

Scoffer <=> Skeptic <=> Believer

Skeptic - One who practices the method of suspended judgment, engages in rationale and dispassionate reasoning as exemplified by the scientific method, shows willingness to consider alternative explanations without prejudice based on prior beliefs, and who seeks out evidence and carefully scrutinizes its validity

<www.ufoskeptic.org>

Arguments to be wary of

Theoretical demonstrations of impossibility

- speed of light limit vs. distance between stars
- astronomical energy requirements

Culturally-based logic

- UFO observations inconsistent with scientific exploration by our alien colleagues

Explanations that address only selected subset of the evidence

- plausible partial explanation is preferable to a nagging mystery

Explicit or implicit ridicule

- making fun of the observations: "Little Green Men" "Flying Saucers"
- making fun of the observer, ad hominem attacks, cult references

Confronting the speed-of-light limit argument

Voided by as-yet-to-be-discovered physics

- Physics claims this cannot happen – would violate causality, belief we are close to final theory
- History suggests this could happen, e.g. discovery of quantum physics, relativity itself

Circumvented by General Relativity

- wormholes, stretching of spacetime itself (Alcubierre's 1994 paper)

Circumvented by Additional Dimensions of Superstring Theory

- superstring and M-brane theoretical dimensions may allow travelling into and out of other dimensions where speed of light may be radically different

Not relevant

- superstring and M-brane theoretical dimensions may be source of phenomenon and yet only inches away in some perpendicular dimension
- UFO phenomenon is not extraterrestrial visitation

Fermi's Paradox

Are about 100–400 billion stars in the Milky Way Galaxy

"There may be a million worlds in the Milky Way Galaxy alone which are at this moment inhabited by intelligent beings." Carl Sagan, *Cosmos*, Episode 10

Even one civilization limited to sublight speed travel could colonize the entire galaxy in 5–50 million years. (Scientific American article, Nov. 2000)

Fermi's question: Where are they?

We are alone.

They are or have been here.

IF – as 72% of the population apparently believes – “the government” has any unacknowledged interest in, knowledge of, or evidence about the UFO phenomenon, where in the vast reaches of “the government” could that possibly be and how could any such interest remain hidden for half a century?

Obviously no answer can be expected here, but a brief summary will be given of the elaborate official security structure that does exist for extremely sensitive and highly secret programs which could *in principle* be made to accommodate a UFO-related program of some sort having a very long time-scale legacy.

"The U.S. government secretly hired hundreds of private companies during the 1940s and '50s to process huge volumes of nuclear weapons material, leaving a legacy of poisoned workers and contaminated communities that lingers to this day. From mom-and-pop machine shops to big-name chemical firms, private manufacturing facilities across the nation were quietly converted to the risky business of handling tons of uranium, thorium, polonium, beryllium and other radioactive and toxic substances. Few of the contractors were prepared for the hazards of their government-sponsored missions. Thousands of workers were exposed to dangerous levels of radiation, often hundreds of times stronger than the limits of the time. Dozens of communities were contaminated, their air, ground and water fouled by toxic and radioactive waste. The risks were kept hidden. In some cases, they have remained so."

So began a lengthy expose revealing a major government secret that involved thousands of individuals. It was published in *USA Today* on September 6, 2000. The truth had been successfully kept secret for 50 years.

The most sensitive
classified programs
and intelligence
products are **NOT**
classified

**V
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**Confidential
Secret
Top Secret
Top Top Secret
Top Top Top Secret
Top Gun Secret
Ultra Secret
Hyper Secret
Ultra Hyper Secret
Top Ultra Hyper Secret
Ultra Hyper Top Secret
Hyper Top Ultra Secret
Super Secret
Super Duper Secret
Planetary Secret
Stellar Secret
Galactic Quadrant Secret
Galactic Sector Secret
Full Galactic Secret
Universal Secret
Federation Secret
Don't Tell the Klingons Secret
Don't Tell Scotty Secret
Don't Tell McCoy Secret
Don't Tell Spock Secret
Don't Tell Capt. Kirk Secret
Don't Tell Admiral Kirk Secret
Don't Tell Larry Secret
Don't Tell Curly Secret
Don't Tell Moe Secret
Don't Tell the President Secret
Don't Tell the Vice President Secret
Don't Even Tell God Secret
** UFO SECRET ****

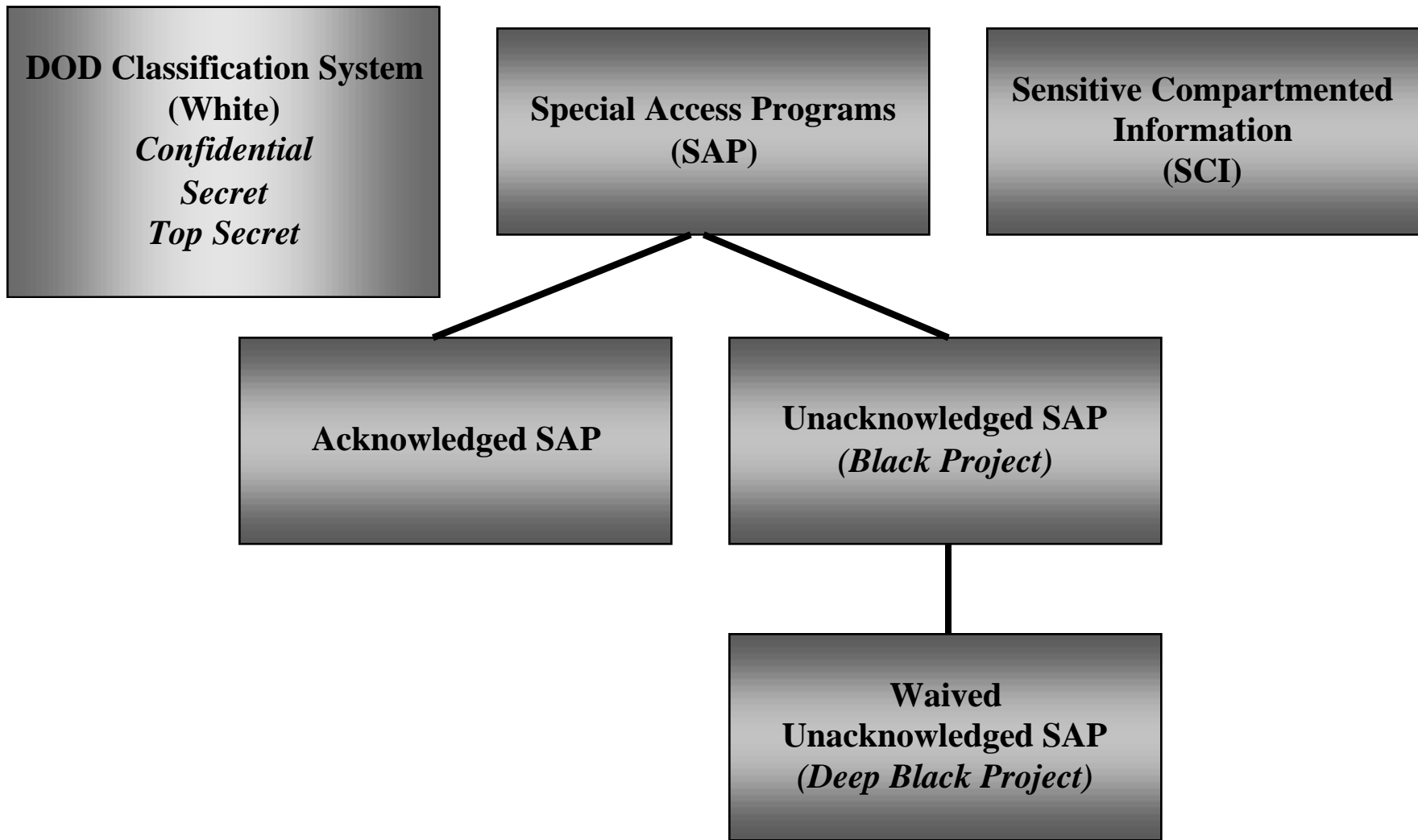
... they are horizontally compartmentalized.

Special Access Programs

SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP SAP

Sensitive Compartmented Information

SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI SCI



“In Search of the Pentagon’s Billion Dollar Hidden Budgets: How the US Keeps Its R&D Spending Under Wraps”,
 Bill Sweetman, Janes International Defence Reporter, 5 Jan 2000
 “Report of the Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy: 1997”
 Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Senate Document 105-2.

- In 1997 there were about 150 DoD approved Special Access Programs.
- Unacknowledged SAP is a core secret.
- Arrangements known as “carve-outs” remove black programs from defense wide security and contract-oversight.
- Unacknowledged Waived SAPs can be completely hidden from outside civilian oversight.

A more substantial limitation on oversight is that some unacknowledged SAPs are not reported to the full committees. At the Secretary of Defense's discretion, the reporting requirements may be waived. In this case, only eight individuals – the chair and ranking minority member of each of the four defense committees, the House National Security Committee, the Senate Armed Services Committee, and the defense subcommittees of the House and Senate Appropriations committees – are notified of the decision. According to the 1997 Senate Commission, this notification may be only oral. These "waived SAPs" are the blackest of black programs.

How many of the SAPs are unacknowledged, and how many are waived, is a question which only a few people can answer: eight members of Congress, the members of SAPOC (including The Deputy Secretary of Defense), and the Secretary of Defense.

(From Sweetman article in Jane's International Defence Review)

- A “deep black” SAP is frequently based in a compartmentalized area or facility of a civilian government contractor (e.g. TRW, Lockheed Martin) because this actually provides more control and flexibility than a government facility.
- The security fraction of the total budget for a “deep black” SAP can approach 50%
- Security may go beyond passive measures to active disinformation
- Programs may be so tightly compartmentalized that even a director (general, admiral) may not be accessed to all programs within his area of responsibility

Intentional cover is supported by two mechanisms, inherent in the structure of unacknowledged SAPs, that result in the dissemination of plausible but false data, or disinformation. Confronted with the unauthorized use of a program name or a specific question, an 'accessed' individual may deny all knowledge of a program – as he should, because its existence is a core secret, and a mere "no comment" is tantamount to confirmation. The questioner – who may not be aware that an Accessed individual must respond with a denial - will believe that denial and spread it further.

Also, people may honestly believe that there are no black programs in their area of responsibility. For example, Gen. George Sylvester, commander of Aeronautical Systems Division in 1977, was not 'accessed' into the ASD-managed Have Blue stealth program, even though he was nominally responsible for all USAF aircraft programs. Had he been asked whether Have Blue existed, he could have candidly and honestly denied it. Presented with a wall of denial, and with no way to tell the difference between deliberate and fortuitous disinformation, most of the media has abandoned any serious attempts to investigate classified programs.

(From Sweetman article in Jane's International Defence Review)