

Area 51

By Annie Jacobson

Little Brown and Company, N.Y., 2011, 521 pgs.

This book was a surprise bestseller. Much of it is based on newly declassified documents. However, the controversial part, namely her explanation for what happened at Roswell is based solely on an anonymous source from the EGG Corporation.

This source claims that in 1951, he and several other engineers were taken to Area 51's secret base to figure out the craft that crashed in Roswell in 1947. He claims Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin purposely crashed a Russian made flying disc with genetically altered children made to look like aliens by former Nazi doctor, Joseph Mengele. The alleged purpose of this is a "War of the Worlds" type hoax to scare the United States. This part of the book has received much criticism and rightly so. The author claims the Russians had stealth technology stolen from the World War II German engineers, the Horten Brothers, who made a flying wing during the War.

Jacobson claims the Roswell craft had Russian writing on it, writing that Major Jesse Marcell wrongly interpreted as alien writing. If the purpose was to look like aliens, why have Russian writing on it? Also, if you have stealth capability, why would you crash it on American soil where it could be recovered and studied by U.S. engineers? The author also claims this was covered up because we were doing unethical experiments too like the Soviets had.

The old 1963 TV series, "The Outer Limits", had an episode with a similar fake alien theme, only in the show the purpose was to unit mankind against a perceived common threat.

There is also some pages devoted to scientist Bob Lazar, who claimed he saw little gray aliens at Area 51. Jacobson's theory is that he saw people wear alien-looking masks in order to discredit any whistle-blowers. She admits the lie detector tests he took were inconclusive.

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