



GHOST  
ROCKETS

FOO FIGHTERS



**UFO'S OVER EUROPE 1943-48**  
MARK IAN BIRDSALL



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A RESEARCH PAPER PERTAINING TO THE PHENOMENON KNOWN AS

GHOST ROCKET AND FOO FIGHTER

1943-1948

by

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REFERENCES AND NOTES

IT IS ADVISABLE THAT THE REFERENCES AND NOTES CONTAINED IN THIS RESEARCH PAPER ARE GIVEN YOUR TOTAL ATTENTION WHEN CONSIDERING THE ASPECTS OUTLINED IN THIS REPORT.

IT IS SUGGESTED THEREFORE, THAT THE READER CONTINUALLY UPDATES THE INITIAL CONTENT WITH DATA FOUND IN THE REFERENCE/NOTES SECTION.

I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE, IN RESPECT OF THIS PAPER, ESPECIALLY FROM SERVING OR EX-MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN THE CONTENT.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE ENTERED INTO.

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## INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon known as 'Foo Fighters' and 'Ghost Rockets' has for many years, been regarded as the original predecessors to the modern era of the UFO enigma [1]. In over forty years little has been learned of the true nature or origin of the above named subject. A few authors have sought emotional explanations, whilst others simply believe that the pre-1947 observations were merely natural earthly manifestations; or generally the two categories combined. Predominantly, civilians working in this specialist field, have for some time ignored relative and substantiated evidence.

This evidence is without doubt available, both in historical research papers and captured second world war German military documentation. Many potentials lie behind these two phenomenon, but it is my contention that most of the reports have indeed conventional, yet remarkable explanations, based upon the revelations that the Nazi's had in their possession a variety of airborne 'weaponry' which could stimulate certain visible features - many of which given they were viewed today, would fall within the framework regarded as UFO's. This persistence of vision would grow to such an extent, that thankfully some reports remain today.

During the later part of the Second World War, many Allied and Axis military personnel (in particular air force pilots and ground anti-aircraft crews) observed luminous aeroforms many of which were placed in the unidentified category. Towards the end of the 1940's (1946-1949) hundreds of unusual missile shaped objects were seen in Scandinavia, Europe, and North Africa. According to 'UFO enthusiasts' no satisfactory explanation has ever been attributed to these sightings [2].

Belief plays a major role in the research of UFO phenomenon. Cluttered with fantasy and a gross lack of time and monies this failure has often hindered any kind of real investigation into these two "mysteries". Persuaded by the void pertaining to no real study of our own technological capabilities and skills in terms of aviation and space travel, UFO researchers decided to project a relationship with odd occurrences in WWII; these are namely unusual airborne sights; and whilst admitting a paradoxical state of affairs, I cannot help feel that much vital evidence has been sadly ignored. The study of war is perhaps more complex than most could imagine (or for that matter would care to imagine); an investigation into rapid developments and deployments of new born weaponry emerging from desperate war-weary nations, does not

compete in terms of the 'magical' nature and concept of unidentified flying objects (UFO's).

However, it has been noticeable that an acceleration has begun relating to the analysis of both the Foo Fighter and Ghost Rocket phenomenon, the result being an inter-linking between these subjects and the modern era of 'Ufology'. Sadly however, the vastness of military/scientific breakthroughs which simply litter that frantic time period between 1938 - 1947 has not. Identification of the majority of these two peculiar subjects has often been ignored, and this is extremely unfortunate. For to allow ourselves the freedom and liberty to 'generate' such sweeping statements as 'advanced alien craft' or natural phenomenon, one must first base that theory or hypothesis on the understanding of what weaponry and technology had already been achieved in 1945 [3]. It is simply not scientific to dismiss the suggestion that a ready answer to these phenomenon, may already have been found by our own military personnel - way back in 1945.

To establish and determine the nature of these lights and physical forms, particular emphasis has been given to detailed examination of thousands of official U.S, German, British and Scandinavian documents relating to the ultra advanced weaponry and rocketry held by various private covert German scientific organisations prior and during the war. That situation would be afforded an ever greater complexity-classification, as analysis, testing and the adoption of such weaponry was now in the factories of 'friendly nations'.

Some 'UFO' researchers have made unfortunate statements in the past regarding the reality of such weaponry as non-existent and at design stage only. This is simply not the case as evidence begins to emerge that towards the end of 1943, German intelligence [realising that it would now be impossible to win a war fighting on two fronts and against vast odds] began an intricate re-structuring of many industrial and private research institutes [4]; primarily, to generate a whole new series of physical and psychological weaponry and update many existing plans, and secondly - to restore stability - at least on recognised fronts. Without question nearly all of these reports [Foo Fighter & Ghost Rocket], can be categorized as advanced technology channelled from various secret German second world war scientific facilities. Many of these facilities fell into the hands of Western and Eastern block nations, as one by one, German military component and assembly lines were overrun. This research paper places much emphasis on reality and the psychological aspect and effect of the Foo Fighter and the Ghost Rocket sightings.

## THE THEATRE OF WAR

The determination of Allied nations to resist the all too apparent motives of Nazi Germany in 1939, came to a 'head' when it was learned that the Wehrmacht had entered a new era of weaponry - some four and a half years into the bloodiest war this planet had ever seen. By this time of course, German armed forces had overrun, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Holland, Belgium, France, Norway and many, many more countries. The German planners and developers had already 'fashioned' many existing occupied factories, into heavily fortified and working assembly lines. Foreign institutes and private research centres had fallen into Nazi hands, and many key research programmes intended to thwart the fast moving armies of Hitler, were now unfortunately, used to assist any counter attack that may be forthcoming.

Deep in the heart of Southern England, German intelligence signals [Enigma] had already been intercepted and decoded by ULTRA [5]; these data presented Winston Churchill and the British war-time intelligence services with a serious problem. For some eighteen months, he and his advisors had failed to grasp that the bluffs and the boasts that Germany had indeed developed various attack rockets and radio controlled pilotless aircraft which could not be intercepted were true. More menacing to the fear of the British people, was the truly unidentified craft which Hitler had pledged would be used in the near future. In 1943, that realization was beginning to peak.

The development of the V1 and the V2 (A-4) rockets began in the early 1930's and by 1936, the framework, design and construction of the long range rocket was reality. In terms of Germany's overall military research programmes, they formed just a part. Development of intercept projectiles which functioned incredibly well (under test conditions) were beginning to be moved out into the field of war.

It was close to the island of Rugen that the final testing and research facilities of Germany's rocket programme was based- Peenemunde; yet interestingly, the future launches of the V-weapons were to account for only a small percentage of 'Foo Fighter' reports. These weapons were originally designed to strike at all enemy targets, yet the guidance systems used on the rockets were incredibly poor [6]. Early in 1944, British intelligence had sufficient information to suggest that these virtually un-stoppable weapons were now being moved into France for a frightening attack on Britain. However, it is worth remembering that the initial tests of the V-weapons (which emanated from the Northern coastline of Germany) almost coincided with the first sightings of the unidentified aeroforms. Safe from enemy capture, the

Germans tested many different types of rocket propelled craft. Yet as we will learn, it does appear the real stimulus and initial concept, lies elsewhere - beyond the rocket scientists at this and other related bases.

Peenemunde under the leadership of Walter Dornberger housed such notable personnel, as Werner Von Braun, Professor Oberth and many more leading rocket scientists. Indeed, on this relatively small island, the seeds of space travel were born; but not before the genial scientists had led Germany into a chilling new period of the war.

Peenemunde is probably the most famous of all German secret research installations, situated on the northern coast over-looking the Baltic sea, it is now just a tiny part of the Eastern block. It was at this locality that rumours surrounding the nature of the rocket projects were generated. However, in terms of secrecy, Peenemunde was perhaps secondary. For all over Europe, German military installations were being 'cloaked' in a veil of stealth. Indeed, much further to the south, one such facility existed. Deep in the astonishingly beautiful Harz mountains existed a large underground pre-war constructed facility known to the Allies as - Nordhausen [7] (Central Works). On the 11th September 1943 this facility in conjunction with the Zeppelin factory at Friedrichshafen and other important contract companies around Vienna, began assembling V2 components. The race against time to halt the irresistible advance of the Allies into Europe had begun. Secretly, other - less known (yet truly more ingenious) projects were also gathering momentum.

On the other side of the Channel the preparation had commenced in Great Britain to assemble the largest maritime fleet ever to sail; the projected target - Hitler's Fortress Europe'; and its ultimate plan? - destroy German occupation of this continent. The effectiveness of German advanced weaponry was soon to be tested.

Meanwhile a totally new situation had arisen in Germany. Prior the new Allied offensive (which was shortly to commence - 6th June, 1944), Germany's scientific community had worked under (in the main) an odd series of commands. In simplistic terms, it was the heads of each fighting arm, that had 'ordered' weapons of 'their desire'. Some of these were totally absurd, whilst others had been built years ago. New technology was the key, and for the first time since the outbreak of war, it was the scientists who were coming forward with semi-unofficial plans which given that the German troops could hold their lengthy lines, these would be ready. In turn, the High Command, could foresee a time when even more futuristic weapons (which

given the fact that blue-prints were available years ago) would actually turn the tide of war in their favour.

### THE REPORTS EMERGE

Any person who is not familiar with the horror that is the theatre of war cannot comment upon the physical, mental and psychological effects that this human pastime ultimately brings. Foo Fighter reports were often generated by pilots and crews under immense strain, pressure and the constant problem of fatigue. Many of the pilots - flying several missions per week had survived, whilst others had seen colleagues die. Raids on cities such as Munich, Berlin, Nurnberg, Keil, Vienna, Hamburg and many, many others were to be the scene of several manifestations of unusual glowing aeroforms.

It is interesting to note, that the main thrust of the Foo Fighter report [sightings of] began in the summer of 1943. By this time of course, the Luftwaffe's effectiveness had been depleted to such a small, insignificant fighting force that only a partial defence capability existed in Germany at that time. And more importantly the mass Allied bombing raids began. Millions of people were to die horribly in German cities (as previously occurred in early Luftwaffe raids on Britain), as less and less defence craft were scrambled into action. This factor is just one of a strange series of events, that may hold an important clue into our investigation.

According to historical wartime documentation, emphasis for the adaptation from propeller driven craft to already available jet propulsion methods had not yet been generated in large numbers. However, to understand why Germany did not react quickly in respect of their own available technology - the reader must really delve into the non-committed - leading Nazi personnel. It was this failure to adapt quickly in terms of advanced scientific potentials (especially in the years 1940/41 when Germany enjoyed total control), that has puzzled military researchers to this day - and as history would show, it was this non-transfer of available science - into physical weaponry, that would prove fatal to Hitler's Germany. For the reader to grasp why this did not occur one must study and evaluate the internal organisational structure of each and every section of the German war machine; in particular those sections developing weaponry and surveillance systems years ahead of there time. And as previously mentioned, that change was first instigated after the 1943 raids.



After the Second World War had ended, Allied scientific missions were sent to Germany to try to establish why this strange situation had arisen. After studying thousands upon thousands of captured documents and the interrogation of many leading personnel had occurred, it became clear that Germany's three main fighting forces had continued to work under relative security and secrecy. The work and the scientific developments of each 'arm' of the armed forces, was in most cases concealed from other units even in their own branch. Indeed, having analysed several of these TOP SECRET British technical reports, it was obvious that a disastrous state of affairs had arisen in Germany. For example: I acquired U.S intelligence papers giving details of a new army weapon, and although constructed, test flown and assembly lines begun, this particular airborne weapon required further electrical modification and parts. Unfortunately, the contract work for this weapon was afforded to a company (private) who could not find the resources nor the technological manpower to devise these components. This weapon never flew one mission in anger. What astonished British and American Air Force intelligence missions (army) was the fact that the Luftwaffe had already constructed an identical weapon, complete with working electrical components, many months previous. The Wehrmacht (German army) had no idea that this was the case and in any event, it is doubtful due to a simple anomaly such as pride, would have offered details of their construction to the Luftwaffe.

The bureaucracy which surrounded the construction of advanced machinery was not limited to the heads of the three sections of the German fighting machine. Such a case had already arisen in the early part of the war. With the evacuation of British and French troops from Dunkirk, a situation arose whereby Hitler and Field Marshal Goring had the ideal opportunity to further test the heavy bombers and the frightening strength of the Luftwaffe; the Battle of Britain was to commence. It is now clear that even in 1939, concern was shown regarding the ability to strike effectively using mass heavy bombers. SS (Schutzstaffle) intelligence had warned of the apparent ability and fighting intent of the Royal Air Force. In the following months and after the loss of thousands of German bombers, the Luftwaffe raids began to become incoherent, military and industrial targets had become secondary and the innocent victims were civilians. An almost identical situation occurred towards the end of the war, whereby Allied mass bombing (initially begun to wreck German industrial output and aircraft production) resulted only in the destruction of cities - German aircraft output increased dramatically towards the end of the war. And this was due to clever manoeuvring on the part of the Luftwaffe Chiefs of Staff.

Again the year 1943 seems critical; Britain was now aided by America, and the cargo lines between the biggest aircraft and food producer in the world (America) and Britain was free of virtually all U-boat attacks. America had covertly shipped millions of pounds worth of equipment through to the U.K. for the coming assault on European Germany. Given that the German High Command tried for some five years to sever this supply link, it now seemed futile given the lack of success in the mid-Atlantic to continue the U-boats attack. Since the very first day that Germany reached the Channel ports of France, the construction companies under Hitler's guidance had begun its preparation for its [Germany] defence. This major Allied breakthrough signalled danger for the Third Reich, thus urgent planning was necessary to move obvious (component installations) and research bases underground. In December, 1987, I obtained a recently released British Intelligence document from America, outlining ULTRA acquired information that Germany's war time facilities throughout Europe were being located in hillsides, caves, mines, and a variety of natural impregnable locations. ULTRA's main concern was of new workings around the regions of Tharla, Saarbrucken, Dassua and the Harz mountains. Given that reconnaissance photographs showed aircraft sections (not recognised as conventional), Britain had indeed obtained vital data.

By 1943 it appears that the Luftwaffe and a number of special research departments based in several countries [including occupied nations] had entered into a new field of weaponry - part in conjunction with the rocket industry. It was the Luftwaffe - heavily depleted of its fighting strength in terms of experienced pilots and resources that quickly staged a recovery in respect of new breakthroughs - given that it was private contract companies (highly paid) that were pulling the strings.

For example; it has always been rumoured that Germany had constructed circular planform aircraft: without doubt such an occurrence did take place. It was a long process to determine which particular company, or for that matter, which research factory could have developed weaponry to confuse the Allied pilots and illuminate both day and night skies with totally absurd craft. However earlier this year the pieces of the jigsaw were almost complete and the very fact that Foo Fighters were seen even over parts of North Africa and possibly other far-off nations was coincidental; I acquired a top secret British/U.S. Intelligence briefing paper outlining ultra concern by both Allied military leaders over new research facilities (underground) which were also appearing in countries such as Rumania, Yugoslavia and throughout the central war zone [8].

By 1944, 90% of all German front line research into advanced weaponry was under the guise of the Waffen SS. Peenemunde had already been bombed on the 18th August 1943, but within weeks most of the machinery, weaponry and plans were transferred to Blizna in Poland (research facilities and component factories at Wiener Neustadt and Friedrichshafen which supported the research and component supplies that Peenemunde needed to function properly - were unaffected). And it was here that Allied air force pilots appeared to have encountered their first Unidentified Flying Objects - or 'Foo Fighters'.

As Churchill pondered over RAF reconnaissance photographs in his small war room, several British officials who had previously negated the possibility that Germany had developed long-range rockets fell into silence. Curious elongated marks were pictured against dark patches near outer-buildings. Other distinct circular constructions [9] were clearly visible. Churchill voiced his concern. His advisors agreed with the analysis and his orders, "Peenemunde must be bombed." With that order, the RAF began to plot the ultimate destruction of this secret Baltic base.

#### THE PHENOMENON EMERGES

It has to be said that the characteristics of the so-called Foo Fighter could be placed under several different categories; However the most frequently reported of all the variants was the singular glowing and highly manoeuvrable aeroform which often appeared to pace aircraft and show a distinct characteristic which many would shortly describe as 'controlled'. Foo Fighters were also seen in numbers primarily two, but often as many as ten (the height would often vary from 85,000ft to as low as 1000ft). Once again similar 'in-flight' manoeuvres were performed. Colours varied intensely, from white to deep red. These strange but benevolent objects showed little sign of menace and indeed became quite a common event over the skies of Germany.

It was, in my opinion, Bomber Command (Intelligence Bureaux) who first became aware of the Foo Fighter presence. After the raid on Peenemunde had occurred, talk between pilots that they had witnessed, "pulsating lights," and had been "buzzed", was popular. They were referring to unidentified aeroforms, the like they had never seen before.

The long-range bombers encountered stiff resistance over Peenemunde [10], searchlights appeared from every directions and wave after wave of flak lit up the sky. This was recognisable, but other airborne 'forms' did not comply to their

[Allied crews] training. Several bright circular lights which materialised from nowhere began circling the aircraft. The lights changed colour and appeared to revolve. British signals officers tracking the bombers every move complained that their communications began 'fuzzing', and the crews agreed that their radio transmitters carried a great deal of interference. Another indicator perhaps to the true identity of the glowing aeroforms? This classic case signalled the beginning of intense Nazi developments.

In the winter months (1988) I interviewed a number of ex RAF (Pathfinder Units - personnel), who observed the so-called Foo Fighters over Germany as early as 1942. As the crew of the Halifax bomber led vast numbers of British aircraft over prime industrial targets, several unidentified lights were seen above the lone aircraft. In all seven fully trained and experienced RAF pilots had seen the targets. They were convinced that the Nazi's had developed remarkable craft. Like 99% of all Foo Fighter reports, the unknown targets showed no hostility. As the winter of 44 approached, American intelligence (G-2) spoke of heavy U.S. bombers coming face to face with Foo Fighters. Over Berlin - Mannheim - Schweinfurt, U.S. pilots dodged the seemingly benevolent 'crafts' [11].

During my researches I was fortunate to meet a former member of the British Army who related some puzzling data. In this respect, I am aware of a potentially interesting piece of film footage acquired by American Air Force Intelligence which shows one Allied aircraft in flight over Germany being intercepted by a so-called 'Foo Fighter'. The film footage depicts the phenomena closing in on an Allied aircraft (wing tip) a circular lens shaped object (dark in colour, and resembling two dinner plates joined and spinning vertically) moved furiously alongside the aircraft in a rolling fashion. This information was supplied from an ex-military person of substantial background. The film footage, taken during the war shows without doubt what many ill-informed UFO researchers believe was a 'drawing board plan'. We have without doubt learned of a remarkable weapon which was developed by a research facility under the private sector in Austria.

Many of the so called 'Foo Fighter' reports are not that easy to explain. However, during the latter part of the Second World War, the Luftwaffe had developed several highly manoeuvrable aircraft, such as the Me262 and a whole host of strange looking aeroplanes. I have never heard it said that perhaps a number of Foo Fighter reports could be identified as the after-burner of such weaponry? Allied pilots (and most of the German ground forces) were unaware of this form of aircraft until its inception was generally related to German armed forces badly in need of further stimulus to

continue a futile fight. Surely faced with such unusually shaped aircraft and a quite simply 'alien' potential, mistakes could have been made? Furthermore, I was impressed with the knowledge of one ex-RAF Officer who I had the privilege to interview earlier this year. His keen interest and remarkable memory, afforded one particular weapon which I was simply not aware of.

He informed me that during the last three years of the war, he was working within a secret branch of the Royal Air Force, often flying perilous missions over key German installations. His crew were aware of a dangerous new development. The code name for this weapon is known, but I would like to clarify certain details before releasing the data. Nevertheless the weapon was launched by a ground detail and was attached to a rocket which could rise to around 100,000ft. When such an altitude was attained, the rocket would quickly release a strange looking device. This object consisted of two large metal plates (circular in construction) joined by a large thin steel chain. A further mechanism would trigger an explosive on its descent and visual appearance would be that of two highly luminous glowing aeroforms. The explosive charge was not intended to destroy the plates and I can only imagine that its purpose (illumination) was psychological. The projected potential was for the weapon to actually fall amongst Allied bombers flying at around 18,000ft and to actually 'wrap itself' around propeller shafts and wings.

Several other authors reporting on the subject of Foo Fighters, have realised that intelligence documentation acquired after the war by Allied nations, offers more than a partial insight into identification, yet clearly, the relevant data - scientific personnel, and primary research facilities are still buried under the haunting description of 'Top Secret' [12].

Amongst other highly classified British/American intelligence data, there exists important and consistent evidence that as early as 1928, a number of leading Junkers research personnel had devised a circular machine that when operated, gave the visible impression [or illusion] of the 'rings of Saturn'. And interestingly, a number of key personnel from that very same design facility were captured by the Soviets at the end of the war. Other rockets were timed to explode at a given height (usually that of the approaching bomber). And then we turn to limited data regarding the German 'night fighters'. These 'V' shaped craft were again physical forms and not 'drawing board' or 'paper weapons'. Moving at extremely high speeds, several of these aircraft were captured towards the end of the war. Rocket powered and more manoeuvrable than conventional craft, these 'flying wings' were regarded as



unidentified aeroforms by several pilots unaware of such advances in airborne technology.

Other significant Foo Fighter impostors could well have been the air launched guided missile, or the high powered rockets which could launch smaller glide aircraft to heights of around 80,000ft. Once this altitude was achieved the aircraft would be released. From this height the glide-attack aircraft would slowly descend in a circular fashion and strafe numerous advancing aircraft. By 1945, such craft would be fitted with jet engines, often causing a quite remarkable sight in the night sky as a white-hot flame spiralled earthwards.

Probably the biggest indicator to solving the Foo Fighter phenomenon, came from the pilots themselves. Quite often the crews of heavy American bombers and RAF aircraft, would report glowing aeroforms ascend from below the aircraft. Simple, yet qualified statements have been proposed regarding the potential that the odd lights were in fact nothing more than radio-jamming remotely piloted vehicles (R.P.V.s). This may have been the case. Such an incident was of course recorded over the town of Speyer, by two Allied pilots (Henry Giblin and Walter Cleary) on the 27th November, 1944. According to the men, an unidentified orange-coloured glowing aeroform moving at a speed approaching 250mph, buzzed their aircraft. Instrumentation began to falter.

Although I am satisfied that it was British Intelligence that first became aware of unknown aeroforms (without doubt the result of stringent de-briefs) [13] it was American Air Force Intelligence that first hinted (publicly) Allied pilots had encountered unknown enemy aeroforms over Europe. Quite suddenly - an upsurge of doubt began to hinder British and American pilots awareness.

Quite certainly I am aware of at least one such device and two radio/air research facilities that were working on such anti-radar jamming systems. After all, the British had devised a quite unique device to fool the relatively simple German radar equipment. Having acquired Top Secret documents from a British based researcher, it is evident that radar tracking's cannot be trusted in the framework of 'general UFO research'. Having said that, it is worth noting that the British government in 1943, had constructed and engineered an airborne device affording a radar signal which would be viewed by German ground radar as an attacking force which numbered literally dozens of aircraft. That signal did in fact work and was recorded as such by German radar operatives. The signal would of course be aimed solely to confuse; for example - Germany's northern defences. Alert and preference of intercept aircraft would be submitted by Germany's Northern most armies, and leave several

southern and central positions vacant. Meanwhile, a gap would be available for the mass bombing of key positions in Germany. Perhaps the 'mysterious' aeroforms were indeed a Nazi counter-measure, after all, the dates and timing of both occurrences are geared-up for such a potential? It should also be remembered, that it was American Intelligence sources who actually conjectured that the 'Foo Fighters' were German anti-radar jamming devices.

In my research papers concerning the advanced German circular aeroplane, Wiener Neustadt [14] is mentioned on several occasions. I made a number of conjecturally important breakthroughs regarding the reality of such craft [circular planform]. I sought to trace a number of eminent professors who actually worked at this establishment during the war, and through hefty correspondence it has become clear, that other important research projects were operated at the same time. In particularly one - which a number of prominent historians feel, could be directed towards the 'Foo Fighter'.

Many different weapons (ground and air) were developed by Nazi Germany, to the extent whereby some 50 million documents were shipped to Britain and America after the war. The content of these documents, varied from simple leave papers for Army personnel, to ultra-secret programmes which were conducted at institutes such as Breslau and Prague. Through the pages of such documents (scientific and technological) the Allies advanced their own sciences by as much (in some cases), as twenty five years. And indeed, it was through the scientific departmental research programmes, that evidence appears to have been found regarding two developments.

Albert Speer was the Minister of Armourments and Slave Labour during the second part of the war. As an architect by profession (and an ardent Nazi), Hitler saw Speer as a man with vision and a professionalism to get projects off the ground. According to U.S. intelligence papers, Speer was present during a frosty morning in Prague (Czechoslovakia) when a new advanced German aircraft was purportedly test flown [15]. That aircraft incidentally was circular. Speer was also a key figure behind a research facility jointly run by his department and the S.S. (who by 1944 trusted virtually nobody and tended to over-ride many of the conventional German Air Force projects). This facility (situated in Bavaria) was run by the Luftwaffe, who at that time were working constantly to provide better air defences. They tested several electrical machines which had been devised from a series of experiments in relation to their ability to confuse and interfere with Allied radar. However, based upon trials, the effectiveness of such machinery was limited to around one hundred feet. To induce further range, the apparatus was deployed in an airborne structure which

resembled a tortoise shell and was circular. This component may well have been already manufactured in Austria, as the description fits perfectly with data I acquired on such a 'weapon'. The entire machine was powered by a unique turbojet engine and was purportedly code-named - 'THE FEUERBALL' (Fireball). That the visual appearance of the fast moving Remotely Piloted Vehicle (RPV) was that of a circular halo and illuminated glowing sphere, does in my opinion, indicate great similarities to the prototype built and conceived at the Junkers research facility in the late 1920's - [the 'rings of Saturn']. The airborne radar jamming-system had greater scope and locked-in on the heat emissions of enemy aircraft.

This un-armed weapon and its potential fits perfectly with Allied pilots descriptions of the 'Foo Fighters' - namely that the 'aeroforms' showed no sign of hostility, yet appeared to be under intelligent control and continually followed the aircraft. As the study of such reports continued, it became apparent, that this construction, had a menace classification, rather than an ultimately proven hostile one.

That project was finalised at the Wiener Neustadt facility; many classed the weapon as a missile, yet sufficient eye-witness accounts exist whereby many would reject that terminology. Indeed, eye witness accounts suggest that the weapon resembled a shining disc spinning on its axis. I was fortunate to trace another witness who informs that whilst serving in the Waffen SS, he too observed a similar craft being tested at the rocket facility - Peenemunde. And this may well be another clue to the original aeroforms seen over Peenemunde during the Allied raids. American intelligence also reported [16] that the Foo Fighters have been seen during daylight hours; the appearance was at times, "that of a shiny silver ball." I was informed by a highly reliable source, that such airborne weaponry was both cheap to make, in terms of expense, and could be transferred easily, from locality to locality. Another clue perhaps to the wide area of reported visuals. Indeed, I was fortunate to locate Top Secret British documents (1944) relating that several launch vehicles had appeared throughout the war front. This may or may not be applicable to such weaponry, but it does suggest, adequately in my opinion, that the German High Command had decided to inject a new - highly transferable system into being, for attacking 'enemy' targets.

Another potential constitutes the fact that Germany was indeed working on various remarkable weaponry. Those ill-informed researchers and historians of war would of course dis-agree. However, under the heading of 'Restricted' and released only a few years ago by government agencies, I found perplexing information regarding two

totally puzzling weapons. At one of the Luftwaffe's laboratories German scientists were actually working on utilising sound as a new weapon. And if this constitutes data bordering on the futuristic, perhaps adapting the earth's natural 'wind currents' as a weapon may be just a little too much. Other weapons were being tested which constitute a level of thinking far advanced than placing an illuminated light source in the sky. Another clue to the varied and often ill-fated and hurried planning of Germany. By 1945, daily meetings of Germany's hierarchy was grasping at every new discovery and invention [17].

Resources by this time were inadequate, yet emphasis was still given regarding delaying tactics. If German science could provide the weaponry, then there might still be hope for Hitler's crazed dream. The S.S. by this time trusted nobody, and Hitler had hoped that by entrusting much of the secret research programmes to this menacing 'branch', vital results could yet prove favourable. However, U.S. Army documents pertaining to several key Luftwaffe research centre's show that when advancing Allied units approached, the facility would either be destroyed (complete with all research programmes - constructed or design stage only, or the S.S. would simply remove everything to safe quarters.

In terms of the 'secret war with Germany', the importance of this phenomenon should not be under-estimated. However, it is my contention that far too much 'generalisation' has been placed on this aspect. The extraordinary ability of the German scientific establishment working under very unusual conditions, seems to have provided the initial stimulus for 'UFO' researchers to contend that this, 'was the coming of the saucers'. Indeed it was - but in potentially differing circumstances.

When marking the degree of change in German aviation potential and the 'state of war' at the time of the first sightings of unidentified aeroforms, it seems too much of a coincidence. When one considers that at least six previously private aeroplane company's had already began vast research programmes into unconventional flying weapons by 1939, the timing and intricate sighting locale of many 'Foo Fighters', must be prominent on one's mind. For hardly have we mentioned the enormity of the rocket/guided missile programmes in this research paper, and yet without doubt, night-time launches and pre-finalised testing had already occurred in 1942.

Foo Fighters (like today's UFO phenomenon) could have several explanations; and the list of potential 'Foo Fighter' impostors is endless. The key towards explaining this 'mystery' must lie in the hands of both Western and Eastern governments and in the ultra-secret documents pertaining to counter-intelligence. Clearly, much of the

available data suggests a physical - yet psychological weapon, other complicated observations could just as easily be placed in chapters concerning Germany's secret wartime offensive and defensive weaponry. I am almost satisfied, that the phenomenon (although decidedly interesting) is explainable in terms of conventional, highly advanced scientific breakthroughs.

To counter this argument, 'UFO' researchers have often pointed the finger at other similar sightings of Foo Fighters over Japan and far-off countries. This is highly illogical due to the fact that German technology was often related to her ally and indeed, it does seem probable that Japan, was making headway in terms of similar 'weapons'. Combine such a potential with the fact that the 'theatre of war' was not really restricted to any one continent (and the very real probability that the U.S.A., Britain and the Soviets were all heavily involved with airborne research) observations bordering the 'unreal', seem likely to have occurred throughout the globe. America's nerves jangled when Pearl Harbour was attacked, and throughout the following months, countless reports of unidentified objects were recorded. The world was a decidedly nervous place, and any observation which could not be readily identified was recorded.

As the Top Secret summary I acquired relates, "Western nations learned very little of the secret facilities east of the river Elbe." It was east of this river that Allied nations met and eventually Germany capitulated. All technology beyond this point was captured by the Soviets. The Foo Fighter sightings seem to have appeared over strategic targets, and if one considers that within the available data on such sightings, there must be a high percentage of mis-identifications of known aircraft, and to some extent 'unknown targets' [unknown in the sense of secret German aircraft] then we have very little evidence to support an alien hypothesis. Furthermore, that 99% of the sightings were nocturnal, and the unmistakable fact that Germany had various flying wing craft operational (and the testing of circular planform aircraft was very probable), there already existed a 'boiling-pot' climate for the reporting of unidentified flying objects. Conjecturing further, there now exists official reports which conveys doubts on even civilian pilots to mis-identify under conditions already outlined in this report; and given the fact that major hostilities were in progress, I cannot believe that this factor did not have its part to play. Summing up however, I am satisfied that simple psychological weapons were deployed in various areas of Europe and that these systems were eventually modified to counter attacking aircraft; that evidence still exists for such systems remains doubtful - this doubt could have overtones effecting today's phenomenon. And



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it is without doubt the starting point for any investigation regarding the so called, 'Ghost Rocket' reports of the 1940's, of which there are so many.

## THE 'GHOST ROCKET' PHENOMENON

After Hitler's craze for world domination had been so vehemently denied and ultimately destroyed by western and eastern forces, came the birth of the 'cold war'. In fact, the seeds of mistrust and caution that still remain to this day (between Soviet forces and NATO) had been planted way back in 1943/44, as Britain and American forces began their remarkable plan for the D-Day operation (6th June 1944).

Germany in terms of land mass is a relatively small country, yet without doubt the timing of an unusual airborne phenomenon, and the fact that war-torn Europe had become the epi-centre of such manifestations is perplexing. Unfortunately most people in the business of tracking UFO's require no answer to a question which ultimately squash their inner-most feeling for such a mystery to remain.

At the end of the war, the 'Foo Fighter' and the majority of [its] war time implications were but a memory to Allied governments - governments which were intent on re-building shattered nations. As this gruesome task began, another sight was shortly to be reported in numbers over Europe - the phenomenon known today as it was then - 'Ghost Rocket'.

I have often dwelt on the fact that important and highly relevant facts have been ignored. And as previously mentioned, several key facilities east of the river Elbe, were overrun by advancing Soviet and Soviet aligned forces. Without delving too much into the exact establishments (literally numbering hundreds) which housed experimental weaponry, the Russians received an equal part of the 'scientific spoils of war', and perhaps more than U.S. and British forces combined [18].

Is it coincidence that some ten months after the Second World War had ended, unusual aeroforms in the general appearance of missiles were seen tracking over a number of Baltic Sea countries, and in particular Sweden and the Scandinavian nations [19]? What indeed was this phenomenon?

## GHOST ROCKETS OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED

By 1944, Germany had several established rocket programmes, which for many years had been under development at various research centres [20]. And unlike the previous decisions of Adolf Hitler (which at times seemed quite bizarre), emphasis was now placed heavily on these weapons - weapons which the High Command in Berlin hoped

would turn the tide against Allied forces and press 'enemy' advancing armies into a hasty retreat.

Rocketry had always attracted many leading German aviation designers, and their work during the war, did in some cases benefit, especially financially. This however was not always the case.

In the late 1920's, several 'Schools' (independent from any military organisation) were generated by ordinary scientists. Technicians and engineers who found this subject fascinating to say the least, quickly joined the original design teams. Their motives were not of hostility towards other nations, but an advancement of science. Rarely did these persons receive large sums of monies and more often than not, events similar to a 'circus gathering' were advertised and the occasional rocket launched. The public were invited to attend, thus some monies at least were acquired. Even in the early 1930's, the German rocket industry (although well ahead of any other nation) did not receive government funding of any real substance. It was not until Hitler reached power did the 'new era' really take-off.

As war commenced, a number of these scientists believed that the rocket afforded Germany with a potential weapon of un-equalled power. Many, many rockets were built and other areas of interesting research explored. Today, I find it hard to believe that there still remain people who are not aware of the ominous, and infamous Vengeance weapons (V-1 & V-2). And whilst on this theme, one should remember, that these two weapons, were designed by two totally independent teams of scientists. Like much of the secret work carried out by the scientists in the war years, these destructive weapons had little or no association with each other.

#### THE A ROCKETS

As Germany began to 'buckle' under increasing Allied bombardment, [it] sought to counter the attacks - not by vast armies (which in any event were becoming increasingly depleted) but by rocketry and decoy advanced weaponry which included an array of night fighter aircraft and covert operations from which would emerge the astonishing stealth programmes of today. Probably one of the most secret weapons ever devised and nearly constructed was the giant A-9 rocket. This intercontinental ballistic missile was designed to reach continents such as Africa and ultimately - America. Much to the annoyance of several top generals, Hitler's High Command had by 1944, converted design ready plans and experimental missiles programmes into reality - years too late. If the V-rockets were classified secret, then Germany's other

defence projects must have been on the periphery of an equivalent 1988 American 'Black Programme'.

Come May 1945 the secrets of Peenemunde and other an impressive array of research facilities would be in the hands of advancing Allied nations.

Like the independent research teams who designed the 'V' weapons [a term given to the rockets by Allied countries - V = Vengeance], several other groups were actually building and testing a number of highly important ground and air launched craft/missiles - complete with ultra sensitive homing devices. Further independent Luftwaffe contract companies were also making headway into aircraft designs way ahead of their time - including design features and construction materials which today are officially recognised as the forerunner to the many U.S. and Soviet research programmes [21]. American, Russian and British intelligence services were aware of several developments, and by 1945 the race was on to acquire that technology.

Probably the the most infamous aspect surrounding the 'acquirement' of such technology and the teams behind their production, was the 'Paperclip Conspiracy' [22]. This involved U.S. Army intelligence operating in a covert fashion behind enemy lines (whilst the war was taking place), and often securing promises of assistance once Germany had capitulated. Needless to say, it seems quite clear today, that similar Soviet advances had already occurred.

Peenemunde was bombed in August 1943, and the main research stations and machinery transferred to Blizna in Poland. In 1988, international boundaries are such, that both facilities now lie behind the 'Iron Curtain'. Other important research stations were also overrun by Soviet forces, including Vienna and Prague - the secrets that many of the bases held, will of course, never be revealed. These highly important localities offer a significant clue to the shortly-to-appear 'Ghost Rockets'.

#### APPEARANCE

Unlike the majority of 'Foo Fighter' reports which were often described as luminous globes or points of light, the 'Ghost Rocket' phenomenon was in the main recorded as being 'physical' in form. However, authorities and European government departments were still in the midst of confusion and a very real lack of organisation, when these 'rockets' started to appear. The mis-trust between east and west which Hitler

had predicted prior the fall of Berlin, had now set in; fortunately however, no hostilities occurred as U.S. and British forces met with advancing Russian units.

Tears of joy soon turned to ice as the victorious allied nations (eastern and western countries) pondered upon their post-war situation. Churchill, as officials records (available today) show, wanted further military progress covering most of Germany, yet for some reason the Americans halted their advance. The Soviets totally aware of their own 'May 45' position, were to carefully analyse the situation, and remain present in much of East Europe [23]. The governments of the war era were still in charge, and for a while, vast armies had been replaced by vast 'armies' of military and civilian spies, all vying for the 'spoils of Nazi Germany.

This being the case, one should carefully review the state of politics during the emergence of 'Ghost Rocket' reports. The Americans - months prior the first of these reports had defeated Japan, the entire world was in theory, still in a warring state of mind. In fact, such was the 'whirlwind' which swept across every nation regarding the war-aftermath, that in my opinion it is difficult to find any particular country where dis-trust was not evident. Europe was still controlled by the ageing military commanders; American forces remained in strength to counter any further up-rising by Germany (and perhaps more because of the Soviet threat). South American governments were accused of harbouring ex-Nazis, Spain and Portugal were condemned for sympathising with Germany for the death of Hitler, and even Antarctica was mentioned as a key escape point for such people [Nazi']. Rumour after rumour surfaced. Did Hitler die? Were the Soviets planning to march across the hinterland of western Europe? Such was the rolling instability of this planet in the years after the war, that even the serious press often fed the public mythological information, and perhaps the 'rockets of Europe' was just one more news story to exploit? The Soviets in 1945 and 1946, even began to generate rumours that Hitler had escaped, thus giving more credence to their case that Red Army troops should stay in Europe!

On the 26th February 1946, Helsinki (Capitol of Finland) radio announced that "inordinate meteor activity" in northern Finland close to the Arctic Circle had occurred. This was probably one of the first official press releases on the unusual phenomenon which was shortly to 'roar' across much of Europe. Unusually, the 'Foo Fighter' reports had 'mysteriously' disappeared - conveniently in my opinion just as hostilities had ended [24]. The public had grown weary of airborne menaces across much of Europe, but now their attention turned to a new and breathtaking situation.



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Once the Helsinki statement had been released, reports streamed in from civilians and military authorities alike. Many of the reports described an object which emitted a long flowing smoke trail which could be clearly seen against a virtual black night sky (similar to aircraft vapour visible during a moon-lit sky today). Many citizens claimed the Finnish 'rocket' was barely 1000ft above the ground, others claimed the 'object' had made a number of hap-hazard turns. But above all I feel, is the direction which this phenomenon appeared to emanate from. Official government sources in Finland reported that the object moved towards Finland's southern coastline from the Baltic Sea, and nearly all the witnesses had heard a tremendous 'roaring' noise as the object hurtled overhead. This particular object was last seen moving upwards and on several occasions appeared to become invisible.

Other Finnish reports hold various significant and relevant identification potentials, for instance; several 'Ghost Rocket reports' were described as "elliptical" or missile shaped - objects emitting an illuminated trail of sparks. Several reports speak of a shining ball or cigar shape which flew horizontally. Other witnesses informed local authorities that the phenomenon appeared to 'barrel roll' and then quickly move downwards towards the Earth.

Sweden unlike Finland had remained neutral during the entire second world war. Unlike Italy, Finland had up until the Autumn of 1944, remained an ally of Nazi Germany and had fought several key battles with the Soviets most northerly forces. Thus it is no small wonder that Finnish authorities remained silent when this phenomenon began to appear. [AUTHORS NOTE:-This is a highly significant factor which I find quite relevant to the entire hypothesis of the 'Ghost Rocket' phenomenon. In my opinion, the Finnish government did have sufficient information regarding the overflights, to make a qualified statement. That statement did of course not surface. And perhaps the very fact that Finland feared Soviet advances into its territory such as had taken place in Latvia, Lithuania and a number of pre-war independent nations, if further hostile comment was to arise from its government?] It was left to the Swedish authorities to first imply that these 'manifestations' were indeed Russian testing of advanced Nazi weaponry which had been captured at the end of the war, and it was from this country that the term, 'Ghost Rocket' arose.

#### A SHIFT IN LOCALITY

In the summer of 1946, the internal arguments between western and eastern nations was still quite evident. It was also in July of that year, that the first reports of

the rockets began to emerge more predominantly over another Scandinavian country - Sweden.

Several hundreds of reports (primarily from civilians) were submitted to the Swedish authorities regarding the rocket phenomenon. And unlike its Scandinavian neighbour - Finland, the Swedish government had little to fear from any adverse comment made towards the Soviet Union. In fact, I have often wondered if any western pressure (particularly from the United States and Britain) was placed on the Swedish government to make such an announcement that was to 'rock' Europe again. The Swedes vehemently denounced what they saw as blatant testing by the Soviets of military missiles. Many European countries 'latched' on to the enigma, and it was the western press (as was the case regarding the term 'flying saucer') who 'nick-named' the overflights, 'Ghost Rockets'.

Military authorities in Sweden were put on full alert. Western nations such as Britain and America must have feared Soviet intentions. During these observations [25], several official investigations were launched after a number of 'Ghost Rockets' had fallen to earth and exploded. Official press releases from the Swedish authorities reveal that little or nothing remained of the actual object, other than a few hard-to-identify pieces of, "slag-like material". By October, 1946, sightings [number of] began to fall, and come the winter, they had almost ceased. What official recognition of the phenomenon was recorded by Swedish authorities?

It is clear that an 'unusual occurrence' had taken place. Many scientists blamed the phenomenon on meteorite activity, others were convinced that the Soviets were indeed testing 'newly acquired' Nazi weaponry. Without doubt we must presume the overflights were of a physical form [26], which immediately negates the often stated claim, that these recordings were of natural and/or astronomical nature. Several of the sightings were indeed recorded, both by radar and photographic methods, thus we are most certainly dealing with a very real and not illusionary phenomena. From around 1000 reported sightings over Sweden, the government in that country announced, "20% could not be explained" [27].

After an apparent lull in the sightings (sporadic observations however, were still being made) 1948 saw the Scandinavian reports begin again. This was of course only months after Kenneth Arnold had reported his unusual 'flying crescents' over Mount Rainer in Washington State. Norwegian pilots observed them and on occasions actually photographed them. Having seen one of these photographs, I am in no doubt that this was indeed a missile; further identification is taking place. Other pilots reported