



**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

**Freedom of Information / Privacy Acts**

**Release**

SUBJECT: Silas Newton

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The following documents appearing in FBI files have been reviewed under the provisions of The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552), The Privacy Act of 1974 (PA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a), and/or Litigation

FOIA/PA  Litigation  Executive Order Applied

Requester  b7C

Subject \_\_\_\_\_  
Computer or Case Identification Number 312948

Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_  
\* File 100-2244 Section \_\_\_\_\_

Serials Reviewed 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 55, 4 Section \_\_\_\_\_

Limited Classification  
Review Conducted  
See Top Serial

Release Location \*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

FOIA/PA  Litigation  Executive Order Applied

Requester \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Computer or Case Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_  
\* File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

Serials Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Release Location \*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

FOIA/PA  Litigation  Executive Order Applied

Requester \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Computer or Case Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_  
\* File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

Serials Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Release Location \*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

\* INDICATE IF FBIHQ OR FIELD OFFICE FILE NUMBER

(THIS FORM IS TO BE MAINTAINED AS THE TOP SERIAL OF THE FILE, BUT NOT SERIALIZED.)



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of the Attorney General

STATE BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO

April 25, 1951.



Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau  
of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re Silas M. Newton - No. 835861

The subject named above is cited as authority for a highly fanciful book entitled "Behind the Flying Saucers", written by one Frank Scully and published by Holt in 1950. The gist of the book is that the so-called "flying saucers" are really manifestations of secret and sinister scientific research by the government.

Newton's arrest record, as shown by your files, is familiar to us. He is the owner of the Newton Oil Company, a small but active oil producing organization with offices at 315 Franklin Street, Denver, Colorado. He describes himself as a graduate of Yale, which appears to be true and as a geophysicist engaged in secret governmental research.

He is apparently wealthy, or at least possessed of sufficient temporary means to live in luxury and dress expensively. His home is at 1929 Whitley Street, Hollywood, but all messages to him, or appointments with him, must be made through the Hollywood Knickerbocker Hotel. One [redacted] is associated with him in Denver.

We are writing you because [redacted] has stated that a complete investigation of Newton has been made by your Bureau. Presumably this investigation has confirmed his cryptic allusions to his being engaged in governmental research of a secret nature.

Other circumstances coming to our attention in the light of his criminal record indicate to us that Newton is engaged in the perpetration of a hoax or swindle of large

*Rec'd Act  
GEB  
5/3/51*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/20/03 BY 60320/BAW/PAP

RECORDED - 132

INDEXED - 132

EX. - 97

100-2244-9  
APR 28 1951

No record in Lab  
5/1/51

*FILED*

b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

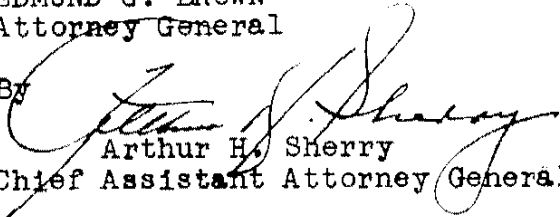
2

proportions: If you have any information concerning this man, other than his arrest record, we would greatly appreciate receiving it.

Very truly yours,

EDMUND G. BROWN  
Attorney General

By

  
Arthur H. Sherry  
Chief Assistant Attorney General

AHS:W

May 3, 1951

RECORDED - 178

100-2244-9

EX - 97

Honorable Edmund G. Brown  
Attorney General  
State of California  
600 State Building  
San Francisco, California

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/84 BY SP4/AMK  
24682

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Reference is made to your letter dated April 28, 1951, signed by Arthur W. Sherry, Chief Assistant Attorney General, in which you request information concerning Silas K. Newton - No. 895861.

You are advised that the FBI has conducted an investigation of Newton pertinent to your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JFD:cmey

MAILED 6 00  
MAY 3 1951

Denver (Information) With copy of the indictment  
Los Angeles (Information) With copy of indictment  
San Francisco - With copy of indictment

It is desired that the San Francisco Office contact the office of the Attorney General of the State of California to determine if Newton is violating any Federal Statutes in claiming to be "engaged in governmental research of a secret nature", or in the "perpetration of a hoax or swindle of large proportions".

Bufiles reflect the arrest record of Newton, FBI No. 895861, last arrested by the New York City, NY, on 1-25-36 for grand larceny (95-1569)

In the investigation of [redacted] in [redacted] (Bufile 85839), information was received that the subject married Silas K. Newton, a wealthy [redacted] and [redacted] (Bufile 7-6-39)

During this investigation, inquiry was made concerning Newton in Denver and Los Angeles, and no satisfactory information was received. Investigation of [redacted] on April 1, 1942, as no evidence was developed indicating

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she was engaged in espionage activities. (65-837-205, 199, 189,  
170, 168)

The book "Behind the Flying Saucers", by Frank Scully was analyzed in a memo from Mr. Ladd to the Director, dated 10-17-50. OSI, Washington, D. C., advised the assertions made in the book are "hogwash". "Time" magazine stated that the scientific credibility of the book was below that of a comic book. Scully claimed that the information for the book was furnished to him by an unidentified lecturer at Denver University, and by a [redacted] Neither of these persons were identified by Scully. (100-224-6)

b7C

Nelson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of the Attorney General

STATE BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO

BERT W. LEVY  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

HARTWELL H. LITTLE  
Chief Assistant Attorney General  
Division of Civil

ARTHUR H. SHAW  
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Division of  
Criminal Law and En

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Alder
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Lamm
- Mr. Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

May 15, 1951

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This will acknowledge and thank you for your recent letter in answer to our inquiry relating to Silas M. Newton, No. 835861. Your interest and cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated.

This office was recently contacted by Special Agent [redacted] of your San Francisco office and all information relating to the current activities of Newton was made available to [redacted]

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

*For Mr. Scully*

*H. G. Robinson*  
H. G. ROBINSON  
Deputy Director  
Department of Justice

HGR:fla

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/30/03 BY 45167 BTJ/RAP

RECORDED - 40  
INDEXED - 40

400-114  
JUN 1 1951  
37

EX-35

F20  
65 JUN 26 1951

*de*  
*[Handwritten scribble]*

*Reply, No act. re: YADC*

*[Handwritten mark]*