

## ABOVE TOP SECRET: WHAT DO US PRESIDENTS KNOW ABOUT THE UFO SUBJECT?

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### IS OFFICIAL UFO DISCLOSURE LIKELY?

One of the most consistent hopes of the UFO research community, especially in America, is that of official disclosure. The hope is that one day the reality of the UFO subject, which has already been confirmed by independent research, will be officially endorsed at the highest levels of government. When that day comes, it is hoped, the President will stand on the Whitehouse lawn and announce to the world that: we are not alone, that intelligent life has visited earth and that, what's more, we have firm evidence because we have recovered crashed extra-terrestrial vehicles and bodies.

Unfortunately, such a scenario is extremely unlikely to occur. Even superficial research into the UFO subject quickly reveals that despite all the official denials the military and intelligence communities take the UFO phenomenon very seriously. Documents obtained in 1979 via the US Freedom of Information Act from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) reveal that this agency continued to study the UFO phenomenon and collect data on it despite their previous declaration in 1953, with the Robertson Panel, that they had shut the book on UFOs.

It quickly becomes apparent to researchers that despite the fact that the UFO subject is often misrepresented and ridiculed by mainstream media, giving a false impression to the public that it is not a subject worthy of official investigation, in reality, in official circles, UFOs are considered a top priority national security issue and are indeed classified at the highest possible levels.

In a documentary I made for US television on the UFO subject – Out of the Blue - we interviewed several members of the US military who had witnessed UFOs interfering with military technology. In one case a UFO hovered over a nuclear missile launch complex in Montana, and in seconds disabled nearly twenty intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Naturally the fact that extremely advanced extra-terrestrial technology can enter protected air space with impunity, neutralize the military's most powerful weapons and run rings around their fastest jets, is not something the authorities wish to admit. This realization alone makes it clear that the idea of official disclosure at the highest levels is unlikely. The function of the military is to protect the society it belongs to. Any indication that it cannot do this effectively would not be admitted by the man elected as the Chief of the armed forces: The US President.

In addition to this it is clear that because the UFO subject is such a serious National Security issue and therefore classified at the highest levels, the President, despite being the chief of the Armed Forces, would not necessarily possess a high enough security rating to allow him access to all the classified information on UFOs.

Ronald Pandolfi, a scientist who acted as CIA liaison to the Clinton Whitehouse, and who is interested in proving information about the UFO subject to the current President: George W. Bush, stated that " the various intelligence agencies are in no way bound to cater merely to official curiosity," and that if the CIA Director makes a determination that the President shouldn't know, then, "indeed the President does not have a need to know. Period."

The question then remains to what extent have US Presidents been allowed access to the most classified information on UFOs? And perhaps most importantly- have any of them been shown the most convincing evidence of all: debris and bodies from UFO crashes?

One of the leading experts in this area is the Canadian researcher, Grant Cameron. During his exhaustive research he has visited the US National Archives fourteen times and searched through most of the Presidential libraries trying to locate relevant information. He has closely researched what the last twelve US Presidents may have known about the UFO subject.

Since this is a huge subject, I will confine this article to looking at three Presidents with brief reference to others. Namely: Carter, Reagan and Clinton.

#### PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH.

Cameron has very little information about what current President - George W. Bush may know about the subject and explains that information is scarce because the Bush Administration has surrounded itself with draconian secrecy since the terrorist attacks of September 11. However, he does speculate that George W. Bush may be fairly well informed about the UFO situation due to his father. Bush senior, as well as being President for four years, was also head of the CIA under President Ford and acted as Vice-President under President Reagan for eight years. Cameron speculates that Republican Presidents are more likely to be better informed about the UFO issue than Democrats, since traditionally they have far greater support from high-ranking military officers who would be likely to have access to classified UFO information.

Additionally Bush senior, as Director of the CIA would probably have had unprecedented access to classified UFO information. Who better to know the ultimate Top Secret about UFOs, than the man the CIA named its headquarters in Langley, Virginia after? The George Bush Centre for Intelligence.

When asked about his possible knowledge of the UFO subject by researcher Charles Huffer during a Presidential Rally in 1988, shortly before he became President, Bush

replied. "I know some." And then added. " I know a fair amount." That is no doubt a huge understatement.

JIMMY CARTER. 39<sup>th</sup> PRESIDENT. January 21 to January 20, 1981.

President Jimmy Carter has often been referred-to as the "UFO President" due to the fact that he publicly claimed to have had a UFO sighting prior to becoming president. Moreover, he was the only president on record to actually file a UFO sighting report related to his sighting. Thirdly, on at least one occasion while campaigning for president, Carter declared that, if elected, he would "make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and scientists." Unfortunately, it was one promise he never kept.

" I don't laugh at people anymore when they say they have seen UFOs. I've seen one myself." Jimmy Carter on ABC News, January 22, 1999.

#### CARTER'S UFO SIGHTING.

On January 6, 1969 two years before he became governor of the State of Georgia, Carter had a UFO sighting that affected him profoundly. The sighting took place in Leary, Georgia, when he and ten other witnesses saw a red and green orb glowing in the sky. Carter stated: " It seemed to move towards us at a distance, stop move partially away, return and then depart. Bluish at first, then reddish. It was luminous not solid. At times it was as bright and as big as the moon."

During a book signing in San Francisco in 2003, as part of the documentary I made for US television, I confronted Carter with cameras rolling about his UFO sighting. He was happy to say that he had seen a UFO, but when I asked why he hadn't made the government UFO information available to the public, he held up his hands and stated: "People have a lot of theories, but no one really knows the truth."

It is understandable that Carter would say such a disclaimer in public with cameras pointed at him, but it is not an accurate statement. For as we shall see Carter found out a great deal about the UFO subject and was undoubtedly exposed to the reality of UFO crashes and the recovery of ET technology.

Carter's campaign promise to release all the information on the UFO subject turned out to be a bit of a nightmare for the Whitehouse. As soon as he became President the White house was swamped with 9000 letters from individuals demanding answers about the UFO issue. Carter's Press Office then wrote to the Defence Department and the CIA to inquire whether documents were being withheld. Both agencies, unsurprisingly, said that none were.

## CARTER APPROACHES NASA.

Dr Frank Press who led Carter's Press Office was put in charge of the problem. After getting no-where with the Pentagon, Press wrote to Dr Robert Frosch who was the Administrator for the US Space agency - NASA. Press requested that NASA "conduct an investigation of the validity and significance of UFO reports."

After much discussion with the CIA, the FBI and the US Air Force, all of whom stated it was not a subject worthy of scientific investigation, NASA eventually decided to reject President Carter's offer.

As Cameron writes –'The NASA budget had suffered from years of cutbacks, and it appeared President Carter was going to cut even further. NASA was concerned with its image, and didn't want to get involved in a controversial issue such as UFOs, which offered only a public relations nightmare.'

However, one man who was able to provide more information on Carter's efforts to get answers on the UFO subject was the Harvard trained lawyer, social activist and founder of the Christic Institute, Daniel Sheehan. Sheehan later played a vital role in prosecuting the first Bush Administration over the Iran-Contra scandal.

## DANNY SHEEHAN: DIRECT EVIDENCE OF ET CRASHES?

Shortly after Carter came to power in January 1977, Sheehan, then General-Counsel to the United States Jesuit National Headquarters - National Office of Social Ministry in Washington D.C., was approached by Marcia S. Smith, Director of the Library of Congress' Science and Technology Division of the Congressional Research Service. Sheehan was asked, "to participate in a highly classified major evaluation of the UFO phenomena, and extra-terrestrial intelligence."

"I found out," stated Sheehan, "that as soon as Carter had come to office . . . he called in the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and he said 'I want to have the information that we have on UFOs and extra-terrestrial intelligence. I want to know about this as President.' The person who happened to be the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency at that time happened to be George Bush – and George Bush told him no, that he wasn't going to give this to him . . . that this was information that existed on a need-to-know basis only. Simple curiosity on the part of the President wasn't adequate."

This refusal to provide information, along with a general distrust of George Bush and the Republicans, led Carter to replace Bush as his Director of Central Intelligence. Carter hoped that by replacing Bush he could get honest answers to problems like UFOs that required the most closely held intelligence.

Marcia Smith then appointed Sheehan as a special consultant to the Congressional Research Service. As part of his consultant role, he was asked to give a presentation to the top 50 people at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California, about the "Religious implications of extra-terrestrial contact."

To prepare for this presentation Sheehan asked for and received access to the classified portions of the USAF Project Blue Book files. Project Blue Book was the official USAF investigation into UFOs, which had run from 1947 to 1969 when it was shut down. Sheehan's disclosure of a classified section to Project Blue Book was in direct conflict with the official line about Project Blue Book that had been quoted by all the intelligence agencies in the United States government for decades, namely that the Air Force had found no evidence for the reality of UFOs.

In 1977 Sheehan gained access to the basement vault area of a new building built for the Library of Congress, called the Madison Building. In this vault Sheehan found astonishing information related to extra-terrestrial life and UFOs.

Having only a limited period of time Sheehan searched through boxes of material looking for photographic evidence. He eventually stumbled across a series of black and white photographs that showed a classic disc shaped UFO " embedded in a bank of snow, located in some unknown mountainous region." He could clearly identify US Air Force personnel who has posed next to the disc and were measuring it. Sheehan also saw details of the strange alien symbols on the side of the craft. He secretly copied this onto a pad and smuggled it out of the vault.

Sheehan reported back to Marsha Smith what he had seen in and the Congressional Research Service prepared two reports for the Science and Technology Committee of the House of Representatives. The two reports were sent to the President.

The first of the two reports dealt with extra-terrestrial Intelligence. According to Sheehan, "The Congressional Research Service of the Official United States Congressional Library in its official report to the President through the Science and Technology Committee of the House of Representatives concludes that there are from two to six highly intelligent, highly technological developed civilizations in our own galaxy, over and above our ours."

The second report, according to Sheehan, dealt with UFOs. It had drawings of different types of UFOs that had been sighted, based on investigations that had been done by the United States Air Force and others. The report stated that the investigation was "unable to discount" that at least one of these vehicles was not from one of the two to six civilizations described in the extra-terrestrial intelligence report.

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN. 40<sup>th</sup> PRESIDENT. January 20. 1981 to January 20, 1989.

## REAGAN'S UFO SIGHTINGS.

President Reagan is the only other President to have openly acknowledged to the media that he had seen a UFO. Kitty Kelly in her Unauthorized Biography of Nancy Reagan stated Reagan admitted to believing in flying saucers, and "even swore that he had seen a few unidentified flying objects."

The first Reagan sighting was reported by Steve Allen on his New York radio show. Allen had been told by a friend of the Reagans that the President and First lady had arrived late at a Hollywood Party. They explained to the guests that they had been delayed because they had stopped to look at a UFO flying up the coast.

The second sighting occurred in 1974 while Reagan was still Governor. One week after the sighting, Reagan related the story to Norman C. Millar, then Washington Bureau chief for the Wall Street Journal, later the editor of the Los Angeles Times. Reagan told Millar:

"I was in a plane last week when I looked out the window and saw this white light. It was zigzagging around. I went up to the pilot and said, 'Have you seen anything like that before?' He was shocked and said, 'Nope.' And I said to him: 'Let's follow it!'

We followed it for several minutes. It was a bright white light. We followed it to Bakersfield, and all of a sudden to our utter amazement it went straight up into the heavens. When we got off the plane, I told Nancy all about it.' The pilot of Reagan's plane, Bull Paynter later confirmed the story.

On September 28, 1981, President Reagan received a letter from Major Ret. Colman VonKeviczky. VonKeviczky was the Director of the International UFO Galactic Spacecraft Research and Analytic Network (ICUFON). This group held the rather extreme view that UFOs "represented an intergalactic task force that will destroy earth unless world leaders band together to end their hostile actions against UFOs." The subject of that letter expressed a concern that the United States and other nations should acknowledge the existence of the "extraterrestrial UFO Forces" so as to avoid a serious confrontation.

VonKeviczky began his career by working for the United Nations staff audio-visual department. In 1966, he wrote to United Nations Secretary U. Thant recommending a UFO authority be installed to act as a World Authority for Spatial Affairs. U. Thant was interested in the UFO mystery and commissioned VonKeviczky "to work on a preliminary memo on how the UFO problem could be inserted in the U.N. agenda."

After much persistence VonKeviczky finally received a letter back from the Chief Military Advisor of the Whitehouse - Major General Robert Schweitzer. Schweitzer's reply was dated November 21, 1981. He wrote in part:

***The President is well aware of the threat you document so clearly and is doing all in his power to restore the national defence margin of safety as quickly and prudently as possible.***

VonKeviczky then approached the Associated Press who contacted Schweitzer and asked him to confirm if this was true. Schweitzer realizing, he was in a corner claimed he thought VonKeviczky was referring to the Soviets, despite the fact the letter mentions UFOs forty-nine times.

But this deception failed to help Schweitzer who was fired by Reagan from his position the very same day.

STAR WARS.

The Reagan Presidency was characterized by its firm foreign policy stance against the Soviet Union. Part of Reagan's agenda to defeat the Soviets involved the development in 1983 of The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), better known as 'Star Wars'. However, many researchers in the UFO community speculated that this satellite defence system was set up not to defend against Soviet missiles, but to target incoming UFOs. (The late Col. Philip Corso in his book *The Day After Roswell* supports this claim when he states that the military were eager to develop a range of weapons to defend earth from a possibly hostile alien invasion.)

The notion of an alien invasion was clearly on Reagan's mind. On five separate occasions he included this theme in speeches he made publicly.

In a speech to the Forty-second general assembly of the United Nations on September 21, 1987, Reagan said:

*" In our obsession with antagonisms of the moment, we often forget how much unites all the members of humanity. Perhaps we need some outside, universal threat to make us recognize this common bond. I occasionally think how quickly our differences worldwide would vanish if we were facing an alien threat from outside of this world. And yet I ask - is not an alien force already among us? "*

In May 1990, after Reagan had left office, and shortly before the fall of the Soviet Union General Secretary Gorbachev made a direct statement about UFOs. "The phenomenon of UFOs does exist," he stated, "and it must be treated seriously."

Another clue hinting at how much Reagan probably knew about the UFO subject emerged on June 27, 1982 when Steven Spielberg held a private screening of his film 'ET: The Extra-terrestrial' at the Whitehouse.

Following the screening the President leaned over, clapped Spielberg on the shoulder, and quietly commented, "You know, there aren't six people in this room who know how true this really is."

Spielberg recounted this story to Hollywood television producer Jamie Shandera shortly after the incident occurred. This occurred while Shandera was helping a Japanese film crew who were making a documentary on Spielberg.

BILL CLINTON. 42<sup>nd</sup> PRESIDENT. JANUARY 20, 1993 TO JANUARY 20, 2001.

*"It was known among the high CIA people that the Clintons were on the prowl for UFOs. Bill Clinton had been asking anyone who would listen to him, to tell him the secret. You know, he would get some Admiral in there, and say, "By the way, tell me the UFO secret." They would just look at him like "What planet are you from?" William Laparl, who worked with the CIA in the early days of the Clinton Administration.*

" ARE THERE UFOS?"

It is undoubtedly true that both Bill and Hillary Clinton were interested in the UFO subject. Like Carter, Clinton wanted answers about the possible origins of UFOs. Clinton was also a Democrat and a Washington outsider and so hugely mistrusted by the military who would have been extremely reluctant to give him access to classified information about UFOs.

His close friend Webster Hubble, who was appointed Associate Attorney General by Clinton, confirms Clinton's interest in UFOs. Hubble writes in his book Friends In High Places that Clinton said:

"If I put you over at Justice I want you to find the answers to two questions for me, One- who killed JFK. (John F Kennedy) And two- are there UFOs? " Clinton was dead serious." Hubbell wrote. "I had looked into both but wasn't satisfied with the answers I was getting." It was later revealed that Hubbell had even gone to NORAD headquarters to get an answer for the President, but there too, he had run up against a brick wall of denial.

As part of the film I made we contacted Hubble and asked him to confirm this story, which he did.

William Laparl, who worked for the CIA during that period, stated that Hubble had no chance of getting any information on the UFO subject because both the CIA and the military disliked Clinton so much.

THE LAURANCE ROCKEFELLER INITIATIVE.



Although apparently unsuccessful in obtaining UFO information through official channels, a huge effort was made to brief the Clintons on the subject by billionaire Laurance Rockefeller. Unlike his other billionaire brothers who were only interested in money and politics, Laurance was fascinated by, ecology, the paranormal and UFOs. He also funded research into the Crop Circle phenomenon.

Rockefeller first became interested in the UFO subject after seeing a documentary on the alleged UFO crash at Roswell, New Mexico: America's most famous UFO case.

Rockefeller's goal was to set up a private meeting with the Clintons on his private estate, far away from the Whitehouse and CIA interference and provide them with solid evidence supporting the reality of the UFO phenomenon, with the possible aim of official disclosure.

His first step was to try and brief Dr Jack Gibbons, who was Special Assistant to the President for Science and Technology. Gibbons was not enthusiastic about the UFO subject but knew that the Clintons had an interest in it and that, more importantly, Rockefeller was a long-time friend and political supporter of the Clintons, so he thought it best to cooperate.

In April 1993 Gibbons finally meet with Rockefeller who presented him with the case for "UFOs and Extra-terrestrial Intelligence." Rockefeller wanted Gibbons to ask Clinton for a direct meeting with the goal of getting Clinton release the classified information on the UFO subject.

Gibbons told Rockefeller this would be virtually impossible if the UFO cover up was as widespread as he suggested and that instead he should concentrate on one particular UFO case. Rockefeller chose Roswell.

For two years following this meeting Rockefeller invited a number of leading UFO researchers including Dr Steven Greer, a long time campaigner for UFO disclosure, to provide him with solid evidence to help him complete material for his proposed briefing. The briefing was schedule to take place in August 1995 and was to coincide with the 17-day period the Clintons were on vacation.

In the end the briefing apparently took place on August 19 at the Rockefeller Ranch. However, these is some uncertainly whether President Clinton actually attended and it appears more likely that it was Hillary who came.

Despite all Rockefeller's efforts to inform the Clinton's about the UFO subject it is clear that President Clinton could do nothing himself to gain access to the classified information on UFOs. Sarah McClendon, a senior White House reporter who told Dr Greer that she had put the question of UFO secrecy to Clinton, expressed Clinton's frustration. She asked the President why he didn't just do something to disclose the truth about UFOs. McClendon said that the President leaned over to her and in response to her question said, *"Sarah, there's a secret government within the government, and I have no*

*Control over it."*

It now appears clear that the only real possibility for initiating UFO disclosure remains in the hands of independent UFO organizations and persuading those in the military to come forward with their accounts. UFOs are still considered far too much of a threat to national security for any official or Presidential disclosure to ever take place.

N.B

Since writing this article so much has happened in the UFO field and as most people will know my colleague and friend Leslie Kean who wrote one of the best books about the UFO subject – UFOs: Generals, pilots and government officials go on the record, then went on to co-write the famous front page New York Time's article on the secret Pentagon UFO program called Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP), which forced the US government to instigate a congressional UFO task force to fully investigate what they now refer to as unidentified areal phenomena or UAPs.

This article was a game changer as it confirmed the US government had been lying all the time about their claim they were not interested in investigating UFOs.

Leslie Kean's books can be found on her official website <https://www.lesliekean.com/>

And the New York Times article can be found here.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/16/us/politics/pentagon-program-ufo-harry-reid.html>