



U.S. Department of Justice

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

Date: July 11, 2018

To: Headquarters Air Force/IMIO (FOIA)
1000 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1000

From: David M. Hardy *dmh/brd*
Section Chief
Record/Information Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Subject: FOI/PA Request of Emma Best
FBI FOI/PA # 1347908-000
Re: CRISMAN, FRED LEE

In connection with review of FBI files responsive to the above request, the following were located:

- ☐ _____ unclassified document which originated with your agency is being referred to you for direct response to the requester. The requester has been advised of this referral. Please furnish us with a copy of your disclosure letter to the requester. (See index A)
- ☐ _____ FBI document(s) containing information (bracketed) concerning your agency.
 - ☐ We will advise the requester to expect a direct response from your agency regarding this matter.
 - ☐ Please review this information and return the document(s) to us, making any deletions you deem appropriate. (See index B)
- ☒ 1 _____ classified document which originated with your agency is being referred to you for direct response to the requester. The requester has been advised of this referral. Please furnish us with a copy of your disclosure letter to the requester, and advise us if the classification of the document changed so that we may amend our files. (See index C)
- ☐ _____ classified FBI document containing information (bracketed) concerning your agency.
 - ☐ We will advise the requester to expect a direct response from your agency regarding this matter.
 - ☐ Please review this information and return the document(s) to us, making any deletions you deem appropriate, citing the exemption(s) claimed. Please advise this Bureau if the document(s) still warrant classification. (See index D)
- ☐ Please note that some of the enclosed documents contain deletions made by the FBI. The appropriate exemption appears next to the redacted information. Since the documents will be released by the insert agency name, the requester should appeal to the insert agency name's appellate authority. The insert agency name's appellate authority will coordinate with the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Information Policy (OIP) regarding the FBI deletions once an appeal is received.

The requester may also seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, they may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If they submit their dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." The FOIPA Request Number should be cited in any correspondence to us for proper identification of the request.

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Index A:

Index B:

Index C:

Investigative Report, dated 12 August 1947, w/Venture Press letter dated July 22, 1947, FDPS pages 14-18

Index D:

Enclosures

CORRESPONDENCE

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 24634-06908659@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock

DEPT MR 54190

411A Highland Ave

Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.



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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2
Intelligence
Hamilton Field, California

TITLE Investigation of Flying Disc INVESTIGATION MADE AT Tacoma and Kelso, Washington
FILE NO. 44F-1203-1 CONTROLLING OFFICE Air Defense Command, Mitchell Field
DATE 12 August 1947 PERIOD COVERED 31 July through 7 August 1947
CASE CLASSIFICATION Incident
STATUS OF CASE Pending

REASON FOR INVESTIGATION: Investigation initiated at the request of Air Defense Command, reference ltr HQ ADC, dtd 7 Jul 47, file 0355.510, subj: Investigation of Flying Disc.

SYNOPSIS:

On 31 July 47, [redacted], telephoned Lt. Brown requesting he return to Tacoma because [redacted] believed he had some very vital information on the flying disc.

[redacted] interviewed a [redacted] and a [redacted], along with [redacted] of the United Air Lines, and Mr. [redacted], at the Winthrop Hotel in Tacoma, Washington, on the night of 31 July 1947.

The summary of their interrogation and findings was related to [redacted] Public Information Officer, McChord Field, by [redacted] and [redacted]. Major Gander retold the results of the investigation to this officer from his notes.

[redacted] and [redacted] were not available for interview while this officer was in that area, although every effort was made to contact them.

Further investigation of this particular incident was left with [redacted], Resident Agent, FBI, Tacoma, Washington.

It was apparent from newspaper clippings, telephone calls to this officer, and conversations with Major Gander, that a United Press correspondent, of the Tacoma Times, was instrumental in keeping this case alive. This officer and [redacted], although quoted many times in the press, did not discuss this matter with the press during the period of this report.

The anonymous mystery caller in Tacoma could possibly be [redacted] man.

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APPROVED: [redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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flattened similar to a deflated automobile inner tube. They were judged by Dahl to be approximately 100 feet across with a 25 foot opening in the center. The outer edge of the object had round portholes and the inner ring had square windows or portholes. The discs were silent and from his viewpoint he could see no means of propulsion. One of these discs appeared to falter and waver in the air, another of these aforementioned five discs dropped down close to the disc that appeared to waver and bumped it, dumping "tons" of the stuff as pictured in inclosure 3 to 7 on his boat, knocking off the handrail, horn, and generally damaging the boat to the extent of \$200.00, and killing Dahl's dog.

AGENT'S NOTE: This officer, in the company of [REDACTED], boarded the aforementioned boat where it was docked in the Tacoma harbor on 6 Aug 47. A hand rail was missing, but the area where the hand rail was previously fastened had been painted over with several coats of paint and was cracked by the weather. The deck and roof of the cabin was of a very thin construction and the cabin further had glass on the front and sides. It is this officer's opinion that if any of the objects presented by Dahl as samples of the material dropped by the flying disc had hit this boat, it would have certainly been necessary to replace the foredeck and the cabin roof. These two areas were very heavily coated with several coats of paint and had deep weather cracks that would take several seasons to acquire.

[REDACTED] who owns the boat and operates a shoreline water patrol for various business firms, evidently visited the area at Mury Island to check Dahl's story. He is supposed to have stated that he found the material that he presented to Lt Brown and Capt Davidson in a sand pit near where the incident was supposed to have occurred. While he, [REDACTED], was at the scene of the incident, a flying disc came out of the clouds and behaved in a similar manner as the ones previously described.

AGENT'S NOTE: The witnessing on two occasions, in broad daylight, of an object as large and clearly visible within several miles of the city of Tacoma certainly should have been seen and reported on by other than Dahl and Grieman. A check was made of the newspapers on and after 21 June and no mention could be found of a mysterious object appearing over the Tacoma harbor.

[REDACTED] is supposed to have sent samples of the objects that he picked up in the Mury Island sand pit to a friend of his at the University of Chicago for an analysis report. He is reported to have not received the analysis report.

AGENT'S NOTE: It is possible that the Dr. P. A. [REDACTED] reference inclosure 1 and 2, might have come across this incident through the University of Chicago.

The interrogation of [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] was completed about midnight on 31 July/1 August. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] returned to McChord Field and prepared for a night flight to Hamilton Field. The weather was clear with a bright moon shining. They departed approximately 0800 hours and crashed at approximately 0830 hours on 1 August 1947. (See Inclosure 8).

4. On 6 August 47, this officer, in the company of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], resident agent, Tacoma Federal Bureau of Investigation, attempted to

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VENTURE PRESS

305 STUDIO BUILDING
1718 SHERMAN AVENUE
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

July 22, 1947

Boise, Idaho

Dear :

Quite obviously you have been ribbed so much you'd like to forget the flying saucers--but I'd sure like to have your personal story, your photo, pic of your plane, etc, as I asked before. And you won't be made to look silly, because there's more to this than the newspapers and the "experts" have made of it.

Besides the article, I have another proposition. You seem to get around quite a bit, and if you can make a trip to Tacoma, Washington at all feasible, I'd be willing to pay expenses plus a nice amount to make it worth your while.

I'd want you to see _____, P. O. Box 134, Fern Hill Station, Tacoma, and _____, owner of the Tacoma Harbor Patrol, Inc. Dahl, and two other seamen, on a patrol near Murry Island, off Tacoma, saw six discs, one in trouble, witnessed an explosion, saw falling stuff which smashed their wheelhouse and searchlight and landed on the beach. They sent me samples which Chicago U has failed to analyze. I want a picture of the beach and the stuff that landed there (about twenty tons, they said). And I want somebody who'll get the truth, to find out if these boys are on the up and up. You could do that. I hope you will. If agreeable, please write and perhaps we can talk business. I think you'd like to prove this thing too!

Anyway, I still want that article!

Sincerely yours,

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