Disclosure

"Information on UFOs, including sighting reports, has been and is still being officially withheld." Colonel Joseph J. Bryan III

Colonel Joseph J. Bryan II is the founder of the CIA's psychological warfare staff, former Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force as well as advisor to NATO and board member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomenon (NICAP).

The question is often asked, "Why do we need to have the government make full disclosure regarding what they know about unidentified flying objects?" Clearly, there is a lot of evidence out there already, that unidentified flying objects either exist or they don't. So, do we really see the need for the government to have to reveal anything? What is the real issue with full disclosure by the government regarding what it knows about Unidentified Flying Objects?

I don't have any personal need to have the government disclose anything about unidentified flying objects. I also find no reason to have to "believe in" unidentified flying objects. It is simply an established fact that there are flying objects that have defied explanation as either natural phenomena or known man-made flying objects.

Of course I would dearly love to know what these objects actually are and their origin. This is human nature. As a species we always seem to be in search of answers. We want to know the what, why, where, and how of everything.

So, while I have no "need" for the government to disclose what they know about unidentified flying objects, I would sure like them to disclose what they know because it might add another piece to the puzzle that could lead to answers to the questions I have on the subject. At the same time I realize there may be a number of very valid reasons why the amount of information from the government regarding these objects is very limited.

The lack of governmental disclosure could be an indication of simple lack of knowledge to disclose. This seems unlikely based upon the number of years the government was involved in collecting information on UFOs, statements that have been made about sightings at government facilities, and statements by present and former government employees. Still the government might not know as much as we might suspect. This lack of real information can lead to a certain degree of hesitancy about disclosing what is known. Governments seldom want to disclose that they don't know what is happening.

In the late 40's immediately following World War II, the U.S. military would have obviously been very hesitant to disclose to the general public any information pertaining to vehicles operating in American airspace with impunity that could out fly all aircraft in the military inventory. This could be both a matter of national security not to mention a public embarrassment. Over the years UFOs continue to out fly all aircraft known to the public. So, a public disclosure by the government of this would amount to a direct admission that our government is incapable of policing its own airspace and admitting we are essentially at the mercy of whomever or whatever is responsible for the UFOs that are sighted. This is not the kind of disclosure that any government is likely to be interested in making.

If we ignore for the moment that there are UFO sightings that predate the 1940's we might also consider that at least some present UFOs might be advance aircraft developed by our government. One thing we do know is that there are indeed advanced aircraft that operate for ten, fifteen, and even twenty years before there existence is revealed publicly. The Blackbird and the Stealth Fighter are two prime examples of this. Clearly, if some of the UFO sightings are advanced military aircraft there is not going to be public disclosure since this is a matter of national security. In fact, the government would likely prefer that people think what they are seeing are alien spacecraft. This helps keep sightings of an advanced aircraft from being taken too seriously.

There is also the possibility that the Unidentified Flying Objects are some sort of alien spacecraft. There are those who are proponents of this point of view that would have us believe that there are multiple alien species involved, they have made various treaties or arrangements with the government, and we are all being "sold down the river" in some respect. My hesitance to subscribe to this point of view is largely due to its proponents. While they make extraordinary claims they are often involved in profiting in proportion to how outlandish their claims may be. They sell books, go on speaking tours, sell videos, and are paid to attend various UFO conventions largely because of the extreme nature of their claims. The potential for a major conflict of interest between objective disclosures versus profiteering make what many of these people claim highly suspect from my perspective. This is especially true when they cite lack of government disclosure as some kind of proof of their point of view.

The possibility that our government has some secret treaties or arrangements with one or more alien species is a bit of a stretch in the credibility department. First, it would be pretty hard for our government to make a secret treaty of this magnitude, and on top of this manage to keep it secret. Having had a security clearance myself, I know how hard it is for the government to keep a secret. As an employee working on government contracts I really had to take great care in the handling of classified documents and materials. Yet, when I was put through an extensive audit of the documents I had in my possession I had to turn in several for destruction due to security mis-marking. Were they mis-marked by me? No. They were mis-marked by the government. What I found time and time again was that government employees were very poor at following their own security directives. So, it never surprises me when government facilities, including nuclear research labs, manage to lose laptop computers and hard disks containing highly classified information. As a result I find it hard to believe that our government has managed to keep one of the most amazing secrets in the world for 50+ years.

As bad as the government is about keeping secrets, they do seem to have kept some of their cards pretty close to the vest. Over the years there is a significant amount of evidence that various Unidentified Flying Objects have indeed crashed under a variety of circumstances. It is also rather obvious that the remains of such crashes invariably come into the hands of the governments of the countries where the crashes have occurred. So, with little doubt there are crash remains in the hands of our government.

Crash remains that are advanced military aircraft are not disclosed for what they really are until long after the fact. I recall there was a highly secretive crash in the Sierra Nevada mountains only about a hundred miles from my home town in the late 70's or early 80's. The area was locked down by the military and completely sanitized before the public was allowed back into that region of the forest. Only after the F-117 fighter was publicly disclosed was it revealed that the crash had indeed been a Stealth Fighter on a training mission. If the craft had been something else we might still be waiting to find out what it was for very good reason.

If we assume that some crashed UFOs utilize extremely advanced technologies beyond the present capability of our civilization, the strategic and tactical implications are staggering. Things that could be learned from crash remains could lead to new propulsion systems, ways of counteracting inertial effects, new types of stealth technology and advanced weapon systems as well as new concepts for control systems and computer technology. Just as we had a space race in the 1950s and 60s we would have a UFO race today between the various governments that have access to crash remains. No government in that situation is going to want to "show their cards." At the same time any government that has crash remains isn't going to want to admit that they can't figure out what it is that they have.

So, while I might like the government to disclose what it knows about UFOs, the prospect of this happening would seem to be somewhere between slim and none for a lot of very good reasons. That being said, I suppose I'll just have to wait for a direct broadcast from the alien mother ship or a phone call from the mysterious Mr. Wilson (reference: W. A. Harbinson's, "Genesis," the UFO flap of 1897, and mentioned by Walter Bosley on the 3/1/07 broadcast of The Kevin Smith Show).