

Director, FBI
Re: Flying Discs - Tacoma, Wn.

August 27, 1947

He stated that the next morning he received a call from CHRISMAN, who told him that Lieutenant BROWN and Captain DAVIDSON had been killed in a B-25 crash. He stated he does not know how CHRISMAN knew who had been in the plane before anyone else. He also stated that during the above conference numerous telephone calls were received from the press, wanting to know about the conference. He stated that someone kept tipping the press off as to what was going on and what was being said daily verbatim. He informed that PAUL LAND and MORELLO, United Press men at Tacoma, appeared to know all that took place during the conference, and even knew of the crash of the B-25 and those aboard, before the Army released this information. Mr. ARNOLD informed that when he received news of the crash, that he and Captain SMITH fully expected to be contacted by Army Intelligence, as they were the last people with Lieutenant BROWN and Captain DAVIDSON, however, they were never contacted.

He further stated that he and Captain SMITH went down to the United Press to see what the survivors of the crash had informed about the crash and that MORELLO had told them that the mysterious informant who had been calling had told him that the B-25 had not crashed, but had been shot down, also that MORELLO's Army informant had said that an observer at Kelso, Washington, had seen the plane throw out a landing flare after the two survivors had jumped from the plane, and that the plane had gone into a steep dive and dove into a hillside, and further that one engine had been on fire, but that the fire apparatus, protecting the engine, had failed to function. Mr. ARNOLD stated that DAHL then came to see him and Captain SMITH and told them to go home and forget about the discs, that such things as the B-25 crash had been happening to him all along.

Mr. ARNOLD stated that he then called Mr. PALMER at Chicago and told him that the deal was off and that if he wanted his \$200.00 back, he could have it; that two men had been killed and he was getting frightened of the whole thing. He stated that PALMER informed him that it was all right with him to keep the \$200.00, however, he would send him an additional check for the trouble he had put to. Mr. ARNOLD advised that previous to this telephone call, Captain SMITH had called his friend, MORRIS RODDY, of the Chicago Times and had told him that he did not have any faith in Army Intelligence and for RODDY to conduct an investigation on PALMER and get to the bottom of this disc fantasy. Mr. ARNOLD also advised that previous to the two above telephone calls, he had asked the press to investigate PALMER, as Army Intelligence had informed him that they could not find PALMER and knew nothing concerning him, and appeared not to be interested in PALMER, who seemed to know more about the flying discs than anyone else.

Mr. ARNOLD stated that he personally thinks that PALMER's business is a blind for something else and that DAHL and CHRISMAN will do anything that PALMER asks him to and will not talk unless PALMER tells him to. Mr. ARNOLD stated that he still wanted to get to the bottom of the disc fragment story so he and Captain SMITH had decided to go to Mauri Island on Sunday, August 3,