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Now in an original paperback...

PROJECT BETA

**The Story of Paul Bennewitz, National Security, and
the Creation of a Modern UFO Myth**

BY GREG BISHOP

Praise for PROJECT BETA:

“This is both a true story and a little known but extremely important event in the social history of the fringe movements that swept America during the 1990s.”

—Paul Davids, Executive Producer for Showtime’s *Roswell*

“[PROJECT BETA] is a stranger-than-fiction nightmare about one man’s ruin at the hands of a government bent on concealing the truth. Very highly recommended.”

—*Mysteries Magazine*

If the government doesn’t want you to know the truth, you may end up believing in silly things—like alien invasions. Only one thing is more powerful than information—that’s disinformation. Gregory Bishop’s **PROJECT BETA: The Story of Paul Bennewitz, National Security, and the Creation of a Modern UFO Myth** (Paraview Pocket Books; February 8, 2005; \$14.00) reveals the government’s program of disinformation and the battle for people’s minds. From clandestine monitoring, extraterrestrial invasions, and Intelligence agents to

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military projects and UFO's, **PROJECT BETA** tells the surprising and frightening story of New Mexico Physicist Paul Bennewitz.

In 1978, Bennewitz, an electrical physicist living in Albuquerque, engaged in aggressive radio monitoring of the nearby Sandia Labs, then managed by the Department of Defense. When he became convinced that the signals were connected with the strange lights hovering over the labs and Kirtland Air Force Base signaled the vanguard of an extraterrestrial alien invasion, he began writing TV stations, newspapers, senators—and even President Reagan—to alert them.

For the most part Bennewitz received form-letter replies, but Air Force investigators paid him a visit, as did Bill Moore, author of the first book on the Roswell incident. Before long Moore—then a rising force in civilian UFO research—was tapped by a group of intelligence agents and a deal was struck: Moore was to keep tabs on Bennewitz while the Air Force ran a psychological profile and disinformation campaign on the unsuspecting physicist. In return, Air Force Intelligence would let Moore in on classified UFO material.

This is Bennewitz's harrowing tale, told by fringe-culture historian Greg Bishop. It is the troubling account of the custom-made hall of smoke and mirrors that eventually drove Bennewitz to a mental institution, as well as the story of the explosive propagation of disinformation that began in 1979 and reverberates through the UFO community and pop culture to this day. **PROJECT BETA** is the horrifying true story of a government-authorized campaign of disinformation that defined an era of alien paranoia and destroyed one man's life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Greg Bishop publishes and edits *The Excluded Middle*, a journal examining UFOs, conspiracy culture, and related subjects, and is editor of the anthology *Wake Up Down There!* His radio show, *Radio Misterioso*, can be heard on the internet at www.killradio.org on Sunday evenings from 8-10 PM PST.

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By Greg Bishop

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