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EDITORIAL

YES, I KNOW IT'S BEEN A WHILE, 2009 TO BE EXACT, SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF UHR. IT HASN'T BEEN IDLE TIME TO BE SURE AS MUCH HISTORICAL WORK HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. CONSIDERABLE NEW INFORMATION HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE RECORD ON THE EARLY HISTORY OF UFO REPORTS. WE HAVE ALSO LOST FRIENDS DURING THIS TIME. MY CO-AUTHOR ON CLEAR INTENT, LARRY FAWCETT, PASSED ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2010. JIM MOSELEY, WHO FREQUENTLY CARRIED ON LONG PHONE CHATS WITH ME, PASSED AWAY ON NOVEMBER 16, 2012. HE ALWAYS REMARKED HOW UHR WAS HIS ALL-TIME FAVORITE UFO NEWSLETTER BECAUSE OF THE STYLIZED AIRSHIP BANNER I USE. IT IS A DEPICTION OF AN 1896 SAN FRANCISCO AIRSHIP FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS.

THE HISTORY OF THE UFO PHENOMENON HAS CONTINUED TO EVOLVE IN THE MEANTIME WITH FLAPS AND FLURRIES BEING IDENTIFIED DURING THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, PARTICULARLY DURING THE WORLD WAR 1 ERA. THESE ARE TIMES ABOUT WHICH WE HAVE LONGED TO KNOW MORE. THE INCREASING PROCESS OF NEWSPAPER DIGITIZATION HAS ALLOWED UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO SOURCES IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE IN THE PAST WITHOUT A GREAT DEAL OF EXPENSE AND EFFORT. A BACKLOG OF RESULTS FROM THESE SOURCES HAS DEVELOPED SO THE NEED FOR DISCUSSION IS HERE.

"THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP," AN EARLY SILENT FILM: UPDATE

IN A PREVIOUS ISSUE OF UHR, SEPTEMBER 2006 (#12), I DISCUSSED INFORMATION RELATED TO THE DISCOVERY THAT AN OLD SILENT FILM CALLED "THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP" ONCE EXISTED. THIS WAS EVIDENT IN NEWSPAPERS FROM 1914 AND 1915 AND SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE FILM MIGHT HAVE BEEN BASED UPON NEWS STORIES AT THE TIME OF STRANGE AIRCRAFT SPOTTED OVER THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH. NEW INFORMATION HAS SURFACED ON THIS HARD-TO-CRACK NUT.

IF ONE TRIES TO PERFORM AN INTERNET SEARCH ON THE FILM, VERY LITTLE WILL BE FOUND. I WAS ABLE TO EXTRACT A NUMBER OF NEWS CLIPPINGS AT FIRST AS AN UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE OF SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION IN GENERAL ON REPORTS OF MYSTERIOUS OBJECTS SEEN AROUND THE WORLD. BANNER ADS MENTIONING THE FILM APPEARED AT FIRST IN JAMAICAN NEWSPAPERS, THEN SOME MONTHS LATER IN THE UNITED STATES. BUT THERE SIMPLY WEREN'T ENOUGH SOURCES AVAILABLE TO MOVE THE STORY ANY FURTHER. ADS DID MENTION THAT THIS WAS A "TWO-REEL" PRODUCTION. A SINGLE REEL OF SILENT FILM AVERAGED 10-12 MINUTES SO A TWO-REELER WOULD HAVE CLOCKED IN AT 20 TO 24 MINUTES, A SHORT SUBJECT BY TODAY'S STANDARDS.

WITH THE REGULAR POSTING OF NEW PAPERWORK FROM THE PAST, WE ARE NOW ABLE TO STUDY AN ARRAY OF SOURCES PREVIOUSLY UNAVAILABLE. SEARCHES ON THE FILM WERE TRIED AGAIN. AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DID TURN UP. IT SEEMS THAT AFTER THE NOTICE OF SCREENINGS IN JAMAICA, THE FILM TRAVELED ACROSS SCATTERED AREAS OF THE U.S., NEVER STAYING IN ONE PLACE FOR LONG. THERE HAVE BEEN NO MOVIE REVIEWS DISCOVERED SO FAR, ONLY BRIEF MARQUEE MENTIONS OF "THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP." HOWEVER, IN NEW SOURCES I HAD NOTICED THE WORD "UNITED" MENTIONED AFTER THE TITLE. I THOUGHT THIS MIGHT IDENTIFY THE COMPANY BEHIND THE FILM, BUT AS IT TURNED OUT THIS WASN'T THE CASE. THE HABIT OF LISTING FILMS IN THE PRESS THEN INCLUDED THE DISTRIBUTOR OF THE FILM RATHER THAN THE PRODUCTION COMPANY. "UNITED" APPEARED REPEATEDLY IN THE LISTINGS AND WAS SOON FOUND TO BE THE "UNITED FILM SERVICE," WHICH SHIPPED CANS OF FILM OF VARYING TITLES AROUND THE COUNTRY. SO NOW WHAT, KNOWING WHO HAD DISTRIBUTED THE FILM DOESN'T HELP MUCH.

THE DIGGING CONTINUED UNTIL NEWLY DIGITIZED PAPERS FROM NEW YORK SURFACED. BOTH THE "NEW YORK DOMESTIC MIRROR" AND "BILLBOARD" BECAME AVAILABLE, CONTAINING ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT THE RELEASE OF NEW FILMS TO THE PUBLIC. INDEED, "THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP" WAS ANNOUNCED AS PREMIERING ON APRIL 26, 1915, IN U.S. THEATERS. WHAT'S MORE, ANOTHER TERM ACCOMPANIED THE LISTING: "IDEAL." FEELING SURE THIS WAS LIKELY THE PRODUCTION COMPANY, ANOTHER SEARCH FOR PRODUCTION HOUSES WITH THAT NAME WAS UNDERTAKEN. ONE PERFECTLY FIT THE BILL.

THE IDEAL FILM COMPANY, CALLED "IDEAL" FOR SHORT, WAS A FIRM BASED IN ELSTREE, ENGLAND. IT DID BOTH PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION FROM ITS INCEPTION IN 1911 TO ITS DECLINE AND MERGER WITH BRITISH GAUMONT FILMS IN 1927. FURTHER, THE COMPANY'S FILMOGRAPHY IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AND LISTS "THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP" AMONG ITS PRIMARY PRODUCTIONS. ODDLY THE LIST STATES THAT THE FILM WAS MADE IN 1915, WHICH IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN SINCE IT HAD SCREENED IN JAMAICA IN LATE 1914. NOW WITH REGARD TO THIS PERIOD IN TIME, THERE WERE ALL KINDS OF ACTIVE EFFORTS TO PUT UP FLYING MACHINES. AIRSHIP IDEAS WERE FIGURED INTO FICTION STORIES BECAUSE WE WERE ON THE CUSP OF MAKING AIRSHIPS COMMERCIALY VIABLE, BOTH AS MONEY-MAKERS AND WEAPONS OF WAR. HOWEVER, THERE WERE THOSE REPORTS OF AIRSHIPS NO ONE KNEW OF AS COMING FROM ANY PARTICULAR INVENTOR. THEY'D BE SEEN BUT NOT IDENTIFIED. THEY AMOUNTED TO THE "FLYING SAUCERS" OF THEIR DAY.

CALIFORNIA 1896, MIDWEST 1897, NEW ENGLAND, UK, AND NEW ZEALAND 1909 WERE ALL OF THIS NATURE, WITH MANY OF THE REPORTS NEVER REALLY BEING LINKED TO ANYONE WITH CERTAINTY. WHAT WAS NOTABLE WITH "THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP" FILM IS THAT THE PROMOTION OF IT HINTS AT IT BEING, AT LEAST IN PART, IN THE CATEGORY OF THE UNKNOWN VIEWINGS INSTEAD OF BEING FROM THE FICTIONALIZED INVENTORS IN THE EARLIER FILMS. FROM THE CONTENT OF THE PROMOTION, I DON'T THINK IT IS A DOCUMENTARY, DESPITE THE JAMAICAN'S LINKING IT TO THEIR OWN LITTLE SIGHTING FLAP. IT IS CALLED IN OTHER ADS A "DRAMA," SORT OF LIKE "CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND," WHICH CAN BE CALLED A UFO MOVIE WITHOUT BEING A DOCUMENTARY. "CLOSE ENCOUNTERS 3K" WAS BASED UPON REAL REPORTING TO CREATE THE STORY. "MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP" IS PRECISELY HOW THE PRESS THEN OFTEN HEADLINED THEIR REPORTS OF UNKNOWN OBJECTS IN THE AIR.

SO THE STORY READS SO FAR: THE IDEAL FILM COMPANY (IFC) IS FORMED IN 1911. IN LATE 1912 THROUGH EARLY 1913, MYSTERY AIRSHIPS INUNDATE THE BRITISH ISLES. THE INSPIRATION FOR CREATING A "DRAMA" IS LAID BEFORE IFC IN THE FORM OF PRESS HEADLINES THAT LITERALLY GAVE THE COMPANY THE FILM'S TITLE. THE FILM IS MADE AFTER THAT AIRSHIP WAVE, SOMETIME BETWEEN THE SPRING OF 1913 AND LATE 1914. THE FILM PREMIERES IN JAMAICA ON DECEMBER 12, 1914, ODDLY ENOUGH ON THE SAME DAY THAT NEWS REPORTS APPEARED OF MYSTERY AIRSHIPS BEING SEEN OVER THE ISLAND (KINGSTON GLEANER, DECEMBER 12, 1914. SEE ALSO UHR #12). THE ADS FOR THE MOVIE IN JAMAICA EXPLOITED THE NEWS REPORTS BY MENTIONING THE "RUMOURS ABOUT AN AIRSHIP THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE FLYING OVER KINGSTON AT NIGHT." (AD FOR "THE PALACE, KINGSTON GLEANER, DECEMBER 12, 1914). THE FILM APPEARS IN THE UNITED STATES BEGINNING IN APRIL 1915 AND IS SHOWN OCCASIONALLY THROUGH 1917 (ADS RECOVERED FROM A VARIETY OF U.S. NEWSPAPERS.). THE UNITED STATES EXPERIENCED ITS OWN MYSTERY AIRSHIP OUTBURSTS DURING THE 1915 TO 1917 PERIOD BUT THIS IS FOR LATER DISCUSSION.

GIVEN THE COMMONLY MENTIONED STATISTICS THAT A VAST MAJORITY OF SILENT MOVIES ARE NOW LOST FOREVER, IT MAY BE THAT WE WILL NEVER SEE THIS ONE. EVEN THOUGH MORE SPECIFICS ABOUT THE PLOT AND MAKING OF "THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP" ARE STILL ELUSIVE, I THINK IT IS FAIR TO SAY AT THIS POINT THAT IT QUALIFIES TO BE CALLED THE FIRST UFO MOVIE EVER MADE.

AIR FORCE VIETNAM ERA UFO REPORTS SURFACE

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IS COMMONLY CALLED AMERICA'S MEMORY. HOUSED THERE IS THE GOVERNMENT'S UFO INVOLVEMENT BETWEEN 1947 AND 1969, PROJECT BLUE BOOK, WITH WELL OVER 100,000 PAGES OF UFO INVESTIGATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE HANDLING. IT SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISING TO SAY THAT PROJECT BLUE BOOK IS NOT ALL THERE IS TO THE OFFICIAL UFO MEMORY. WHEN THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT WAS RECONSTITUTED INTO A MORE READILY USABLE FORM FOR THE PUBLIC IN 1974, MANY OF US BEGAN TO USE IT TO PROBE WHAT ELSE MIGHT HAVE BEEN DOCUMENTED OUTSIDE THE INFLUENCE OF BLUE BOOK. THE RESULT WAS AROUND 4000

PAGES OF UFO-RELATED RECORDS BY 1984, AND WELL-MORE THAN DOUBLE THAT TO THE PRESENT TIME.

IN THIS ERA OF DIGITIZATION IT BEHOOVES THE GOVERNMENT TO TRANSFORM THEIR HARDCOPY PAPERWORK INTO AN EASIER-TO-USE FORMAT. THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES HAS BEGUN THIS PROCESS WITH ITS VAST HOLDINGS, THROUGH WHAT WILL BE A LONG PERIOD OF TIME. PROJECT BLUE BOOK IS STILL AVAILABLE IN HARDCOPY AND MICROFILM FROM THEM BUT OTHERS HAVE ALREADY DIGITIZED THE FILM. FOLDS.COM HAS MADE BLUE BOOK OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

GIVEN THAT A VARIETY OF DIGITIZATION PROJECTS ARE UNDER WAY AT THE ARCHIVES, IT DOESN'T TAKE MUCH TO CHECK THEIR SEARCH ENGINES TO SEE WHAT HAS BEEN ADDED. IF ONE TAKES THE BASIS SEARCH OF THE WHOLE ARCHIVE WEBSITE AND ENTERS "UFO," OR A SIMILAR PHRASE, THERE WILL BE A LISTING OF PROJECT BLUE BOOK ENTRIES ALONG WITH AN ASSORTMENT OF OTHER SOURCES, SUCH AS ORAL HISTORY DISCUSSIONS OF THE TOPIC. HOWEVER, THERE ARE OTHER SEARCHES OF THE ARCHIVES THAT DO NOT PRODUCE WELL-KNOWN SOURCES.

I TRIED ONE OF THOSE: "ACCESS TO ARCHIVAL DATABASES" WHICH PROBES THE NEW DIGITAL LISTINGS OF ARCHIVE DOCUMENTS. IMMEDIATELY A LISTING WAS COMPILED OF MESSAGE TRAFFIC FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT, LONG INTERESTED IN SIMPLIFYING THEIR OWN ARCHIVAL PROBLEMS. USING "UFO" I WAS ABLE TO ACCESS MESSAGES FROM THE 1970S MOSTLY DEALING WITH THE EFFORTS BY THE ISLAND OF GRENADA TO URGE THE UNITED NATIONS TO BACK A UFO STUDY.

BUT A BIGGER SURPRISE WAS LOOMING. ALONG WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT LISTING WAS ANOTHER FILE GROUP, DESCRIBED AS THE "CACTA," OR "COMBAT AIR ACTIVITIES FILE." THIS WAS A COLLECTION OF RECORDS OUTLINING AIR MISSIONS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR IN SUMMARY FORM. CLEARLY, THERE HAS BEEN A DEMAND FOR OLD VIETNAM PAPERS, WITH VETERAN EXPLORING THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE AND REFRESHING MEMORIES. A SITE WITH "COMBAT AIR ACTIVITIES?" WHY NOT TOSS IN "UFO" AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT MUCH IN THE WAY OF EXPECTATIONS.

TO MY ASTONISHMENT A LIST OF RECORDS TURNS UP, DESCRIBING AIR ACTIVITIES IN VIETNAM WITH TERMS LIKE "SUS UFO," "UFO," "UFO SERCH" AND "UFO CHASE." SUCH RESULTS, TO PUT IT MILDLY, WERE UNCONVENTIONAL. DURING THE TIME THAT LARRY FAWCETT, BOB TODD AND MYSELF WERE CHASING DOCUMENTS WHILE WORKING WITH CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY, WE TRIED TO AVOID USING THE TERM "UFO" IN CORRESPONDENCE BEYOND WHAT HAD TO BE DONE WHEN THE ACRONYM WAS SPECIFICALLY USED IN GOVERNMENT RECORDS. IN FILING REQUESTS WITH AGENCIES, THE IMPRESSION WAS GIVEN AFTER A WHILE THAT INCLUDING "UFO" IN A REQUEST WOULD RAISE THE IMAGE OF THE REQUESTOR AS A "KOOK", "NUT" OR WORSE, WITH THE REQUEST BEING MARGINALIZED AS BEING LESS THAN SERIOUS. AGENCIES HAD MANY OTHER WAYS TO REFER TO SUCH PHENOMENA WITHOUT USING "UFO," MAKING OUR DECISION NOT TO USE

IT AS PRACTICAL. IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE POPULAR STIGMA OF THE UFO WAS DIFFICULT FOR AGENCIES TO USE, EVEN INTERNALLY.

WELL, APPARENTLY, THIS WASN'T A UNIVERSAL NOTION. THE AIR FORCE IN VIETNAM NOT ONLY USED "UFO" BUT IT WAS USED AS A STANDARD DESCRIPTOR WHEN SUCH A PHENOMENON WAS EVIDENT. WITH ALL OF THESE REPORTS IN THE CACTA DATABASE, "UFO" WAS ASCRIBED WELL AFTER THE CONDON REPORT'S CONCLUSIONS WERE WIDELY PUBLICIZED THAT NOTHING WAS TO BE GAINED BY FURTHER AIR FORCE INVESTIGATIONS.

SO WHAT ARE THESE REPORTS?

THEY ARE IN A SUMMARY FORM ON AN EXCEL-LIKE GRID WITH NO NARRATIVES. SOME OF THE REPORTS WERE LISTED MORE THAN ONCE SO, WHEN COMBINED, THEY BOIL DOWN TO SIXTEEN REPORTS. ALL THE LISTED AS "SECRET," APPARENTLY STILL NOT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. AS SUCH, A FOIA REQUEST WILL BE FILED SHORTLY. THE AIRCRAFT MISSIONS VARIED AS, "AIR INTERDICTION," "VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE," "FLARE DROP," "STRIKE," OR "AIRBORNE ALERT." (SEE ATTACHED PRINTOUT, NEXT PAGE) DURING THIS TIME THE AIR FORCE WAS BACKING AWAY FROM UFOS PUBLICLY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME LIBERALLY USING THAT ACRONYM FOR INSIDE CHRONICLING. UFO RESEARCHERS WERE WITTINGLY TRYING TO AVOID THE TAINTED TERM, WHILE UNWITTINGLY WE WERE MISSING INTERESTING INFORMATION BY NOT USING IT.

NOTE THAT REPORTS OF POSSIBLE UNIDENTIFIED MAN-MADE VEHICLES, OR "AIRCRAFT (UNIDENT), WERE DISTINGUISHED FROM NOT-OBVIOUSLY MAN-MADE OBJECTS, OR "UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED." NONE OF THE REPORTS ARE IN PROJECT BLUE BOOK'S LISTING OF UFO CASES. THIS IS LIKELY AN ECHO OF THE BOLENDER MEMO WHICH SAID THAT REPORTS OF NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERN ARE NOT PART OF THE BLUE BOOK SYSTEM.

ALMOST CERTAINLY SOME OF THESE REPORTS COULD HAVE A CONVENTIONAL EXPLANATION IF THERE WERE MORE THAN SUMMARIES. THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE NO

GOOD REASON TO WITHHOLD THE REPORTS IF A FOIA REQUEST WERE FILED. THESE EVENTS WERE 50 YEARS AGO. INVOKING NATIONAL SECURITY FOR A WAR THAT ENDED IN THE NOW DISTANT PAST WOULD NOT BE CONVINCING.

THE CACTA DATABASE IS LIMITED IN COVERAGE AT THE MOMENT, OFFERING RESULTS FROM ONLY THREE YEARS OF THE VIETNAM WAR OUT OF THE TEN FOUGHT. IT IS FULLY EXPECTED THAT MORE SUCH INCIDENTS WILL APPEAR WHEN THE DATABASE IS EXPANDED.

CASE SUMMARIES (ALL REPORTS EXCEPT 1/25/69 WERE AT NIGHT):

DATE	REGION	COUNTRY	MISSION PURPOSE	AIRCRAFT	DETERMINATION
3/7/67	TAY NINH	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	UFO
3/13/67	TAY NINH	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	UFO
1/25/69	KONTUM	S. VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT	AC-119G	UFO AT 500 FT.
2/1/69	KONTUM	S. VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT	AC-119G	SUS UFO
2/3/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	CHASE UFO
2/6/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	AC/UNIDENTIFIED	AC-119G	SUS UFO
2/7/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-119G	SUS UFO
2/8/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT	AC-119G	UFO SERCH
2/9/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT	AC-47D	UFO CHASE
2/10/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	UFO CHASE
2/11/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	UFO CHASE
2/13/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	UFO CHASE
2/14/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	UFO CHASE
2/16/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-47D	UFO CHASE
2/21/69	PLEIKU	S. VIETNAM	UNIDENTIFIED	AC-119G	UFO CHASE
4/7/69	PHUOC LONG	S. VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT	AC-119G	UFO

"I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THIS STORY HAS EVER BEEN TOLD OR NOT. THEY WERENT CALLED UFOS. THEY WERE CALLED ENEMY HELICOPTERS. AND THEY WERE ONLY SEEN AT NIGHT AND THEY WERE ONLY SEEN IN CERTAIN PLACES. THEY WERE SEEN UP AROUND THE DMZ IN THE EARLY SUMMER OF '68. AND THIS RESULTED IN QUITE A LITTLE BATTLE. AND IN THE COURSE OF THIS, AN AUSTRALIAN DESTROYER TOOK A HIT AND WE NEVER FOUND ANY ENEMY, WE ONLY FOUND OURSELVES WHEN THIS HAD BEEN ALL SORTED OUT. AND THIS CAUSED SOME SHOOTING THERE, AND THERE WAS NO ENEMY AT ALL INVOLVED BUT WE ALWAYS REACTED. ALWAYS AFTER DARK. THE SAME THING HAPPENED UP AT PLEIKU AT THE HIGHLANDS IN '69." GENERAL GEORGE S. BROWN, USAF CHIEF OF STAFF (PRESS CONFERENCE, ILLINOIS, 10/16/1973)

THERE ARE OTHER KNOWN UFO REPORTS OF THE VIETNAM WAR ERA. ON JUNE 11, 1967 AT DA NANG, SOUTH VIETNAM WITNESSES VIEWED A SILVER CYLINDER FOR SEVERAL MINUTES. WHILE THE OBJECT WAS IN VIEW IT WAS SAID THAT TWO F-104 AIRCRAFT CHASED THE UFO (AP DISPATCH, JUNE 15, 1967). ON JUNE 19, 1966 A UFO APPEARED AT NHA TRANG FROM THE NORTH AND MOVING IN A STOP & GO FASHION. IT STOPPED AND HOVERED 300 - 500 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND. ELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECTS WERE REPORTED ON VEHICLES AND MACHINERY FOR ABOUT 4 MINUTES AS THE OBJECT ILLUMINATED AN ARMY BASE. IT SOON AFTER SHOT INTO THE AIR AND DISAPPEARED IN SECONDS (RAY FOWLER CASE FILE). THE AUSTRALIAN MISSILE DESTROYER, THE HMAS HOBART, WAS DAMAGED BY FRIENDLY FIRE ON JUNE 15, 1968 OFF THE COAST NEAR THE DMZ THAT SOME ALLEGE WAS INSTIGATED BY UFO ACTIVITY INSTEAD OF THE OFFICIAL STORY, ENEMY HELICOPTERS. (SEE [HTTP://WWW.UFOEVIDENCE.ORG/CASES/CASE60.HTM](http://www.ufoevidence.org/cases/case60.htm))

THE CACTA DATABASE CASE SUMMARIES

View Record	MISSION DATE	MISSION IDENTIFIER: HEADQUARTERS	LAUNCH UNIT IDENTIFIER: HEADQUARTERS	MISSION PRIMARY FUNCTION	MISSION ABBREVIATION NUMBER: PROGRAM ID	SERVICE SUPPORTED DESIGNATOR	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TARGET/OBJECTIVE TYPE CODE
	02/01/1969	USAF	USAF	VISUAL RECCE	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/01/1969	USAF	USAF	VISUAL RECCE	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/01/1969	USAF	USAF	VISUAL RECCE	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/01/1969	USAF	USAF	VISUAL RECCE	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/06/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AIRCRAFT (UNIDENT)
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUS UFO							
	02/06/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AIRCRAFT (UNIDENT)
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUS UFO							
	02/06/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AIRCRAFT (UNIDENT)
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO							
	02/06/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AIRCRAFT (UNIDENT)
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO							
	02/07/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUS UFO							
	02/07/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUS UFO							
	02/07/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUS UFO							
	02/08/1969	USAF	USAF	FLARE DROP	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO SERCH							
	02/08/1969	USAF	USAF	FLARE DROP	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO SERCH							
	02/08/1969	USAF	USAF	FLARE DROP	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO SERCH							
	02/08/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/08/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/08/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/10/1969	USAF	USAF	FLARE DROP	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/10/1969	USAF	USAF	FLARE DROP	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/11/1969	USAF	USAF	STRIKE	STEEL TIGER	USAF	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/11/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/13/1969	USAF	USAF	AIRBORNE ALERT	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/14/1969	USAF	USAF	FLARE DROP	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/14/1969	USAF	USAF	FLARE DROP	IN COUNTRY	USA		UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED

View Record	MISSION DATE	MISSION IDENTIFIER: HEADQUARTERS	LAUNCH UNIT IDENTIFIER: HEADQUARTERS	MISSION PRIMARY FUNCTION	MISSION ABBREVIATION NUMBER: PROGRAM ID	SERVICE SUPPORTED DESIGNATOR	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TARGET/OBJECTIVE TYPE CODE
							SOUTH VIETNAM	
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/21/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/21/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	01/25/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	COMMENTS: SIGHTED 1 UFO HEADING NORTH AT 500FT AGL							
	02/01/1969	USAF	USAF	VISUAL RECCE	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/01/1969	USAF	USAF	VISUAL RECCE	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUSP UFO							
	02/03/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): CHASE UFO							
	02/06/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AIRCRAFT (UNIDENT)
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): SUS UFO							
	02/06/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AIRCRAFT (UNIDENT)
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO							
	02/09/1969	USAF	USAF	AIRBORNE ALERT	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	AREA/DEPOT
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/16/1969	USAF	USAF	AIRBORNE ALERT	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							
	02/21/1969	USAF	USAF	AIR INTERDICTION	IN COUNTRY	USA	SOUTH VIETNAM	UNKNOWN/UNIDENTIFIED
	RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD): UFO CHASE							

WE CAN NOW CONFIRM GENERAL BROWN'S VIETNAM/UFO QUOTE AS ACCURATE. HE ALSO MENTIONS THE INCIDENT WITH THE HMAS HOBART WITHOUT NAMING THE VESSEL.

ONE NATIONAL ARCHIVES BLOGGER, JOE GILLETTE, A PROCESSING ARCHIVIST AT ARCHIVES 2, REPORTED FINDING THE DAILY JOURNAL OF THE 23RD INFANTRY DIVISION'S CHU LAI DEFENSE COMMAND. IN THE JANUARY 6, 1969 ENTRY, OBSERVATION TOWER 72 CALLED IN AT 1:52 AM: ***"TWR 72 RPTS OBJECT FLYING INTO THEIR AREA ABOUT 700M INFRONT OF THEM. AZS10. OBJECT CAME IN SLOW OVER THE ASP & LANDED. WHEN OBJECT MOVES IT HAS A GLOWING LIGHT. IT IS ABOUT 15-20 FT. ACROSS. IT IS SHAPED LIKE A BIG EGG. CONTROL TWR RPTS THEIR RADAR DID NOT PICK ANYTHING UP. OBJECT ALSO DOES NOT SEEMS TO HAVE ANY SOUND TO IT WHEN IT MOVES."*** THIS ALL SOUNDS RATHER SENSATIONAL. DOUBTS? CHECK IT YOURSELF:

[HTTP://BLOGS.ARCHIVES.GOV/TEXTMESSAGE/2011/06/06/NO-ENEMY-CONTACT-BUT-ALIEN-CONTACT%E2%80%A6/](http://blogs.archives.gov/textmessage/2011/06/06/no-enemy-contact-but-alien-contact%E2%80%A6/)

...AND FOR THE AAD DATABASE: [HTTP://AAD.ARCHIVES.GOV/AAD/](http://aad.archives.gov/aad/).

FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLE OF A CASE REPORT FROM THE CACTA DATABASE INDIVIDUAL CASE SUMMARY SHEET. PLEIKU, SOUTH VIETNAM, FEB. 9, 1969:

Field Title	Value	Meaning
<u>MISSION DATE</u>	690209	02/09/1969
<u>MISSION IDENTIFIER: HEADQUARTERS</u>	J	USAF
<u>MISSION IDENTIFIER: NUMBER</u>	M011	M011
<u>TARGET SEQUENCE IDENTIFIER</u>	B	B
<u>SORTIE SEQUENCE IDENTIFIER</u>	A	A
<u>LAUNCH UNIT IDENTIFIER: HEADQUARTERS</u>	J	USAF
<u>LAUNCH UNIT IDENTIFIER: UNIT IDENTIFIER CODE</u>	BHSD0	BHSD0
<u>MISSION PRIMARY FUNCTION</u>	54	AIRBORNE ALERT
<u>SORTIE FUNCTION</u>	37	FLARE DROP
<u>SECURITY CLASSIFICATION</u>	S	SECRET
<u>CORRECTION CODE IDENTIFIER</u>		
<u>MISSION ABBREVIATION NUMBER: PROGRAM ID</u>	VS	IN COUNTRY
<u>MISSION ABBREVIATION NUMBER: PROGRAM NUMBER</u>	02&4744	02&4744
<u>SERVICE SUPPORTED DESIGNATOR</u>	W	USA
<u>MISSION ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED: MAJOR PROGRAM</u>		
<u>MISSION ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED: MISSION NUMBER</u>		
<u>MISSION NICKNAME</u>	SPOOKY 23	SPOOKY 23
<u>OPERATION SUPPORTED</u>	MACARTHUR	MACARTHUR
<u>COUNTRY OF ORIGIN</u>	VS	SOUTH VIETNAM
<u>SORTIE LAUNCH BASE OR HULL NO</u>	VVPC	VVPC
<u>TYPE/MODEL/SERIES OF AIRCRAFT</u>	AC-47 D	AC-47 D
<u>NUMBER OF SORTIE AIRCRAFT</u>	001	1
<u>SORTIE FLYING HOURS</u>	0000	0
<u>TARGET TIME</u>	20202115	20202115
<u>PERIOD OF DAY</u>	N	NIGHT
<u>TARGET CONTROL</u>	N	NONE

<u>ELECTRONIC WARFARE SORTIE EFFECTIVENESS</u>		
<u>REFUEL INDICATOR</u>	00	0
<u>TYPE OF SORTIE IDENTIFIER</u>	T	TARGET ASSOCIATED
<u>MULTI-TARGET/FUNCTION DESIGNATOR</u>	M	MULTI-TARGET INDICATOR
<u>TARGET/OBJECTIVE TYPE CODE</u>	AR	AREA/DEPOT
<u>TARGET COUNTRY</u>	VS	SOUTH VIETNAM
<u>TARGET CORPS AREA/ROUTE AREA PACKAGE</u>	2	CORPS AREA II (IN-COUNTRY MISSIONS) or RTE AREA 2 (OUT-OF-COUNTRY MISSIONS)
<u>PROVINCE CODE</u>	08	PLEIKU
<u>POINT/SEGMENT/AREA TARGET</u>	P	A POINT TARGET REP BY A SINGLE SET OF COORDS
<u>TYPE OF COORDINATES REPORTED</u>	U	UTM
<u>TARGET LOCATION COORDINATES (BEGIN) (POSTA)</u>	AR78501350	AR78501350
<u>POSTA FIELD IN DEGREES AND THOUSANDTHS</u>	00000S000000E	00000S000000E
<u>RECONNAISSANCE TERM/TURN POSITION (POSTB)</u>	XX	XX
<u>POSTB FIELD IN DEGREES AND THOUSANDTHS</u>	00000S000000E	00000S000000E
<u>RECONNAISSANCE TERM/TURN POSITION (POSTC)</u>		
<u>POSTC FIELD IN DEGREES AND THOUSANDTHS</u>	00000S000000E	00000S000000E
<u>RECONNAISSANCE TARGET NAME/DESCRIPTION, OR AREA DEFINE POSITION (END) (POSTD)</u>	UFO CHASE	UFO CHASE
<u>POSTD FIELD IN DEGREES AND THOUSANDTHS</u>	00000S000000E	00000S000000E
<u>PRIMARY/SECONDARY TARGET</u>	2	SECONDARY
<u>TARGET TERRAIN TYPE</u>	M	MOUNTAINS
<u>TARGET WEATHER: CLOUD BASE IN HUNDREDS OF FEET</u>		
<u>TARGET WEATHER: VISIBILITY IN MILES (STATUTE)</u>	9	9
<u>TARGET WEATHER: TYPE</u>	N	NONE
<u>TARGET WEATHER: DEGREE</u>		
<u>CLOUD COVER (TARGET WEATHER)</u>	C	CLEAR
<u>RECORD ID</u>	C	COMPLETE MISSION