2. To meteorite found by Tahir: azimuth 176° ; distance 575 meters
3. To reported meteorite under dune: azimuth approx. 270° ; approx. distance 700 meters
4. To reported meteorite under dune: azimuth approx. 337° ; approx. distance 900 meters

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Enclosure 1
A-57 from Dhahran

5. To reported buried meteorite ("very large"): approx. azimuth 36° ; distance 1,500 meters

There are at least four craters at al-Hadidah in addition to the deep main crater. These lie northwest of the main crater approximately in the locations reported by Philby (The Empty Quarter, 1933; opp. p. 180). These are filled with sand but are clearly distinguishable on the ground by the scattering of black fused silica around their rim lines. One of these craters appears to have a diameter greater than that of the main crater. Low level vertical aerial photography of the area would greatly simplify mapping these other craters and might well disclose others nearby.....

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TO NASA HQS WASH DC
NASA

N27

BT
UNCLAS ATTN ABERNETHY/BROCKETT

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM SAHER-NUNN STATION ARGENTINA. QUOTE
THE CORDOBA PAPER CARRIED A REPORT OF AN OBJECT THAT FELL
NEAR MENDOZA ON JANUARY 14. FROM THAT PHOTO IT LOOKS LIKE
PART OF A ROCKET CASING. THE OBJECT MEASURES 4 METERS 50 LONG
1 METER 20 IN DIAMETER AND APPROXIMATELY 70 KILOS WEIGHT.
PRINTED ON THE CASING ARE THE LETTERS NASA 1003. THE OBJECT
HAS APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND HOLES OF ONE CENTIMETER DIA.
AND SHOWS EXTREME HEAT TREATMENT.

*They say
this material*

NEW SUBJECT. A METAL SPHERE REPORTED FELL NEAR CORDOBA ON
DECEMBER 27 AT 1900Z. MEASUREMENTS ARE 82 CENTIMETERS IN
DIAMETER AND APPROXIMATELY 83 KILOS WEIGHT. DIAMETRICALLY
PROTRUDING FROM THE SPHERE ARE TWO SETS OF THREADS THAT ARE
NOT METRIC. THE OBJECT CARRIED NO INSCRIPTION BUT SHOWS
EXTREME HEAT TREATMENT AND THE GROUND WAS BURIED AROUND THE
OBJECT. WELD MARKS ARE VISIBLE.

THE OBJECTS ARE REPORTED AT THE CORDOBA AERONAUTICAL INST.
FOR SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS. WE ARE CHECKING THE REPORTS
AND WILL KEEP YOU POSTED. UNQUOTE
BT

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With concurrence NASA (not)obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 1-27-06

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20 MAR 15 2002
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AIRGRAM

SP 16

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ARMY	CIA	NAVY
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		3
		NASA
		4

Original to be Filed in _____ Decentralized Files.

FILE DESIGNATION

A-9 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Amembassy OSLO.

FROM : Department of State

SUBJECT : American Space Fragment

REF : A-764, June 24, 1965

Frank
DATE: JUL 20 1 29 PM '65

NASA wishes to obtain the remainder of the metal fragment referred to in the Embassy's A-764 for purposes of analysis and evaluation.

The Embassy should forward the fragment as promptly as possible to Mr Leo X. Abernethy, NASA Headquarters, 600 Independence Avenue, Code MAO, Washington, D. C 20546, informing the Fonoff in low key beforehand.

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: <i>N. Smith</i>
Date: <i>7/21/06</i>

RUSK

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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 With concurrence NASA
 IPS by *A. Smith* Date 7 27 06

Abernethy
Smith

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In Out

FORM 5-62 DS-323

Drafted by: NASA/DUpton/SCI:MS Smith by

Drafting Date: 7/20/65

Contents and Classification Approved by: SCI - Robert R. Packard

Clearances: W0008 *Smith* EUR/BNA - Mr. Tucker

1965 JUL 20 PM 4 07

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REG/W ACTION

sci-4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

SP 16 N29

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M/R REP AF

RA EUR FE

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A-764
NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

() Release () Ext. Use () Daily () Declassify

Exemption (b)(7), E.O. 12958, 25x (X) (X)

() Declassify after

With concurrence YASA (not) obtained

IPS by [Signature] Date 7-27-06

ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy OSLO

DATE: June 24, 1965

SUBJECT : Transmitting Piece of Light Metal which is Possibly from
an American Space Craft

REF

The Embassy has received a letter from Oivind HOLST, Kirkenes, enclosing a piece of light metal which he said was found during Easter 1964 in the ice over the Ropelb Lake in South Varanger. The area is in the far north of Norway and only a few kilometers from the Soviet border.

Mr. Holst said that the following label appeared on a section of the metal:

H. J. Thompson Fiberglass Company
Los Angeles, California
125 H. - 24068-9.
LMSD 1461655 - 9 G.

The metal was melted at the edges and contained strong anneal colors. Mr. Holst submitted the metal on the thought that it might be from an American space craft, considering the remote place where it was found.

Mr. Holst is retaining the rest of the metal sheet in the event there will be need of it.

Enclosure: AT 7
Metal described above.

[Signature]
for Margaret Joy Tibbetts
Ambassador

UNCLASSIFIED

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In Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

JTKendrick:eva

6/17/65

Contents and Classification approved by:

JABovey, Jr

Clearance:

NWolsson

1965 JUN 25 PM 12 09

COPY TO - FDR

40009

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

SP 16

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IMY	CIA	NAVY
SO	URIA	NSA

1000

A-13
NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1965 JUL 28 AM 7 34

ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
BRANCH

Gray

DATE: July 22, 1965

FROM : Amconsul SUVA

SUBJECT : Unidentified Object Explodes in sea off New Hebrides

REF :

The following item from the British Newsletter of the New Hebrides Anglo-French Condominium of June 30, 1965, is quoted in its entirety:

"Ten people in the Lolton area, North Pentecost report having seen an unidentifiable flying object fall into the sea and explode. It is described as comprising two cylinders joined together and trailing smoke. The object, about the size of a small plane, was travelling at high speed and exploded on hitting the water. Other people who did not see the object claim to have heard the explosion."

George O Gray
George O. Gray
American Consul

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify

Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

(X) Declassify after

With concurrence NASA (not)obtained

IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 66

W.N. Lab...

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

Traced by: T Hill:dw 7/21/65

Contents and Classification Approved by:

G O Gray

References:

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1965 JUL 20 PM 2 21

COPYFLO-PDR

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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UNCLASSIFIED

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Action
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Info
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VV EUA452UEB359
RR RUEHC
DE RULPBO 020 1822056
ZNR UUUUU
R 012055Z
FM AMCONSULATE COCHABAMBA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC (ONE)
INFO/ZEN AMEMBASSY LAPAZ ONE.
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS JULY 1.

1965 JUL 1 PM 5 15

OBJECT BELIEVED TO BE BATTERY OPERATED WEATHER BALLOON TRANSMITTER FOUND NEAR COCHABAMBA LOCATION 17 DEGREES SOUTH, 60-6 DEGREES 40 MINUTES WEST. WHITE PLASTIC CASE BEARS LEGEND "TRANSMITTER RADIOSONDE TRANSMITTER T-435/AMI4B" AND CARRIES SERIAL NUMBER 54241. MANUFACTURER IS AUTOMATIC MANUFACTURING DIVISION OF GENERAL INSTRUMENT CORP. AUTOMATIC MODULATOR BEARS SERIAL NUMBER 32973, AND BAROMETER PART CARRIES NUMBER 38015.

UNIT NOW IN POSSESSION OF LOCAL DEPARTMENTAL PREFECT. PLEASE ADVISE IF ADVISABLE SECURE TRANSMITTER UNIT AND SENT TO APPROPRIATE USG ADDRESSEE. MCVICKAR
BT

Turgon says MGC has interest

SM

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x(X)
() Declassify after
With concurrence *PLASH* (not) obtained
IPS by *A M. [signature]* Date *7 27 06*

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W32

SCI-4

AIRGRAM

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FILE DESIGNATION

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OSD	USA	NSA
25	4	3
	AEV	WASH
	3	4

Original to be Filed in _____ Decentralized Files.

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NO. _____ HANDLING INDICATOR _____

TO : Amembassy BUENOS AIRES

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

() Declassify after _____

With concurrence WASH (not) obtained _____

FROM : Department IPS by ate A Witz Date 7-27-06

SUBJECT : Recovery of Space Vehicle Fragments

REF : Embassy's A-800, March 6, 1965 and Previous

Fragments

JUN 15 12 04 PM '65

The Department has been informed by Dr. Frederick Brown, currently here on consultation, that the Argentine Foreign Office by formal note has rebuffed the Embassy's efforts, extending over the past several months, to acquire the presumably American space vehicle fragments for analysis in the United States. It is requested that copies of the note and of any other correspondence pertinent thereto be forwarded to the Department.

In the meantime, for the Embassy's guidance in informal contacts with Argentine authorities, there is enclosed a copy of U. N. General Assembly Resolution 1962 (XVIII), which was unanimously adopted (Argentine voting for adoption) at the UNGA meeting of December 13, 1963. The key portion for purposes of the matter at hand is found in paragraph 7, as follows:

"Ownership of objects launched into outer space, and of their component parts, is not affected by their passage through outer space or by their return to the earth. Such objects or component parts found beyond the limits of the State of registry shall be returned to that State, which shall furnish identifying data upon request prior to return."

Ambassador Stevenson, in addressing UNGA's Committee No. I prior to plenary action, stressed the USG's belief that the principles enunciated in the draft resolution reflected "international law as it is accepted by the members of the United Nations".

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug. 3, 2005
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 12/1/80

1965 JUN 15 PM 2 27

COPYFLO-FBR

*DEA
AUF
Account*

(2)

FORM 4-62 DS-323

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY
 In Our

Drafted by: SCI:MFSmith:by Drafting Date: 6/14/65 Contents and Classification Approved by: SCI - Robert F. Peckard

Clearances: ARA/APU - Mr. Bartch L - Mr. Reis
IO/UNP - Mr. Eisendrath

40012

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-3-

of the U. N. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in drafting the agreement. For this reason, we are confident that Argentina would not wish to violate the spirit of Resolution 1962 (XVIII) -- for which it and all other members of the U. N. voted -- while the work of the Subcommittee is proceeding.

Further instructions will be drafted when the above-requested correspondence is received.

Enclosure:

RUSK

Copy of UNGA Resolution
1962 (XVIII)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

00013

GROUP B
Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 05-08-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

DE 6940 A13 55/15132

ZAK

P 291512Z

FM JAO CAMBRIDGE MASS

TO NSASAHQ WASHDC

MASS

BT

UNCLAS TO NSASAHQ/PROSPECT

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM BARRACROSS STATION ARGENTINA 3001Z

WE HAVE INVESTIGATED THESE OBJECTS AND WITH APPEAR TO BE FUEL TANKS

FROM A SOURCE. THE SPEAKER HAS CONNECTIONS THAT MATCH THOSE OF THE

CYLINDERS. THE SPEAKER HAS A CAPACITY OF 300 LITERS BEHIND 80 KILOS

AND IS BRITISH IN ORIGIN. ALL INFORMATION IS 601 MILLIMETERS.

THE MATERIAL IS SET PLACED TITANIC WITH NICKEL COATING AND OBJECTS.

THE CYLINDERS ALONGS 141 KILOS TO 4.19 METERS LONG AND 1.20 METERS

DIAMETER. THE CYLINDERS COMES TO AN OPENING ON TOP WITH CONNECTIONS TO

MATCH THE SPEAKER. THERE ARE MANY PROBABILITIES OF AVOIDING THE

PAGE 2 6940 A13 UNCLAS

CYLINDERS HAS A FIN ON EACH SIDE ALMOST THE LENGTH AND ABOUT 10CM

WIDE. THE CYLINDERS SHOWS HEAT DISCOLORATION ON TOP AND THE

OBJECTS WERE NOT SEVERELY DAMAGED ON IMPACT.

THE BARRACROSS ADDITIONAL INSTILLING FOR SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS ARE

IN POSSESSION OF THESE OBJECTS AND WOULD NOT GIVE OUT ANY

PRELIMINARY DATA OR ALLOW PHOTOS. THIS INFO IS GAINED FROM TALKING

UNOFFICIALLY. IT WOULD NOT APPEAR THAT WE CAN GAIN PERMISSION OF

THESE OBJECTS UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY JASA WITHIN THROUGH THE

APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OR THE ARGENTINE SPECIAL COMMISSION. THEY SAY

THAT JASA HAS BEEN NOTIFIED. ABOUT YOUR UNOFFICIALLY CONTACT

RE: INFORMATION TO BEAL PROCEEDING ON AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT TO

GOVERNMENT ASSIST. UNUSUAL

BT

N33

Best Copy Available

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
 () Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
 Exemption (b)() , E.O. 12958, 25x() X ()
 () Declassify after
 With concurrence of 9/15/81
 IPS by AM/1 Date 9 27 06 (not) obtained

N34

SP4 X252

FP NASAHQ

DE GS40 222 21/1619Z

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P 211618Z

FM S40 CAMBRIDGE MASS

TO NASA HQS WASH DC

NASA

BT

UNCLAS ATTN ABERNETHY/BROCKETT

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM BAKER-NUNN STATION ARGENTINA QUOTE

WE HAVE AT THE STATION WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE FINAL BOOSTER

STAGE OF A ROCKET. THE OBJECT IS 62 CM LONG/BASE DIAMETER IS

56 CM/DIAMETER AT INTERSECTION OF CONES IS 25CM/THE TOP

DIAMETER IS 34CM/AND FROM BASE TO INTERSECTION OF CONES IS 25CM./

OBJECT APPEARS TO BE COMPOSED OF LAMINATED RESIN IMPREGNATED

FIBERGLASS APPROX THICKNESS OF WALL IS 3CM. INTERNAL WALL

SHOWS SEVERE BURNING FROM BELIEVED DUE TO PROPELLANT. EXTERNAL

WALL IN GOOD CONDITION AND SHOWS LITTLE DAMAGE FROM IMPACT.

ALSO RECOVERED WITH OBJECT ARE PIECES OF FIREWALL WHICH APPEARS

TO BE MADE OF SOME FORM OF IMPREGNATED FIBERGLASS APPROX

5MM THICKNESS. FIREWALL EXTERNALLY IS CHARRED AND SHOWS IMPRINT

OF BIRD AND SPLATTERING OF MELTED METAL. ACCORDING TO WITNESSES

THE OBJECT IMPACTED APPROXIMATELY 1800Z TO 1900Z ON 23 DECEMBER.

BAD WEATHER DID NOT PERMIT INVESTIGATION OF IMPACT SITE IN

SEARCH FOR OTHER PIECES BUT THIS IS PLANNED LATER. IMPACT

SITE IS APPROXIMATELY 50 KILOMETERS SOUTH SOUTH EAST OF

MAB

TN

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir
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With concurrence PLASA (not)obtained
IPS by PLASA Date 7 27 06

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N35

Fragment

SPA X243

MFD

PP 34540

DE 0940 011 21/1433Z

ZNY

P 211430Z

FM 340 CAMBRIDGE MASS

TO WASA HQS WASH DC

WASA

BT

UNCLAS ATTN ABERNETHY/BROCKETT

REF NY 18/1500Z HERE IS FURTHER INFO RECEIVED FROM

BALDWIN STATION ARGENTINA QUOTE

WE HAVE FURTHER REPORT OF OTHER SECTION OF POSSIBLE SPACE MATERIAL.

WE NOW HAVE IN OUR HANDS TWO PIECES OF MATERIAL WHICH APPEARS TO

BE OF INSULATING QUALITY. THESE PIECES ARE PARTIALLY BURNED AND IT

HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT THE OBJECT FROM WHICH THEY CAME IS 30 CM

LENGTH. WE INTEND TO PICK UP OBJECT IN THE MORNING FOR INSPECTION

UNQUOTE

BT

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify

Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

() Declassify after

With concurrence DHA (not) obtained

IPS by A. M. S. G. Date 7-27-06

EXCERPTS FROM ARAMCO REPORT ON AI-HADI'DAH METEORITES

N36

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. No. 3 2005
Reviewer: N. W. M.
Date: 3/16/66

....The rim of the main crater was quite distinct, its outline marked with white rock and black fused silica; although a northern sector had been drifted over with sand. The crater appears much deeper from the ground than it does from the air; we estimated it to be 25 feet deep....

....The meteorite, which appeared to be nearly pure iron with a thin, dark brown oxide crust, was in the form of a shallow cone. The pitted but roughly level top surface was about three and one-half feet in diameter. As viewed from the side, the iron tapers to a smooth, blunted point. The depth of the cone was about 18-24 inches. The meteorite is obviously of the "oriented" type. The blunt point of the cone, or "head", was downward, and the iron was immersed in drift sand nearly to the top flat surface. There was some fused silica in the vicinity of the iron, but none apparently immediately beneath it or in contact with it. The piece was photographed in place and then turned over with the bulldozer and lifted onto the trailer with the Kenworth A-frame. Its weight was later determined to be about 4,500 pounds, (sic: 4,800 pounds).

That evening Tahir, the Kenworth driver, discovered another, apparently unoriented, meteorite southeast of the first location. This was smaller, weighing 470 pounds, and more deeply oxidized. There was no fused sand near it. This was also photographed and loaded onto the trailer.

Hadban, our guide, told us that he and his fellow tribesmen knew of five pieces of iron in all. Two we had found; but there were three more, he said. These meteorites are said to be uncovered at different times as the low dunes move over them. Hadban showed us two locations, now covered with dunes, where he had seen irons of about the same size as those we had already found. Another, much larger, he had heard of but had not seen himself. He had heard his friends describe the location and showed us where it is supposed to lie.

The following is a list of the locations of the two recovered meteorites and approximate locations of the three others as pointed out by Hadban. All azimuths are magnetic; they and the distances are measured from the triangulation station on the main crater rim.

1. To meteorite found by Abercrombie: azimuth 196°; distance 383 meters
2. To meteorite found by Tahir: azimuth 176°; distance 575 meters
3. To reported meteorite under dune: azimuth approx. 270°; approx. distance 700 meters
4. To reported meteorite under dune: azimuth approx. 337°; approx. distance 900 meters

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret R. Grafe/d, Dir.
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 A) Declassify after

With concurrence of *MAA*
 IPS by *A. M. ...* (initials)
 Date *2/1/66*

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Enclosure 1
A-57 from Dhahran

5. To reported buried meteorite ("very large"): approx. azimuth 36° ; distance 1,500 meters

There are at least four craters at al-Hadidah in addition to the deep main crater. These lie northwest of the main crater approximately in the locations reported by Philby (The Empty Quarter, 1933; opp. p. 180). These are filled with sand but are clearly distinguishable on the ground by the scattering of black fused silica around their rim lines. One of these craters appears to have a diameter greater than that of the main crater. Low level vertical aerial photography of the area would greatly simplify mapping these other craters and might well disclose others nearby.....

NOV 1 4 12 PM '65
NASA
A.I.

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 With concurrence WAGA (not)obtained _____
 IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

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This Other

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 Deputy _____
 IO _____
 Op. S. KFM _____
 Coop. _____
 PIO _____
 Per. Ex. _____
 Exec. _____
 ID# _____

Action _____
 Info _____
 Tickle _____
 File Fragment _____
 X _____
 External Routing _____

KFM
 Pls obtain previous
 and return all one.
 enj

Date 8/18/65

I have attached
 Previous/m. 12

Turgeon (8/23/65):
 part of AF Agenda.
 no other data.
 Prefers not tell Norwegians
 unless they ask, will let us
 know if more info available.
 KFM.

Told M. Smith
 about this. Agrees we
 ought to keep it to our selves.
 KFM.
 Date _____

AIRGRAM

SP 16 45

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N38

A-100
NO.

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

183 AUG 13 11 45

RECEIVED
ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy OSLO

DATE: August 12, 1965

SUBJECT : American Space Fragment

REF : Embassy's A-764, June 24, 1965; Department's A-9, July 20, 1965.

Attached for forwarding to NASA is the remainder of the metal fragment found by Mr. Øivind Holst on Ropelo Lake in South Varanger, North Norway.

The Embassy has not informed officials in the Foreign Office about the metal fragment and would prefer not to discuss it with them unless we are able to supply some indication as to the reasons for NASA's interest in the metal.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

() Release () Exempt () Deny () Declassify

Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x(X) ()

() Declassify after

With concurrence NASA (not)obtained

IPS by A. M. [unclear] Date 7 27 66

Margaret Joy Tibbetts
Margaret Joy Tibbetts
Ambassador

Attachment: Package addressed to:
Mr. Leo X. Abernethy,
NASA Headquarters,
600 Independence Avenue,
Code MAO
Washington, D.C. 20546

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

8/10/65

In Out

Drafted by:

PC:WHMansfield:mvs

Contents and Classification Approved by:

JABovay, Jr.

Clearance:

DECLASSIFIED
NASA LIE AUG 11 2005
Reviewer: N. J. [unclear]
Date: 7/21/00

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1.0 AUG 15 PM 4 24

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IPS by [Signature] Date 9 27 06

DRAFT
12/21

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 23, 2005
Reviewer: <u>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>7/31/07</u>

AmEmbassy MADRID

NASA informed three spherical fragments landed near Sevilla December 6 and now in possession INTA. Understand Air Attache reported same. General Perez Marin (INTA) requesting info-re fragments and source. NASA unable reply responsibly without thorough examination of objects. It possible that spheres are from Soviet Luna 8 rocket body which may have re-entered around time indicated. NASA offers conduct examination of fragments if INTA wishes loan repeat loan objects to NASA Headquarters. Report of results will be given General Perez Marin ASAP and objects returned to him. In any case NASA asks color photographs taken from all angles, together with measuring scale on same picture, at NASA expense.

FYI: U.S. highly interested in obtaining fragments for examination.

End FYI.

sent to State
12/21/05
[Signature]

~~LOU~~

in substance
with [Signature]

cc [Signature]

00021

Fragment

N40

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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With concurrence ASA (not) obtained
IPS by A. G. J. J. Date 7-27-04

KFMautner:mif
12/1/66

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. 003, 005
Reviewer: <u>P. J. J.</u>
Date: <u>7/31/06</u>

AmEmbassy LUSAKA
Reference: Embtel 923

NASA accepts Zambian offer. Please express appreciation.

Following procedure suggested:
① NASA requests arrange : Q1

Embassy please photograph object, if possible, in color.

② After photography, cut object into transportable pieces. Cutting may be done anyway practicable, torch, hacksaw, or breaking.

③ Ship pieces by any means practical to Lusaka. Notify Department of ETA Lusaka. Crate or package lightly.

2. NASA will arrange ~~MSS~~ ^{MAC} or Air Force airlift ^{from Lusaka.} unless Embassy perceives objections. Can Embassy arrange for MAC airlift? Please advise. If impossible, NASA will attempt to arrange this, or recommend ^{commercial} shipment

3. Expenses of photography, removal, and crating should be paid in local or US currency, billing submitted through Department to NASA, Attention: ^D Swight Conrad, Code BAS.

Change accepted by Adelman

OK by Adelman

OK by Hammann

sent to State 12/1/66

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4. Pieces should be addressed to: Marshall Space Flight Center,
Huntsville, Alabama, 35812, Attention: T. Rankin, Code I-MO-O.

5. Shipment within U.S. will be by commercial carrier, converted to government
bill of lading at destination.

MAO / _____
Schulherr



UNITED OFFICIAL USE



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FRANKS

W41

KFMautner:mlf
11/2

~~N~~

AmEmbassy LONDON

Info: Mbabame - Pretoria

Ref: Embtel 3608

NASA tentatively identifies object as of U.S. origin and desires
it for analysis, results of which will be made available to HMG.
Please airpouch object to SCI for forwarding to NASA.

given to Vivian
(SCI) 11/2
KFM

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()
() Declassify after _____ (not)obtained
With concurrence of NASA Date 11 27 06
IPS by *[Signature]*

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. 2005
Reviewer: <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: 7/31/06

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ang
N42

KFMautner:m lf
Nov. 18, 1966

AmEm LONDON
PRETORIA
AmCon MBABANE

Reference: London's 3608

NASA requests source and confirmation of info contained ref tel that
object landed at 0900 August 24.

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Au 3 2005
Reviewer: <i>J. Paul</i>
Date: <i>7/31/06</i>

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

() Declassify after

With concurrence *NASA* (not) obtained

IPS by *A. G. STEIN* Date *7-27-06*

*Hand to Barbara / SCT
11/18 Am.
m12*

00025

88-83

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Action
SCI

NNNNZCZCLDD 689
RR RUEHC
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Info

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R 011816Z NOV 66
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY MBABANE
STATE GRNC
BT

00742

1966 NOV 1 PM 2 16

USIA
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NASA
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 3608

REF: MBABANE 53, LONDON 3340

SUBJ: SATELLITE SECTION FOUND IN SWAZILAND

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x()()
() Declassify after
With concurrence of NASA (not) obtained
IPS by *[Signature]* Date *7/22/06*

1. COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OFFICIAL CALLED EMBASSY THIS MORNING TO SAY OBJECT WHICH LANDED AT SIGIVE HILLS NEAR LUBULI IN SWAZILAND AT 0900 AUGUST 24 HAS NOW ARRIVED IN LONDON. FROM POLICE DESCRIPTION HMG BELIEVES IT MAY BE PART OF NASA SATELLITE.

RSR

2. ACCORDING POLICE DESCRIPTION, OBJECT IS TRUNCATED CONE SIX AND ONE HALF INCHES IN HEIGHT AND WEIGHING JUST OVER TWELVE POUNDS. UPPER HALF MEASURES ELEVEN INCHES ACROSS, LOWER HALF EIGHT AND ONE HALF INCHES. CONE APPEARS TO BE MADE OF ALUMINUM. INSIDE CONE IS HOLLOW CYLINDER FOUR INCHES IN DIAMETER. IN

LOWER PORTION OF CONE IS PORTHOLE WITH DOUBLE GLASS, WITH INNER GLASS HELD DOWN BY COLLAR SECURED BY EIGHT BOLTS WIRED TOGETHER.

3. ON WIDE SIDE OF CONE, WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO GREAT HEAT, THERE IS CORK PACKING THAT HAS BEEN BOLTED TO SOMETHING ELSE BY EIGHT BOLTS, OF WHICH THREE HAVE BEEN BURNED OFF. INSCRIPTION HAS 30413 VB IN RAISED LETTERS AND NUMERALS APPEARS ON ONE OF BOLTS.

4. CO OFFICIAL ADDED OBJECT HAS BEEN TESTED FOR RADIOACTIVITY AND FOUND NOT DANGEROUS.

5. OBJECT IS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION IF USG SO DESIRES. PLEASE ADVISE.

Schulter
BRUCE
BT

wx
wH

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 31 2005
Reviewer: *[Signature]*
Date: *11/31/06*

UOC26

CNJones:mif
10/21

AmConsul MBANE

Due possibility liability implications and difficulty usually encountered in making authoritative determination ~~identification~~ *identification origin* of space fragments, any identification by either Consulate or Smithsonian representative should be tentative. Government should be informed that U.S. would like obtain object for forwarding to NASA Headquarters Washington for examination and analysis in order ascertain if part of U.S. space vehicle. If Government unwilling make object available, Consulate requested await further instructions from Department before making representations.

*parents
Victims (sci)
10/21/66 WPM*

John Chen

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 31 2005
Reviewer: <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: <i>7/31/80</i>

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
 Release Excise Deny Declassify
 Exemption (b) , E.O. 12958, 25x
 Declassify after:
 With concurrence *[Signature]* (not)obtained
 IPS by *[Signature]* Date *7 27 06*

SCI-4

AIRGRAM

SC/2/455

RM/R	REP	AF
1	1	
ARA	EUR	FE
	5	
NEA	CU	INR
		5
E	P	IG
		3
L	FBO	AID

27

(reproduction used in PBR) RECEIVED

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A-447

UNCLASSIFIED

N4S

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1966 SEP 15

HANDLING INDICATOR

Frags.

ANALYSIS BRANCH

RSAN FEEVEL
SY-1 M/PM-1

AGR	COM	FRS
	10	

FROM : AmEmbassy MOSCOW

DATE: September 13, 1966

INT	LAB	TAR

SUBJECT : New Meteorite Antenna at Tadzhik Academy of Sciences

AIR		
5		

REF :

ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5

Pravda of September 7, 1966 carries a photo of what is reputed to be a new antenna complex for studying meteors at the Tadzhik Academy of Sciences' Institute for Astrophysics.

OSD	USIA	NSA
31	10	3

NSF	NIC	NRE
2	1	2

Enclosed is a reproduction of the photo and caption.

KOHLER

Enclosure:

Pravda photo.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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() Declassify after

With concurrence NASA (not)obtained

IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

See hand here

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

Originated by:

ECON: CASquire:ems 9/12/66

Contents and Classification Approved by:
Econ Counselor:DKle

Clearances:

ADCM: DEBoster JB

40028

EWitkopf:mlf
August 12, 1966

AmEmbassy LUSAKA

Embtel 274

~~AS~~ Embassy requested continue pursue arrangements for return
suspected space fragment. ~~Although matter considered important~~

~~is~~ not sufficiently urgent to require approach at high level.

1. In following up, suggest Embassy note that ~~Expeditious~~
~~return will facilitate analysis of structural failure and future~~ *to pursue*
~~engineering improvements, but~~ *development of* *assembly*

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x() ()

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With concurrence 9/13/86 (not)obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

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Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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With concurrence NASA (not) obtained
IPS by J. M. [signature] Date 1 27 86

*File Moscow A 447
9-13-66*

7 сентября 1966 г. ● № 250 (17567)

ПРАВДА

НА ГИССАРСКОЙ метеостанции Института астрофизики Академии наук Таджикской ССР проводится комплексные исследования метеоров. Изучается, в частности, область ионосферы, расположенная от 100 до 110 километров от поверхности Земли.
На снимке: сотрудники ионосферной лаборатории подготавливают сетчатую антенну для исследования ионосферы, проводимых в ионосфере.
Фото В. Яковлева.

КТО ДЛЯ КОГО?

Зстонская республиканская газета «Рава кавель» («Голос народа») поместила корреспонденцию писателя Антса Саара «Кто для кого?». Подписный автором вопроса является не одна только республика, а представляли более широкий интерес. С некоторыми сокращениями публикуем это выступление.

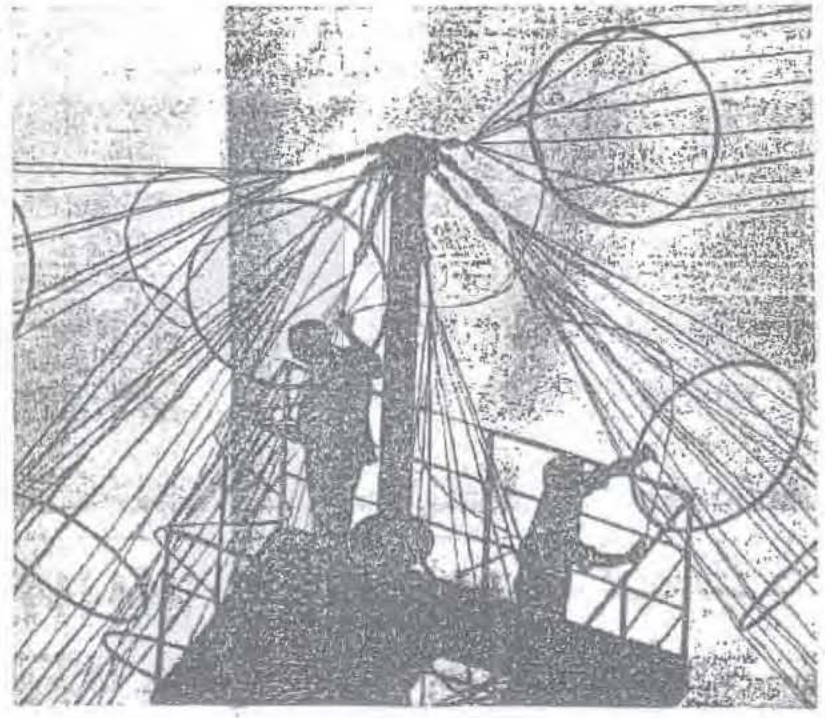
Автору этих строк в его московском коллегам нужно было срочно возвратиться из Таллина в Вильянди. Служба нашей республики в обслуживании населения вообще неплохая. Поэтому и мелькнула у меня мысль продемонстрировать перед системой, как у нас хорошо работает транспортный узел.

...Узнал К величайшему моему сожалению, все попытки связаться по телефону с диспетчером на остановках тысяч

чуть такса можно, нужно только написать новое заявление и везти в кассу ипать аманс. А предыдущий? Может быть, он пойдет таксопарку за то, что нас увезли за тридцать километров от Таллина в лес, в другой машине не дали.

А не логичнее ли было, если бы руководители парка сами выдвинули трех пассажиров их средний заработок за потерянный по вине транспортников рабочий день? Мил, например, не слышала, чтобы перевозчику, который вместо пассажира сшил бы пальто-гольф, платили зарплату. Эму самому приходится вымалывать за испорченный галстук.

Так возникает принципиальный вопрос: кто для кого? Ведь таксопарк создан для пассажиров, он их обязан обслуживать. Подобная проблема касается и всех других обслуживающих людей и учреждений.



СЕМИНАР ЛЕКТОРОВ И ПРОПАГАНДИСТОВ

В Клубе имени Дзержинского начал работу семинар лекторов и руководителей пропагандистских семинаров Москвы, посвященный началу нового учебного года в системе партийной учебы. Его открыл секретарь Московского горкома КПСС А. П. Шапошников. С докладом «Вопросы партийной пропаганды в новом учебном году» выступил заведующий сектором Отдела пропаганды ЦК КПСС М. П. Габдулла.

«Партийная жизнь» № 17

Вышел из печати очередной, семнадцатый номер журнала ЦК КПСС «Партийная жизнь». В нем публикуются материалы «Отчеты и выборы в первичных партийных организациях. Начался начал семестр» (на рубрике «Зачинный семинар») секретаря первичных партийных организаций. В номере печатается статья из этого цикла «Воспоминание руководящей КПСС в коммунистическом строительстве».

Под рубрикой «Из жизни коммунистических и рабочих партий» публикуется статья 94 Исполкома ЦК Компартии Китая Эрике Листера «Результаты антифашистских борющихся и кресту».

NASA

247

ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
BCS	FOO	AID
AGR	COM	FRD
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OLD	ODIA	NSA
OST	WASH	

CA-1952 UNCLASSIFIED

TO : Amembassy RIO DE JANEIRO
INFO: Amconsul CURITIBA
Amembassy MOSCOW

FROM : Department of State

SEP 9 1 21 PM '66
DATE:

SUBJECT :

REF : Rio's A-206

1. A laboratory report on the space fragments is expected shortly. A copy or a resume will be sent to Dr. Mendonca through Embassy channels.

2. The observations of May 6, 1966, we have reason to believe, were those caused by the break-up of a Soviet spacecraft, probably of Cosmos 117. On the other hand, the US fragments found in Rio Negro had reentered on April 29, 1966.

3. In order to be forthcoming, and in appreciation of the Brazilians' cooperative attitude, NASA will forward to CNAE a share of the fragments found. However, a share of the fragments had to be broken up for analytical purposes, and a small share is being kept by NASA. In this connection it is recalled that the UN resolution, cited in Deptel 1833 sent Curitiba II (May 26, 1966), clearly states that the title remains with the country of origin.

4. Dr. Mendonca will also be interested in the enclosed color photographs of the sphere that was retrieved by the Brazilian fishermen. The sphere was a part of the service module of the AS 201 Apollo test, a controlled, sub-orbital re-entry test which re-entered, as planned, in mid-Atlantic.

BALL (ACTING)

Enclosure:

Three photographs

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

FORM 4-66 DS-323

In Out

Drafted by: NASA/KF Manner/
SCI:RE Christman/by

Drafting Date: 9/6/66

Content and Classification Approved by: SCI - Col. James W. Milner

Clearances:

ARA/BR - Mr. McDougall

EUR/SOV - Mr. McCracken

00031

7/20/66
1-48

THIS MATERIAL IS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE
AND MR. ABERNATHY WILL BE IN TOUCH
WITH YOU AND WILL DRAFT THE MATERIAL
FOR A CONTINGENCY PRESS RELEASE.

7/27 Abernathy - 7/26 Secman's mem
Position papers -
congratulatory
from which RT@
can be developed
Schulhave

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Exercise () Deny () Declassify
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With concurrence STASA (not) obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 66

00032

~~International community,~~

Q The origin of the fragment
~~has not been determined. The~~

US ~~has not~~ would want to obtain, analyze,

and attempt to establish the

origin of ~~the~~ ^{such a} fragment. Until

was done, the Embassy ~~could~~

that ~~it~~ ^{was} ~~not~~ ^{speculate}

~~speculate~~ ~~could~~ ~~not~~ ~~speculate~~

on the matter of liability.

The US has subscribed to the

principles of the UN resolution

of Dec 13, 1963, concerning

liability for damage caused by

launched objects into outer space.

N49

AMEMBASSY LIMA

Ref. Embtel 424

Press guidance remains as stated DEPCIRTEL 2116 of April 29, 1966 to which may be added the following if inquiry received regarding liability in the event of injury or damage caused by a fragment: The United States would want to obtain, analyze, and attempt to establish the origin of such a fragment. Until that was done, the Embassy could not speculate on the matter of liability. The US has subscribed to the principles of the United Nations resolution of December 13, 1963, concerning liability for damage caused by objects launched into outer space.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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 With concurrence PLA (not) obtained
 IPS by J. M. S. Date 7/27/66

RTQ to Newsroom 7/29/66

Clearances
 I - Hausman
 F - Schaan

R. Friedman 7/29/66

7034

AMEMBASSY LIMA

Ref. Embtel 424

Press guidance remains as stated DEPCIRTEL 2116 of April 29, 1966 to which may be added the following if inquiry received regarding liability in the event of injury or damage caused by a fragment: ^(X) A United Nations resolution of December 13, 1963 states quote Each State which launches or procures the launching of an object into outer space, and each State from whose territory or facility an object is launched, is internationally liable for damage done to a foreign State or to its natural or juridical persons by such object or its component parts on the earth, in air space, or in outer space unquote. The United States voted for this resolution. Following the adoption of the resolution, Ambassador Stevenson said that we believe these legal principles reflect international law as it is accepted by the members of the United Nations. The United States for its part "intends to respect these principles."

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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With concurrence NASA (not)obtained

IPS by J. M. [Signature] Date 7 27 06

AMEMBASSY LIMA

Ref. Embtel 424

Press guidance remains as stated DEPCIRTEL-2116 of April 29, 1966 to which may be added the following if inquiry received regarding liability in the event of injury or damage caused by a fragment: ~~quote~~

A United Nations resolution of December 13, 1963 states: ~~quote~~
"Each State which launches or procures the launching of an object into outer space, and each State from whose territory or facility an object is launched, is internationally liable for damage done to a foreign State or to its natural or juridical persons by such object or its component parts on the earth, in air space, or in outer space". ~~The United States voted for this resolution.~~ ~~quote~~

~~Ambassador Stevenson stated that the United States~~

~~Ambassador Stevenson~~ said that we believe these legal principles reflect international law as it is accepted by the members of the United Nations. The United States for its part "intends to respect these principles."

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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With concurrence NASA (not) obtained
IPS by A. M. [unclear] Date 7 27 06

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U0037

AMEMBASSY LIMA

Ref. Embtel. 1424

Press guidance remains as stated DEPCIRTEL 2116 of April 29, 1966 to which may be added the following if inquiry received regarding liability in the event of injury or damage caused by a fragment:Quote

~~A United Nations resolution of December 13, 1963 states "Each State which launches or procures the launching of an object into outer space, and each State from whose territory or facility an object is launched, is internationally liable for damage done to a foreign State or to its natural or juridical persons by such object or its component parts on the earth, in air space, or in outer space". The United States voted for this resolution. On _____ Ambassador Stevenson stated that the United States would regard the resolution as having binding upon it with the force and effect of international law.~~

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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With concurrence, NASA (not) obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

AIRGRAM

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ARMY	CIA	NAVY
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OSD	USIA	NSA
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Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir

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TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : AmCon CURITIBA

DEPT PASS: NASA

FROM : AmEmbassy RIO DE JANEIRO

DATE: June 3, 1966

SUBJECT: Unidentified Fragments

REF : Telegrams 009 Curitiba to Dept.; 008 Curitiba to Dept.; 2669 Rio to Dept.; 2640 Rio to Dept.; 1883 Dept. to Rio, 11 to Curitiba

1. The Department has been advised that the fragments that fell on May 6 near the Parana-Santa Caterina border have been recovered and sent to the Brazilian National Space Commission (CNAE) at São Jose dos Campos, State of São Paulo.

2. This reporting officer is attempting to expedite acquisition of the fragments for forwarding to NASA for identification and analysis. In this regard, a CNAE spokesman informed the Embassy that Dr. Fernando de Mendonça, Technical Chief, CNAE, had authorized release of the material June 3. The Embassy expects to receive the fragments the week of June 6 and will forward them to NASA by the most rapid means of transportation available, informing the Department by wire when and how shipped.

3. Attached are all press releases compiled by the Embassy and the Consulate. The fact is that the incident caused considerable disturbance and conjecture among the populace, most witnesses reporting that the object descended in flames and exploded before reaching the ground. Most local scientists and Brazilian authorities who have examined the fragments believe that NASA should make an examination and report to advise the Brazilian public of the origin of the fragments. The Embassy has also received press inquiries as to the possibility of future space fragments endangering human life or property. As guidance in responding to this

Enclosure: Press Releases

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 In Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by: SA:JEAsper:sl

Contents and Classification Approved by: POL - Max V. Krebs

CC: f/gulian Scheiv WK/Cat. Sweet
I/K...
MAO/Richard Schulker

7 PM 7 17

CC: YFLA-PBR


UNCLASSIFIED

2

question, the Embassy has taken the guidelines set forth in the Department's telegram 1838, dated April 29, 1966.

4. Following NASA's receipt of the fragments, the Embassy and the Consulate will appreciate a report which may be used for the Brazilian press and other interested parties. The Embassy is particularly grateful to NASA for their past prompt action in forwarding the enlarged prints and identification of the sphere recovered by fisherman off the coast of Recife and trusts that prompt action will likewise be effected in this case.

RAINE



RECEIVED
JUN 10 3 01 PM '66
NASA
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00039

George H. ...
NS4

U.S. Authorities to Examine Presumable Space Vehicle Debris

CURITIBA, Paraná. — The debris of what could be fragments of a U.S. NASA space vehicle which fell on May 8 over the towns of Mafra and Rio Negro in Paraná and Itapopolis in Santa Catarina may be handed over to the United States by the Brazilian Air Force for identification. The announcement was made by Air Force Brigadier Artur Carlos Pereira, commander of the Curitiba Air Base, yesterday.

He said this was the conclusion reached by the authorities on the basis of a report made by Capt. Amadeu Soares who inspected the sites where the objects fell.

The United States Consulate in São Paulo distributed an official note signed by Consul Douglas McLain Junior stating that it had no information about the object that fell in the Rio Negro district to indicate that it is part of a U.S. satellite but if the authorities wished his Government would examine the object and make a report on its exact nature.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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(X) Declassify after _____

With concurrence NASA (not)obtained

IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 06

NSS

LD, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1966

Reports on, Space Vehicle Crash In Paraná Doubtful but Space Engineers Admit Such Possibility

RIO DE JANEIRO — Coinciding with a warning given in New York yesterday by two space engineers that fragments of rockets orbiting around the earth could eventually crash endangering lives and property, reports from Paraná yesterday caused the impression that such a case actually happened near the town of Rio Negro. Later reports, however, said that the fallen object, presumably was a meteorological balloon rather than a space vehicle.

Full clarification of the occurrence is expected today. The Brazilian Air Force and U.S. Embassy spokesmen last night denied any official knowledge of a reported explosion of a U.S. NASA space vehicle over the towns of Rio Negro and Matro in the south of Brazil.

According to reports published in São Paulo's Jornal da Tarde yesterday afternoon, some sort of space missile exploded on the evening of May 6, scattering metal parts over a 16-mile area in a blast that could supposedly be heard within a 25-mile radius. Area of the explosion was reported to be near the Paraná-Santa Catarina border, some 400 miles southeast of Rio.

According to the São Paulo report, Rio Negro shopkeeper Eomíngos Severino Norloch collected three pieces of metal and has them on display in his store window. The fragments are reported to measure 30 by 20 centimeters, 10 by 12 centimeters and an oval-shaped piece measuring roughly 20 by 40 centimeters.

It claims that one of these fragments carries the inscription "NASA-1403-6-Phillips". In addition, merchant Norloch is reported to have collected numerous screws and bolts in the same area.

The report adds that a number of Rio Negro families have

moved out of the region — some fearing a repetition of the explosion, others the end of the world.

Shopkeeper Norloch, reportedly called in the Brazilian Air Force to investigate the event, according to Jornal da Tarde, but Air Ministry authorities here in Rio say they have not yet received any communications to this effect.

On the other hand, Curitiba broadcasting station last night claimed to have been reliably informed that the fragments be-

longed to a meteorological balloon.

Meanwhile in New York, two U.S. space engineers, yesterday warned that discarded rockets orbiting around the earth might eventually decay to the point where they could come crashing down on a town.

Phil Rowe and T.J. Gordon, employed by the Missiles and Space Systems Division of the Douglas Aircraft Corporation, told a European space symposium there were 318 man-made objects now in orbit, of which only 50 were payloads designed to remain in space.

"This fact would indicate that the orbits of 268 spent rocket motors and other space debris will eventually decay to the point where they will present a hazard," the space engineers said.

They added that there appeared to be no assurance that booster rockets, including engines, would be burned up during re-entry.

They pointed out that last September a 24-foot, 80 kilo section of a Titan two rocket was found floating in the Atlantic Ocean in reasonably good condition following the launching of Gemini 5.

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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With concurrence NASA (not) obtained
IPS by A. M. Stg Date 7 27 86

00041

L.O.U.
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NSb

CNJ:KFMautner:mlf
May 26, 1966

AmConsul CURITIBA

Info: AmEmbassy Rio de Janeiro

Ref: Curitiba Tel 7, sent Rio UNN May 25
~~Deptel to Recife Repeated Rio~~

In order determine whether reported objects are part of U.S. spacecraft, acquisition of fragments and forwarding to NASA for identification and analysis urgently requested. In support of acquisition, in case of necessity, it will be recalled that UN resolution of 13 December 1963 confirms that ownership of spacecraft component parts remains with country of registry (origin).

FYI: Description given in Curitiba's #7 insufficient for identification. Inscription "NASA-140" is not repeat not believed to be accurate.

Please re-check. END FYI.

cleared (in substance): M.A.D. Schutler

given to JCS/Vision
5/26
1615

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. Aug 3, 2005
Reviewer: *[Signature]*
Date: 7/3/00

L.O.U.
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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With concurrence NASA (not) obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date 7 27 00

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With concurrence NASA (not) obtained _____
IPS by A. M. G. Date 7 27 06

*Ok. Further
by Mr. F. Lead
accord to 7/7/66*

Karl F. Mautner:mlf
July 5, 1966

*Frag 5
NST*

*sent to State 7/6
Mr*

AmEmbassy RIO DE JANEIRO

Info: AmConsul CURITIBA

Ref: Embassy's A-1235 of June 3, 1966
Depcirtel 2116 of April 29

*7/17 - Morton
is clearing
State. He
not for
NST*

Brazilian authorities and scientists should be informed that NASA tentatively identified recovery fragments as parts of Saturn (Apollo vehicle) probe (SA-5) launched January 29, 1964 which broke up and parts of which re-entered April 29, 1966. Observations of aerial spectacle on May 6, 1966, however, not connected with SA-5 but with break-up of spacecraft not of U.S. origin. Formal report of analysis of ~~SA-5~~ fragments which is expected to contain data of scientific interest, will be furnished Brazilian authorities..

*not yet
cleared
7/26
asked SE
a speed
up?
GUNT
CA-79
As*

In response to inquiries, press may be informed that small parts of SA-5 survived re-entry into atmosphere on April 29 and that fragments found appeared to be of this spacecraft. Aerial display on May 6 not repeat not of same spacecraft and not of U.S. origin. In case of

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. 2005
Reviewer: N. H.
Date: 7/31/06

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UOC4.3

~~F.O.U.~~
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NS8

CNJ:KFMautner:mlf
May 26, 1966

AmConsul CURITIBA

Info: AmEmbassy Rio de Janeiro

Ref: Curitiba Tel 7, sent Rio UNN May 25
~~Deptel to Pacific~~ ~~Repeated Rio~~

In order determine whether reported objects are part of U.S. spacecraft, acquisition of fragments and forwarding to NASA for identification and analysis urgently requested. In support of acquisition, in case of necessity, it will be recalled that UN resolution of 13 December 1963 confirms that ownership of spacecraft component parts remains with country of registry (origin).

FYI: Description given in Curitiba's #7 insufficient for identification.
Inscription "NASA-140" is not repeat not believed to be accurate.
Please re-check. END FYI.

cleared (in substance): M.A.D. Schurher

given to SCIT/Vicini
9/26
1815

DECLASSIFIED
NASA Ltr. # 3, 2005
Reviewer: [Signature]
Date: 7/31/06

~~F.O.U.~~
CONFIDENTIAL

Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Exemption (b)(), E.O. 12958, 25x()()
(-) Declassify after
With concurrence of NASA (not) obtained
IPS by [Signature] Date

00044

FIELD MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED CLASSIFICATION

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

U. S. INFORMATION SERVICE

FROM: USIS - OUAGADOUGOU

TO: USIA WASHINGTON

REF:

SUBJECT: Progress in Space exhibit

9
MESSAGE NO.

November 26, 1965
DATE

C. Jones
0:00
NSA
F-11
Dec 13 11 35 65

AGENCY USE

215
ACTION

ICS
INFO.

115
11R*
10P/10
1AA
1MS
10P/16
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The Agency's Progress in Sapce exhibit opened October 5, 1965 with speeches by Upper Voltan President Maurice Yaméogo, Assistant Secretary of State G. Mennen Williams and Ambassador S. Estes in Ouagadougou's City Hall. Outside, the Army's Brass Band, the President's Guard of Honor and groups of native dancers, musicians and magicians and thousands of onlookers greeted the Presidents of the National Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, nine ministers and several hundred other high government officials and educators invited to the ceremonies. The President spoke long and with enthusiasm for American space accomplishments and relations between the two countries. Earlier in the program Governor Williams presented him with autographed photographs of Astronauts Cooper and Conrad. The entire ceremonies were televised, broadcast live over Radio Haute-Volta and were well covered in the press.

After one week in the City Hall the exhibit was dismantled in order to free the auditorium for the President's wedding ceremony. We moved on to the House of Youth. Letters and calls to schools and organized groups in and near Ouagadougou resulted in excellent attendance, especially among school age groups. Lectures, guided tours and daily film shows at the exhibit site were effective in convincing our audiences of America's progress and superiority in space.

As a companion exhibit we persuaded the Voltan government to loan us a satellite fragment which had fallen on Upper Volta several years ago. This idea of a "joint exposition" seemed appealing to the visitors.

Plans to present the exhibit in other cities were reluctantly abandoned because of the prohibitive cost of transportation and maintenance.

Photographs of the exhibit are attached.

Marshall Berg

Marshall Berg
Public Affairs Officer

Dept. of State, ISS/PS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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Statement Regarding Cosmos 96

On 26 August 2003, I was contacted via phone by a Ms. Leslie Kean with an inquiry regarding the reentry of the Cosmos 96 satellite on 9 December 1965. She wanted to know if the time and location of reentry of Cosmos 96 on that date were known and if any other satellite was known to have reentered on that date.

A quick search of the U.S. Satellite Catalog revealed that Cosmos 96 was the only cataloged object to have reentered on 9 December 1965. I so informed Ms. Kean. I did provide Ms. Kean copies of a few pages on Cosmos 96 and related spacecraft from a book I authored in the 1970's, before coming to work at NASA. The book is titled Handbook of Soviet Lunar and Planetary Exploration, published as Volume 47 of the Science and Technology Series, American Astronautical Society, 1979.

In response to a request by Ms. Kean, I researched the NASA Orbital Debris Program Office data files for tracking data (aka two-line element sets from the U.S. Space Surveillance Network) on Cosmos 96 (U.S. Catalog Number 01742); however, no data for that object were found. I later contacted Air Force Space Command and received historical tracking data for Cosmos 96 (Attachment 1). Using these data and an Air Force Space Command software package, I was able to reconstruct the possible flight path (groundtrack) of Cosmos 96 on 9 December 1965. I sent to Ms. Kean on 10 October an email (Attachment 2) containing two graphics depicting the only possible southbound pass of Cosmos 96 on 9 December 1965, if it had not already reentered the atmosphere. No part of Cosmos 96 could have landed in Pennsylvania in the local afternoon of 9 December 1965.

Ms. Kean informed me that she had subsequently acquired information from DoD that Cosmos 96 had actually reentered earlier in the day. I received a letter from Ms. Kean, dated 6 November 2003, which included a copy of the DoD letter. Ms. Kean's letter also included a copy of a NASA Form 135, dated 26 January 1968, which referred to NASA Fragology Files. I informed Ms. Kean that I was unaware of any files or program by that name.

The NASA Orbital Debris Program Office did not exist in the 1960's, and it contains no other information related to the FOIA request.

b6



8 December 2003

Cosmos 96 Two-Line Element Sets

1	1742U	SGP4DC	65327.93620823	.00781556	00000-0	83700-3 0	17
2	1742	51.8974	116.9578 0054078	75.3632 285.3867	16.06092826	0228	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65328.86947316	.00336512	00000-0	35477-3 0	16
2	1742	51.8983	112.0078 0053069	78.9866 281.5473	16.06433967	0213	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65329.80228268	.00452555	00000-0	45029-3 0	15
2	1742	51.8983	107.0065 0051725	82.6149 278.2499	16.07421143	0198	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65330.92103141	.00429461	00000-0	40598-3 0	14
2	1742	51.9150	101.0274 0050216	86.9978 273.6405	16.08319764	0180	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65331.91484631	.00466778	00000-0	41623-3 0	13
2	1742	51.9099	95.6859 0048673	89.8771 270.7341	16.09313463	0164	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65332.72187959	.00493573	00000-0	42273-3 0	12
2	1742	51.9033	91.3535 0046129	95.1054 265.5451	16.10146272	0151	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65333.90062235	.00513451	00000-0	40656-3 0	11
2	1742	51.9057	85.0205 0044703	97.7380 262.8314	16.11382670	0132	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65334.89248899	.00554930	00000-0	40838-3 0	10
2	1742	51.9057	79.6649 0043101	101.6510 258.8552	16.12545419	0116	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65335.94540803	.00653827	00000-0	44036-3 0	9
2	1742	51.8978	73.9528 0039549	101.3281 259.0060	16.14085053	099	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65336.87347025	.00829424	00000-0	49421-3 0	8
2	1742	51.9025	68.9227 0037467	105.0092 255.3891	16.15894260	084	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65337.98585393	.00910142	00000-0	46791-3 0	7
2	1742	51.8995	62.8696 0034661	112.7166 247.7295	16.18038139	066	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65338.97340163	.00940381	00000-0	42631-3 0	6
2	1742	51.9004	57.4883 0030707	112.7571 247.5260	16.19945439	050	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65339.95947110	.01136847	00000-0	43634-3 0	5
2	1742	51.8976	52.1090 0023537	95.2806 264.7383	16.22505346	034	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65340.94372162	.01391577	00000-0	40569-3 0	4
2	1742	51.9067	46.6996 0023819	97.7313 261.9616	16.25653333	019	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65341.92565144	.01814881	00000-0	37503-3 0	3
2	1742	51.8928	41.2510 0015399	118.2228 241.3287	16.29891498	04	
1	1742U	SGP4DC	65342.90388832	.02543139	00000-0	28371-3 0	2
2	1742	51.8928	35.8014 0011761	122.2190 234.8102	16.36031517	11	
1	1742U		65342.90496828	.04676556	00000-0	37214-3 0	1
2	1742	51.8928	35.7953 0011753	122.2234 244.3702	16.38946757	11	

JOHNSON, NICHOLAS L. (NICK) (JSC-SX) (NASA)

From: JOHNSON, NICHOLAS L. (NICK) (JSC-SX) (NASA)
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2003 8:17 AM
To: 'Kean, Leslie'
Subject: Cosmos 96

Ms. Kean,

Attached below are two graphics depicting the projected groundtrack of Cosmos 96 in the morning of 9 December 1965. The second chart is merely an enlargement of the Canadian-US region. This is the only time during the day that Cosmos 96 passed over Canada and then passed over Pennsylvania on the same revolution.

As noted previously, I cannot confirm that Cosmos 96 was still in orbit during this time, but, if it were, this is the path it would have taken. The spacecraft also passed over Pennsylvania very early on 9 December (soon after midnight local time), but it was coming from the south, instead of the north.

It would have been impossible for debris from Cosmos 96 to have fallen in Pennsylvania during the afternoon or early evening (local time) on 9 December

Nick Johnson



Cosmos 96.ppt



Projected groundtrack of Cosmos 96 on 9 December 1965, 0550-0630 EST



LUNA, STELLA (JSC-AP121) (NASA)

From: BRISCOE, ALAN L. (LEE) (JSC-DA) (NASA)
Sent: Monday, December 08, 2003 1:10 PM
To: LUNA, STELLA (JSC-AP121) (NASA)
Subject: FW: info on foia 04-048

you might read these and ask those folks about this. lee

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

From: COLLINS, MICHAEL F. (MIKE) (JSC-DM) (NASA)
Sent: Monday, December 08, 2003 1:07 PM
To: EPPS, RONALD C. (RON) (JSC-DM) (NASA); BRISCOE, ALAN L. (LEE) (JSC-DA) (NASA)
Subject: RE:

<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/updates/1997/mar/m01-005.shtml>

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

From: COLLINS, MICHAEL F. (MIKE) (JSC-DM) (NASA)
Sent: Monday, December 08, 2003 1:02 PM
To: EPPS, RONALD C. (RON) (JSC-DM) (NASA); BRISCOE, ALAN L. (LEE) (JSC-DA) (NASA)
Subject:

<http://www.freedomofinfo.org/news/cosmos-96.pdf>

The *Cosmos 96* question is settled once and for all

Chief Scientist for Orbital Debris at the NASA Johnson Space Center, Nicholas L. Johnson, who is recognized internationally as an authority on orbital debris and foreign space systems, has determined that *Cosmos 96*, the Russian *Venera* probe that has been considered a possible explanation for the Kecksburg object for decades, did not land in Pennsylvania on the afternoon of December 9, 1965. Furthermore, he states that no other man-made object from any country came down that day.

Debris from *Cosmos 96* has been a leading contender as an explanation for the Kecksburg object, due to the fact that it came down early that morning over Canada. Perhaps part ended up in Pennsylvania later, the theory went. The Air Force stated at the time that no space debris entered the atmosphere that day, and that all aircraft and missiles were accounted for.

Johnson examined the orbital data for *Cosmos 96* and was able to calculate when it would have passed over Pennsylvania if it had been in orbit that day. The time, when it traveled from north to south, was at approximately 6:20 a.m. The Kecksburg object came down at 4:45 p.m. "I can tell you categorically, that there is no way that any debris from *Cosmos 96* could have landed in Pennsylvania anywhere around 4:45 p.m.," said Johnson in an interview on October 10, 2003. "That's an absolute. Orbital mechanics is very strict."

The US Space Command reported in 1991 that *Cosmos 96* crashed in Canada at 3:18 a.m. Johnson does not have information about the time of demise of *Cosmos 96*, but he did confirm that it was over Canada at this time.

One part of *Cosmos 96* could not have stayed in orbit until 4:45 p.m. after the object came apart hours earlier, as some had speculated.

Even more intriguing, Johnson's data shows that no man-made object from any country entered our atmosphere and landed in Pennsylvania on the afternoon of December 9. *Cosmos 96* was the only catalogued object that came down at all that day. He says that anything not catalogued would have been so small that it would not have survived reentry. "I cannot absolutely confirm that it was not some completely unreported event, but the chances of that are virtually nil," said Johnson. "You can't launch something without somebody seeing it. By 1965 the US and Soviets were both reporting their launches."

The possibility of a US reconnaissance satellite dropping a large film canister on that day has also been ruled out. These capsules were dropped following secret missions over the Soviet Union. Data on these flights was recently declassified. By checking launch and retrieval times, these capsules can also be eliminated as a possible explanation for what landed in Kecksburg.

In 1965, unlike today, the US government did not have the technical means of detecting natural bodies, such as a meteor, suddenly coming into the earth's atmosphere. The only record we would have of such an event would be witness reports.

Previously, both Johnson and another renowned expert, Phillip S. Clark of London's Molniya Space Consultancy who has studied the Soviet and Chinese space programs for more than 20 years, had just about eliminated Cosmos 96 as a possibility, assuming witness reports are accurate. The capsule was only 3 feet in diameter – much smaller than the object reported by Kecksburg witnesses. Clark also pointed out that the Cosmos capsule could not have made turns or descended slowly at an angle, as witnesses reported.

Now, the Cosmos 96 explanation is no longer a question, and we have fewer options left to explain this mystery. As Dr. Peter Sturrock, emeritus professor of applied physics at Stanford University, says in his book *The UFO Enigma*, "In principle, we can prove a hypothesis not only by finding strong evidence in its favor, but also by finding strong evidence against every other possibility."

Leslie Kean
The Coalition for Freedom of Information
October, 2003

UFO UpDates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: VirtuallyStrange.net > UFO > UpDates Mailing List > 1997 > Mar > Mar 1

'Special Prosecutor' for James Oberg?

From: Grant Robert Cameron <gcameron@cc.umanitoba.ca>
Date: Sat, 01 Mar 1997 07:10:26 -0600
Fwd Date: Sat, 01 Mar 1997 10:29:25 -0500
Subject: 'Special Prosecutor' for James Oberg?

Over the past number of years a lot has been written about a crash of an object at Kecksburg, Penns. on Dec.9,1965, and the movement of the recovered object to WPAFB.

In the Sept.1993 issue of Omni Mr. James Oberg "hinted" that the cause of the crash was the Soviet Cosmos-96 probe. Following my disclosure that Dr. Eric Walker, former President of Penn. State University, and former high ranking government official involved with the UFO situation from the start, had rushed to the Kecksburg crash site - Mr. Oberg again hinted that Walker's presence was indicative of the crash of Cosmos-96.

However during the internet debate, related to Mr. Oberg's theory, Mr. Oberg chose to remain silent, except to send me a personal E-mail questioning why I would trust Soviet statements on Cosmos-96. Mr. Oberg chose to leave the defence of his position to TRW physicist Dr. Michael Hofmeister, who unfortunately was ill-prepared to defend Mr. Oberg's theory. Dr. Hofmeister finally admitted that he had never even read Mr. Oberg's Omni article outlining the theory.

James Oberg has always been described as an expert on the Soviet Space Program, and as a hard-line UFO sceptic. He has been very vocal about the accuracy of his information. "I've been waiting," James Oberg once said, "for an ufonut to describe a factual error or checkable counter-example to stuff I've been publishing since about, eh, 1974 or so on UFOs, and so far no luck..."

Because of these things many chose to accept Oberg's Cosmos-96 theory without checking. Because of Mr. Oberg's outspoken confidence in his facts concerning UFOs, it seemed strange that Mr. Oberg chose to stay out of the defence of his pet theory relating to the Kecksburg crash, leaving it for others not as smart as himself to defend.

In preparation for a paper on the Kecksburg crash, I came across a number of new pieces of information. Among those was an item that might explain why Mr. Oberg has been so silent about his Cosmos-96 theory so proudly displayed to the world in 1993. The quote is from David Templeton's special investigation into the Kecksburg crash called "The Uninvited" and written up in the Pittsburg Press newspaper June 19,1991. The quote speaks for itself:

'Special Prosecutor' for James Oberg?

Page 2 of 2

"Oberg reviewed orbital coordinates for the probe that the Pittsburg Press obtained from the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. Although Cosmos-96's orbit crossed the Northeastern United States, he said the tracking coordinates prove that it could not have come down in Kecksburg at 4:46 p.m. - the hour the fireball was seen there... 'Cosmos-96 is not guilty,' Oberg concluded."

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BACKGROUND ON THE NASA FRAGOLOGY FILES

The NASA FRAGOLOGY Files -- Destroyed or Missing? Did NASA File Contain Information on Kecksburg?

Even though informants told me that they have seen the military recovery report on the Kecksburg object, no such documents have ever surfaced. But many other documents that concern Project MOONDUST have been released by various agencies. Project MOONDUST involved the government functions that dealt with the recovery of space objects that survived re-entry through the Earth's atmosphere. A 1973 State Department document released to New Mexico researcher Clifford Stone states that "The designator MOONDUST is used in cases involving the examination of non-US space objects or objects of unknown origin."

Various State Department documents show that NASA played a role in the recovery and examination of space object debris. So far, no NASA documents have been located concerning the Kecksburg event, even though I have received information that a NASA representative was sent to the site of the crash and interviewed some witnesses about the incident.

In October of 1994, a FOIA request was made to NASA Headquarters for information that concerned the operational guidelines that NASA personnel followed when involved with cases that dealt with the recovery and examination of space material. I also requested copies of all reports that would have involved NASA in these types of events from 1960 through 1970. This search was to include any such event that would have occurred within the United States or worldwide.

In April of 1995, I received a response to this request. While I did not receive the particular material that I had requested, another document was sent that was quite interesting, to say the least. The document, a records transmittal and receipt form, released by NASA's History office, discusses "NASA Fragology Files consisting of reports of space objects recovery, analysis of fragments to determine national ownership and vehicle origin." The single page paper was marked "highest classification CONFIDENTIAL, to be released only upon authorization of NASA." The single page contained a hand-written notation that stated "Still at Fed. Records Center 9/29/94."

The document indicates that the reports for the Fragology Files were made between 1962 and 1967. Reports contained within the document are marked such as "F33-Venezuela Object" and "Moon Dust - KATOTO Estate." The list of records begins with F1 and ends with F48. Interestingly, there are gaps in the sequencing of the reports listed in the document.

Upon receipt of this document, I quickly sent a FOIA request to NASA Headquarters for a copy of each report listed in the Fragology Files. In May, 1995, NASA responded that I had to send an advanced payment to begin fulfilling this search request from the Federal

Records Center. I submitted the check and when many months went by with no response, I left a message at NASA Headquarters in January of 1996. Within a few days I received a response. A letter dated January 22, 1996 states "We received your check ... for the retrieval of the two boxes that may have contained documents you were seeking from the Federal Records Center. I have been informed by the program office that the Records Center informed them that those boxes were destroyed prior to their request."

I was disturbed to learn of the destruction of this information. Even if no information on Kecksburg existed in these files, other important historical records related to the American and Soviet space program may have also been lost. I requested that an investigation be conducted into the destruction of the NASA Fragology File records. In an April 15, 1996 letter, NASA explained to me how its FOIA process worked. As part of this process, the FOIA office asked the program office to have the documents retrieved from the Washington National Records Center. "It was at this point in the process of your request that the program office was informed that the records had been destroyed," the letter stated.

According to the letter, after I had asked for an inquiry into the reported destruction of the records, the Washington National Records Center attempted again to locate the records. But after searching they still were not able to locate the files. The letter stated "They (the National Records Center) do not know if the records were destroyed or have just been misplaced." A letter from the Washington National Records Center to the NASA Headquarters Records Manager dated March 28, 1996 stated "our records indicate that the boxes were identified as missing in 1987 and have not been located since that date."

NASA had no explanation for the notation on the document stating that the records were still at the Washington National Records Center in 1994. In other correspondence, NASA indicated that it could only "surmise this notation was in error." Since then, searches have been conducted at numerous NASA installations for records concerning the NASA Fragology Files. No other references to the files have surfaced so far.

This appears to be a new terminology that other researchers and I had not encountered before. How the NASA Fragology Files relate to Project MOONDUST and possibly to reported UFO crashes is open for speculation. It may be only coincidence, but it is interesting to note that 1987 was the year that both the first Kecksburg eyewitness who reported seeing the object on the ground came forward, and therefore public interest in the case dramatically increased. This is also the year the files reportedly disappeared.

The question remains today: where are the NASA Fragology Files and what important information might they contain?

Stan Gordon
June, 2003