

UFO ARCHIVE

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Sightings of unusual aerial phenomena date back to antiquity, but the term UFO Unidentified Flying Object, was popularized in 1947 when an U.S.A. pilot flying watched several saucer-shaped objects.

Recent events such as the poisoning and death of Litvinenko spy, and the first conviction for treason and espionage in Spain in the XXI century, brought back to mind the Cold War espionage era. The current espionage, little related to the confrontation between capitalism and communism, happens in a context of criticism of the capitalist system after the recent economic collapse and financial crisis, as well as in a race for control of the technologies and the resurgence of discussions on the use of nuclear energy.

The *UFO Archive* project develops a metaphorical espionage dialogue between two times: a past and hidden time behind the Iron Curtain and our present time. The term Unidentified Flying Object, the acronym U.F.O. is used here as a metaphor for the impossibility of making public or disclosing documents pertaining to the security-privacy-of a nation. The project displays documents, photographs of peculiar objects and other files related to the world of espionage, taking into account the impossibility of these to be completely legible, for in them is hidden an essential part of the information.

These documents have been collected since 2007, I was visiting then the castles of Rio do Janeiro, guided by historical readings and a handful of books. Among these, *Guerre Secrète sous les océans*, bought in a Brazilian flea market. The book attempts to explain in a periodic way, inventions and revolutions in the world of war and espionage, with an international sense,

starting from the Peral submarine until the recent inventions of underwater espionage.

The military batteries of Rio were scattered by the Guanabara Bay, the Portuguese, who reached it in January, believed it the mouth of a river, hence the name of the city; they were for me invented cities. The discovery came at the Copacabana Fort and the Fort of San Luiz, there, the bunkers were like a half balloon, flying UFOs from another time, and why not?, spaces of espionage, giant pinhole cameras to register, objects to hide, giant jellyfishes...

The compilation of documents continues until 2011, is in Berlin where again these round forms, huge balloons of air traffic control, appear; from the photographs of the Zepelin until the visit to Teufelsberg - The Devil's mountain, in German- a hill formed by the debris from the destruction caused by World War II, who are hidden under a green blanket. Teufelsberg - hill of 115 meters of height on the outskirts of Berlin- is located in the former zone of the British sector of West Berlin and at the North of the Grunewald forest.

In 1957 the hill began to be used by the American and British secret services. The NSA, American National Security Agency built the greatest listening base during the Cold War -a radio station-. In 1991, the abandonment after the fall of the Berlin wall and the reunification of Germany made it a place for curiosity; balloons and hidden towers in the middle of the Grunewald vegetation; whole balloons, landed UFOs, and why not?, espionage spaces, objects to hide, sea monsters from another time...