240-185-10-22

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

452.1-AKADB 7 February 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Kelly Air Force Base
San Antonio, Texas
ATTN: District Commander
10th OSI District (IG)

Inclosed Summary of Information, this Headquarters, subject and file as above, dated 7 February 1949, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Eustis L Poland

EUSTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

1 Incl
As stated

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
14 DEC 1975
DATE

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FEB 10 1949
District #10 Office Special Investigation

24C-185-79-22
USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL

0338

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE: 7 February 1949

PREPARING OFFICE

Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUBJECT

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975

Unconventional Aircraft

(452.1-AKADB)

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:		OF INFORMATION:	
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	1
USUALLY RELIABLE	B	PROBABLY TRUE	2
FAIRLY RELIABLE	C	POSSIBLY TRUE	3
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE	4
UNRELIABLE	E	IMPROBABLE	5
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN	F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED	6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

M/Sgt Ellis C. Stone, Headquarters Fourth Army, AG Section, reports observing an unidentified aerial phenomena on 20 January 1949 between the hours of 1800 and 1900 (closer estimate given to be about 1835 hours).

The point from which this observation was made is 6.2 miles northeast of the city of San Antonio, Texas, about 150 yards on Judson Road off the intersection of Judson Road and Nacogdoches Road.

In making compass sightings on the azmuth of the observation it was determined that the object was seen between the reading of 325° to 295° off magnetic north with the object traveling in a path believed to have been from the ESE direction to the WNW. Time of travel in this azmuth is estimated to be about 5 seconds. Object when first observed was at an elevation of about 15° and as object went out of sight over a small hill, the elevation had dropped to about 12°.

The object appeared to be in the form of a sphere the color of which appeared to be luminous bluish green intermingled with a yellow tinge. It was moving with a gliding effect from the observer's right to his left and slightly away from the point of observation.

The trail from the object varied in length from approximately three times the diameter of the object to six or seven times the diameter. Color of the trail appeared to be a light pink with bright red sparks spraying from the trail at about one half the distance of the length. (The trail was a straight shot-back trail with these sparks emitted making the only irregularity.)

On investigation it was determined that the following named persons may have seen the object since they are known to have been in the same vicinity as Informant at the time of his observation. They will be interviewed.

Mr. CHARLES FINCK, Route 3, San Antonio, Texas
Mr. MARTIN FREISENHAN, believed to be of Converse, Texas. (He handles most of the telephone installation on the Austin Highway between San Antonio and Converse, Texas.)
Two boys identified as sons of Mr. Freisenhan.
Mrs. STONE, wife of M/Sgt Stone, and their son.

The persons in charge of the CAA Office, Control Tower, and Airport Manager of the San Antonio Municipal Airport were interviewed. These persons had received no reports of any unusual aerial activity. The port was closed to public commercial aircraft and "one or two" special flights during the evening.

District #1 Office Special Investigation

DISTRIBUTION

1-DI, GS, USA; 1-CG, Air Materiel Command; 1-District Commander, 10th OSI Dist(I&); File

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Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

RESTRICTED

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No. ___

1. Date of observation 4 December 49 Date of Interview 12 Dec 49

2. Exact time of observation (local) 2035 hours CST

3. Place of observation: Rural district in southeastern part of Cimarron (Map Coordinates) County, Okla, about 25 mi southeast of Boise City, Okla.

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location or - give details:) Was facing east, unlocking left front door of car. Car facing observer. Fireball was to north on observer's left.

5. What attracted attention to object: Lighted up the area.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: One (1)

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length): 1/4 size of the moon

8. Color of object: Bright green

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Egg shape - Roman candle effect.

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): From 60° to 30°

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): From 360° to 350°

12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Unknown

13. Direction of flight of object (s): North to west.

14. Time in sight: Between one and two seconds.

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): Unknown

16. Sound and odor: No sound or odor for 3 or 4 minutes after.

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) None noted

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance): Object lighted up landscape.

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.): None

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path): None-Straight flight.

Fred

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION (Cont'd) Incident No. ____

21. Manner of disappearance: Burned out suddenly.

22. Effect on clouds: No clouds in sight.

23. Additional information concerning object: After green light disappeared, there seemed to be red burning ashes for fraction of a second. Green light went out before reaching ground.

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Clear - full moon.

25. Name and address of observer: Lt Col H. L. Crisler, Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
Occupation and hobbies: Director, Intelligence & Security Div., Sandia Base, New Mexico. Hobby: Sports.
Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (check neighbors, police dept, FBI records, employer, etc.)

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material? No glasses worn. Viewed through clear atmosphere.

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-9

DATE 26 July 1949

REPORT MADE BY R. R. LUMSDEN, S/A

REPORT MADE AT DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

PERIOD 18 May - 5 June 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENA

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Report, 17 May 1949, Special Agent R. R. LUMSDEN, DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

SYNOPSIS

Reports of sighting of unidentified objects in New Orleans, La. on 18, 19, 23 May 1949, submitted by 4th Army on 9 June. Objects were sighted by three housewives, Mrs. THEODORE MICHEL, Mrs. LUCIAN RAY AUSTIN, JR., and Mrs. SALLY JORDAN, respectively. On 20 May, object was sighted by JOHN E. KIEFFER, Professor, Tulane University, New Orleans, La. from beach near Pontchartrain Beach, New Orleans, La. KIEFFER saw a total of six objects for a period of approximately 23 minutes. KIEFFER is a Lt. Colonel, Air Force Reserve, formerly an Intelligence Officer, and was interviewed by Branch Intelligence Officer, 4th Army, New Orleans, La. On 21 May 1949, between the hours of 2045 and 2100 CST, several unusual objects in the air above Dallas, Texas, were observed by a number of civilian observers. The number of objects varied from twenty to seventy-five, and were in sight for a period from three to six seconds. Objects were moving at a high rate of speed, flying in a fixed curve towards the east, south-east. Observations were made by Mr. EVERETT WELLS, Mr. and MRS. THEODORE E. MARTIN, and Mr. M. P. TANZY, all of Dallas, Texas. On 19 May 1949, thirteen enlisted men sighted an object in the air above Fort Bliss, Texas. Object was in sight for approximately five minutes. Information received through 4th Army from Hq. Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas. On 30 May, two enlisted men of Fort Bliss sighted an object in the vicinity of Fort Bliss, and this was reported through 4th Army, by Hq Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss,Texas. On 5 June, Capt. JOHN W. STEWART, Post Engineer, Wingate Ordnance Depot, Gallup, New Mexico observed an object in the air near the Depot. Observation was made at 1950 hours, and was in sight for approximately five seconds. This object left a trail of white smoke with the persistence of approximately 15 minutes. Report of sighting furnished by 4th Army.

DISTRIBUTION

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ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB,Ohio
ATT: Director of
Technical Intelligence

APPROVED

R. R. LUMSDEN
Lt Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

DATE

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975

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UNCLASSIFIED

AFCSI FORM 4
23 JULY 1948

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted] 24-9

DETAILS:

1. Headquarters Fourth Army on 9 June 1949, furnished report of unidentified objects which had been sighted, in New Orleans, La. Three separate reports were submitted on incidents which occurred on 18, 19, and 23 May 1949.

2. At 1630 hours, 18 May 1949, Mrs. THEODORE MICHEL, 1756 Paul Morphy Street, New Orleans, La. sighted one unusual aerial object while sitting on the back steps of her house. Informant compared the object to a single engine Naval training craft, stating that it was silver in color, but resembled an ordinary dinner plate. The object was in sight for ten minutes and was approximately 1-1/2 miles distant, moving in a generally east to west direction. Object flew at a level plane and made no maneuvers, but travelled in an end-over-end fashion at a speed comparable to the Naval training plane previously mentioned, and which informant advises she has seen many times. New Orleans BIO making report commented that Mrs. MICHEL'S report might have been influenced by a discussion with Mrs. AUSTIN, which is set forth in the following paragraph.

3. On 19 May 1949, at 1615 hours, Mrs. LUCIAN RAY AUSTIN, JR., 3129 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans, La. sighted one object in the sky. Her attention was was attrac ted to theobject by the sun's reflection from it. The object appeared to be a flat, round disc, comparable in size to that of a small airplane. Mrs.AUSTIN saw the object for approximately five minutes, during which time it moved in a direction from east to west. Informant believed the object to be between 150 and 170 miles per hour in speed, and object travelled on a level plane and made no maneuvers. In both of the above incidents the weather was clear and the light conditions were good. Both interviews were conducted on 23 May 1949, and reports were submitted directly to AMC. Copies of original "guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects" on file at DO #10.

4. On 23 May 1949 at 1850 hours, Mrs. SALLY JORDAN, 1439 Seventh St., New Orleans, La. observed on object at a distance of approximately 1-1/2 miles. Informant's thirteen year-old soon first noted the object and attracted his mother's attention. The object appeared to be round, compared to a weather balloon, grey in color, and was moving from south to north-east. Object was in sight for approximately 30 seconds, and informant compared the speed to that of a small observation plane. No maneuvers were noted. Mrs. JORDAN is considered to be reliable, and not in the habit of telling falsehoods, or exaggerating. Report furnished directly to AMC by Fourth Army. Copy is on file at DO #10.

[redacted]

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5. On 20 May 1949, object was sighted at 1620 hours by Mr. JOHN E. KIEFFER, Professor, Tulane University, New Orleans, La. KIEFFER was interviewed on 31 May by a member of the Branch Intelligence Office, New Orleans, La. KIEFFER stated that at 1625 hours on 20 May, he was lying on his back at the beach in the Pontchartrain Beach area, New Orleans, La. and sighted an unusual aerial object. KIEFFER is a Lt. Colonel in the Air Force Reserve and was formerly an Intelligence Officer. He stated he first saw only one object, but later five smaller objects grouped around a larger one. All were bright and shiny, being silver.in color. Shape was flat and spherical. Distance from the observer could not be estimated, but objects were in sight for approximately 23 minutes. The weather was clear with unlimited visibility. Object moved in a large circle over New Orleans Airport. No sound or odor was noticed, and after rotating on a horizontal axis, the object disappeared. Report furnished by Fourth Army direct to AMC. Copy retained in File DO # 10.

6. On 21 May 1949, between the hours of 2045 and 2100 CST, several persons observed unusual objects in the air above Dallas, Texas. The weather report for this period was as follows:

"Weather Report: 21 May 1949, U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, Dallas, Texas: 2030 hours clear sky, visibility 15 miles, pressure 1005.4 milbars, temperature 78°, dew point 62, NNE wind two miles per hour, 29.69 altimeter, frequent cloud to cloud lightning.

"2130 hours, clear sky, 15 miles visibility, 1006.4 milbars, 75° temperature, 58 dew point NNE wind at five miles per hour, altimeter 29.72, frequent cloud to cloud lightning SE.

"2230 hours, clear sky, 15 miles an hour wind, 1007.5 milbars, 77° temperature, dew point 52, SSE wind at ten miles per hour, 29.75 altimeter reading, occasional lightning in the East. "

In an interview on 25 May, Mr. EVERETT WELLS, 1025 Cliff Dale Street, Dallas, Texas, stated substantially as follows: He is a construction and labor foreman, and at 2100 hours in the front yard of his home, he happened to see a long irregular line of about 75 to 100 objects in the sky. These objects were flat, circular in shape like a smoke ring, were smaller than a man's fist held at arm's length. Objects appeared to be approximately 1-1/2 miles away and were moving from east to west. They were in sight for approximately three seconds, moving at a speed estimated to be 800 to 1,000 miles per hour. WELLS stated that they were very dim, just enough to see, about like a 5 watt light globe. No maneuvers were observed and no sound or odor noted. Interrogator stated

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that WELLS is above average in intelligence, and has pronounced ability to judge distances, space and speed; further that he appeared to be reliable and a man of good character.

7. In interview on 24 May 1949, Mr. THEODORE E. MARTIN, 1035 Cliff Dale Street, Dallas, Texas, stated that at 2100 hours, 21 May 1949, from the front yard of 1025 Cliff Dale Street, he saw about twenty objects of the same size, evenly spaced, looking like a kite's tail. Objects were described as being about half the size of a man's fist at arm's length, were fluorescent white in color, with slight oscillation. Shape of the objects were circular, but not completely round,more like a clam shell. The objects were 2-1/2 to 3 miles from the observer when first seen, and were in sight for four to five seconds, moving at a speed estimatedto be about two miles per second. The objects made a gentle climb, being higher at last observation than at first, and faded from sight. MARTIN'S occupation is that of a mail clerk in the Post Office Department, and a shoe salesman. Interrogator stated that he is sincere and appeared interested in the matter and expressed himself very well.

8. On 25 May 1949, Mrs. T. E. MARTIN, 1035 Cliff Dale Street, Dallas, was interviewed and stated substantially the same as her husband had in the interview set forth above. The interrogator expressed the opinion that Mrs. MARTIN'S intelligence seemed to be below average and the character of her information was questionable.

9. On 25 May 1949, Mr. M. P. TANZY, 412 N. Barnett Street, Dallas, Texas. was interviewed and stated that at 2045 hours, from the front yard of 412 N. Barnett Street, he saw four to eight or more objects in the air at an estimated 30,000 feet. The objects were described as being an arrowhead with a round object in the center, and were about the size of a 50¢ piece held at arm's length. Color varied from that of red and orange and the objects were in sight from three to six seconds. The objects did not reflect light, but appeared to be translucent and were moving at an estimated speed of 1,500 to 30,000 miles per hour,flying in a fixed curve toward east, south-east. Mr. TANZY is an Agriculture Teacher in Arizona and according to the interrogator,has intelligence and character in keeping with that of his profession. Copies of report form "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects" furnished to AMC by Fourth Army. Copy of these reports retained in files of DO #10.

10. On 1 June 1949, this office received a letter from Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2, Fourth Army, which attached a report of an unconventional aircraft observed at Fort Bliss, Texas. Object was observed by thirteen enlisted men and was in sight for approximately five minutes. Copy of the letter as received from Fort Bliss is attached. Copies of sketches referred to in cited letter retained in office of DO #10.

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11. On 16 June 1949, this office received through G-2, Fourth Army, copies of letter dated 2 June o949 from Fort Bliss, reporting another unconventional aircraft observed on 30 May 1949. Copies of this report are also attached.

12. On 16 June 1949, this office received through Fourth Army, copies of "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects". Object was observed at 1950 hours, 5 June 1949, at Wingate Ordnance Depot, Gallup, New Mexico, by Captain JOHN W. STEWART, Post Engineer of the Ordnance Depot. Object was in sight for approximately five seconds and appeared to be 50 miles away from the observer. It appeared to be a spheroid in shape and was described as being orange in color as seen against the deep blue sky. The brilliance was that of a 200 watt light bulb at 100 yards, with the object being about 1/8" in diameter at arm's length. In this instance a trail of white smoke with the persistence of approximately 15 minutes was observed emanating from the object. Copy of the report furnished directly to AMC by Fourth Army, and a copy is on file at DO #10.

PENDING

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

INCLOSURES

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO, ATTENTION: DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE

FOR DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, HQ, USAF, WASHINGTON, D.C.

1. Copy of letter from Headquarters, Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas, Subject: Unconventional Aircraft, To: Commanding General, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, ATTN: AC of S, G-2, 23 May 1949. (Dup.)

2. Copy of letter from Headquarters, Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas, Subject: Unconventional Aircraft, To: Commanding General, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, ATTN: AC of S, G-2, 2 June 1949. (Dup.)

FOR HEADQUARTERS, OSI, WASHINGTON, D.C.

FILE

1. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 23 May 1949 - MRS. THEODORE MICHEL, 1756 Paul Morphy Street, New Orleans, La.

2. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 23 May 1949 - MRS. LUCIEN ROY AUSTIN, JR., 3129 Frenchmen St., New Orleans, La.

3. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 25 May 1949 - MRS. SALLY JORDAN, 1439 Seventh St., New Orleans, La.

4. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 31 May 1949 - MR. JOHN E. KIEFFER, Professor, Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

5. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 25 May 1949, - MR. EVERETT WELLS, 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

6. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 24 May 1949 - MR. THEO E. MARTIN, 1035 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

7. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 25 May 1949 - MRS. T. E. MARTIN, 1035 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas.

8. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 25 May 1949 - MR. M. P. TANZY, 412 N. Barnett St., Dallas, Texas.

[redacted]

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9. Copy of letter from Headquarters, Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas, Subject: Unconventional Aircraft, To: Commanding General, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, ATTN: AC of S, G-2, 23 May 1949.

10. Copy of letter from Headquarters, Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas, Subject: Unconventional Aircraft, to: Commanding General, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, ATTN: AC of S, G-2, 2 June 1949.

11. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", 6 June 1949, Captain JOHN W. STEWART, Post Engineer, Wingate Ordnance Depot, Gallup, New Mexico.

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975

Incident No. ___

1. Date of observation Wed. 18 May 49 Date of Interview 23 May 49

2. Exact time of observation (local) 1630 Hours

3. Place of observation: 1756 Paul Porphy Street, New Orleans, Louisiana
(Map Coordinates) 90.1 - 30.0

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location or - give details:)

Informant sighted object while sitting on back steps of her house.

5. What attracted attention to object: Informant's attention was attracted by the reflection of the sun on the object in the air.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: One object

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length): Informant compared size of object to a single-engine two-seated Naval Reserve training plane, which she has seen many times in New Orleans area.

8. Color of object: Silver

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Informant compared the object to an ordinary dinner plate.

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): The flying object was at approximately a 45-degree angle above the horizon and continued at that altitude throughout the time of observation.

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): North

12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Approximately one and one-half miles.

13. Direction of flight of object (s): In a general east to west direction.

14. Time in sight: Ten minutes

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): Informant compared the speed of the flying object to that of the Naval Reserve plane mentioned in item 7 above.

16. Sound and odor: None

24-9-32

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) None

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance): The object was luminous but cast a very bright reflection from the sun.

dr #1

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.): None.

COPY

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path): The object flew at level plane and made no maneuvers. The object traveled in an end over end fashion.

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION (Cont'd) CONFIDENTIAL Incident No. ____

21. Manner of disappearance: Informant stated that she took her eyes off the object for a second and could not sight it again.

22. Effect on clouds: None. There were no clouds in the sky at the time of observation.

23. Additional information concerning object: None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Weather clear; light good.

25. Name and address of observer: Mrs. Theodore MICHEL, 1756 Paul Morphy Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Occupation and hobbies: Housewife; hobbies: gardining.

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (check neighbors, police dept, FBI records, employer, etc.)

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material? At time of observation informant was not wearing glasses and viewed object while out of doors.

BIO COMMENT: Mrs. MICHEL appeared to be a person of average intelligence and reliability. A neighborhood check revealed that Mrs. MICHEL is well liked in that neighborhood and is considered to be an average person and not very likely to exaggerate or imagine things. The description of the flying object by Mrs. MICHEL is very similar to that made by Mrs. Lucien R. AUSTIN, Jr, SI, this office, dated 26 May 1949, subject, "Unidentified Flying Object." Mrs. MICHEL stated that she had told no one of her observation until a newspaper article appeared about Mrs. AUSTIN sighting a "flying disc." Mrs. MICHEL then called Mrs. AUSTIN and told her she too had seen a "flying disc." The close similarity ot the two descritpions, with the exception of the dates sighted, may have been partly caused by the two informants talking their observations over on the telephone prior to being interviewed.

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident No. ___

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DEC 1975
DATE

1. Date of observation 19 May 1949 Thursday Date of Interview 23 May 1949

2. Exact time of observation (local) 1615 hours

3. Place of observation: 3129 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans, Louisiana
(Map Coordinates) 90.1 - 30.0

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location or - give details:)

At time of observation, informant was sitting on the back steps of her home.

5. What attracted attention to object: Informant's attention was attracted by its reflection in the sun.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: One object.

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length): Informant compared size to that of a small airplane.

8. Color of object: Object appeared to be silver and reflected the sun's light.

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Informant compared the shape of the object to a flat round disc, or an ordinary dinner plate.

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): Object appeared to be at approximately a 45-degree elevation above the horizon.

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): North

12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Approximately one and one-half miles.

13. Direction of flight of object (s): In general east to west direction.

14. Time in sight: Five minutes.

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): Informant compared speed of object to that of a single-engine training plane which she has observed before in the air (150 to 170 MPH)

16. Sound and odor: None

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) None

24-9-3)

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance): The object was not luminous but appeared to be silver and reflected a great amount of light from the sun.

Ind #2

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.): None

OSI (dup)

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path): The object traveled on a level plane and made no maneuvers with the exception of traveling in an end fashion.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION (Cont'd) Incident No. ____

21. Manner of disappearance: The flying object was in sight until a neighboring house blocked it from view. Informant then ran to the front of the house but could not sight the object again.

22. Effect on clouds: None. There were no clouds in the path of the flying object.

23. Additional information concerning object: None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: The weather was clear and light good.

25. Name and address of observer: Mrs. Lucien Roy AUSTIN, Jr., 3129 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans, Louisiana

Occupation and hobbies: Housewife; hobbies: none.

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (check neighbors, police dept, FBI records, employer, etc.)
Mrs. AUSTIN appeared to be of above average intelligence and impressed the interviewer as being reliable. Mrs. AUSTIN was at one time a court recorder at the Naval Repair Base in Algiers, Louisiana. A neighborhood check *

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material? At time of observation informant was not wearing glasses and viewed the object out of doors.

*revealed that Mrs. AUSTIN is a person of excellent character and reputation and was not known to be a gossiper or a person who would "see" things.

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident No. ___

1. Date of observation Mon, 23 May 49 Date of Interview 25 May 49

2. Exact time of observation (local) 1850 hours

3. Place of observation: 1439 Seventh Street, New Orleans, Louisiana;
(Map Coordinates) 90.1 - 30.0

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location or - give details:)

Informant was out of doors in her back yars.

5. What attracted attention to object: Her attention was attracted to the flying object by her 13-year old son, who first noticed it.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: One object was sighted

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length): Informant compared size of object to a small observation plane.

8. Color of object: Object appeared grey in color.

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Object appeared to be round, such as a weather balloon.

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): When sighted object was at approximately a 45-degree angle above the horizon.

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): Southwest

12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Approximately one to one and one-half miles.

13. Direction of flight of object (s): South to northeast.

14. Time in sight: thirty seconds

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): Informant compared speed of object to that of a small observation plane.

16. Sound and odor: None

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) None

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance): Object was not luminous, but grey in color and no reflection or brilliance was observed.

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.): None

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path): The object made no maneuvers of any kind but traveled on a level plane, neither losing nor gaining altitude.

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2nd #3

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION (Cont'd) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Incident No. ____

21. Manner of disappearance: Informant lost sight of object for an instant and then could not locate it ag ain.

22. Effect on clouds: None. There were no clouds in the sky.

23. Additional information concerning object: Informant stated that she was positive the flying object she had sighted was not a search light from the airport, but said the object could possible have been a weather balloon.

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Weather clear; light good.

25. Name and address of observer: Mrs. Sally JORDAN, 1439 Seventh Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.
Occupation and hobbies: Housewife; no hobbies.

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (check neighbors, police dept, FBI records, employer, etc.)
Mrs JORDAN appeared to be a person of average intelligence and reliable sort of person. A neighborhood check reveled that informant is considered to be a norman person, and is well thought of in the neighborhood. Mrs. JORDAN is*
Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material? Informant was not wearing glasses at time of observation and viewed the object while out of doors.

*considered to be reliable and not in the habit of telling falsehoods or exaggerating.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE: 2 June 1949

PREPARING OFFICE: Branch Intelligence Office, New Orleans, Louisiana

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT SIGHTED BY JOHN E. KIEFFER

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:		OF INFORMATION:	
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	1
USUALLY RELIABLE	B	PROBABLY TRUE	2
FAIRLY RELIABLE	C	POSSIBLY TRUE	3
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE	4
UNRELIABLE	E	IMPROBABLE	5
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN	F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED	6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

On 31 May 1949 John E. KIEFFER, Professor, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, was interviewed after it was reported that he had sighted a "flying disc." Your attention is invited to the attached description of the "flying disc" sighted by Mr. KIEFFER.

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4 DEC 1975
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1 - File

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE: 2 June 1949

PREPARING OFFICE: Branch Intelligence Office, New Orleans, Louisiana

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT SIGHTED BY JOHN E. KIEFFER

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:		OF INFORMATION:	
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	1
USUALLY RELIABLE	B	PROBABLY TRUE	2
FAIRLY RELIABLE	C	POSSIBLY TRUE	3
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE	4
UNRELIABLE	E	IMPROBABLE	5
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN	F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED	6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

1. Date of observation: Friday, 20 May 1949. Date of interview: 31 May 1949.

2. Exact time of observation: 1625 hours.

3. Place of observation: Pontchartrain Beach area, New Orleans, Louisiana.

4. Position of observer: Informant sighted object while lying on back, on beach.

5. What attracted attention to object: Bright shiney color.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: At first only one, later five smaller ones grouped around the larger one.

7. Apparent size: No reference points available, so no estimate was made.

8. Color of object: Silver and shiney.

9. Shape: Flat and spherical.

10. Altitude: 45 to 50-degree angle from the ground.

11. Direction from observer: East, northeast.

12. Distance from observer: Would not estimate.

13. Direction of flight of object: West, southwest, generally. Made large circle over New Orleans Airport.

14. Time in sight: 23 minutes.

15. Speed: Apparently slow and deliberate.

16. Sound and odor: None.

17. Trail: None

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(CONTINUED)

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Subject: UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT
SIGHTED BY JOHN E. KIEFFER

18. Luminosity: Extremely bright.

19. Projections: None.

20. Maneuvers: Wide circle around New Orleans Airport.

21. Manner of disappearance: Object rotated on horizontal axis and then disappeared.

22. Effect on clouds: Object well below cloud level.

23. Additional information concerning object: None.

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Weather clear; unlimited visibility.

Name and address of observer: Mr. John E. KIEFFER, Professor, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Occupation and hobbies: Occupation: Professor.

At the time of observation informant was not wearing glasses and has 20/20 vision.

BIO Comment: Observer is deemed to be highly reliable, being a Lieutenant Colonel, Air Corps Reserve, and was formerly intelligence officer with the Air Corps, and is known to this office; therefore, no neighborhood, police, FBI, or employment checks were made. Because of his present association with the 12th Air Force, Kelley Field, San Antonio, observer requested that a copy of this Summary of Information be transmitted to that headquarters, for whom an additional copy is attached herewith.

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: MR EVERETT WELLS

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

1. Date of observation: 21 May 1949. Date of Interview: 25 May 1949

2. Exact time of observation: 2100 hours CST

3. Place of Observation: 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

4. Position of observer: Front yard of 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

5. What attracted attention to objects: Just happened to see the objects

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: Long irregular line of about 75 to 100 objects

7. Apparent size: Smaller than a man's fist at arms length.

8. Color of objects: The color of mercury vapor lamp light to green

9. Shape: Flat circular like a smoke ring

10. Altitude: 35° elevation

11. Direction from observer: About 10° from North

12. Distance from observer: 1 to 1½ miles ground distance

13. Direction of flight of objects: East to West

14. Time in sight: About 3 seconds

15. Speed: 800 to 1000 mph at 3,000 to 5,000 ft altitude, estimated

16. Sound and odor: None

17. Trail: None

18. Luminosity: Just enough to see, about like a 5 watt globe and very dim

19. Projections: None

20. Maneuvers: Uniform flight.

21. Manner of disappearance: Faded from sight.

22. Effects on clouds: None

23. Additional information: None

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Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOSEPH F. AGNEW, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

051

Del #5

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: EVERETT WELLS

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Clear in direction of objects but cloudy to the South and East. At night.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OBSERVER:

Mr Everett Wells, 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

OCCUPATION AND HOBBIES:

Construction and labor foreman, None

COMMENTS OF INTERROGATOR RELATIVE TO INTELLIGENCE AND CHARACTER OF OBSERVER:

Wells is above average intelligence and in ability to judge distance, space and speed, due to his experience in the construction business. He appears to be reliable and a man of good character.

Observer wears glasses for eye correction purposes, vision was not impaired by any other object or material.

Mrs Everett Wells, wife of Everett Wells, made almost the same statements as her husband. Mrs Wells' statement was based on hearsay and on the opinion of her husband.

Weather Report: 21 May 1949, U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, Dallas, Texas: 2030 hours clear sky, visibility 15 miles, pressure 1005.4 milbars, temperature 78°, dew point 62, NNE wind two miles per hour, 29.69 altimeter, frequent cloud to cloud lightning.

2130 hours, clear sky, 15 miles visibility, 1006.5 milbars, 75° temperature, 58 dew point NNE wind at five miles per hour, altimeter 29.72, frequent cloud to cloud lightning SE.

2230 hours, clear sky, 15 miles an hour wind, 1007.5 milbars, 77° temperature, dew point 52, SSE wind at ten miles per hour, 29.75 altimeter reading, occasional lightning in the East.

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOSEPH F. AGNEW, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: T. E. MARTIN

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

1. Date of observation: 21 May 1949. Date of Interview: 24 May 1949

2. Exact time of observation: 2100 hours CST

3. Place of observation: 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

4. Position of observer: Front yard of 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

5. What attracted attention to objects: Wife first observed objects

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: About 20 objects. Looking like a kite's tail, evenly spaced and same size. 0--0--0--0--0--0--

7. Apparent size: About half the size of a man's fist at arms length

8. Color of object: White, flourescent, with slight shiver or osculation

9. Shape: Circular, not completely round, like a clam shell

10. Altitude: 45° angle of elevation when first seen

11. Direction from observer: 50° to 60° from North

12. Distance from observer: $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 miles when first seen

13. Direction of flight of objects: SSW

14. Time in sight: 4 to 5 seconds

15. Speed: About 2 miles per second, estimated

16. Sound and odor: None, quiet, like the flight of birds

17. Trail: None

18. Luminosity: Cold light, not as bright as evening star

19. Projections: None observed

20. Maneuvers: Gentle rise, higher when last seen

21. Manner of disappearance: Faded from sight

22. Effects on clouds: None or unknown

23. Additional information: Seen by 5 or 6 people

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Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CARLETON C. KEYES, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: T. E. MARTIN

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Dark, white smoke from factory, no stars, no moon, air clear except for some smoke.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OBSERVER:

Theo. E. Martin, 1035 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

OCCUPATION AND HOBBIES:

Mail Clerk, Post Office Department. Shoe Salesman

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer: Man was sincere, very interested in the matter, showed excellent reasoning ability, had very good command of English and expressed himself very well. Did not appear at all a neurotic type.

Observer does not wear glasses and was not wearing sun shade glasses. Observation was not made through any other material

Weather Report: 21 May 1949, U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, Dallas, Texas: 2030 hours clear sky, visibility 15 miles, pressure 1005.4 milbars, temperature 78°, dew point 62, NNE wind two miles per hour, 29.69 altimeter, frequent cloud to cloud lightning.

2130 hours, clear sky, 15 miles visibility, 1006.5 milbars, 75° temperature, dew point NNE wind at five miles per hour, altimeter 29.72, frequent cloud to cloud lightning SE.

2230 hours, clear sky, 15 miles an hour wind, 1007.5 milbars, 77° temperature, dew point 52, SSE wind at ten miles per hour, 29.75 altimeter reading, occasional lightning in the East.

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CARLETON C. KEYES, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: MRS T. E. MARTIN

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd. 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

1. Date of observation: 21 May 1949. Date of Interview: 25 May 1949

2. Exact time of observation: 2100 hours CST

3. Place of observation: 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

4. Position of observer: Front yard of 1025 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

5. What attracted attention to object: Just looking up into the sky (Star gazer)

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: No idea, looked like a spot of light and in a straight line.

7. Apparent size: Could not judge the size

8. Color of objects: White to green and flourescent

9. Shape: Oval to a round coil

10. Altitude: 75° or less at time of sighting

11. Direction from observer: 20° to 30° from North

12. Distance from observer: Could not judge or estimate

13. Direction of flight of objects: East to West

14. Time in sight: About 6 seconds

15. Speed: No idea

16. Sound and color: None

17. Trail: None

18. Luminosity: Making own light and not very bright

19. Projections: None

20. Maneuvers: Straight line of flight

21. Manner of disappearance: Just faded from sight

22. Effects on clouds: Unknown

23. Additional information concerning objects: None

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4 DEC 1975
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5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOSEPH F. AGNEW, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: MRS T. E. MARTIN

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Dark, clear sky and unobstructed view in line of flight.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OBSERVER:

Mrs T. E. Martin, 1035 Cliff Dale St., Dallas, Texas

OCCUPATION AND HOBBIES:

Housewife and sewing

Comment of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer: Intelligence is considered to be below average and the character is questionable.

Weather Report: 21 May 1949, U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, Dallas, Texas: 2030 hours clear sky, visibility 15 miles, pressure 1005.4 milbars, temperature 78°, dew point 62, NNE wind two miles per hour, 29.69 altimeter, frequent cloud to cloud lightning.

2130 hours, clear sky, 15 miles visibility, 1006.4 milbars, 75° temperature, 58 dew point NNE wind at five miles per hour, altimeter 29.72, frequent cloud to cloud lightning SE.

2230 hours, clear sky, 15 miles an hour wind, 1007.5 milbars, 77° temperature, dew point 52, SSE wind at ten miles per hour, 29.75 altimeter reading, occasional lightning in the East.

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOSEPH F. AGNEW, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: M. P. TANZY

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

1. Date of observation: 21 May 1949. Date of Interview: 25 May 1949

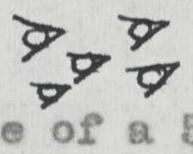
2. Exact time of observation: 2045 hours CST

3. Place of observation: 412 N. Barnett St., Dallas, Texas

4. Position of observer: Front yard of 412 N. Barnett St., Dallas, Texas

5. What attracted attention to object: Watching weather and turned to observe weather in another direction

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: 4 to 8 or more as shown in sketch



7. Apparent size: About the size of a 50¢ piece.

8. Color of objects: Between a red and orange

9. Shape: Arrow head with round object in center

10. Altitude: About 80°

11. Direction from observer: NNW

12. Distance from observer: Estimated 30,000 feet

13. Direction of flight of objects: NNW to SSE

14. Time in sight: 3 to 6 seconds

15. Speed: 1500 to 3000 mph, estimated

16. Sound and odor: None

17. Trail: None

18. Luminosity: No reflection but translucent

19. Projection: See sketch

20. Maneuvers: Flying in a fixed curve, toward the ESE

21. Manner of disappearance: Faded from sight

22. Effects on clouds: None

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5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOSEPH F. AGNEW, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

OBSERVATION OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS AS REPORTED BY: M. P. TANZY

Re: AG 452.1 AKADB, Hq 4th Army, FSHT, Dtd 4 Apr 49

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

23. Additional information concerning objects: None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Dark but sky was clear in direction of observation

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OBSERVER:

Mr M. P. Tanzy, 412 N. Barnett St., Dallas, Texas (Home of Tanzy's Father)

OCCUPATION AND HOBBIES:

Agriculture Teacher in Arizona, Hunting

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer: Intelligence and character in keeping with that of his profession.

Observer does not wear glasses, and was not wearing any at the time of the observation. Vision was not obstructed by any other object.

Weather Report: 21 May 1949, U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, Dallas, Texas: 2030 hours clear sky, visibility 15 miles, pressure 1005.4 milbars, temperature 78°, dew point 62, NNE wind two miles per hour, 2969 altimeter, frequent cloud to cloud lightning.

2130 hours, clear sky, 15 miles visibility, 1006.5 milbars, 75° temperature, 58 dew point NNE wind at five miles per hour, altimeter 29.72, frequent cloud to cloud lightning SE.

2230 hours, clear sky, 15 miles an hour wind, 1007.5 milbars, 77° temperature, dew point 52, SSE wind at ten miles per hour, 29.75 altimeter reading, occasional lightning in the East.

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOSEPH F. AGNEW, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

000.9 AKADB 27 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

TO: District Commander
Headquarters 10th District
Office of Special Investigations
Kelly Air Force Base
San Antonio, Texas

The inclosed letter, Commanding General, Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas, AKBAAB 452.1, subject, "Unconventional Aircraft," 23 May 1949, re sighting of unidentified aerial phenomena, 19 May 1949, Fort Bliss, Texas, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Eustis L. Poland

EUSTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

1 Incl
As stated w/2 incls

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Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS
ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY AND GUIDED MISSILE CENTER
FORT BLISS, TEXAS

AKBAAB 452.1 23 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE
BY _____
DATE

TO: Commanding General
Fourth Army
Fort Sam Houston, Texas
ATTN: AC of S, G-2

In compliance with letter, Headquarters Fourth Army, file AG 452.1 AKADB, subject as above, dated 4 April 1949, the following report is submitted:

1. Date of observation: 19 May 49 Date of interview: 19 May 49

2. Exact time of observation 0830-0900 19 May 49 MST

3. Place of observation: Outside Headquarters Supply Room, 39th AAA Bn, Bldg 4709. See Incl #1.

4. Position of observer: Standing on ground 5 to 10 feet on east side of building 4709, Fort Bliss, Texas.

5. What attracted attention to object: A flashing object in the sky.

6. Number of objects: One object.

7. Apparent size: About the size of my thumb nail at arm length.

8. Color of object: Silver.

9. Shape: Round and thin like a quarter dollar. Apparently rocked giving an edgewise and sidewise view. Rocking at irregular intervals.

10. Altitude: About a 30° angle.

11. Direction from observer: Approximately 2/3 distance to Hueco Mountains.

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Incl #9

C561

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Ltr Hq AAA & GM Ctr, Ft Bliss, Texas, AKBAAB 452.1, 23 May 49, subject, Unconventional Aircraft

13. Direction of flight of object: Moved away at about 100° and slowly ascending.

14. Time in sight: Approsimately 5 minutes.

15. Speed: In 5 minutes it apparently moved about 15 to 20 miles judging from its position at time of first sight to a position apparently over the mountain range.

16. Sound or oder: None

17. Trail: None

18. Luminosity: Reflection

19. Projections: None

20. Maneuvers: Irregular rolling and tilting motion slowly rising as it travelled away.

21. Manner of disappearance: See #9.

22. Effect of clouds: Saw it first without glasses and still saw it through tinted binoculars.

23. Additional information concerning object: None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Bright sunshine. No clouds. Temperature about 70°.

Names and Addresses of Witnesses:

Leroy Heminger, Cpl., RA15413843, Hq Btry, 39th Bn
Albert Schuck, Pvt., RA19337053, D Btry, 39th Bn
Gerald G Compton, Pvt., US57507831, B Btry, 39th Bn
Kenneth L Frashier, Pfc, RA16291443, B Btry, 39th Bn
Edmund G Pine, Pvt, US51015147, B Btry, 39th Bn
Carl E Bickmore, Pvt., US51015153, B Btry, 39th Bn
Walter L Walas, Pvt., US52000648, D Btry, 39th Bn
Albert G Jesseman, Pfc, RA21628057, B Btry, 39th Bn
Donald F Lodge, Pvt, RA11168539, B Btry, 39th Bn
Carmelo C Presto, Pvt, US51023619, B Btry, 39th Bn
Joseph E Schillizzi, Pvt, RA12320803, B Btry, 39th Bn
John Mathe, Pvt., RA12320700, B Btry, 39th Bn
Richard Mitchell, Pvt, RA11165247, A Btry, 39th Bn

Occupation and hobbies: Persons listed above are in the military service.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

Ltr Hq AAA & GM Ctr, Ft Bliss, Texas, 23 May 1949, file AKBAAB 452.1,
subj, Unconventional Aircraft

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer:

An interview with enlisted men of the 39th AAA Battalion revealed that the observers are reliable in character and intelligence.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material: Binoculars were used by Cpl Heminger and Pvt Schuck after initial observation.

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions: Clouds, clear; visibility, 50 miles; temperature, 70 degrees; relative humidity, 23%; Dewpoint, 33; altimeter: 016.

2. Winds aloft report: Calm.

a. Adiabatic chart for period in question: None available.

3. Local flight schedule of commercial, private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at time: Military aircraft flying within the area at that time.

4. Possible releases of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Weather Units, Research Organizations or any other: All installations within this area were contacted with negative results.

5. Did object contact the earth: Object did not contact the earth.

6. Photographs or Sketches: Sketches are attached hereto.

7. Signed statements: Signed statements were received and are being retained at this headquarters.

8. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible: Not possible.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

J. W. ROSS,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General

2 Incls
1 O/lay (quint)
2 Sketch (quint)

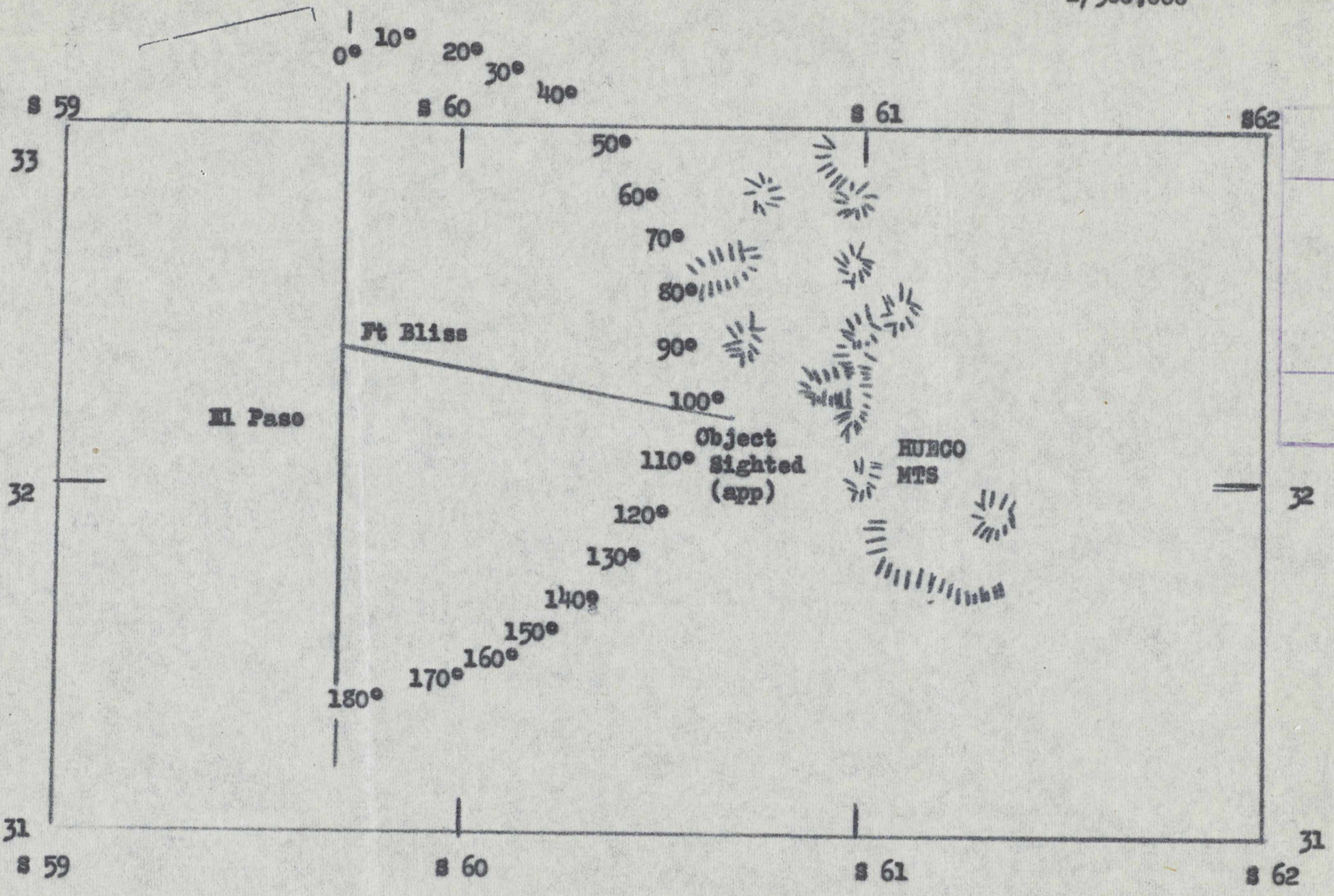
JUN 1 1949

District #10 Office Special Investigation

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

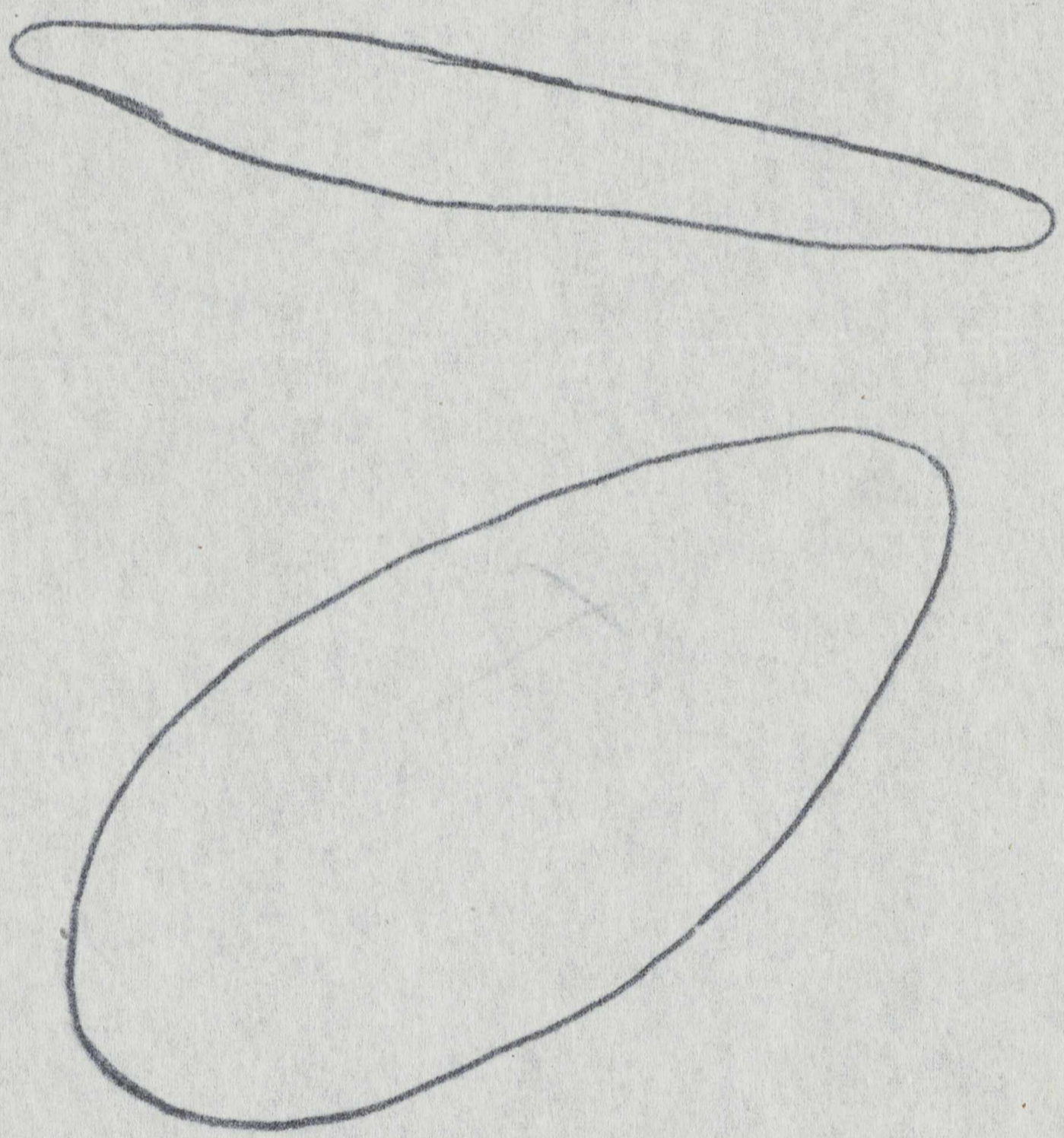
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1/500,000



JUN 1 1949
District #10 Office Special Investigation

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Sketch of Object Sighted:



JUL 1 1949

District #10 Office Special Investigation

Grad 1

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

9

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS
ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY AND GUIDED MISSILE CENTER
FORT BLISS, TEXAS

UNCLASSIFIED

AKBAAB 452.1 2 June 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Fourth Army
Fort Sam Houston, Texas
ATTN: AC of S, G-2

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

In compliance with letter, headquarters Fourth Army, AG 452.1 AKADB, subject as above, dated 4 April 1949, the following report is submitted:

1. Date of observation: 30 May 1949 Date of interview: 31 May 49

2. Exact time of observation: 1332 MST

3. Place of observation: Sunrise Acres, El Paso

4. Position of observer: About 1000 feet south east of White Acres in open field.

5. What attracted attention to object: Observers were watching a fighter plane in the air and a highly reflective object attracted their attention.

6. Number of objects: One

7. Apparent size: About one inch long (length of thumb) (about size of cub plane but shorter)

8. Color of object: Looked glassy or shiny.

9. Shape: Oblong

10. Altitude: About 75°

11. Direction from observer: From overhead to east by north east.

12. Distance from observer: Overhead

13. Direction of flight of object: East to north east

14. Time in sight: 3 minutes

15. Speed: From 90° to 35° in 3 minutes

16. Sound or odor: None

17. Trail: None

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OSI (dup) 2nd #18

24-9-26

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Ltr Hq AAA & GM Ctr, Ft Bliss, Texas, AKBAAB 452.1, dtd 2 Jun 49, subject, Unconventional Aircraft

18. Luminosity: Surface was highly reflective.

19. Projections: None

20. Maneuvers: Turning slowly on longitudinal axis

21. Manner of dissapearance: Disappeared in clouds

22. Effect of clouds: None

23. Additional information concerning object: None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Clear bright light; wind, 10 MPH; scattered clouds.

Names and addresses of witnesses:

Pfc Lewis Liske
Pvt William R Tyrrel
Headquarters Battery, 1st GM Regt, Fort Bliss, Texas

Occupations and hobbies: Persons listed above are in the military service.

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer:

Subjects listed seem reasonably intelligent and reliable.

No Reports.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material: No glasses were worn or used.

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions: Clouds, broken, 25,000 feet; humidity, 19%; visibility, 60 miles, W 10 knots; temperature, 90°; dew point, 31.

2. Winds aloft report: West at 6 knots per hour.

a. Adiabatic chart for period in question: None available.

3. Local flight schedules of commercial, private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at time: Biggs Air Force Base reported an F51 type fighter in the area approximately 1330 hours. Pilot did not observe unusual object. Report from White Sands Proving Ground was negative. No reports on unusual objects have been received from local agencies.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Ltr Hq AAA & GM Ctr, Ft Bliss, Texas, ARBAAB 452.1, dtd 2 Jun 49, subject, Unconventional Aircraft

4. Possible releases of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Weather Units, Research Organizations or any other: Holloman Air Force Base released "Rawinsonce" balloons at 1335 hours, 30 May 1949.

5. Did object contact the earth: Object did not contact the earth.

6. Photographs or sketches: None

7. Signed statements: Signed statements are in process of being obtained.

8. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible: Not possible.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

J.W. ROSS,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No. 2

1. Date of observation 5 June 1949 Date of Interview 6 June 1949

2. Exact time of observation (local) 1950 hours

3. Place of observation: (Map Coordinates) Wingate Ordnance Depot, Gallup, New Mexico

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location or - give details:)

Car

5. What attracted attention to object: Light

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: One

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length): Approximately 1/8" diameter at arms length.

8. Color of object: Orange - against a deep blue sky.

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object):

Appeared spheroid.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SAFE INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead):

25 degrees - estimated 6,000 to 8,000-ft. elevation.

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): 255 degrees magnetic north.

12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Approximately 50 miles from observer.

13. Direction of flight of object (s): Approximately 104 degrees from vertical.

14. Time in sight: Approximately 5 seconds.

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): Unknown. Not as fast as a falling meteor.

16. Sound and odor: None.

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) White smoke, at arms length about 5"; width - approximately 1/4" at arms length; persistence - approximately 15 minutes.

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance): Approximately 200 watt light bulb at 100 yards.

19. Projections (fins, wings, reds, antennae, canopies, etc.): Unknown.

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path):

Straight line.

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OSI Rec'd #11

24-9-25

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION (Cont'd) Incident No. 2

21. Manner of disappearance: Faded out.

22. Effect on clouds: Clear area.

23. Additional information concerning object: None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Clear twilight.

25. Name and address of observer: John W. Stewart, Capt. C.E., Post Engineer, Wingate Ordnance Depot, Gallup, New Mexico

Occupation and hobbies: U. S. Army

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (check neighbors, police dept, FBI records, employer, etc.)

Witness is a man of excellent character.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?

Through normal glasses, 20/20 vision.

COPY

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2

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 32-5

DATE 27 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY
LOUIS H. COLEMAN, S/A

REPORT MADE AT
DO #9 - Barksdale AFB

PERIOD
23 and 27 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #9 - Barksdale AFB

STATUS
Closed

TITLE

PROJECT "SIGN"
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

CHARACTER
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

This investigation was initiated by the District Commander, 9th OSI Dist (IG), Barksdale AFB, La., upon receipt of information that unidentified aerial objects had been sighted in the vicinity of New Orleans, La.

Investigation revealed that two persons sighted what appeared to be a disk-like object turning end over end, travelling in a north-northwesterly direction across the outskirts of New Orleans, La.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY REVIEW
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

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Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson Field
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: Intelligence Branch

APPROVED
Henry H. Haas
Major USAF.
EDWARD R. FORD
Major, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP
27-9-24
10th OSI Dist
SRCH
CLSS
INDX
FILE

AFCSI FORM 4
23 JULY 1948

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8-3007-TC

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS:

1. This investigation initiated by the District Commander 9th OSI District was upon receipt of information which indicated that unidentified aerial objects had been sighted in the vicinity of New Orleans, La.

2. On 23 May 1949, this agent, in company of Special Agents Bellman and Koster of the Fourth Army Branch Intelligence Office, New Orleans, La., interviewed MRS LUCIEN R. AUSTIN, JR., of 3129 Frenchman St., New Orleans, La. The following information pertaining to the alleged sighting of the object by MRS AUSTIN was obtained in the course of this interview:

a. Date of sighting: Friday, 20 May 1949.

b. Time of sighting: 1615 hours.

c. Where sighted: The object was sighted from 3129 Frenchman St., New Orleans, La., which is the residence of MRS AUSTIN. The object appeared to be passing across the outskirts of the city near Lake Pontchartrain.

d. Number of objects: Only one (1) object was noted.

e. Distance of object from observer: The object appeared to be approximately one and one-half (1½) miles from the place of observation. The observer estimated the elevation of the object along her line of vision above the horizon to be approximately 45°.

f. Time in sight: The object was within view of MRS AUSTIN for approximately five (5) minutes.

g. Appearance of object: The object appeared to be luminous and silver in color. The shape was that of a disk and the observer compared it to an ordinary dinner plate. The size was estimated as approximately that of a small training type aircraft.

h. Direction of flight: The object appeared to be travelling from east to a north-northwesterly direction.

i. Tactics or maneuvers: The object travelled in a horizontal line throughout the period of observation. The object was turning in an end-over-end fashion.

j. Evidence of exhaust: The object gave off no apparent smoke, odor, or vapor trail.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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k. Effect on clouds: The object was not observed to pass through any cloud layers during the period of observation.

l. Lights: No lights were observed inasmuch as the object was noted in the day light. However, the object itself appeared very luminous and reflected the sunlight.

m. Support: The object had no apparent control apparatus, but was a plain disk in appearance.

n. Propulsion: The object had no apparent method of power such as propellers, rotors, or jet openings.

o. Control and stability: The object had no apparent stabilizing apparatus.

p. Air ducts: No air ducts were observed.

q. Speed - MPH: The speed was estimated at approximately 120 to 140 mph. This was established on a relative basis by the observer as compared to that of a medium training plane.

r. Sound: No sound of any nature was evident.

s. Manner of disappearance: The object passed from view behind a residence and the observer was unable to locate the object after changing positions.

t. Weather: The weather at the time of the sighting was clear, sunny and bright with a few scattered clouds.

The following information pertaining to MRS LUCIEN R. AUSTIN is submitted as background information to be used in evaluating the information above.

a. Occupation: Housewife, formerly stenographer and court reporter.

b. Hobbies: None.

c. Neighborhood Check: Neighbors of MRS AUSTIN believed her to be a person of good character and a high degree of intelligence.

d. Agency Check: The records of the FBI Field Office and the Police Department of New Orleans, La., contained no record of MRS AUSTIN.

e. General: To the interviewing agent, MRS AUSTIN appeared to be very intelligent and not the type of individual who would put forth such ideas with the hope of publicity. MRS AUSTIN also appeared to be normal in every respect including eyesight. There were no other witnesses to the sighting to MRS AUSTIN'S knowledge.

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

On 23 May 1949, this reporting agent and S/A Koster of Fourth Army CIC interviewed MRS THEODORE MICHEL, housewife, 1756 Paul Morphy St., New Orleans, La. MRS MICHEL was contacted after this agent ascertained from MRS AUSTIN that MRS MICHEL had called MRS AUSTIN'S husband on Saturday, 21 May 1949, to report that she, too, had seen the flying disk. However, MRS MICHEL sighted the disk on the day previous to MRS AUSTIN. The following information was obtained from MRS MICHEL relative to the sighted object:

a. Date of sighting: Wednesday, 18 May 1949.

b. Time of sighting: 1630 to 1645 hours.

c. Where sighted: The observer was at her home at 1756 Paul Morphy St., New Orleans, La., at the time of sighting. The object appeared to be on the outskirts of the city in the vicinity of Lake Pontchartrain, which is approximately two (2) miles from MRS MICHEL'S home, in a western direction. At the time of sighting, MRS MICHEL was watering her lawn and working in the garden.

d. Number of objects: MRS MICHEL sighted only one (1) object. No other craft of any type were in the sky within her line of vision.

e. Distance of object from observer: The object appeared to be approximately one and one-half (1½) miles to two (2) miles from the observer at an angle of elevation of approximately 45° from the horizon. MRS MICHEL was unable to judge the altitude, but stated that it was relatively high.

f. Time in sight: The object remained within MRS MICHEL'S view for approximately ten (10) minutes.

g. Appearance of object: The object was silver in color and luminous and had the shape of a disk and was likened to a dinner plate. The size was indicated as being approximately eight to twelve inches (8" to 12") in diameter when viewed at the stated distance. The informant compared this to the relative size of a small training type aircraft when viewed at the stated distance.

h. Direction of flight: The object appeared to be travelling from the east to a north, northwestern direction.

i. Tactics or maneuvers: The object appeared to be ascending at a gradual pace. However, the object did not swerve from its direct upward line of flight. No tactics or maneuvers other than these were evident. The object was turning in an end-over-end fashion.

j. Evidence of exhaust: No smoke, fumes or odors were apparent.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

k. Effect on clouds: The object did not pass near or through any clouds during the time of observation.

l. Lights: No lights were evident. However, the object in itself reflected considerable sunlight due to its silver luminous appearance.

m. Support: No support or control apparatus such as wings or rotating propellers were noted.

n. Propulsion: No means of propulsion was apparent.

o. Control and stability: No evidence of any means of control or of maintaining stability was observed.

p. Air ducts: No air ducts, slots or jet openings were observed.

q. Speed - MPH: The informant compared the speed of the craft to that of a small training type plane.

r. Sound: No sound of any sort was heard.

s. Manner of disappearance: The informant stated that she removed her sight from the object for an instant and when she again sought to observe, could not locate this object.

t. Weather: The informant stated that the weather at the time when sighting occurred was very clear, sunny and bright.

The following background information is submitted concerning informant to assist in evaluating the information given:

a. Occupation: Housewife.

b. Hobbies: Gardening and pets.

c. Neighborhood check: Interview of neighbors of MRS MICHEL revealed that she is well liked, of good character, and of average intelligence.

d. Agency check: The records of the FBI Field Office and the Police Department of New Orleans, La., contained no record of MRS MICHEL.

The interviewing agent found MRS MICHEL to be very cooperative and not at a loss to express herself concerning any question regarding instances indicating that, unless the story had been well planned before hand, she had actually observed the object as described by her. MRS MICHEL does not wear glasses and appears to have excellent sight and be in satisfactory physical condition otherwise.

CLOSED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 9D 32-3

DATE 18 January 1949

REPORT MADE BY
Bernard A. Price

REPORT MADE AT
Jackson AFB Detachment, DO # 9

PERIOD
1 January 1949 - 6 January 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO # 9, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana

STATUS
Closed

TITLE

PROJECT "SIGN"
UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENA SIGHTED AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, BY MR. THOMAS A. RUSH

CHARACTER
Subversive Activity

REFERENCE
Request for Investigation from the Commanding Officer, Jackson AFB, Mississippi

SYNOPSIS

This investigation conducted at the request of the Commanding Officer, Jackson Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Investigation in Jackson, Mississippi, and vicinity revealed that a Mr. THOMAS A RUSH, civilian, did, between the hours of 1630 and 1730 on the date of 1 January 1949, sight a strange object flying over Jackson, Mississippi, which Mr. RUSH was unable to identify but described as traveling at a rate of speed estimated at two hundred miles per hour when first sighted and upon this object's departure, it traveled at an estimated rate of speed from four hundred to five hundred miles per hour. RUSH further reported this object to be somewhat similar to a cigar in shape and approximately sixty feet to seventy feet in length.

Investigation further revealed that Mr. RUSH is a reliable man and one who is not inclined to create objects of this type by his imagination.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
14 DEC 1975
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1st Lt USAF

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District Commander
5th OSI District (IG)
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Dayton, Ohio

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APPROVED

EDWARD R FORD
Major, USAF
District Commander.

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JUN 2 1949
District #10 Office Special Investigation

AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 O-208 Replaces AFCSI Form 4, 23 Jul 48, which may be used.

16—57744-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS:

1. This investigation conducted at the request of the Commanding Officer, Jackson Air Force Base, Mississippi, upon receipt of a TWX from the Commanding General, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, requesting that a detailed report be obtained reference the unidentified aerial phenomena sighted by Mr THOMAS A. RUSH of 402 Mitchell Avenue, Jackson, Mississippi.

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

2. On 6 January 1949 Mr. THOMAS A. RUSH, civilian, was interviewed and stated that at approximately 1700 hours, on the date of 1 January 1949, while he and his wife and a Mr. and Mrs T. A. DOOLITTLE were flying from Gulfport to North Jackson Air Park in a Stinson Aircraft, at a speed of approximately one hundred twenty-five miles per hour, at an altitude of seventeen hundred feet, traveling 340° or Northwest, two miles East of Jackson, Mississippi, one half mile North of Highway 80E, almost to the Pearl River Swanp and East of Knox Glass Bottling Company from a position of 1:00 counter-clockwise to between 7:00 and 8:00, 32° 20' North Latitude, 90° 10' Longitude (see attached map, Exhibit "A".) There was only one object. This object was about five hundred feet directly in front of RUSH'S plane and when first seen, this object was about 10° below the horizon and gradually climbing above the horizon as the object went around, at an altitude of approximately sixteen hundred feet to seventeen hundred feet. RUSH further stated that he had an opportunity to view this object approximately ten to twelve seconds. RUSH further descrived the object as being either dark blue or black. RUSH drew the attached diagram rather than describing its shape in words. For the shape of the object, see Exhibit "B". RUSH further stated this object appeared to be of solid construction. As to size, RUSH described this object as being sixty feet to seventy feet long, eight feet to ten feet in diameter, the front end tapering to two feet to three feet in the rear. RUSH further described the object as resembling a large sleeve target. RUSH describ ed the object's direction of flight as being west toward Jackson, Mississippi, at a 50° to 60° turn toward the Southwest. RUSH described the objects maneuvers as being horizontal, then turned, gradual ascent, picked up a tremendous speed, seemingly a very slow fluttering as it departed. As to evidence of exhaust, effect on clouds, lights, support, propulsion, there was no evidence of any kind. RUSH stated that when first sighted, this object was traveling at what he considered approximately two hundred miles per hour, but as it turned and departed, its speed appeared faster than Jets, making four hundred to five hundred miles per hour. As to sound RUSH did not notice any particular sound; however, RUSH'S wife and the pilot's wife claim to have heard a seemingly roaring sound as the object left the vicinity, and RUSH further added that this object just faded from view.

3. Information relative to the observer is as follows.

Name: THOMAS A. RUSH
Address: 402 Mitchell Avenue, Jackson, Mississippi
Occupation: Airport Manager

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Place of Business: North Jackson Air Park
Hobby: Pilot. RUSH is not considered an amateur pilot. RUSH considers himself well qualified to determine type, size, color, and distance of most objects, and particularly aircraft.

Informant claims eyesight as being 20-20. As to reliability of RUSH, he was given good recommendations by all who knew him. A check of law enforcement agencies was made concerning RUSH, with negative results. RUSH is his own employer, as he is the owner and operator of the Jackson Air Park. RUSH'S sightings, in general, are considered excellent, and his attention was drawn to this object by the actual sighting of it.

4. Other witnesses to this phenomena were RUSH's wife and a Mrs. T. A. DOOLITTLE of 3777 Kings Highway, Jackson, Mississippi, housewife. According to informants, Mrs. DOOLITTLE's reliability is unquestionable.

5. The OSI Agent, at the time of this interview, was accompanied by Lt. Colonel RICHARD L. BISGARD, Deputy Base Commander, 2588th AFRTC, Hawkins Field, Jackson, Mississippi. Lt. Colonel BISGARD and the OSI Agent making the interview considered RUSH as being thoroughly reliable and of better-than-average intelligence, and seemingly of an excellent character. Mr. RUSH is a former USAF Pilot.

6. There are no radar operations in this area. See inclosed weather report listed as Exhibit "C" for general weather information in that area at the time this object was sighted.

7. A check with the Airport Managers of both the Delta Air Lines and the Chicago and Southern Airlines and with the Base Operations failed to reveal any flights in this vicinity at the time object was sighted, other than is shown. (see Exhibit "D") It is unknown whether there were any testing devices of the United States Air Force sent aloft in this area on this date.

8. See Exhibit "E" for report of information concerning this object from THOMAS A. RUSH. There were no fragments or physical evidence abailable, nor was there any radio antenna to be observed, nor were there any other projections or extensions that might possibly be construed as such.

Inclosures:

<u>FOR DISTRICT OFFICE # 5, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO:</u>

One copy of map showing line of flight of unidentified object, Exhibit "A".
One copy of sketch of object seen by Mr. RUSH, Exhibit "B".
One copy of weather report, Exhibit "C".
One copy of Airplane Operations in the vicinity of Jackson, Miss,, Exhibit "D".
One copy of letter to CG, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, from Mr. RUSH, Exhibit "E".

- Closed -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

24-185

23 JUN 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: District Commander
10th OSI District, IG
Kelly Air Force Base
San Antonio, Texas

1. This refers to your letter of 13 June 1949 concerning the above subject.

2. It will not be necessary for you to duplicate Fourth Army reports which have been forwarded to the Air Materiel Command.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

William M Turner

WILLIAM M. TURNER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Executive, Special Investigations
The Inspector General, USAF

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

24 9. 21

JUN 27 1949

District #10 Office Special Investigation

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~SECRET~~

RRL/bl

10D-24-9

24 June 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENA
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Headquarters USAF
ATT: Director of Intelligence, DCS/O
Washington 25, D.C.

1. Attached are two copies of report of investigation concerning above subject.

2. Your organization was inadvertently omitted from the original distribution of attached report.

R. R. LUMSDEN
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl.
Rpt. 10D-24-9, 17 May 49 (Dup.)

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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FILE

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-9

DATE 17 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY R. R. LUMSDEN

REPORT MADE AT DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

PERIOD 24 April 1949 - 5 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENA

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE Report, 5 January 1949, S/A JAMES J. TEACHNOR, DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

SYNOPSIS

On 6 May 1949, District Office No. 10 received from G-2, Fourth Army, report concerning unknown aerial phenomena in the vicinity of Arrey, New Mexico. Copy of statement by C. B. MOORE, JR., 27 April 1949, and Guide to Investigation by MOORE attached. (Inclosures No.1 and 2.)

On 16 May 1949, report received from Commanding General, Anti-aircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas, through G-2, Fourth Army, relative sighting of unidentified aerial object 5 May 1949. (Inclosure No. 3). The sketches accompanying this report retained in file, D. O. No. 10.

PENDING

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

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APPROVED
R. R. Lumsden
R. R. LUMSDEN
Lt. Colonel, USAF

DISTRICT COMMANDER

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AFCSI FORM 4
23 JULY 1948

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-9

DATE 17 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY R. R. LUMSDEN

REPORT MADE AT DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

PERIOD 24 April 1949 - 5 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

STATUS PENDING

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23 JULY 1948

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUND
Las Cruces, New Mexico

27 April 1949

S T A T E M E N T

On 24 April 1949, three miles north of Arrey, New Mexico, four Navy enlisted men from White Sands Proving Ground (Chief Akers, Davidson, Fitzsimmons and Moorman) and I saw a rapidly moving object while making a pibal wind run. We released a 350 gram balloon at about 1020 MST and were following it with a standard ML-47 David White Theodolite. After the 1030 reading, Davidson took over the theodolite and Akers and I looked up to find the balloon with naked eye. We thought we had the balloon when we picked up a whitish spherical object right along the direction the theodolite was pointing (45° elevation and 210° azimuth). The object was drifting east rapidly (5° second as estimated by stopwatch and width of fingers), but we had thought to encounter similar winds on the balloon. When the difference in direction between the theodolite and supposed balloon became apparent, I took over the theodolite and found the true balloon still there, whereupon I abandoned it and picked up the object after it came out of the sun (this gives another good bearing if you wish to work out a sun shot at 1033 MST at Arrey). The object was moving too fast to crank the theodolite around; therefore, one of the men pointed the theodolite and I looked. The object was an ellipsoid about $2\frac{1}{2}$:1 slenderness ratio, and the length was about .02° subtended angle. It was white in color except for a light yellow of one side as though it were in shadow. I could not get a hard focus on the object due to the speed at which the angles changed. Therefore, I saw no good detail at all.

The azimuth angle continued to decrease as the object continued on a north heading, growing smaller in size. At around 20°-25° azimuth the azimuth held constant and the elevation angle began increasing from the 25° minimum to

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about 29°. The object then apparently disappeared due to distance after a total time of observation of about 60 seconds.

The object was not a balloon and was some distance away. Assuming escape velocity, a track is enclosed which figures elevation above the station of about 300,000 feet over the observed period. If this is true, the flight would have probably gone over the White Sands Proving Ground, Holloman Air Force Base, and Los Alamos.

Another balloon released from that site 15 minutes later went to 93,000 feet and ended up only 13 miles south of us when it burst at that altitude after an 88 minute flight. Therefore, the object was not a free balloon under 90,000 feet.

/s/ C. B. MOORE
/t/ C. B. MOORE

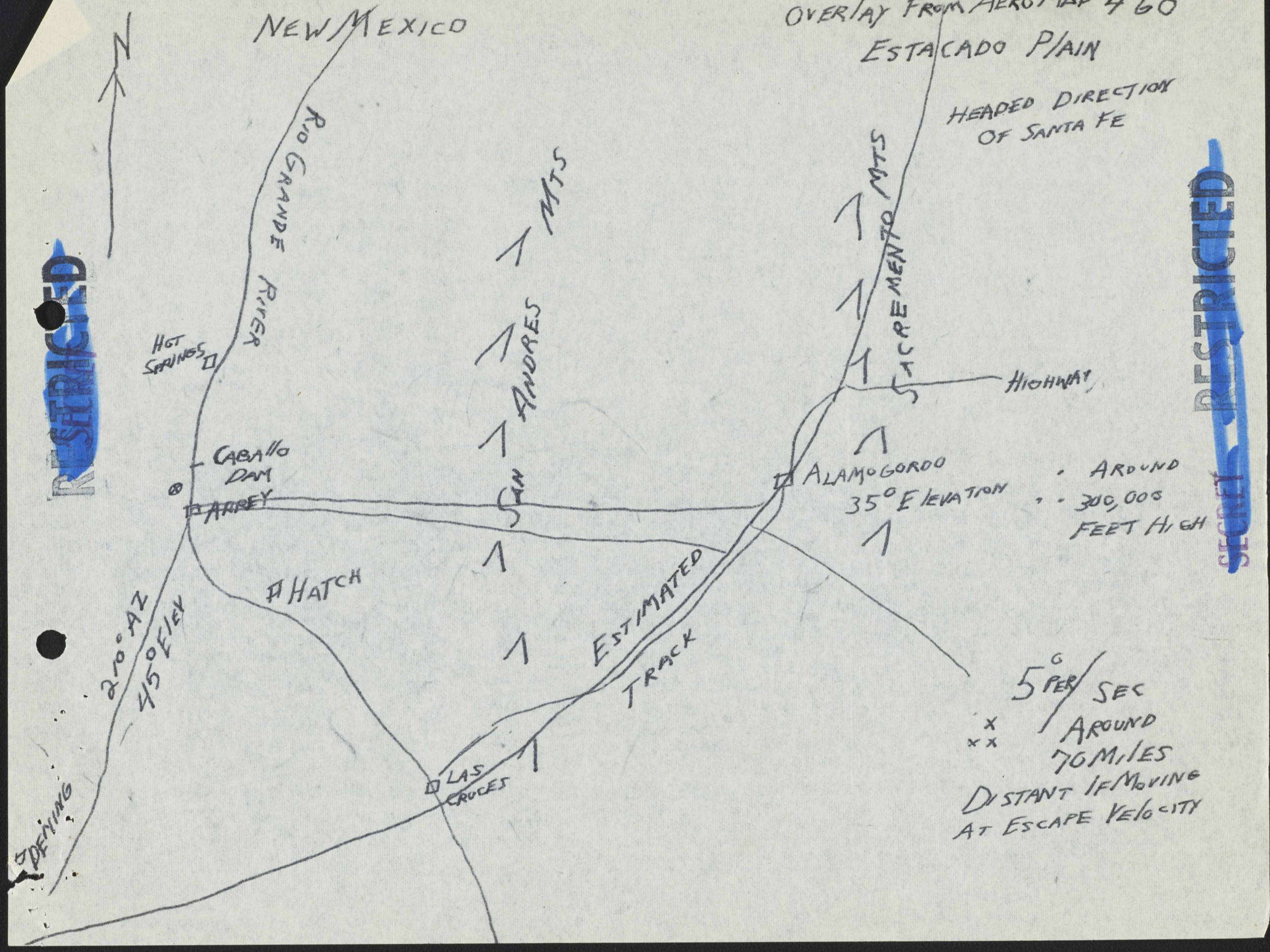
General Mills Aeronautical Research
2010 East Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis 13, Minnesota
Tel: Geneva 0371 - Ext 385

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

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UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No. ____

1. Date of observation 24 April Date of Interview _____

2. Exact time of observation (local) Between 1030 - 1035 MST

3. Place of observation: 32° 53' N 107° 20' W
(Map Coordinates)

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location or - give details:)
Ground, operating a theodolite tracking balloon.

5. What attracted attention to object: Turned to look at balloon with naked eye.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: One

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length): N .02 (size of balloon 350 gm size at 15,000 feet distance.)

8. Color of object: White

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Elliptical, around 2½:1 slenderness ratio.

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): Came in from 210° at 45° elevation. Passed through the sun, was about 35° when due east then disappeared at 25° elevation at about 25° east of north.

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): -----

12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Unknown

13. Direction of flight of object (s): See back

14. Time in sight: Around 60 seconds

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): Measured to be 5° azimuth/sec.

16. Sound and odor: None. Quiet--no trucks or planes near at time.

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) None

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance): Believed reflection

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.): None visible focus not good.

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path): _____
See back

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION (Cont'd) Incident No. ____

21. Manner of disappearance: Grew smaller rapidly then disappeared.

22. Effect on clouds: No clounds. No effect.

23. Additional information concerning object: See report

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Clear except for 1/10 cumulus to west, no dust, bright desert day.

25. Name and address of observer: C. B. MOORS, General Mills Aero Research Labs. 2010 E. Hennepin, Minneapolis, Minn.

Occupation and hobbies: Chemical engineer, Meteorlogical Training (equipment, balloons) Member Balloon Crew, General Mills. Hobby: Astronomy.

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (check neighbors, police dept, FBI records, employer, etc.)

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?

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HEADQUARTERS
ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY AND GUIDED MISSILE CENTER
FORT BLISS, TEXAS

AKBAAB 452.1 6 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Fourth Army
Fort Sam Houston, Texas
ATTN: AC of S, G-2

In compliance with letter, headquarters Fourth Army, file AG 452.1 AKADB, subject as above, dated 4 April 1949, the following report is submitted:

1. Date of observation: 5 May 1949 Date of interview 5 May 49

2. Exact time of observation (local): 1140 hours MST

3. Place of observation: Waco #4 firing range
(Map coordinates) 553.5 : 372.6 on Newman sheet
#4748 III SE, 1:25,000 AMS series U881

4. Position of observer: Coordinates referred to above.

5. What attracted attention to object: object passed through field of fire

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or group: See Incl No 2 for sketches

7. Apparent size: three inch disc at one arms length

8. Color of object: white

9. Shape: oblong

10. Altitude: 1000 feet above ground (approximately 400 mils in elevation

11. Direction from observer: north to north east

12. Distance from observer: 1000 yards

13. Direction of flight of object: west to east

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24-9-17

Incl. #3

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Ltr Hq AAA & GM Ctr, AKBAAB 452.1, 6 May 1949, subj, Unconventional Aircraft

14. Time in sight: 30 to 50 seconds

15. Speed: 200-250 MPH

16. Sound or odor: None

17. Trail: None

18. Luminosity: Highly reflective

19. Projections: None

20. Maneuvers: None

21. Manner of disappearance: Object went out of sight straight and level course.

22. Effect of clouds: None

23. Additional information concerning object: None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Clear, light blue sky, no clouds, light gust of wind.

Names and Addresses of Witnesses:

Major Charles D May, Jr, Box 272 AA & GM Br TAS, Ft Bliss, Tex
Major James N Olhausen, 2904 Lebanon St., El Paso, Tex
Capt Molloy C Vaughn, 209 Ramona Drive, El Paso, Tex

Occupation and hobbies: All persons listed above as witnesses are in the military service.

Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer:

An interview with officers in the Gunnery Department of the AA & GM Br, TAS, revealed that the observers are reliable and their character are above reproach.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material: Captain Vaughn was wearing Ray Ban sun glasses.

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions: Clouds, scattered variable to broken with bases 15,000 feet; visibility: unrestricted; maximum temperature: 85 at 1500; relative humidity: 25%

2. Winds aloft report: north west to north w/speed 10 MPH.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Ltr Hq, AAA & GM Ctr, AKBAAB 452.1, 6 May 49, subj: Unconventional Aircraft

a. Adiabatic chart for period in question: None Available

3. Local Flight Schedules of Commercial, Private and Military Aircraft Flying in Vicinity at time: None

4. Possible Releases of Testing Devices in Vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Weather Units, Research Organizations or any other: White Sands Proving Ground and Biggs Air Force Base were contacted. No releases of any testing devices were released by any agency prior to time of sighting.

5. Did Object Contact the Earth: Object did not contact the earth.

6. Photographs or Sketches: Sketches are attached hereto.

7. Signed Statements: Signed statements were received and are being retained at this headquarters.

8. Obtain Fragments or Physical Evidence where possible: Not possible.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

J. W. ROSS,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General

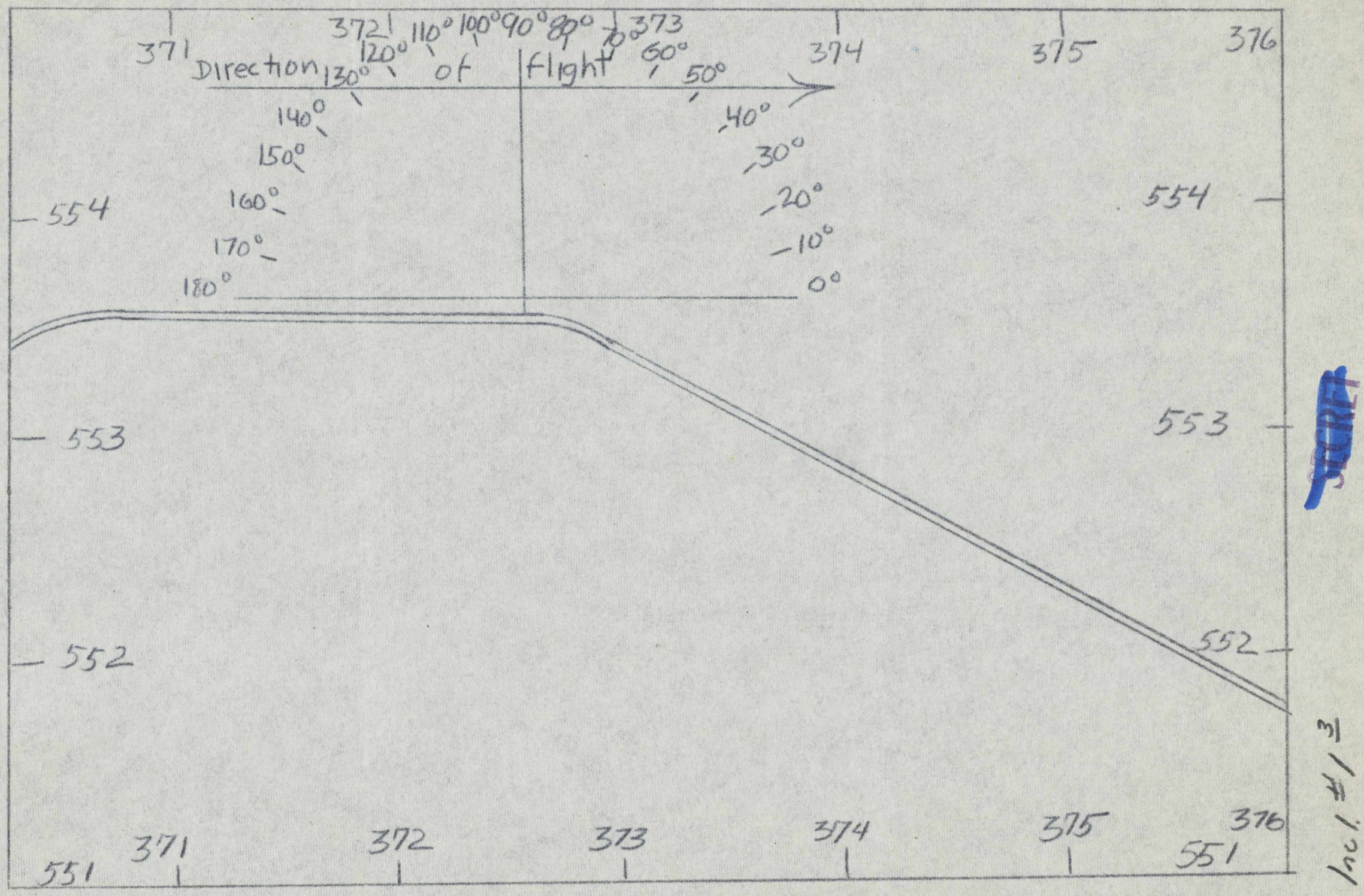
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1. O/Lay (quint)
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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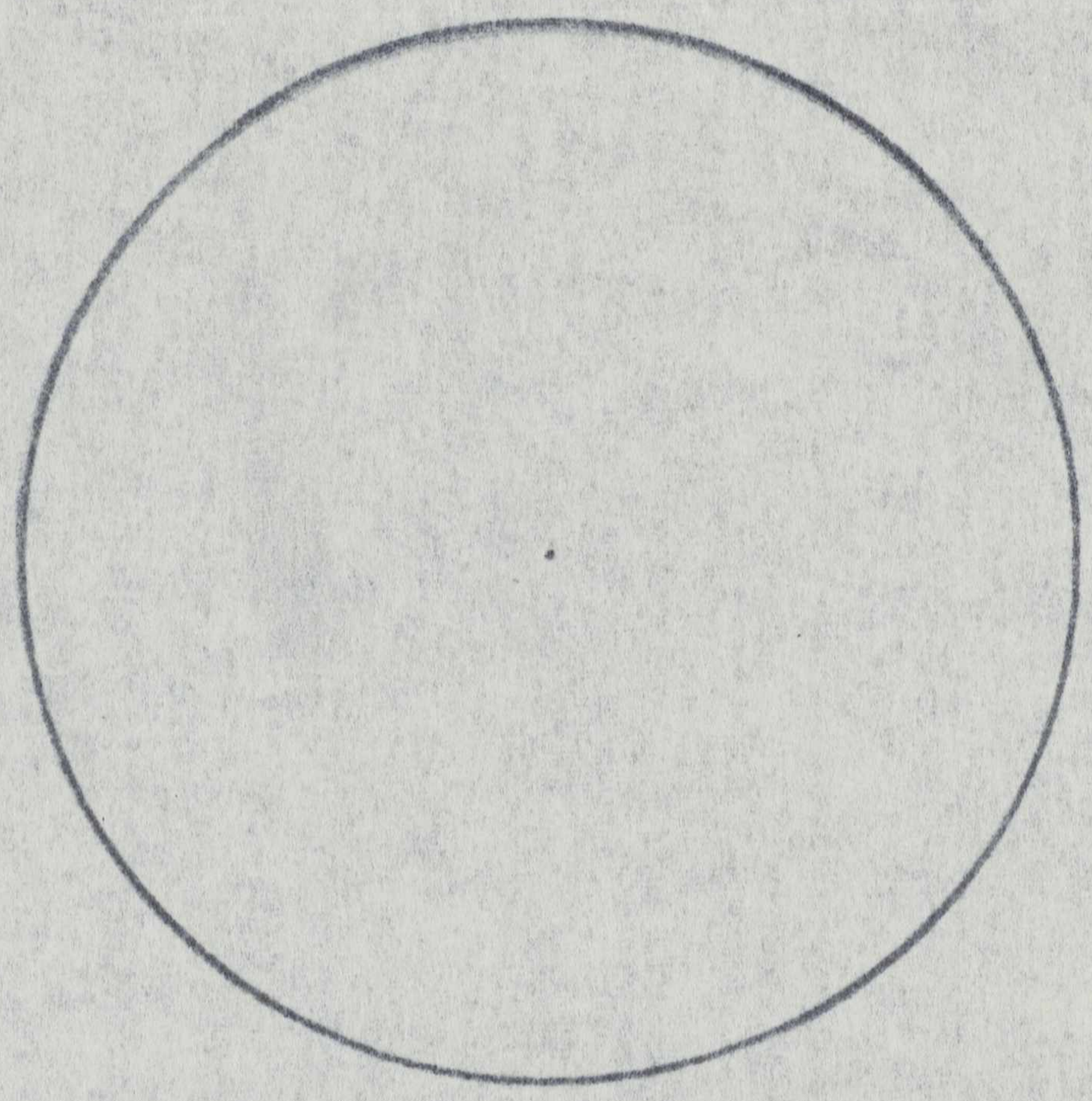
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Scetch of Object Sighted



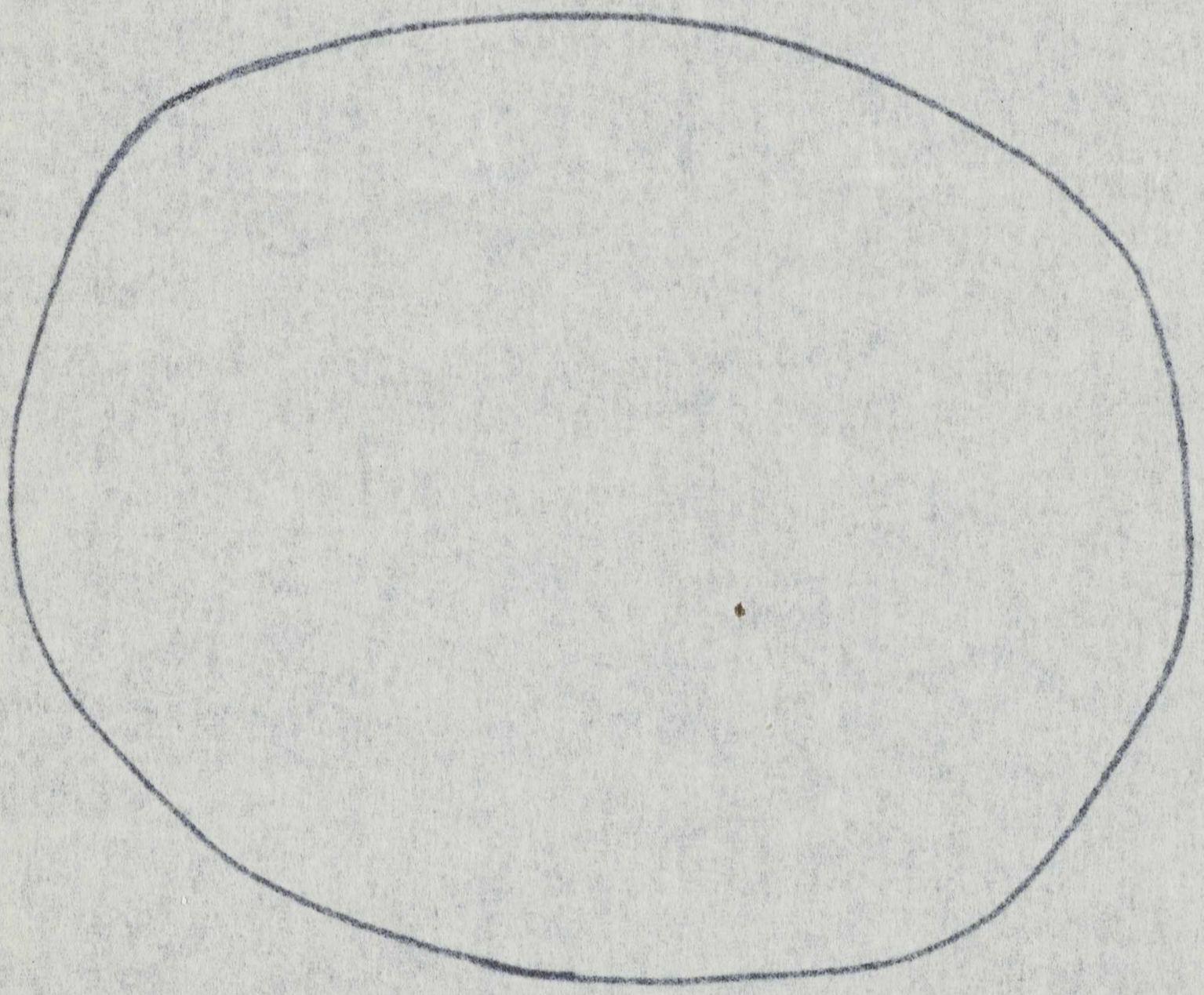
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Scetch of Object sighted;



Incl #3

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED TO [illegible]
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF [illegible]
BY [illegible]
DATE 4 DEC 1975

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
17th DISTRICT, OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

19 April 1949

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

1. This is a comprehensive summary of all observations of unidentified aerial phenomena possessing similar characteristics which have been observed in the New Mexico-West Texas area. The common characteristics of most of the incidents are:

a. Green color, sometimes described as greenish-white, bright green, yellow-green, or blue green.

b. Horizontal path, sometimes with minor variations.

c. Speed less than that of a meteor, but more than any known type of aircraft.

d. No sound associated with observations.

e. No persistent trail or dust cloud.

f. Period of visibility from one to five seconds.

2. All of the incidents reported do not possess all of the above characteristics, but in each case one or more are present. In none of the reported incidents has any natural or man-made object been determined to be responsible.

3. The body of this summary consists of a tabulation of observations with notes attached to clarify or amplify certain of the more important observations. Note numbers 1, 3, and 5 are taken directly from reports compiled by Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, University of New Mexico. Dr. LaPaz is internationally known and respected as a meteoriticist, and has taken a great interest in these phenomena.

4. The tabulation of sightings is not a complete record of all reported observations, but comprises only those in which interviews were conducted by OSI personnel. Many other persons were interviewed

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

by Dr. LaPaz and his colleagues, but inasmuch as complete data is not available, these interviews are not taken into account in this summary. In addition, numerous reports have been received from individuals who could not provide sufficient information to warrant inclusion of such facts as they did possess. Any interview where the veracity of the interviewee was doubted was discounted in the preparation of reports for transmittal.

1 Incl
Tabular Summary w/notes

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Date	Time	Color	Course	Seen From	Seen By
5 Dec 48	1930	Green	NE to SW	Las Vegas, N. M.	Civilian
5 Dec 48	2000	Green	N/S	Albuquerque, N. M.	Univ. of N. M. Student
5 Dec 48	2105	Green	N/S	Near Las Vegas, N. M.	Military Pilots
5 Dec 48	2115	Green	N/S	Las Vegas, N. M.	Civilian
5 Dec 48	2115	Green	N/S	Las Vegas, N. M.	Civilian
5 Dec 48	2115	Green	N/S	Lucy, N. M.	Civilian
5 Dec 48	2127	Green	N/S	East of Albuquerque	Military Pilots
5 Dec 48	2135	Green	N/S	Near Las Vegas, N. M.	Pilots, Pioneer Airlines
5 Dec 48	2200	Green	N/S	Near Las Vegas, N. M.	Civilian Pilot
5 Dec 48	2220	Red-White	NE to SW	Levy, N. M.	USAF Photographer
5 Dec 48	2220	N/S	N/S	Onava, N. M.	Railway Worker
5 Dec 48	2315	Green	N/S	Near Las Vegas, N. M.	Univ. of N. M. Student
6 Dec 48	2255	Green	N/S	Sandia Base	AEC Security Agent
7 Dec 48	2145	Green	N/S	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
8 Dec 48	1835	Green	N/S	Near Las Vegas, N. M.	OSI Personnel
12 Dec 48	2102		Note 1		
12 Dec 48	2102		Note 1		
13 Dec 48	2130	Note 2			
13 Dec 48	2215	Green	N/S	20 mi. East of Las Vegas	Civilian
14 Dec 48	0100	Green	N/S	Wagon Mound, N. M.	Civilian
20 Dec 48	2054	Note 3	Note 3		
28 Dec 48	0431	White	N to S	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
6 Jan 49	0310	Green	E to W	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
6 Jan 49	1730		Note 4		
30 Jan 49	Note 5				
14 Feb 49	1840	White-Greenish	NE to SW	Near Ganado, Ariz.	Dr. Salsbury
17 Feb 49	Note 6				

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Date	Time	Color	Course	Seen From	Seen By
27 Feb 49	1905	Green	W to E	Los Alamos	AESS Lieutenant
2 Mar 49	0010	N/S	N to S	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
3 Mar 49	0159	Green	Down	Los Alamos	AESS Sergeant
8 Mar 49	1836	White-Greenish	275 to 289	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
8 Mar 49	1835		Note 7		
13 Mar 49	2153	Greenish-White	NE or SW	Sandia Base	MPs
27 Mar 49	1800	Note 6			
5 Apr 49	2200	Green	S to N	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
6 Apr 49	0005	Green	NW to SE	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
7 Apr 49	0100	Green	S to N	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
7 Apr 49	0135	Green	E to W	Los Alamos	AESS Inspector
12 Apr 49	1930	White	E to W	Sandia Base	MP

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EXTRACT FROM REPORT SUBMITTED BY DR. LaPaz on 20 DECEMBER 1948:

December 14:

1:00 a.m., Mr. Mimo Sanchez (Wagon Mound, N. M.)

2. The Real Path of the Only Green Fireball so Far Observed at Two Separate Stations. Among the numerous observations so far made, there is only one pair of corresponding observations i.e., those made simultaneously by different groups of observers at widely separated stations. The only such observations are those obtained on the night of December 12 by one group of observers near Starvation Peak (Bernal, New Mexico - see report on incident of 1948, December 12, 9h 2m plus or minus 30s), and a second pair of observers stationed within the Los Alamos reservation. By graphic reduction of the simultaneously made observations, the following facts have been determined: The green fireball of December 12, 9h 2m plus or minus 30s appeared very near a point with the coordinates latitude 35° 50', longitude 106° 40" and disappeared near a point with the coordinates latitude 35° 45', longitude 107° 5' traversing a nearly or exactly horizontal path with a length of very nearly twenty-five (25) miles at an altitude above the surface of the earth of approximately 8 to 10 miles, depending on the estimate of angular altitude employed in the reduction; the velocity with respect to the earth works out at between 8 and 12 miles a second, depending on the duration estimate used. It should be observed that the above results are obtained under the assumption that the points of appearance and disappearance of the fireball were seen simultaneously by both the Bernal and Los Alamos groups. In case this assumption is not fulfilled, the real path could very easily be no more than 10 to 12 miles long, the velocity with respect to the earth then working out at between 3 and 6 miles a second. While there is thus considerable uncertainty because of the lack of confirming azimuth observations from a third station concordance in the five (5) different estimates of angular elevation make it most unlikely that the linear height of the fireball was much less than 8 mil and much more than 10 miles. It is interesting to observe that the backward extension of the 25-mile path first given passes almost centrally across the Los Alamos reservation.

3. Significant Differences Between the Fireballs Observed in the Interval December 5-13 and Typical Meteors.

3.1 The horizontal nature of the paths of most of the December fireballs is most unusual. Genuine meteors are rarely observed to move in horizontal paths.

3.2 Again the very low height of the December fireball discussed in section 2 above sets it off in sharp contrast from the genuine meteors for which heights of the order of 40 or more miles are normally observed.

3.3 The velocity determined for the fireball of December 12 is much less than the velocities determined from typical meteors (and yet is considerably greater than the speeds of the V-2 Rockets or jet planes or of conventi flares).

NOTE 1

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TO: Colonel Doyle Rees December 20, 1948

3.4 In the case of meteorites that penetrate to as low levels as that determined for the fireball of December 12, the observed luminous phenomena are always accompanied by very violent noises. No noises whatever have been observed in connection with the various December fireballs so far investigated.

3.5 Genuine meteors normally show remarkable variations in brightness beginning as fine thin hair lines, which are scarcely visible to the observer, and then brightening up to flash out near the end of their paths. In the case of the December fireballs most of the observers have reported that the green balls appeared almost instantly at their full brightness.

3.6 In the case of genuine meteors the paths are directed toward all points of the compass with equal frequency. On the contrary in the case of the green fireballs, plots of admissable approach sectors show that there is a very pronounced tendency for the paths to come in from the north half of the sky.

3.7 The three groups of anomalous greenish luminous phenomena show a curious association with well known meteor showers, although none of these meteor showers normally produce extremely bright green fireballs, such as those recently observed. For example, the observation mentioned by Mr. Monnig appeared near the maximum of the Quadrantid shower of early January, Mr. McCullough's observation of August was near the time of the Persid shower and the December observations all fell in the interval covered by the Geminid shower. This relationship might indicate an attempt to render the green fireballs less conspicuous by causing them to appear only when there is considerable meteoric activity.

3.8 As noted in an earlier communication, the remarkably vivid green color reported for most of the December fireballs is rarely observed in the case of genuine meteors. By laboratory test this peculiar color seems to be identical with that given off by copper salts in the blowpipe flame. If this identification is correct, the wavelength of the radiation from the green fireballs is near 5,218 Angstrom Units.

3.9 The duration estimates of between 2 and 3 seconds reported for the green fireballs are considerably longer than those (0.4 - 0.5 seconds) for the ordinary visual meteors, but shorter than the duration estimates invariably reported in the case of a genuine meteorite fall (5 to 30 seconds or even longer).

3.10 For none of the green fireballs has a train of sparks or a dust cloud been reported. This contrasts sharply with the behavior noted in case of meteoric fireballs--particularly those that penetrate to the very low levels where the green fireball of December 12 was observed.

4. On the basis of the various differences to which attention is called in section 3, the writer remains of the opinion that the fireball of December

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12 was definitely non-meteoric and that in all probability the same is true of most, if not all, the other bright green fireballs, which the OSI has had under investigation.

LINCOLN LaPAZ

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INCIDENTS OF 13 AND 20 DECEMBER 1948:

The unusual feature of these two incidents is that there were reported two red lights trailing the green fireball. In each case observers agreed that the trailing lights retained a constant position with respect to each other and to the green light. Also, these two sightings are the only two of all the green fireballs where a sharp change of direction in the vertical plane was observed. One of these incidents, that of 20 December, was observed by Atomic Energy Security Service Inspectors, while the other was observed by a truck driver and his wife. That of 20 December was observed in the Los Alamos area, while that of the 13th of December was observed southwest of Las Vegas.

NOTE 2

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The University of New Mexico

Albuquerque

December 30, 1948

Institute of Meteoritics

TO: Lt. Colonel Doyle Rees, Commanding Officer
District No. 17
Office of Special Investigations

From: Lincoln LaPaz, Director
Institute of Meteoritics

Subject: Anomalous luminous phenomena (Third Report)

In the second report of this series, a description was given of the real path through the atmosphere of the green fireball of 1948, December 12, 9h 2m (plus or minus 30^s). On the basis of corresponding observations made from station near Starvation Peak, New Mexico, and a second station near Los Alamos New Mexico, this fireball was found to have appeared near a point with the coordinates: latitude 35° 50' N, longitude 106° , 40' W, and to have disappeared near a point with the coordinates: latitude 35° 45' N, longitude 107°05' traversing an almost horizontal path, at an elevation of about 10 miles about sea level, with a length of about 25 miles, at a velocity of approximately 10 miles per second. (The minimum path length consistent with the observation was found to be about 11 miles, the corresponding velocity then falling between 3 and 6 miles per second, depending on the duration adopted.)

On the basis of corresponding observations of the greenish-white fireball of 1948, December 20, 8h 54m p.m. made by two pairs of Los Alamos observers it has now become possible to work out another approximate real path. As was to be apparent from the original accounts of the observations made by AESS Security Inspector George S. Skipper, the fireball of 1948, December 20 was observed under less favorable conditions than the green fireball seen by five persons on the night of December 12. However, on the basis of the original accounts of the observers named above, of sketches supplied by these four individuals on December 29 and of transit observations made by Captain M. E. Neef and the undersigned on the same date at the points of observation (viz., 35° 48' .9, 106° 18' .4 for Strang and Skipper and 35° 55', 106° 23' ? for Wilson and Truett), it has been possible to establish reasonable concordance between various points on the fireball path as seen by the two groups of observers. Because of the very short baseline (only 8 miles long) between the two points of observation and the difficult conditions under which the fireball of December 20 was observed, it is my opinion that the real path derived ? the December 20 observations deserves considerably less weight than that obtained from the December 12 observations.

NOTE 3

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It is found that the fireball doubly observed by Messrs. Wilson, Truett, Strang, and Skipper appeared at a height of at least 10 miles and descended to an angle of about 45° to the vertical (according to Truett's estimate) to a point C at an elevation of only 2.3 miles above the horizontal plane through the point from which Strang and Skipper observed. As the fireball approached the point C, its path levelled off and from C to its point of disappearance E, the fireball followed a nearly horizontal path approximately 7.5 miles moving with a velocity of between 3.75 and 7.5 miles per second, depending on the duration estimate adopted. The coordinates of the projection of C on the earth are 35° 56', N, 106° 30' W, and those of the projection of E are 35° 57' N, 106° 23' W. The forward extension of the fireball's trace on the earth as determined by the above projections, passes some six miles to the north of the town of Los Alamos.

It should be noted that the descending branch of the path of the fireball was observed by Inspector Truett alone, but he was absolutely certain that his observation of this portion of the path was correct. It should also be noted that no sound was heard, although the distance from the observers to the fireball and from the fireball to the earth could have been only a few miles at most. I have no hesitancy in testifying that an object possessing the ? path and the other peculiarities observed by Messrs. Wilson, Truett, Strang, and Skipper was not a falling meteorite.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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TO: Director, Intelligence & Security Division 7 January 1949

FROM: Chief, Physical Security Branch

SUBJECT: Reported Observation of Unidentified Light or Flare Moving Across the Sky on 6 January 1949

1. On 7 January 1949, the writer interviewed Pfc. Meredith J. Everitt, ASN 38552954, Headquarters, 8450th M.P. Group, concerning the unidentified light or flare which he had reportedly seen moving across the sky.

2. Pfc. Everitt advised that on 6 January 1949 he was guarding a C-97 airplane at the landing strip, located adjacent to the Ordnance Area, when at approximately 1730 hours he noticed a bright object travelling across the sky, from the southeast towards the Northwest. He related that the object was diamond shaped, approximately two feet long, and appeared to be much brighter in its center than at the edges. He estimated that the object was approximately 1500 to 2000 feet in the air and travelled approximately 500 feet, horizontal to the earth's surface, before he lost sight of it. Pfc. Everitt was unable to estimate the speed of the object but stated that he has seen low flying jet planes, and that this object travelled much faster than the jets that he has observed. There was no smoke or other vaporous material visible to Pfc. Everitt around or following the object.

3. At the time Pfc. Everitt witnessed the object, he stated that the sky was clear, furnishing a light blue background, and that the object appeared to be a bright white light, with no other apparent visible color.

4. Standing guard with Pfc. Everitt were Sgt. Richard Woleslegoe and Cpl. Wilson, and according to Pfc. Everitt, neither of the other men saw the object. Everitt explained that he called to Sgt. Woleslegoe, who was standing at the other end of the plane, and told him to look at the object in the sky, but by that time it has disappeared.

5. Pfc. Everitt stated that he attended Flight School, under the G. I. Bill of Rights in Houston, Texas, during the year 1947, and that he has had some experience in observing aircraft.

/S/ MATTHEW J. DOYLE
Chief, Physical Security Branch
Intelligence & Security Division

NOTE 4

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE

Institude of Meteoritics

February 21, 1949

TO: Lt Colonel Doyle Rees, Commanding Officer
District No. 17
Office of Special Investigations

From: Lincoln LaPaz, Director
Institute of Meteoritics

Subject: Anomalous luminous phenomena (4th report)

1. Several additional sightings of unexplained aerial light phenomena have occurred since the third report in this series was prepared. Outstanding among the as yet undescribed incidents was the green fireball of Sunday evening January 30, 1949, 5:54 p.m. MST. within less than one minute after the appearance of the fireball, an eyewitness (Mr. Nesbett) called to report the impression of a group of persons who saw the fireball through an east window while seated about the dinner table in a brightly lighted room. Within twelve hours after the fireball appeared, more than 100 eyewitness accounts had been obtained by its director through personal interviews. An unusually high percentage of the reports came from military personnel (waiting out under the sky for Post Theaters to open), from guards and other special agents already alert to watch for anomalous luminous phenomena and from airplane pilots, control tower men and oilwell workers working on the late afternoon to midnight shift.

2. On February lst, a staff car was placed at the writer's disposal by Major William Godsoe of the Fourth Army and a field survey was begun of the region in New Mexico and Texas in which the majority of the observer's reporting the fall lived. This survey, carried out under unusually severe weather conditions, included visits to the following localities: Moriarty, Estancia, Vaughn, Ramon, Mesa, Roswell, Caprock, Tatum and other towns in New Mexico; and Lamesa, Brownfield, Plains, Lubbock, Muleshoe and other towns in Texas (Several of these towns were visited two or more times). At Roswell, where very effective cooperation was provided by the OSI group at Walker Air Base under Lt Paul Ryan, and the local CAP unit under Lt H. K. Cobean, Special Agent Bill Ricket was added to the survey party and gave much aid in later work. At Lamesa, Texas, the ground survey party was joined by an air search party consisting of Major Charles Phillips, USAF, Captain Melvin E. Neef and Special Agent Jack L. Boling, from the 17th District OSI office at Kirtland Field, and Corporal Cochran. On

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February 4th, the four persons just named flew a low-level air reconnaissance mission in a T-11 aircraft over the area surrounding the earth-point of the fireball of January 30th. At the same time a second ground survey party under Lt Paul Ryan made a careful field search along a route extending from Lamesa through Amherst, Texas, to Clovis, New Mexico.

3. As a result of the ground and air searches referred to above, and of an analysis of the very large amount of information obtained from eye-witnesses by personal interviews, by telephone conversation and by letter, it has now (three weeks after the fall) become clear that several thousand persons in New Mexico and Texas saw this great fireball leisurely traverse the sky. It has been possible to determine that the January 30th fireball became visible at an altitude of approximately twelve miles over a point at latitude 34° 5 longitude 102° 5, and disappeared at an altitude of approximately eight miles over a point at latitude 32° 48' longitude 102° 22', after traversing a nearly horizontal path approximately 143 miles long at a velocity of from seven to fourteen miles per second. Although the January 30th fireball must be ? among the brightest observed in the last quarter-century, and in spite of the fact that its real path lay closer to the earth throughout its entire extent than any other meteorite path of which the writer has knowledge (excepting the anomalous green fireballs of December 12th and 20th 1948), the meteoritics detonations and long continued rumblings which without exception accompany large meteorite falls were <u>not</u> observed on January 30th by anyone in the very large region covered by the various ground surveys. However, what may have been Udden noises (anomalous whizzing and hissing sounds frequently reported by very distant observers as having been heard <u>at the same time</u> that a meteoritic fireball was seen) were heard at Roswell, New Mexico, and near Muleshoe, Texas.

4. In addition to the absence of noise anomaly referred to in the last paragraph, the fireball of January 30th, 1949, shows several other features (e.g. nearly horizontal path, absence of long enduring luminous train or dust clouds, North to South direction, et) characteristic of the green fireballs earlier described in this series of reports. However, the January 30th fireball was much brighter than any of those earlier reported and differed from other green fireballs in that many of the Texas observers who were situated nearest its path reported its color as blue, orange, red and even purple instead of green.

5. Up to the present time (February 21st), no evidence whatever supported the belief that solid fragments fell to earth from the January 30th fireball has been discovered. However, as promptly as possible, a much more thorough ground search should be made in the probable area of fall as outlined by the earlier surveys, for, in my opinion, the fireball of January 30th is the only one of the anomalous luminous objects under investigation which gives any indication of having been a meteorite fall.

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6. With the present report, the writer's participation in the OSI's investigation of the puzzling fireball question must, to his regret, terminate. During the time I was on leave of absence from the University of New Mexico, I was glad to donate my time and services to this investigation. Now that I am again serving as Head of the Department of Mathematics with a full time teaching load, it is impossible for me to continue cooperating with the OSI.

LINCOLN LaPAZ
Head of Dept of Mathematics

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INCIDENTS OF 17 FEBRUARY AND 27 MARCH:

In each of these incidents the following description applies:

a. Color - Red, orange, pink or amber

b. Shape - Elongated, about five to ten times as long as wide

c. Consistency - Apparently solid, but flexible. Did not appear to be vapor or smoke trail.

d. Luminosity - Appeared to be self-luminous, and the varying attitude of flight and change of position caused no change to either degree or color of emitted light.

e. Flight - Both objects performed various maneuvers, consisting of climbing and diving, with turning movements.

f. Speed - Not accurately estimated, due to variation in time factors.

g. Termination - Both objects appeared to disappear in the distance.

h. Location - The 17 February incident was observed from the area of Albuquerque, New Mexico. The 27 March observations were made from the Tucumcari-Clovis area.

i. Course - The 17 February object appeared to move from west to east; that of 27 March, from east to west.

j. Sound - No sound was reported in conjunction with either incident.

k. Remarks - In each case, reports indicated that the objects flowed around corners in vertical maneuvers, rather than swinging around as would a rigid object. In neither case did investigation produce any evidence of a jet-propelled aircraft in the area. Observers in each case were found whose credibility is above average.

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INCIDENT OF 8 MARCH 1949:

This incident was reported by an AESS Inspector on duty at Los Alamos. The object appeared to be an aliptical, rather stubby, aluminum body surrounded or covered with billowy flame. There may have been projections similar to stubby control surface and wings, but the observer could not be sure of this. The observer described the object as looking rather like the part of a war time German airplane from the cockpit aft. It disappeared behind the clouds. The path was slightly descending; there was no noise.

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CONFERENCE
ON
AERIAL PHENOMENA

Held at 1300, 16 February 1949, in conference room P-162, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico. Present:

4th Army:	Major Winn Major Godsoe Captain Neef
AFSWP:	Commander Mandelkorn
University of New Mexico:	Dr. LaPaz
FBI:	Mr. Maxwell
USAEC, SFOO:	Mr. Morgan Mr. Newburger
University of California:	Dr. Bradbury Dr. Holloway Mr. Hoyt Dr. Manley Dr. Reines Dr. Teller

Mr. Newburger opened the conference and stated that the subject of Aerial Phenomena was classified Secret within the meaning of AR 380-5 and comparable appropriate regulations of the Navy and Air Forces, and that all personnel at this meeting were properly cleared. Mr. Newburger then introduced Captain Neef, who briefly outlined the purpose of this meeting.

Captain Neef: It all started back in December, 1948, when we first received some reports from some airline pilots that these green fireballs were sighted. At this stage we had no idea what to do with it or what it was. We approached Dr. LaPaz who has been assisting us, gratis, since that date. Almost over two months now that he has been assisting us, so in order to have you get the facts as they are to a scientist, I'll let Dr. LaPaz explain these things as we have found them. Then you can give us your opinion from there; that is what we are interested in.

Dr. LaPaz: I would like to review what is observed in the case of a conventional meteorite fall. Not that I have any hopes of saying anything you don't already know, but because I regard the observational evidence observed by the conventional meteorite falls as providing the necessary background for what is now observed. Meteorite falls (for next minute or two, Dr. LaPaz's comments on record drowned out by noise from ditch digger immediately outside conference room)....Because of sound phenomena primarily, the fall of a large meteorite will cause great fright among human beings necessarily but primarily among animals, of all kinds. The fact follows, by a meteorite

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
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falling into the earth, is as you would expect, one at random - in azimuth and elevation. If the radiant white is known, you can predict the minimum angle with respect to the plane of the horizon at which the meteorite path has been observed. There is no choice, as far as the....for direction when meteorites fall in at random. I'd like to contrast now, at this time, this fact with what has been observed by some individuals here at the conference and by many of the AESS inspectors, UAL pilots, special agents, goodness knows how many other categories of people. I choose to describe the only one of the incidents that I was personally a witness to. It is the only one of the incidents that I am in a position to vouch for on the basis of experience, dating from 1915, as a member of the American Meteor Society, was most certainly not a conventional meteorite fall. It was the so-called Starvation Peak incident on the night of December 12, 1948. Time of observation was around 9:02 P.M., plus or minus 30 seconds. This fireball appeared in full intensity instantly - there was no increase in light. Its color, estimated to be somewhere around wave length 5200 engstroms, was a hue green, or yellow green, such as I had never observed in meteor falls before. The path was as nearly horizontal as one could determine by visual observation. We have a photograph which might be some liters of departure from horizontal. The trajectory was traverse at, I am inclined to believe, constant angular velocity. Just before the end of the path there was the very slightest drooping of the path, that is the green fireball broke into fragments, still bright green.

Dr. Teller: And all this time the intensity was approximately constant?

Dr. LaPaz: All the time, as far as I could determine. The eye, of course, is admittedly a very crude photographer.

Dr. Teller: How long did the phenomenon last?

Dr. LaPaz: Almost exactly two seconds. We have in the reports here, I brought the complete file with me and would be glad to circulate them, duration measures in relation to all observations. Few of these, however, I believe, were determined under as favorable circumstances as the duration of the Starvation Peak incident. Possibly I should go back and review the situation a little bit. Because some report, issued by the AESS, would certainly suggest that I was primarily responsible for starting this whole matter. I am glad that Captain Neef corrected that impression. Actually, I was on an investigation in regard to the green fireball observed on the night of December 5th at the time the December 12th incident occurred. As a result I was keyed up; I was watching; I had a stop watch with me and a transit. We got into position and made measures, transit measures, on azimuths and elevation readings; that is, we made a duration check, certainly within not more than two or three minutes after the incident occurred. To that extent, I believe, it is possibly the best observed of any incident up to the time of the January 30th fall.

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Dr. Manley: How did you have time to use the transit?

Dr. LaPaz: The transit was in the back of the car. The moment the car was parked at the side of the road, we yanked the transit out and set it up and began measurements. We were in motion at the time but we were able to get a very good check of what we observed at the time on the road near Starvation Peak. We had a clear view of the sky to the Northwest and the West, and the object was so low over the horizon it was possible to compare it not only to the stars with which I am familiar, but with respect to mountain peaks that were also visible. To continue, that duration was about two seconds. This is when I say that 90% of the duration determinations have been made in the case of the green fireballs have given durations right in that vicinity. Whereas you take, say, 100 ordinary meteor observations you will find the widest diversions in durations. You could take the same lesson as observed by 100 people - possibly that's a better example - and there would be wide variations in the estimates of duration.

Dr. Manley: Did you correlate the azimuths with.....?

Dr. LaPaz: No. There is an azimuth factor here which I am going to talk to you about, that relates to the choice of direction. Both our observations are single station observations, so that it becomes impossible from the observation measure to determine the real path of the fireball in the atmosphere. There have been only three cases where that path was determinable. One, as I recall it, was that of December 12, another December 20, and finally, of course, the very large fall on January 30, 1949. I'll give you some particulars on the paths. I do want to observe, however, that even our station observations present a puzzling characteristic to the meteorists. If you plot what are called, by meteorists, the admissible protozons for a green fireball that has been observed, you will find that they give, on the average, an approach almost to the North, come down from the North, they are restricted to ? . Now what about the real paths? I gave some indications as to the altitude at which meteorites normally disrupt full....and come down. That relates to the lowest...of the path. The green fireballs are unusual in this respect: probably that they are horizontal or nearly so, or that their horizontal path is traversed very low down in the atmosphere. In the case of the real paths for which we have been able to make determinations so far, those are graphical determinations, as we have not taken the trouble to use Chablis (?) methods or....because the observations are regarded as necessarily too rough for mathematical niceties. Those paths are traversed at elevations between 8 and 10 miles. I defy you to find anywhere among meteorists, examples of conventional meteorites that move over long horizontal paths reserving nearly constant angular velocities and therefore, on the average, constant linear velocities, at elevations of the order of 8 to 10 miles. There is a good deal of evidence that may be of value in the complete reports that are available here, but since this is an introduction I would like to summarize at this stage: the fireball which I personally witnessed on the night of December 12, 1948, was not, in my opinion, a conventional meteor fall. Since the majority of the green fireballs

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have been reported to me, both before and after this December 12th occurrence, possess almost all the properties which I personally observed on the night of December 12th, I feel that in all probability they are not themselves conventional meteor falls. Now, the easy way out of this is to conjure up an unconventional type of....meteorite, which comes in practically parellel to the surface of the earth and is somehow endowed with the property against the very great atmospheric resistance that is experienced on a level, it reserves nearly constant velocity over paths say of the order of 25 to over 100 miles, as in the case of the green fireball on January 30th. It should also have the property that it is a very remarkable hue of green, not heretofore observed, to my knowledge, in the case of any conventional meteor falls. And finally, and this possibly is the most implausible feature of all, that although it produces light visible at distances of the order of 400 miles, it doesn't make a sound. In the case of January 30th fall, due to the fact that there had been a large number of military personnel alerted, we were able to obtain observations within a minute after the fall occurred and pursued the investigation over a distance of 1,600 miles - in Texas mud primarily! - in some ten days' time interviewing literally hundreds of people, we saw not one substantiated account of noise produced by the meteorite fall.

Dr. Teller: May I ask how many people have seen this one big meteorite?

Dr. LaPaz: That is difficult to say. (record blank for short period)..... .Finally, in the interrogation of such persons, we invariably interview them as individuals. We tried a family of 8 the first night, as Major Gedsoe will recall, interviewing....and it became apparent at once that there was some sympathetic influence and we broke it off after I think the third or fourth observation and thereafter interviewed separately. If you were to search, however, the independent observations of those who were widely separated, possibly stations of the order of 100, there were probably 100 different stations reporting.

Dr. Teller: What area did that cover?

Dr. LaPaz: All of New Mexico, all the Western half of Texas. I have a map here with some indications of possibly the extent of that.

Hoyt and Bradbury: Wasn't that Sunday the 24th?

Dr. LaPaz: No, it was definitely Sunday the 30th. The newspapers have very helpfully concealed most of the relevant facts relating to this fireball. First, they described it as a fireball, second, they ...(record blank for few seconds). interferred with OSI and wasn't able to do that this time. This is the field map and will give in various colors, dots and pencil dashs, etc. all of the observations obtained on the Texas search.

Dr. Teller: All relate to one fall?

Dr. LaPaz: Yes. These lines are drawn from points of observation. The center,

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as you see, of points of appearance is somewhere Southwest of Amarillo or South-southwest of Amarillo. The disappearance point is in the vicinity of Lubbock, Texas. At the time this was drawn, before I was able to make out transit measures in the vicinity of Albuquerque, this was the best apparent path of the fireballs. These other ink lines are independent, made by other groups of observers working on the same problem. (record blank again for short time) This transit, unfortunately, had a needle with a bent piston and it was not discovered until much later that we were getting faulty records. Independently, I have re-determined, using the best equipment available at the University, the lines of sight at all points where the faulty transit had been used. I have plotted on this map only observations that I made personally or such observations as I have every reason to believe were made by experienced personnel, for example UAL flyers, who took the trouble to make measures, or possibly civil engineers.

Dr. Teller: You mean these people right afterwards or shortly afterwards took an instrument and tried to measure it?

Dr. LaPaz: That's right.

Dr. Teller: This is the point where it disappeared?

Dr. LaPaz: And normally, all you will get is the point where it disappears, because the average man is aware of the fact that when he is not warned, he makes a very inaccurate observation. Having been warned by the appearance of the fireball, his attention is fixed and he watches where it bursts, where it explodes, where it disappears. So I say this is a much better determination. This beginning point, although you notice the....of line here, is reasonably satisfactory.

Dr. Teller: Are these points here observers of the test, locations of those observations?

Dr. LaPaz: Usually a dotted circle like that indicates a reported sound observation. We use this symbol: a circle is a report, whether or not the observation includes azimuth of elevation, light appearances, is indicated by the presence of a cross. If it is blacked out, both light and sound were heard. Now every one of those things has been disproved. In the area where the end point was located, oil well drilling was underway, dynamite blasting in connection with setting up of rigs, some nitro being used apparently to shatter.....in every case we were able to exclude the possibility that the noises reported actually were tied in with the meteorite fall. At least let me say, in my opinion, those noises were excluded. In certain cases, independently, that was confirmed by a visit of Lt. Ryan of the Roswell Group os the OSI. For instance, the best case of all, near Amherst ?, or noise - the observer, it's true, was only a ten-year old boy, but he wrote a very intelligent letter, and it is well known that children, like animals, are more sensitive to sound than people who have listened for too many years, say, to the radio. It appeared conceivable that he had actually made a sound observation, but Lt. Ryan went to Amherst ? found that even three members of the

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family were not able to confirm his observation of noise and no one in the town, some 300 or 400 persons I think in all were estimated to have been visited, no one at all had heard a sound, so I think that Mike probably heard the same dynamite blast as had been reported by Miss Winson Didpasture - I didn't take that name out of the funny papers, it actually exists.

(continued examination of the maps with minor interrogations concerning markings.)

Dr. LaPaz: With one exception, in the case of Roswell, there are two types of sound associated with meteorite falls and, I assume, associated with the motion of any very high velocity projectile or missile through the air. There are what physicists would call reasonable sounds, and while he would not acknowledge it, simultaneously with the appearance of a meteorite, you hear a meteorite, the physicist will refuse to believe the observation. Nevertheless, there is a tremendous volume of evidence indicating that these anomalous sounds occurred. Anyone who does field work in the search for meteorites will come across possibly 10% of the observers who say that, although my attention was attracted by hearing, a whining noise, a whistling noise, I looked up and there was the fireball. In other words, this anomalous sound apparently attracts attention to the occurrence. I have an article by Brandon...one of the sons of the man who first investigated the great crater out in Arizona, and a chap by the name of Hart ? with whom I am not personally acquainted by a physicist apparently at Princeton, in which they attempt to justify the occurrence of anomalous sound. They express it roughly in this fashion. Electromagnetic radiation is set up by

(Dr. Teller excused to answer the phone)

Dr. LaPaz: You wouldn't believe it anyway! However,...electromagnetic radiation is rectified somehow by the...changed into sound that can be heard and, therefore, you can hear the meteorite at the same time you see it fall. In the case of the Roswell observation apparently that occurred. We have a group of five men - there were near a steel smokestack - and every last one of them swears that they heard at the same time they were watching the green fireball go by, a noise like, say, a gasoline blowtorch. That is certainly not an ordinary explosives sound. One more thing in connection with the noises. In every other meteorite fall, any one meteorite fall that I have investigated, - that covers many years - I have never yet found an occasion of a detonating fireball, without meteorites coming down at all, in which there was not some evidence of alarm of animals. Chickens will fly around to try to get under cover. Dogs will howl and try to get into the house. Horses will run away. In the case of the Texas fall, in spite of the tremendous area in which the light was observed, we found not a single case in which the animals were disturbed. We knew of the case of a farmer who had, in sunny Texas, a pond with a five-inch layer of ice, who reported that a meteorite had fallen through the ice on that pond, had broken a hole. Captain

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Neef here put on a pair of rubber boots and very thoroughly searched the pond without finding a meteorite. Even in that case there was no evidence of alarm by the animals. I believe with that summary, I'd better cease operations and have you ask questions.

Question: How many observed falls?

Dr. LaPaz: I'd like to classify those into three groups. I would say that there are ten instances that definitely merit the most serious consideration. They are strictly analogous to the green fireballs of the night of December 12. On top of that, there must be something of the order of twenty more which are so well reported, from Los Alamos for example, that although the green fireballs observed showed small..the nature of the fireball....many observations of observers who paid practically no attention to the sky at any other time in their lives and now when they see a really bright light, they report it. You will find a great many instances of bluish-white fireballs. In my opinion, those falling vertically and leaving trails, are simply ordinary shooting stars. Of high intensity, that is, what we call fireballs, a blue light, are not in any sense to be associated with the green lights. Those three categories then.

Dr. Manley: ?

Dr. LaPaz: In the case of the two green fireball paths, determined from Los Alamos observations, in one case the Starvation Peak incident, we have an East-West motion, and then also a motion exactly parellel to....In other words, these two real paths show, I think they are the only two of the first category that show any real departure from the.....It is possible to explain that. It is quite evident that we have no case of assurance that both groups of observers, the observers at Starvation Peak and the observers at Los Alamos, saw the same point of....so that if we were to merely ask what are the limits within which such real paths might fall, it turns out that it might be as short as 12 miles instead of being 25 miles long, and in that case it would be directed almost directly to the North; it would come down very nearly within 2 degrees, 5 degrees say, of the North. In the case of the Texas observations, whereas I have indicated and the maps show, we have many observations by trained observers, motion is clearly almost directly North to South. I have been informed that there are reasons for regarding the .....out here (ditch digger)..and you notice that this passes reasonably close to Lubbock. The same is true of the two earlier fireballs, those of December 12 and December 20. They both passed - one passed centrally over Los Alamos and the other about six miles North of the center, but this would not be true....(ditch digger). One point that possibly should have been mentioned earlier is this: I was the more interested when Captain Neef came to my office and brought the December 5th incident to my mind because very much earlier I had been contacted first by...White, Director of Texas Observers, from a Dr. Pruitt, Director of Northwestern Section, City Section, of the Meteor Society, I had been informed that earlier occurrences of bright green fireballs, not too far from the Hanford area. When Captain Neef came in with reports of green fireballs near Las Vegas and particularly when he disclosed that there was a Los Alamos near Las Vegas - the real Los Alamos - it had much interest.

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Dr. Holloway: Are there any reports of these from other installations, such as Troy, New York, or places like that?

Dr. LaPaz: I raised that question and I know of no other cases. I mean to say the areas from which these reports come, as in one, for such evidence as .....they do not relate to the green fireballs; they relate to the daylight occurrence of horizontal moving, bright white objects - some in Memphis, Tennessee in May, 1948 - that is not too far from Oak Ridge. They relate to the Hanford area as far as the Pruitt observations go, and to the observations that I've mentioned here in the Las Vegas-Los Alamos area.....A very curious thing has come to light during these investigations. I published not long ago an article in Science Illustrated on the recovery of the.....Town meteorite. The time that fell, February 18, 1948, the rumor got around somehow in Northern Kansas and Southern Kansas that it was a Russian bomb, and it was aimed at the geographical center of the United States which is not very far from.....Apparently, a great many people gave credence to that rumor and were delighted when we finally recovered meteorites up there and proved it wasn't anything but an ordinary meteorite fall. Incidentally, it did not have the characteristics of the green fireball we're talking about here. There was an air transport pilot who made a most curious observation while flying near Cherbourg on January 16, 1946. His observation was the observation of a bouncing meteor. After what I've been telling you about the green fireballs, you probably think it **not** unreasonable that a meteorite should bounce but to the meteorlytical mind that seems very hard to swallow. The interest is that one of your own persons here at Los Alamos, one and confirmed at least in part by four other persons, saw one of the green fireballs come down and then glide off horizontally. The bouncing meteorite is manually explained by having it form, say sinusoidal motion lying in about the plane at which the observer was looking so that he first saw the high point of the curve or the peak. The next time it was at the peak, it was so far away that the altitude was very low, which will give you the appearance of a bouncing meteorite. I offer that as a possible explanation. Of course, he may have landed in Paris before he made the Cherbourg flight and then we should disregard the testimony entirely!

Mr. Newburger: Dr. LaPaz, you mentioned, I believe, at one of our other meetings that they had compared the color of this with certain metals?

Dr. LaPaz: That's right. Initially we could only ask them what they thought it looked like. And we got such interesting responses that we eventually carried around a spectrum chart and allowed everybody to make his own choice. Of course, the use of the spectrum chart was unnecessary if they have a color like one lady who had around her neck a green scarf which she assured me had exactly the same hue, but normally not having such things to look at, they were pleased to have the chart to look at. They will choose, in 90% of the cases, category 1 and category 2 a wave length which corresponds to something between 4900 and possibly 5300. Most of them will fall very close to 5218 which is about the color you get when you have copper salts in the Bunsen

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burner. I checked with Dr. Regener on that and asked him if an alloy had been used, like, say, copper beryllium, if there would be any change in that hue, and he has assured me there would not. He said it would still give approximate appearance of beryllium copper.....You will find in probably 1350 of the 1500 only the merest trace of copper occurrence. There are a few meteorites like.....in South Dakota, where little veins of copper have been found, making up possibly .4 of 1%.

Dr. Bradbury: Is this true of all meteorites?

Dr. LaPaz: It's true in any category. Even in the irons, the presence of copper is very hard to detect, very little...(ditch digger). I don't know whether you gentlemen could suggest an easy way to obtain green fireball spectra or not.

Dr. Teller: What is the geographical solution of this?

Dr. LaPaz: Another man would probably answer that best of all.

(Looked at more maps with some talk that was not audible.)

Mr. Hoyt confirmed the green hue of the green fireball he had seen on the night of December 30, 1948. (Record dead for minute or two)

Mr. Hoyt: I would have said approximately as far above the mountain as the floor of the valley was below the top of the mountain. I felt that would give me somewhere in the neighborhood of 20,000 feet or thereabouts. It was about 5 minutes to 6 on my way up here. I have a feeling that it had a downward path. I mean it was going South.

Dr. LaPaz: But it was not strictly horizontal?

Mr. Hoyt: No.

Dr. LaPaz: We have some discrepancies in that regard. 95% of the observations indicate a very nearly horizontal path. One from Fort Worth, Texas, which was not made by.....but measured by them, indicates an elevation of 6 degrees at the beginning and 2½ to 3 degrees at the end.

Mr. Hoyt: That's what I would have said, but remember that the ridge would give you the sensation that iwas taking a downward path. Duration - at the time I would say it was approximately 3 seconds.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: How does the calculated velocity of these objects compare with the known velocity of meteorites?

Dr. LaPaz: Apparently very much lower; that is, more than the ordinarily observed meteorite falls. First, to observe in the cast of an actual meteorite fall you have a relation of the velocity from the auricle of...atmosphere down to the impact velocity which may be very...but it isn't fair to compare the velocity of the green fireballs to the impact velocity of..(ditch digger and everyone talking at once)... Not with the trajectory velocity of the meteorite which is the same as the velocity of the fragments that fall from the meteorite. After a meteorite..the fragments fall about like a bomb. Their resistance just about balances out the....and as a result, they come down with about the velocity of a falling bomb, a little less because they do not have the same ballistic coefficient.

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Dr. Bradbury: This is not an excluded ? direction like the....?

Dr. LaPaz: Due to the fact that they have a curve, and practically all times during which darkness is with us, why they tend to come in from that direction?

Dr. Bradbury: Would it be a shower?

Dr. LaPaz: That was my first explanation, as a matter of fact. Geminate showers with a maximum of December 10 to December 12. The first evidence that I had was Sgt. Kinsley's report on December 2 and since often the forerunners of the showers will...I thought we were talking about Geminate showers except that I never observed a green Geminate. Matter of fact, a check of observations made at that time found that there were 414 observations since 1915 and there wasn't a single one, Geminate or non-Geminate, for which any hue of green was mentioned. Later, for instance on the night of December 12, you could watch the Geminate come down..and notice that they came in at high angles to the horizontal, whereas the green fireballs,...incidentally, we have another interesting piece of evidence there - Dr. Sherman Smith from the University - I mention an observation that he made on the same night. The time of the observation is in dispute. According to Dr. Smith it was probably as late as 10:50. He had to wait for a long time, he said, for his wife to pick him up after the concert was over. Mrs. Smith, however, times it around 10:10. Whatever the time, within one hour or say an hour and a half after the green fireball and the horizontal path were observed, we have another extremely bright blue fireball come out of the Geminate rays. I mention this because some of the first persons to concern themselves with this problem suggest that the green fireballs were simply abnormally bright Geminates. Apparently you can have very large Geminate falls of the color estimated by a trained..... checked with the spectrum charts...is quite distant, I assure you, from the green fireballs.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: How good is the coverage of the observers of the American Meteor Society as far as the top-half of the United States is concerned?

Dr. LaPaz: It depends a good deal upon overcast conditions. I would say, however, that this year the Eastern half of the country has offered phenomenal observing conditions. One of my reasons for withdrawing from Ohio State was that after 13 years there I had given up hope of ever seeing a meteorite shower because during the season of maximum intensity of the falls we had heavy overcase, snow and so forth. On the other hand, this year they're had reasonably open skies. I have obtained no reports from people in that part of the country. We thought we had a definite check because Harvard College has now installed a photographic meteor station near or possibly inside the White Sands Proving Ground. Since the 12th of December, you correct me if I exaggerate here, we have been trying to determine the color and other characteristics of the ten or 12 brightest meteors observed at that station. We still don't know what they saw. We know they were operating and they made some photographs, but Captain Neef can probably tell you the red-tape channelization impediments that has dropped out any determinations better than I can.

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Captain Neef: Well, it's one of those things; it's a Navy contract and they are not at liberty to divulge what they find, so we have to go through Washington, the Bureau of Ordnance, to get the information.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: I believe I can get that information; as a matter of fact, I feel very certain that I can. Just a matter of approach.

Dr. LaPaz: I feel certain if I had contacted Dr. Fred Whipple, for example, I could have obtained it, but his other occupations keep him away from that installation. And actually I felt as a meteorist, it might be wise to have OSI appeal for information rather than to ask for it directly.

Captain Neef: They did tell us they weren't using films which were going to be susceptible to these colors.

Dr. LaPaz: But, of course, they are making constant visual observations and if you were able to determine visual observations 100 miles from Los Alamos don't reveal the occurrence of bright green fireballs, I think it would be significant. I don't know why they should avoid the Southern-half of the State.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Let us say if these had been at extremely high altitudes, they would have been visible from White Sands without any question.

Captain Neef: This one of the 30th definitely was visible from White Sands because Commander Holloman ? and his wife and one of his assistants and his wife saw it from there.

Dr. LaPaz: On the other hand, you have evidence like that of Professor Talbot ? now in charge of the optical trajectory section down there, an experienced astronomer, a member of the American Meteor Society. I talked with him about this, and he has observed nothing out of the ordinary. I don't think anybody, I mean in the line of green fireballs, in this area has been observing as much as he does. I don't see how he could miss sighting some of these.

Question: What explanation do you have for this?

Dr. LaPaz: The only explanation is the one I gave in the beginning and had my ears promptly boxed for. I think these are defensive manoeuvers of some higher U. S. Command and they are practising in the neighborhood of the regions they are going to defend, so naturally your localization of light near the atomic bomb installations, but boy, am I scolded for that! Even Dr. Kaplan of the FAD ? tells me no, no, the FAD would know all about it, and they don't have any facts.

Dr. Bradbury: Is this the physicist Kaplan?

Dr. LaPaz: Yes. Kaplan is my old boss. He was chief of the operational analysis section when I was....director there.....During Kaplan's visit

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to the University of New Mexico, where he was lecturing, we called a conference with Major Godsoe and other interested parties. He gave a brief resume of the observations that had been made to date. Now, Kaplan is one of the charter members of the American Meteor Society, and he said certainly these could not be conventional meteorite falls. He, of course, mentioned as other people do who have not gone into it more thoroughly, the possibility of abnormal types of meteorite falls, that might come in from a peculiar direction or might droop at very low level, but I don't think he was able to explain the absence of sound.

Dr. Teller: Did I understand you correctly that the velocity of the object appears to be some 50 kilometers per second?

Dr. LaPaz: No. In the case of the green fireballs something between 3 miles per second and 12 miles per second. Depending, you see, if you choose one ruled map or another. For example, let me illustrate how that affects the velocity determination. This is the one I think possibly best represents the observations of the case of the fireball of December 12. That is the path I assume the Los Alamos observers saw the same point of the curves that the Starvation Peak observers did, likewise to the point of disappearance. If we deny that possibility, the path might shorten to this dotted line (Dr. LaPaz worked on maps with Dr. Teller, explaining paths.) Dropping from 25 to something between 11 and 12 miles. The January 30 observation gave us our first long path.

Dr. Teller: How long was it?

Dr. LaPaz: The first observations we had here indicated...That was because of errors in the determination of the azimuth at the point of beginning, made due to the faulty transit they used. But that's correct that the path runs over 100 miles.

Dr. Teller: And how long does it take?

Dr. LaPaz: Duration estimates range from 5 to around 14 seconds. I think that a 10 second average is about the best, that would give about 10 miles per second.

Dr. Bradbury: Green is not an unknown color in meteors?

Dr. LaPaz: If I were to rewrite the report that I first presented on that subject, instead of saying "rarely observed" this color green, I think I would now say "never observed". You sometimes see green, Dr. Bradbury, but it is a blue-green. The blue-green color is rare, but it is observed. For instance, Dr. Sherman Smith's observation was essentially a blue-green, but on the blue side.

Dr. Bradbury: What other colors do you see in meteors?

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Dr. LaPaz: Whites chiefly. If you look closely and without interference from outside lights, yellows, oranges and reds.

Dr. Bradbury: But it's apparently a yellowish-green we're talking about here. If you can see a bluish-green, you can also see yellows and whites.

Dr. LaPaz: There is some defect, possibly in the vision, that requires a pretty high intensity in that yellow-green before it's noted in a meteor fall.

Dr. Bradbury: Looks like green?

Dr. LaPaz: Yes it does, that's perfectly true. Now here's a peculiar property of those yellow-green fireballs - some people will refer to them as red. The only explanation that I can think of is they report afterwards that they see what is an exposure to a very green-bluish light rather than the light itself - I don't know if that is correct. And, incidentally, due to your observation, I don't know how to explain the inability of meteor observers to report this renegade color, but I simply know it doesn't occur. You go through long lists, like those of the American Meteor Society, you will find, I imagine, not 1 in 100 where a green is mentioned. Even in the case of the ? showers, where you have large numbers of very bright colors - let me recall something that all of you must have seen. The....shower of October 9, 1946 - anyone here who saw that? There were large numbers of extremely bright fireballs at that time. Kaplan himself recalled that they were blue, maybe blue-green, but never yellow-green. And I observed those under very favorable circumstances - we were flying at about 20,000 feet in a B-29. We had no absorption effects at all. They definitely did not show hues of green.

Dr. Bradbury: You mentioned the noise problem also. The noise occurs only when the meteor itself blows up, breaks up?

Dr. LaPaz: No, that isn't strictly true. You have, in addition to the hollow sound, the normal sound of the breakup of the.....you have headwind; you're near the path. You get a real shock; for instance, we have....apparently broken up by that headwave, shock wave, in the case of the Norden County Falls. And then from the turbulence and reflections all the way along the path, you will have a rumbling which may endure not for the matter of a tenth of a second, but for minutes, and they're real rough.

Dr. Bradbury: But these occur fairly close to the trajectory?

No.

Dr. LaPaz:/ In the case of the Norden County Falls again, they were heard clear down to....City. Shakes buildings that far away. The....Falls were heard up to 300 miles from the point of impact.

Dr. Bradbury: Large number of observations.....

Dr. LaPaz: No, there again I checked very carefully because I was concerned. I am trying desperately to give a logical explanation to the absence of sound.

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I have found in the literature only three cases where no detonations, no rumblings were reported. One of these is the Belgium observation in 1855, and I think should be discounted because meteorists hardly existed at that time. Some falls occurred and were not reported at all. The other two are reasonably recent observations - one in 1921 and one in 1922. They occurred, however, in the deep South where negroes, I think, were the only observers. Even there, the whizzing of the meteorites as they fell through the air, was reported. I know of no case of an actual meteorite where at least the whizzing of the falling body coming down through the air has not been reported.

Dr. Bradbury:....?

Dr. LaPaz: Meteorite falls, I believe that was the way you phrased it? In the case of a shooting star, of course, you never hear a thing because the entire mass is very kindly vaporized before it gets, say, within 50 miles of the earth.....Not only noises, but accompanied by such noises that persons or animals are really frightened out of their wits. For example, we have a beautiful case where 2 horses killed themselves - in the Norden County Falls - they may have been felled by meteorites, but I'm inclined to think that the noise frightened them until they dashed into a ditch...Animals go crazy.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Do you think it unusual no fragments are found?

Dr. LaPaz: I certainly do. And I think it unusual, not only in the case of the green fireballs, but in view of the fact that a great fall, like the...fall of October 30, 1947, wherefor the first time we detected a bit of the interest on the party of the military, there too we recovered nothing. October 30, 1947, about 4:48 in the afternoon there was, what appeared to be, a tremendous meteorite fall over the reservation area - the Four Corners Area. We got there within a very few hours, had excellent observations, went back time and again, exhausted ground search, CAP people in airplanes, we had a radio centered, we had radio controlled jeeps and a lot of people out walking around - not a trace. I can't give you a color on that because....

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Ordinarily, when phenomena of that nature occurs, you are able to recover some material?

Dr. LaPaz: Yes, some material is recovered almost always. If proper search is conducted by Gill Field Corps of Intelligence Unit; Dr. Lansberg of the Research and Development Board, very kindly interested himself in the problem and the air searchers resulted not even in the discovery of a broken branch. The region is heavily forrested. If branches had been broken, I think they would have been detected. I haven't classified that particular fall, however, with the green fireballs and for this reason: that left a train. Another thing which I might have mentioned - a normal meteorite fall....will produce a long enduring train visible by day and night. Luminous by night and by day, illuminated by the sun.

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In the case of the irons, it will be very faint, but it'll be there if you look for it. In the case of the Four Corners Fall, that train was observed and I'm inclined to believe that it might have been a conventional meteorite fall. In the case of the green fireballs, to my knowledge, no such train has been observed. That question is always asked of people - did you observe a long enduring train; their replies were always negative.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Then you would say there were 10 incidents which are analogous to the green fireballs, with reports checked by a sufficient number of independent observers, that there is no doubt whatsoever of their occurrence?

Dr. LaPaz. That's right.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Then there are 20 with some deviations, two of these probably are related to the green fireballs.....

Dr. LaPaz: I believe two of those incidents I mentioned occurred before the 5th of December. A very remarkable one of the 4th of August - note that that again is very close to the time of.....meteor shower....From late in July on and my report will be producing quite a number of these...., but it is physically impossible with this particular observation from near.....Oregon....

Dr. Bradbury: Then their directions were wrong?

Dr. LaPaz: As a matter of fact, we can't tell because they were single observations. Maybe I should pass that letter around, but it is, I believe, the first detailed report on what might be characterized as a typical green fireball. After the Oscar.... incident of January 1, 1948, was merely a remarkable green flash, which might have had some other interpretation.

(Dr. LaPaz showed some letters around the table, and there was general talk not able to be picked up individually)

Major Godsoe: The basic purpose of this meeting is: we want you to find a meteor!

Mr. Newburger: Have the military - anyone from the National Defense establishment - given us anything? Sent out any conjectures about this thing?

Major Godsoe: No, most of the military authorities think we are crackpots; that is, except for the Army Air Force, which is taking an active interest in details.

Mr. Newburger: The Air Force does have the primary interest in this gadget?

Major Godsoe: Yes, the Air Force is the gathering, reporting agency for this phenomenon.

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Comdr. Mandelkorn: I'd like to remove that temporary statement about the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project; we aren't laughing...(record blank for minute or two)

Dr. Bradbury: None of us are experts in this field, so we essentially have to believe what we are told. I suppose if you try to look for logical explanations, there are probably some.

Dr. LaPaz: I would like to ask one question here - unless you feed power into a body moving into a horizontal path, can it preserve essentially a horizontal trajectory? A plane does it; meteorites don't do it; shows curves as the energy falls off. This thing apparently ignores air resistance and gravity and goes blissfully on its way.....

Dr. Teller: As far as straightness of the path is concerned, if you have a meteorite that you have observed for 10 seconds, and in these 10 seconds it has gone a distance of 100 miles, it will have fallen in this distance 1/3 of a mile and now I should like to dare any observer to tell a curvature of this kind - because you are completely unprepared for the phenomenon.

Dr. LaPaz: As it slows down, it curves toward the bottom.

Dr. Teller: But apparently before it has happened, slowed down too much or exploded or something, and then it has disappeared. Now the...point is, of course, if it has no power it will slow down, but I do not know how quickly you would have to estimate that; furthermore, the rate at which it slows down will depend very much on the question whether it has been at a 10 mile altitude or a 20 mile altitude.

Dr. LaPaz: The elevation estimates are very concordant on these, and I doubt that you will be able to change that elevation of 8 to 10 miles by very much. These are the real path observations that I have mentioned.

Dr. Teller: Well, can you say....do you think anything can be said about that?

Dr. LaPaz: I doubt it. The eye, of course, is not a good speedometer. You can't detect a change. At least, I did not in the one observation that I made, and no such change has been reported. In the case of those who observed the green fireballs say that near the end of the Texas fireball path of January 30 it was noted that the fragments moved out leisurely to the point at which there was apparently less velocity, as shown by them on the green fireball itself. May I mention, however, that in the case of the normal meteorite fall that curvature in the path, the transverse vertical, is one of the most apparent. You see that in the case of any large, ordinary detonation fireball fall even though it may not produce...there is a tendency to curve.

Dr. Teller: What about total light...How does the brightness compare to the brightness of the meteorites that come from a meteor?

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Dr. LaPaz: In the case of the Texas fall, this is very rough; I didn't see it, I can only base an estimate say on the comparisons that were made with the moon as to size and total intensity. In the case of the Texas fall it would certainly be comparable to - it was one of the brightest observed fireballs in total intensity....In the case of the Starvation Peak incident, we can compare it with Venus which was conveniently located, and it certainly was of stellar magnitude minus 4, possibly a little brighter. That comparison was made almost immediately after the observation.....

Mr. Hoyt: It was very bright and clear that night....

Dr. Teller: You saw it at 6 o'clock?

Mr. Hoyt: At five minutes to six. Very, very clear that night.

(ditch digger - in between ditch digger, a few coherent remarks:)

Dr. Manley: In 1945 or 1946 I observed practically the same thing as in this letter. We thought it was a roman candle. Definitely light green in color. I am still worried about the fact that they don't report any green color in these falls.

Dr. Bradbury: Lack of noise, lack of...., the lack of these things would be equally astounding for any material object.

Dr. LaPaz: Dr. Kaplan suggested the possibility of the same sort of phenomenon that he could produce experimentally in his laboratory...and he tells me under certain conditions he can produce a globe or lamps of yellowish-green light..... He conjectured for a minute that that might have some relation - an artificial aurora.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: As long as you brought that up, Maj. Johnson has a letter I obtained from Gen. Bunker which may be pertinent. Gen. Bunker transmitted the information you've heard to the Air Materiel Command, and in reply received a letter from an Air Force General who recently returned from Alaska. I'll let Dr. LaPaz read this.

Dr. LaPaz: This is closely related to what I was talking about. It begins: "Dear Bunker: Received your interesting phenomena of 1 February and promptly turned it over to Howard...now saddled with the responsibility of clues. Regard as coincidental that on dates you mention Gen. Carroll was in Fairbanks, Alaska, and on his return related that he had never seen before in his life such a beautiful technical display of Northern Lights. Maybe what these people have seen is a reflection from the.....of these pyrotechnics. So far as we know, it is still phenomena and not material. Best Regards, Paul".

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Dr. LaPaz: May I make the observation that if you look in the chapter by..... you'll find that in Alaska where this observation was reported, there are very few times at this season of the year when you can't see an aurora.

Dr. Teller: I have the feeling that it is....either a discovery in physical psychology or.....

Dr. LaPaz: I thought that psychological element would come in here!

Dr. Teller: Here is a slightly irrelevant question - you brought in the flying discs. What is the connection?

Dr. LaPaz: I didn't bring in the flying discs.

Mr. Newburger: I brought in the matter of the flying discs because the Air Force, as I understand, now have classed the flying discs and these fireballs into one category.

Captain Neef: ...The only indication we have is a letter from MAC in Washington Saturday where they indicated the old project Sign is now project Grudge, which includes the phenomena observed in New Mexico. They knew of this meeting and were going to send a representative.

Dr. LaPaz: I just asked Mr. Hoyt a moment ago how he would compare the brillance of this object with that of an aircraft flare. He said they were of comparable magnitude. I think that was definitely ruled out...

Dr. Teller: I understood that a reasonable explanation of the flying discs - and I suppose that it is generally known - is that they are meteorological balloons.... I understand that in quite a number of cases there have been very close directions established....I must say that from what you have said it certainly sounds like everything else but meteors. The thing that impresses me is your evidence of the horizontal flight. Meteors do not usually come in like that...

(mumbled talk between Drs. Bradbury and Teller)

Captain N eef:.....Change of direction such that we haven't been able to follow it up yet. One of our men was returning Sunday night when our tower operator saw this object to the Southwest from Kirtland Field and.....Arizona reported it was Southeast from them. From the Kirtland tower it was a bronze color. The time checks, but from....Arizona it was green until it turned straight down and veered going.....

Dr. LaPaz: Dr. Teller, may I mention this one other instance that shows maybe why I have more concern than is merited by the evidence I am able to present. I deal with Vic Regener and I know that the physicist doesn't like to work with anything that can't be photographed. I share that view but a meteorist is not available sometimes to photograph shooting stars, even the conventional type. During the war I was acting as Director of the Ohio Section of the American Meteor Society and all at once we began to get reports of large numbers of stationary fireballs; not moving. The burst

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was there, but no motion. Now one who observes normal conventional fireball falls is aware of the fact that not 1 out of say 500 whows actual fixity; there is always motion. So, this looks very, very strange. Of course, you all know what those stationary fireballs turned out to be. They were the self-destructive devices on Japanese paper balloons operating. You had a hydrogen filled sphere with a two-crown mask of magnesium flash-light powder. And when the magnesium and the hydrogen went off together, you could see it for a long way. We got stationary fireballs but they certainly were not meteoritic. My experience since I was suspected of psychological apparitions at the time I reported these stationary fireballs to, for example, Dr. Kamplan, my experience with...led me to be very cautious about taking my concern...but at the same time I feel that we shouldn't be too hasty in giving a natural explanation to these green fireballs.

Dr. Teller:....but I would like to ask, these phenomena are apparently quite bright, more luminous than normal meteorites?

Dr. LaPaz: Well, the January 30th one was; I would say that about the one I saw on December 12. That was a very bright fireball, but not extraordinarily so.

Dr. Teller: What is the chance of getting pictures?

Dr. LaPaz: I refer to the one attempt that was made on the night of December 19. We set up a photographic patrol - the AESS, as you probably know, has been interested in this problem. They brought a lot of speed graphics and so on and set them up. Mr. Maxwell, a member of the group...,and they were able, I think the night before, to photograph a bright Geminate. But on the night of the 19th nothing was observed. The next night, however, the night of the 20th there was an incident which I believe might have been photographed, but by that time the equipment had been disbanded and nothing was obtained. I should think, with proper coverage, say 10 to 15%, of these should record themselves provided you do not use green insensitive...and film such as the.....

Dr. Teller: Is there any possibility of having a wide coverage of the sky triggered by a photo cell?

Dr. LaPaz:: I have discussed that, for example with Dr. Reneger, who has been very much interested in the apparatus, and his answer is more or less in the negative. I understand that Cornell University - Gartline of Cornell - has produced some sort of photo-electric triggering device which has been used in this connection. I wrote him about it, asking for reprints or instructions, but never received a reply.

Question: Do you think you are going to find film sensitive to this green color fast enough? We have some that can't be left out over 12 hours.....

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Dr. LaPaz: It should be possible ...The conventional meteor cannot be photographed at the present time. The so-called meteorschmitts that Harvard College is now having produced at very great expense, they expect to go down to the 4th and possibly fainter. With one of those, a bright green fireball might be photographed, but they are not available...

Mr. Newburger: Does anybody know if there were any experiments carried out in Europe, prior to the war when our last best information came from over there, along this line?

Dr. LaPaz: Not to my knowledge. I raised that question with Dr. Kaplan and he gave me some rather surprising information. Dr. Kaplan had attended the IAU meetings in Syria ? and the Russians had a large representation there. Sufficiently large, as a matter of fact, to beat down the proposal that the IAU appoint an international committee to investigate the so-called.... meteorite crater produced in the fall of 1947, February 12. On the contrary, at the Oswald, I think it was, conference of the International Geophysical Union, none of the Russian geophysicists were present. Kaplan's interpretation was that they feel so far ahead of us that they didn't think they could learn anything, and they were taking the precaution that no leak occurred.

Mr. Newburger: Were the Germans experimenting in any phase that was possibly connected with it?

Dr. LaPaz: Well, they had the so-called stations in space ...might have some attachment to it.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: You don't have any record of experiments.

Dr. LaPaz: No, no knowledge of experiments. I have the belief that no country in the world has there been meteoritics developed as it has in Russia in recent years. Recently, the Academy of Science of the USRR has been issuing a so-called meteoritic, an extradorinary publication - very little work of the caliber being done by the Russians has been conducted in the United States. Apparently, there it has big support; here, it is an individual matter. Until we had some military interest in meteoritics, we were never able to found even an institute in meteoritics in the United States. The one in New Mexico is an outgrowth of application of meteoritics to determine, say, ballistic coefficients for shells of unconventional design like the proximity fuze shell with the radio in its nose, and that sort of thing. That's where we got a start. Apparently, the Russians got that earlier and have full-fledged state support.

Dr. Holloway: How much interest would the military have if they found out these things were landing all over the country, Canada, Hawaii, etc.?... Have you contacted people in the East?

Dr. LaPaz: Olivia, C.C. Olivia, President of the AMERICAN Meteor Society, King, Leonard, Pruitt, Kaplan, etc. Most of them have been observing; Kaplan, I imagine, has not, because he is now preoccupied with laboratory

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experiments. I think that if anyone of the UCLA Institute of Geophysics had been observing, it would have gotten to Kaplan's ears.... There are two great advantages to this area; first, you have clear skies at night and can observe them as they come down, and second, (record blank for a minute or two).

Dr. Holloway:..... this was before the war. They had a telephone network which covered a fair section of the East there.... a network so that your observations.... I mention this to indicate, I don't know what he is doing now, but at least they may have a group of people who have been observing. May not be in a position to... green fireballs, but they might have seen them.

Dr. LaPaz: My one attempt to contact.... and unfortunately I did not approach him again for information, but someone acquainted with him should certainly ask if they have observed any of this sort of thingthere.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Well, wouldn't phenomena of this nature have been reported to the Society, no matter where they occurred?

Dr. LaPaz: Yes, I would think so. For example, you can consult the so-called meteor notes of the American Meteor Society, and popular astronomy, they are published from month to month with the President, C. C. Olivia, Director of the Florida Observatory at the University of Pennsylvania. I've been through those very carefully. There's one single solitary case of a fireball which by one of the observers - a doubly observed fireball - so it was possible for me to.... in which one of the observers mentions a green color. Not this peculiar yellow-green which most people in that work find unusual, and in the case of that the elevation determined is of the order of, oh 199 kilometers from the beginning point and roughly 100 for the end, so I think it is only an ordinary fireball; nothing unusual about it. That was the only case I found.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: According to recent records, where the observation conditions in other parts of the country satisfactory? At least part of the time?

Dr. LaPaz: Well, I infer from the fact that we have had so much trouble out here and the East has been bragging about its climatic advantages; that probably during the recent months, they have had good observancy. I haven't attempted a full scale check on that.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Let's put it this way then: Have there been a sufficient number of fireballs reported in the last 60 days in other parts of the country to lead us to infer that had some of these occurred, they would have been reported?

Dr. LaPaz: I think that definitely is true. To my knowledge, as far as the contacts I've had with Olivia and so on, there was nothing out of the normal noticed in the East, and in the South, shall we say as far up as White Sands. Whether the Harvard Observatory setup observed anything peculiar or not, I don't know. We tried right away to get that information. We were told by the gentleman in charge down there, I'm sure this will be interest to you, that

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it was impossible to make an estimate of the approximate wave and engstroms without detailed spectroscopic equipment, which he did not possess. So whether the Captain actually cut out the spectrum charts and sent them to him or not, I don't know, but it was considered.

Dr. Bradbury: Well, we're not coming up with any bright ideas for you very fast.

Mr. Newburger: No, but as long as we have the problem presented to you, maybe by thinking on this, you will come up with an idea!.... Of course, you know our entire connection with started with Madelyn Gwynn Merchant back in 1946!

Dr. LaPaz: Except for the flying discs, nothing that you could say would cause me greater embarrassment! I have actually had communications from Madelyn myself.

Dr. Teller: Your statement of the absence of sound when this thing has gone apparently overhead at the distance of 10 miles, within earshot of people.

Dr. LaPaz: That seems incomprehensivle, doesn't it, Dr. Teller? I'm glad to hear you say that because that has been my feeling from the beginning. And we tried desperately to get confirming evidence whenever sounds were mentioned. No reports have been obtained.

Dr. Teller: I must say that the admission in which one could get.... typical phenomenon is something in the light of...

Dr. LaPaz: Kaplan told me he was going to get out one of his old blow pressure tubes and begin experimenting as soon as he returned from the UCLA, to see if he could duplicate in any way the descriptions we have given him.

Dr. Holloway: What sound does a P-2 make when it goes overhead?

Dr. LaPaz: I can tell you what they make when they come down.

Comdr. Mandelkorn: I can tell you what they make when they go overhead at the height of about 1,000 yards. But anything manmade that passes overhead at the height of 8-10 miles, at this speed, could be inaudible.

Dr. Teller: You think it could be?

Comdr. Mandelkorn: I think it could be. The only .

Dr. Teller: Even if it went at the speed of 10 miles per second?

Comdr. Mandelkorn: Well,

Dr. Teller: You see, at that time, the....begins to come up.

Dr. LaPaz: You bet it does.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Dr. Bradbury:.....

Dr. Teller: You have to get a shock wave out of it. With a very small object the shock wave would be smaller than....I have not made calculations on it, but it's just common sense...

Dr. LaPaz: I would like to ask a question. Isn't it true in the case of the so-called light movement that you have very intense, luminous effects off them without noise?

(talk between Drs. Bradbury and LaPaz too fast and too jumbled to be transcribed.)

Comdr. Mandelkorn: From what Dr. Teller said apparently a solid object converging with the atmosphere horizontally at about 8 to 10 miles altitude, it's incredible that it wouldn't be accompanied by some sort of sonic phenomenon.

Dr. Teller: I would like to repeat that to try to get an estimate of the size of the object, that it would have to have in order to get sound effects, is not an easy thing, but offhand I would say - this is what I would expect - that you get a very small object, as small as an inch or smaller.

Dr. LaPaz:.....

Dr. Teller: If I remember correctly, the intensity, the amount of energy that goes into a shock wave is proportional to the square of the velocity. The velocity that you have here proportional to the square of the velocity and of course, is proportional I should think probably to the square of the linear dimensions of the object that you have. Now you have 10 miles per second... velocity of the object that you have. Now you have 10 miles per second... velocity you have 20 miles per second, so this could be, on that count, ten times fainter - the sound would be ten times fainter. On the other hand, a meteorite that you will hear, I think,..... that much across....

(too much cross talk)

Dr. Teller: That is something we could do right away. Now I do not know, tried to get from you information on brightness, but I would like to ask again some details...

Dr. LaPaz: The brightest meteorite fall in history, of which we have historical record, was the... fall in 1908, June 20....estimates the power, the light power, of that was of the order of 10^{18} - 10^{19} ergs per second. In the case of the Texas fall it was probably not 100,000th as bright.

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Dr. Teller: Now let's try to get a check of this.

(Dr. Teller then spent approximately the next twenty minutes or so figuring on the blackboard - estimating light, speed, kinetic energy, shock wave, etc.)

Dr. Teller: If I can just believe everything I have heard and put it together with what I theoretically believe in, it ought to be a material body - might be an electron phenomenon.

Dr. LaPaz: You see why I'm puzzled, Dr. Teller. Nothing like this, to my knowledge, has ever been observed in the case of meteorite drops.

Dr. Teller: If you go to a group like UCLA or some other place where they have a good sound laboratory, they ought to be able to take the absence of sound observations - that is definitely incompatible, assuming that you know that there are... and assuming that they have heard no sound from this, they ought to be able to work an upper range upon the sight of the object which has been moving, and from these figures I would be inclined to believe the object could probably not have a heat ? or something like 1 cubic centimeter. One centimeter in dimension, and that in turn would not have given the blinding effect, it it was a material object.

Dr. Bradbury: Wait a minute, I think you've left out something in light effects - you don't have to worry about kinetic energy. You can get your light from chemicals as well.

Dr. Teller: That is correct. .....

Mr. Newburger: This seems to wind up the meeting.

Dr. Bradbury: Still don't feel that the meteor stuff is out. The puzzling thing is the long horizontal path; also absence of noise is puzzling.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
17th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KIRTLAND AFB, KIRTLAND FIELD, NEW MEXICO

MEM/JE/ms

19 January 1949

File No. 24-8

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE [illegible]
[illegible]URT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
BY _____
4 DEC 1975
DATE

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (AERIAL PHENOMENA)

TO : See Distribution

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

1. The present investigation is based on the series of sightings of anomalous luminous phenomena beginning on 5 December 1948. Reports of previously sighted phenomena are included as they are developed in the course of the investigation. Established dates of sightings in the New Mexico area are 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20, and 28 December 1948, and 6 January 1949. Sound phenomena, which may or may not be related are reported on 11 December 1948, and 30 December 1948.

2. In general, the descriptions given by witnesses agree in the major features of the fireballs. A summarized description follows:

a. Location - The majority of the observations have been reported from the Las Vegas-Los Alamos area of northern New Mexico. Sightings from other points in the New Mexico area are almost invariable in that the object is seen in the direction of the Las Vegas-Los Alamos area. Ground tracks plotted from concurrent sightings fall in the immediate vicinity of Los Alamos.

Reports from Idaho, Oregon, and Arizona, concerning allied sightings, have been received but definite identity with the phenomena under investigation has not been established.

b. Color - A brilliant green, similar to a green traffic signal or a green "neon" light, is the usual color cited. Some reports indicate that the light began or ended with a red or orange flash. Other reports have given the color as red, white, blue-white, and yellowish green. The trailing lights (covered below) are said to be red.

c. Shape - With one exception, the shape is definitely round,

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not a point of light. Most descriptions say that there is a definite area to the light source. One report gives the shape as that of a diamond, and another indicates that the trailing lights are elongated.

d. Size - The size is usually given as one-fourth (¼) the diameter of the full moon, when that comparison is suggested. Frequently the size is compared to a basketball, with the trailing lights the relative size of a baseball.

e. Course - The course is usually reported as being on an east-west line. Admissible approach sectors calculated by Dr. LA PAZ indicated the probability that the objects are mostly approaching from the northern quadrant. Plotted ground tracks lie east-west, with one line of flight being east to west and the other almost directly opposite.

f. Trajectory - The trajectory of the objects is almost invariably given as almost horizontal, with occasionally a dip at the terminal end of the path. On two occasions a definite vertical change in course was indicated. In each of these cases, the trailing lights were present.

g. Speed - In most cases the observation period is approximately two seconds, with a large angular distance covered. Measurements of the ground tracks plotted from concurrent sightings give a minimum speed of three (3) miles per second and a maximum of twelve (12) miles per second. If the mean calculated speed be accepted as correct, then a velocity in the order of seven and one-half (7½) miles per second is the result. In this connection it is to be noted that the velocity required for a projectile to overcome both air resistance and the effect of the earth's gravity field is approximately seven and twenty-eight hundredths miles per second.

h. Altitude - The angular altitude varies with each observation, of course, but the altitude plotted from concurrent sightings is between six and ten miles.

i. Sound - On no occasion has any sound been directly associated with the observations of these phenomena. Unexplained sounds have, however, been reported from Los Alamos. A combined sound-light phenomenon has been reported from Oregon, but has not definitely been identified with the subject under investigation.

j. Multiple Units - On at least two occasions reports definitely show that the main luminous object was followed at a fixed distance by two trailing lights. One report shows these trailers as being the same color as the main body, and another that they were red, while the main body was green. In each of these instances a sharp course variation in the vertical plane was noted.

3. The observers upon whose reports this summary is based include

Fred

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Ltr, dtd 19 Jan 49, subj: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena), File #24-8.

Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, authority on meteorites, Special Agents of the OSI, airline pilots, military pilots, Los Alamos Security Inspectors, school teachers, truck drivers, and other assorted vocational groups. The congruency of the reports is all the more remarkable when the wide variation in background of the observers is considered.

4. The calculations as to track, height, and velocity are of necessity rough, as the observations upon which they are based were not scientifically accurate. Whenever possible, accurate transit readings have been taken from the spot where the sighting was made. These readings were based on estimated positions of the objects, however, so are not definitive. No photographs have as yet been obtained.

5. The conclusions reached from this investigation are:

a. Some nine (9) specific differences exist between these phenomena and any known meteoric data.

b. It is possible that there are manifestations of some hitherto unreported natural phenomena.

c. It is possible that they are man made.

FOR THE DISTRICT COMMANDER:

(S) MELVIN E. NEEF
MELVIN E. NEEF
Captain, USAF
Actg. Deputy District Commander

DISTRIBUTION:

Resident Agency, FBI
Fourth Army Liaison Officer
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Carl H. Goodrick
CARL H. GOODRICK
Major, C.A.C.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

/dcb
13 January 1949

452.1 AKADB

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: District Commander
Headquarters, 10th District
Office of Special Investigations (OSI)
Kelly Air Force Base
Kelly Field, Texas

The inclosed Summary of Information, subject and date as above, is forwarded for your information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Eustis L Poland
EUSTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

1 Incl
as stated

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
BY Historian 4 DEC 1975
DATE

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District #10 Office Special Investigation

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE
13 Jan 49

ING OFFICE
Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUBJECT

Unconventional Aircraft

(Control Number A-1917)

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:		OF INFORMATION:	
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	1
USUALLY RELIABLE	B	PROBABLY TRUE	2
FAIRLY RELIABLE	C	POSSIBLY TRUE	3
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE	4
UNRELIABLE	E	IMPROBABLE	5
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN	F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED	6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

(G-2 NOTE: This report is a supplement to report, this headquarters, subject as above, dated 3 January 1949.)

1. Following is a list of sightings of unidentified lights over New Mexico subsequent to 27 December 1948:

a. Los Alamos, 20 Dec 48, 2054 hours. Falling light from 45 degree angle, decreasing to 20 degree angle. Observed by four security inspectors at Los Alamos AEC project.

b. Los Alamos, 28 Dec 48, 0431 hours. Descending vertical light much slower than falling star. Disintegrated in greenish flash lighting up cloud area between observer and light. Observed by security inspector, Los Alamos AEC project.

c. Los Alamos, 30 Dec 48, 2010 and 2100 hours. High speed motor sound directly over Los Alamos and above overcast. Sound heard for seven seconds (timed) and repeated 10 minutes later. Heard again at 2100 hours for 8.2 seconds (timed). Positive determination that no vehicles on approaching highways and no planes overhead. Checked and observed by Los Alamos security inspectors.

d. Sandia Base, 6 Jan 49, 1730 hours. Brightly lighted object from southeast to northwest. Diamond shape, two feet long. Altitude 1500 to 2000 feet. Speed - faster than a jet plane. No smoke or vapor trail. No sound. Observed by Sandia Base sentry who claims experience in aircraft observation.

2. Dr. LaPAZ, Meteorologist at the University of New Mexico, personally interviewed all persons who have made observations. He has made transit sightings to determine altitudes and angles of flight. He has made a report to the O.S.I. of the U.S.A.F., closing with this remark, "I have no hesitancy in testifying that an object possessing the real path and other peculiarities observed by Messrs. WILSON, TRUETT, STRONG, and SKIPPER was not a falling meteorite."

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District #10 Office Special Investigation

DISTRIBUTION D/I; C/S; G-3; 14th AF; FBI; file; O.S.I; A.M.C.

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	DATE
5D 24-8	28 January 1949

REPORT MADE BY
JOHN E. MORRILL

REPORT MADE AT
DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio

PERIOD
27 & 28 January 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

STATUS
RUC

TITLE

MADELINE GWYNNE MERCHANT
Aerial Phenomena

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Ltr, 10th District, subj as above, dtd 21 Jan 49.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation predicated on letter from ROBERT E. NANCE, Captain, USAF, Acting District Commander, 10th District OSI, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, subject "MADELINE GWYNNE MERCHANT, Aerial Phenomena", dtd 21 January 1949. Investigation revealed AMC Technical Intelligence Division rates MERCHANT as having no basis for her theories. Identical request from 4th Army to Commanding General, Air Materiel Commant, Attn: MCIAXO-3, answered by 1st Indorsement through Headquarters, USAF, to 4th Army 27 January 1949. No 5th District file in existence. No 10th District reports received this office. Reports were forwarded direct to MCIAXO-3, Headquarters, AMC, from 10th District OSI.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF DEC 1975
BY Historian
DATE

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File	2		District #10 Office Special Investigation

APPROVED
H. B. GIBSON
Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

S-10410

AFCSI FORM 23 JULY 48 4

16—56438-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DETAILS:

1. Investigation predicated on letter from ROBERT E. NANCE, Captain, USAF, Acting District Commander, 10th District OSI, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, subject, "MADELINE GWYNNE MERCHANT, Aerial Phenomena", dated 21 January 1949, to determine if there is any factual coincidence between the reports of Mrs. MERCHANT, who is regarded as a chronic "crank" complainant, and the actual observations of aerial phenomena occurring in the vicinity of the Los Alamos Atomic Project in New Mexico.

2. Special Agent JOHN W. FARRELL assisted in this investigation.

AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE

3. A search of the files of this office revealed no prior information had been received from any source on MADELINE GWYNNE MERCHANT.

4. 1st Lt. H. W. SMITH, MCIAXO-3, Project Officer, "PROJECT SIGN", Air Materiel Command, Dayton, Ohio, was interviewed in this office on 27 January 1949. SMITH also made available correspondence from 10th District OSI, Headquarters OSI, and Technical Intelligence Division of the Air Materiel Command. According to a directive from Headquarters USAF, MCIAXO-3, the symbol for the "PROJECT SIGN" Office at Air Materiel Command, is authorized direct communication with any federal investigative agency for information concerning aerial phenomena. SMITH stated that MERCHANT's theories and observations have been analyzed by the Technical Intelligence Division and found to be lacking in sound scientific judgement. He stated that no factual coincidence of sightings and MERCHANT's reports were noted. SMITH stated that the Fourth Army had written a letter similar to the letter referenced on page one (1) of this report and had answered by 1st Indorsement through Headquarters USAF, to the Fourth Army (Incl #1). SMITH made available a letter from Headquarters OSI, stating that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was not investigating MERCHANT because of her unreliability and apparent weak mental condition (Incl #2).

Inclosures

FOR HQ OSI, DO #10, & DO #5 (File):

1. 1st Ind, fr MCIAXO-3, Hq AMC, to Fourth Army through Hq USAF, dtd 27 Jan 49

2. Letter, Hq OSI, dtd 18 Jan 49, Subj "Mrs. MADELINE GWYNNE MERCHANT", file 24-185.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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S-10412

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

Ltr. fr Hqs Fourth Army, 18 Jan 49, to CG AMC, "Unconventional Aircraft"

1st Ind MCIAXS/HWS/imm

Hq AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio 1 Feb 1949

TO: Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, Washington 25, D.C.
ATTN: AFOIN

1. It is requested that the following information be forwarded to Headquarters, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in reply to the basic communication.

2. Since 13 December 1948, the Office of Special Investigations has been conducting a continuous investigation of the unidentified lights observed for the most part in central New Mexico, beginning about 12 December 1948. In their investigation, the OSI has received the voluntary assistance and advice of Dr Lincoln La Paz, Director, Institute of Meteoritics, University of New Mexico. Frequent reports by OSI are being made to this Headquarters. To date, no plausible explanation for the presence of these lights has been developed.

3. Technical personnel of this Command have studied Mrs Madeline G. Merchant's letters and have found her theories to be disconnected and not logically developed.

4. This Command requested that Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate Mrs. Merchant in an effort to determine her character, motives and reliability. The files of the FBI indicate that on 14 October 1947. Mr P. M. Juvenal, Security Officer, Tinker Field, Oklahoma City, had advised the local FBI office that in his opinion, Mrs. Merchant was probably a psychopathic case. Mr. Sydney Newberger, Chief of Security and Intelligence for the Atomic Energy Commission at Los Alamos, New Mexico, advised the FBI that Mrs Merchant is known to the officials of the Atomic Energy Commission at Los Alamos, who consider her to be unreliable and probably not well balanced mentally. In view of this, the FBI did not believe further investigation was warranted.

5. In the course of their investigation of the unidentified lights, the Headquarters, 10th OSI District coordinated with the G-2 Section, Headquarters, Fourth Army. Files of the latter organization indicate that Mrs Merchant associates with known Communists and is considered to be dangerous.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

H. M. McCOY
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Department

C O P Y

S-8145-4

Encl #1

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

24-185 18 January 1949

SUBJECT; Mrs. Madeline Gwynne Merchant

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

Attention: MCIAXO-3

1. Reference is made to your correspondence of 9 November 1948 and 2 December 1948, addressed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, requesting an investigation of Mrs. Gwynne Merchant relative her reports on flying objects. The Liaison Division of Headquarters, FBI has forwarded your correspondence to this office for transmittal to Headquarters, AMC.

2. The files of the FBI indicate that on 14 October 1947, Mr. P. M. Juvenal, Security Officer, Tinker Field, Oklahoma City, had advised the local FBI Office that in his opinion Mrs. Merchant was probably a psychopathic case. Mr. Sydney Newburger, Chief of Security and Intelligence for the Atomic Energy Commission at Los Alamos, has advised the FBI that Mrs. Merchant is known to the officials of AEC at Los Alamos, who consider her unreliable and probably not well balanced. On 22 October 1947, Mrs. Merchant appeared at the Oklahoma City office of the FBI to report information concerning "flying discs." It was noticeable at the time that she was suffering from dropsy.

3. In view of the unreliability, and apparent mental condition of Mrs. Merchant, the FBI does not believe further investigation is warranted, and has accordingly discontinued the investigation. In the event Headquarters, AMC has information to indicate that Mrs. Merchant possesses classified material on the matters reported by her, then the FBI should be informed through this office, for expediency, setting forth in detail the classification and nature of the material she possesses. Upon the receipt of such information, the FBI will immediately resume the investigation on Mrs. Merchant.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

2 Incls.
1. Ltr fr AMC, 2 Dec 48 to FBI w/4 Incls.
2. Ltr fr AMC, 9 Nov 48 to FBI w/Incl.

DONALD B. WHITE
Major, USAF
Asst. Executive, Special Investigations
The Inspector General, USAF

COPY

S-5469

Incl #9

SECRET

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

FILE

[redacted]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-9

DATE 5 January 1949

REPORT MADE BY James J. Teachnor

REPORT MADE AT Hq 10th OSI Dist., Kelly AFB, Kelly Field, Tex

PERIOD 30 December 48, 3 January 49

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #17

STATUS R U C

TITLE

UNKNOWN
(Aerial Phenomena)

CHARACTER

Special Inquiry

REFERENCE

Case Report 24-8DO #17

SYNOPSIS

Major Roger M. Carter, AO 40767, and Captain A. Goade, AO 55483 stated that: On 5 December 1948, flying at 10,000 feet on a heading of 245° magnetic, 25 miles North East of Albuquerque, New Mexico, observed an intense green light at approximately 106° 27' West, 35° 04' North, length of observation two seconds. Weather at time was clear and cold with no moon. Description of light varies with individual observer.

Madeline G. Merchant, undeveloped lead for DO #17 issubject on G-2 Section, Hq 4th Army. File reflects that Merchant associates with known Communists and is considered dangerous.

Headquarters 4th Army is in receipt of letter from Director of Intelligence, Headquarters General Staff, Washington advising them to expect reports of such incidents as above during this period of the year. All such reports to be forwarded to AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Biggs Air Force Base has not conducted any maneuvers with flares.

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975

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APPROVED

ROBERT E. NANCE
Captain, USAF
Acting DISTRICT COMMANDER

24-9-5
10th OSI Dist
SRCH
CLSS
NDX
FILE

AFCSI FORM 4
23 JULY 1948

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

DETAILS:

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

1. This is a joint investigation of Special Agents Hiram W. Johnson, Reuben Strickland and the writer.

2. M/S R. G. Walton, AF 6299736, Randolph Air Force Base, interviewed 4 January 49 stated that he did not see a flare or light on the night of 5 December 1948.

3. Major Roger M. Carter, AO-40767, A-3, Air Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base, interviewed 3 January 49 by Special Agents Hiram W. Johnson, Reuben Strickland and the writer stated in substance: That on 5 December 1948, at approximately 2200 hours, C.S.T., while flying a C-47 aircraft at 10,000 feet on a magnetic heading of 247° indicating 158 M.P.H., about twenty-five miles North East of Albuquerque he observed an intense green light. This light was approximately 500 feet above the plane and some two to five miles to the right. It appeared to be slightly eastof Sandia Peak, 35° 64' North, 106° 27' West. Carter stated that he was looking at the peak mentioned when he first noticed the light. The impression gained was that of an ultra violet light being turned on. The light seemed to grow in intensity and then die out. The color was more green than blue. Estimated length of observation was from one to two seconds. No movement pertaining to the light was noted. The weather at the time was described as being a clear, cold and dark night.

Carter further stated that he was listening to the radio beam at the time and did not notice any radio interference.

4. Captain A. Goade, AO 55483, A-3, Flying Division, Air Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base was interviewed by Special Agents Hiram W. Johnson, Reuben Strickland and the writer on 30 December 48. Goade stated in substance that at approximately 2135 hours on December 5, 1948 while flying a heading of 230° magnetic, 15 miles North East of Albuquerque, he observed an intense green light estimated at 1½ to 2 miles off the right wing of the airplane. The estimated location of the light would be 35° 09' North, 106° 27 West.

At the time of the observation Goade was flying co-pilot, in the right seat of a C-47 aircraft, altitude 10°, 500 feet. The light appeared to be 500 to a 1000 feet higher than the aircraft. Visibility was estimated at 30 to 40 miles, no overcast, no moon. Speed of the aircraft was 155-160 indicated.

Goade stated that the length of the observation was from 5-15 seconds and he gained the impression of a round green light, accompanied by sparks and a fading tail. The object seemed to describe a parabolic curve in relation to the earth.

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Captain Goade is a veteran of combat flying in the ETO and when pressed for a comparison of the intensity of the light described it as being more intense than the flare normally used in night photography or bombing. Goade stated that he had never seen anything similar to the phenomena noted and could offer no comparison.

5. On 3 January 1949 the files of the G-2 Section, Fourth Army, were checked. It was revealed that Madeline G. Merchant is the subject of an extensive file. The essence of the file is that Merchant has been active over a period of two years compiling facts on all reported aerial phenomena and writing letters to various Army area commanders regarding same. Further Merchant is known to correspond with Communist Front organizations and is considered dangerous.

6. Captain James C. Biddle, Executive Officer, Fourth Army CIC Detachment, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, interviewed 3 January 1949 stated in substance that the Fourth Army is in receipt of a letter from the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters General Staff, Washington, D.C., advising them to expect reports of aerial phenomena during this period of the year and to report same to AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

AT EL PASO, ,TEXAS

7. On 30 December 1948 it was ascertained that Biggs Air Force Base did not conduct any maneuvers involving flares.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-8

DATE 13 Dec 48

REPORT MADE BY
CHARLES KAFFZIGER, JR

REPORT MADE AT
DO #17, KIRTLAND AFB

PERIOD
6 - 9 December 1948

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS
PENDING

TITLE
UNKNOWN

(Aerial Phenomena)

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE
None, this is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by District Commander, 17th District OSI.

Telephonic report received from Security Officer at Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico, on 6 December 1948, advised that an Air Force Pilot had observed an unidentified object similar to a green flare on 5 December 1948, at 2105 hours, west of Las Vegas, New Mexico, and again at 2127 hours on the east slope of the Sandia Mountains near Albuquerque, New Mexico. A commercial pilot reported a similar incident at 2135 hours west of Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Pilot of C-47, AF-9921, is identified as Captain A. GOADE, AO-55483, Captain Pilot of Pioneer Flight No. 63 is identified as Mr. ERNEST VAN LLOYD.

New Mexico State Police, Santa Fe, New Mexico, were contacted and had no information to offer reference unusual aerial phenomena.

Mr. K. D. FLOCK, Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest, Santa Fe, New Mexico, stated he has received no reports of incidents of this type during the current year. However, in the summer of 1947 a Mrs. MADELINE G. MERCHANT had made numerous reports to him concerning unusual aerial manifestations in the area from Tierra Amarilla to Los Alamos, New Mexico.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE
FILE STAMP
4 DEC 1975

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Doyle Rees
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DISTRICT COMMANDER

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SYNOPSIS (Continued)

Chief MATT O'BRIEN, Chief of Police, Las Vegas, New Mexico, stated he had received no prior reports of unusual occurrences of this type.

Patrolman NOLAND UTZ, New Mexico State Police, Las Vegas, New Mexico, stated he had heard a rumor concerning aerial flares in the neighborhood of Las Vegas.

Mrs. JOSEPH MARSHALL, Office Manager, Las Vegas Flying Service, Las Vegas, New Mexico, stated no night flying conducted from Watson Airport, Las Vegas, and she had heard no rumors concerning aerial flares.

Mr. J. D. MILLER, Chief Aircraft Communicator, CAA Municipal Airport, Las Vegas, New Mexico, stated he had heard of no incident of this nature and, in particular, had received no information from any aircraft on 5 December 1948.

Mr. JOHN J. [redacted], Mr. K. C. FRANCIS, Mr. C. T. RICH, and Mr. ROY W. TOLLIVER, Aircraft Communicators, CAA, Las Vegas, New Mexico, all stated no previous reports or knowledge of unusual aerial phenomena. These individuals were alerted to report future incidents to the proper investigative agency.

Mr. BILLIE R. WATSON, Manager Pioneer Air Lines, Las Vegas, New Mexico, stated he had heard only a rumor from one of his pilots and knew of no unusual incidents regarding flares or lights in the Las Vegas area. Mr. WATSON stated he would report future incidents to Mr. MILLER Of CAA.

Mr. WILLIAM BRAINARD, Ranger, Las Vegas, New Mexico, stated he had no knowledge of any incidents of this type and will submit any future reports to Mr. FLOCK of Santa Fe.

Special Agents STAHL and NEEF observed an intense green light in the sky at approximately 12,500 feet altitude near Las Vegas, New Mexico, on 8 December 1948. Agents were unable to identify this object and could not estimate distance or size, since no other object was visible on which to base the comparison.

Col. WILLIAM P. HAYES, stated he has observed an unusual phenomena, bright, white in color, similar to a miniature sun somewhat larger, larger than a basketball, on three (3) different occasions in the vicinity of Vaughn, New Mexico. First observation was made late in 1947; second observation on 3 or 4 November 1948; third observation on 25 November 1948.

Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, Director, Institute of Meteoritics, University of New Mexico, stated that phenomena being investigated could not be explained by him, nor could they be considered as meteors. Dr. LA PAZ

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SYNOPSIS (Continued)

mentioned three (3) previous anomalus incidents, the Memphis, Tennessee incident of 7 May 1948; the Texas Observers' incident of 1948, 7 January, and the very remarkable "fireball" fall of 1948, 31 May, 3:42 a.m., MST, across the Los Alamos reservation which was probably meteoritic, but from which no meteorites have been secured in spite of careful search. Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ personally witnessed the occurrence of a similar incident on 12 December 1948, at Las Vegas, N. M.. A statement by Dr. LA PAZ is inclosed.

Col. HAROLD A. GUNN, Base Commanding Officer, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico, advised that he knew of no maneuvers being conducted within this area.

Major WILLIAM P. GODSOE, 4th Army Intelligence Liaison, Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, advised that he knew of no maneuvers being conducted within this area.

Mr. JOSEPH H. TOULOUSE, MEC Security, Sandia Base, observed a green flare directly over Sandia Base at 2255 hours, 6 December 1948.

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DETAILS:

AT ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

1. This investigation predicated upon verbal request District Commander, 17th District Office of Special Investigations (IG) USAF, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico.

2. This is a joint investigation of Special Agents JOHN J. STAHL, Jr, HERMAN E. MUNROE, MELVIN E. NEEF, and the writer.

3. On 6 December 1948, Captain JOSEPH HANLEN, Security Officer, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico, reported the following incidents:

> At 2130 hours, 5 December 1948, a C-47, Number AF-9921, enroute from Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado, to Williams Air Force Base, Chandler, Arizona, reported his position to the Control Tower, Kirtland Air Force Base, as being approximately ten (10) miles east of Albuquerque. Pilot stated that he had seen a green flare arise from the ground to an altitude of approximately five hundred (500) feet on the east slope of the Sandia Mountains. This incident occurred at about 2127 hours. Pilot stated that he had seen the same type of flare at approximately 2105 hours just west of Las Vegas, New Mexico. No other information was offered by this pilot.
>
> At 2300 hours, 5 December 1948, the Control Tower, Kirtland Air Force Base, contacted Pioneer Air Flight #63, which had just completed a flight from Tucumcari, New Mexico, to Las Vegas, to Santa Fe, to Albuquerque, New Mexico. Captain of this flight stated he had seen a green light just west of Las Vegas at approximately 2135 hours. Pilot stated he had believed the light to be a shooting star at first, but, upon questioning, stated the opinion that the light was too near the ground to have been a shooting star. Pilot suggested that the light could have been a Very Pistol flare.
>
> At 2320 hours, 5 December 1948, Captain VAN LLOYD, pilot of Pioneer Flight #63, reported by telephone to Kirtland Air Force Base Control Tower, stating that when he first saw the light it appeared to be coming straight toward his airplane and added that he had attempted to jerk the airplane from its course to avoid the light. VAN LLOYD said that the light appeared to be coming straight to the ship, then trailed off to the ground. The light was pale green and had a pale green trail. Captain VAN LLOYD said he was hesitant about reporting such incidents since they are generally not accepted.

4. On 6 December 1948, ERNEST VAN LLOYD, Captain and Pilot, JAMES L. SMITH, Co-Pilot, and ELIZABETH CONNER, Flight Hostess, all

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civilians, Pioneer Flight #63, were interviewed by S/A MELVIN E. NEEF. This interview was conducted at Pioneer Airline Operations, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico. VAN LLOYD and SMITH advised that at 2135 hours, 5 December 1948, they were approaching Las Vegas, New Mexico, in a C-47 type airplane at an altitude of 9,000 feet, with a compass heading of 272 degrees. They observed directly ahead and slightly above their altitude, in the vicinity of the Montezuma Mission, a phenomena which first appeared as a bright white flash, then an object came into view which was described as being a whitish, orange color. This object at first appeared to be coming directly toward their airplane, then arched downward and disappeared from sight. This object was in view for only a few seconds and no estimate could be made of the size or distance of the object. Both VAN LLOYD and SMITH were of the opinion that it would have been impossible for anyone in the passenger compartment to have observed this phenomena. Miss CONNER stated that she did not observe this object and added that to the best of her knowledge all of the passengers were asleep.

NOTE: It is to be noted that there is a discrepancy in the color of Capt. VAN LLOYD's initial report and that obtained by interview.

5. On 9 December 1948, Colonel WILLIAM P. HAYES, Infantry, Civilian Component Affairs Officer, New Mexico Military District, was interviewed in his office, Building T-25, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico. This interview was conducted by S/A JOHN J. STAHL, JR., S/A MELVIN E. NEEF, and the writer. Colonel HAYES advised that he had first observed an unusual aerial phenomena during the latter part of 1947. This occurred in the vicinity of Vaughn, New Mexico. The phenomena appeared to be approximately four or five hundred feet above the ground when first observed and descending slowly and steadily in a vertical manner toward the earth. The object appeared to be slightly larger than a basketball, bright white in color, like a miniature sun. Upon reaching a point approximately two hundred feet above the surface of the earth, the object appeared to explode although no noise was apparent. Colonel HAYES stopped his automobile and got out to watch the object. At this time the explosion, or disintegration , appeared to be taking place some forty to sixty yards distant, and still no noise was noticed. At this time the fragments assumed a fiery red color and descended toward earth like numerous sparks, being extinguished before touching the ground. Colonel HAYES stated that he was on Highway #60 at this time, near a railroad and separated from the vicinity where the fragments were landing by a fence. Colonel HAYES did not cross the fence or investigate further.

6. Colonel HAYES advised that on either 3 or 4 November 1948, and again on 23 November 1948, he observed two similar phenomena as described previously. These observations were in the same vicinity of the original phenomena on Highway #60, near Vaughn, New Mexico. All three of these incidents occurred at approximately 2200 hours. Col. HAYES

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also advised that as far as he knew no maneuvers were being held by the National Guard or the Reserve Units in New Mexico.

NOTE: Colonel HAYES did not report any of these incidents, but upon receiving information of similar occurrences having been observed, did volunteer the information contained in this report.

7. On 9 December 1948, Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, Director, Institute of Meteorities, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, was interviewed in his office by Special Agent MELVIN E. NEEF. Dr. LA PAZ produced his credentials which indicated that during the 2nd World War he was Technical Director, Operations Analysis Section, Hq., 2nd Air Force, and is closely associated in an official capacity with Dr. H. E. LANDSBERG, Executive Director, Committee on Geophysics and Geography, Research and Development Board, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. In connection with this capacity he has a secret and a top secret clearance by the Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

8. Dr. LA PAZ explained the behavior of meteors and stated that these phenomena being investigated could not be explained or be considered as meteors. He advised, in view of the unexplained Memphis, Tennessee, incident, the occurrence at Los Alamos, New Mexico, and the proclaimed meteorites fall in Russia, that has not been explained, that the present phenomena should be investigated and an attempt be made to identify them.

9. On 13 December 1948, Dr. LA PAZ gave a statement concerning an incident, which he witnessed at 9:03 p.m., on 12 December 1948. Dr. LA PAZ's statement is inclosed as Incl. No. 1.

10. On 11 December 1948, Major WILLIAM P. GODSOE, 4th Army Liaison Intelligence Officer, Sandia Base, New Mexico, advised S/A M. C. NEEF, that there were no maneuvers in this area, and no experiments involving the use of rockets or flares.

11. On 12 December 1948, Col. HAROLD A. GUNN, Base Commander, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico, was interviewed by S/A MELVIN E. NEEF. Col. GUNN advised that he knows of no aerial maneuvers, and feels that in the event that there were, he would be so advised.

AT CHANDLER, ARIZONA

12. On 7 December 1948, S/A HERMAN E. MUNROE, reported from Williams Air Force Base, Chandler, Arizona, that Air Force C-47, Number AF-0921, was piloted by Captain A. GOADE, AO-55483. The co-pilot was determined to be Major R. M. CARTER, AO-40767, and the Flight Engineer was M/Sgt R. G. WALTON, AF-299736 - (unknown in its entirety). All of the above personnel were reported to be permanently stationed at Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, and were enroute from San Antonio,

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Texas, to Williams Air Force Base, Arizona. Aircraft and crew departed for Mather Air Force Base, California, before an interview could be conducted.

AT SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

13. On 8 December 1948, Captain K. K. MILLER, New Mexico State Police State Police Headquarters, Highway 85, Santa Fe, New Mexico, was interviewed reference possible previous reports concerning unusual aerial phenomena, flares, lights in the sky, etc.. Captain MILLER stated no reports had been received by this office from any of the State Police stationed throughout the state of New Mexico.

NOTE: Captain MILLER stated that he would report any incidents of this type to the State Police Office in Albuquerque and request that they contact the Office of Special Investigations, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico.

14. On 8 December 1948, Mr. K. D. FLOCK, Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest, Federal Court House Building, Santa Fe, New Mexico, was interviewed reference possible previous reports concerning unusual aerial phenomena, flares, lights in the sky, etc. Mr. FLOCK stated that he had received no reports of incidents of these types during the current year; however, in the summer of 1947, a woman named MADELINE G. MERCHANT (LEAD) P.O. Box 263, Santa Fe, New Mexico, had reported unusual aerial manifestations to him on numerous occasions. Mrs. MERCHANT, a writer, and her husband were prospecting throughout the State of New Mexico, and on at least five different occasions, during a period of five to six weeks, Mrs. MERCHANT had visited Mr. FLOCK and reported having observed objects which she described as being "cigar-shaped with a glowing tip" in the sky. No information was available as to the altitude, size, speed, or frequency of these objects. Mrs. MERCHANT stated that she had personally observed these objects from Tierra Amarilla, New Mexico, to Los Alamos, New Mexico. Mrs. MERCHANT is believed to have contacted the military security personnel at Los Alamos Atomic Energy Commission (LEAD) installation, and also to have contacted the Governor of New Mexico reference her observations. It is not believed that Mrs. MERCHANT is now residing at Santa Fe.

15. Mr. FLOCK stated that he had alerted his Forest Rangers to watch for unusual lights or objects in the sky, but to date had received no reports from them. Mr. FLOCK recommended that WILLIAM BRAINARD, Forest Ranger, Las Vegas, be contacted for a report of possible activities of this nature in the Las Vegas area.

NOTE: Mr. FLOCK was unusually cooperative and security-conscious. Mr. FLOCK stated that he would discreetly alert his Rangers again and have them report to him all incidents of this nature immediately. These reports will be transmitted in turn to the Office of Special Investigations, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico. Mr. FLOCK stated also that he would be glad to cooperate by permitting members of the Office of Special Investigations to make use of temporarily inactive fire towers, or ranger stations, upon request.

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AT LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO

1. On 8 December 1948, Mr. MATT O'BRIEN, Chief of Police, Sixth and University, Las Vegas, New Mexico, was interviewed reference reports of unusual aerial phenomenon. Chief O'BRIEN stated that he had received no reports of this nature and added that this was the first he had heard of possible occurrences in the vicinity of Las Vegas. Chief O'BRIEN recommended that HOLAND UTZ, State Police, on duty in Las Vegas, be contacted.

2. On 8 December 1948, Patrolman HOLAND UTZ, New Mexico State Police, San Miguel County Court House (Old Town), Las Vegas, New Mexico, was interviewed reference reports on unusual aerial phenomenon. Mr. UTZ stated he had received no reports of this nature and added that only on one occasion had he overheard a conversation about aerial flares in the neighborhood of Las Vegas. This conversation occurred during a meeting of several enforcement agents and Mr. UTZ stated he had no idea who had mentioned the subject. Mr. UTZ stated if he received reports of this type he would report same to the proper Federal agency. Mr. UTZ said that possibly a man named "HOUSE" who was flying a plane locally and doing advertising with a loud speaker attached to the plane could throw some light on the flares claimed to have been seen in the vicinity of Las Vegas.

3. On 8 December 1948, Mrs. JOSEPH MARSHALL, Office Manager, Las Vegas Flying Service, Watson Airport, East County Road, Las Vegas, New Mexico, was interviewed reference reports of flares observed at night in the vicinity of Las Vegas. Mrs. MARSHALL stated that she was the wife of JOSEPH MARSHALL, Owner of Las Vegas Flying Service. Mrs. MARSHALL stated that business was unusually slow at the Watson Airport, due to the near-abolishment of training of student pilots under the G.I. Bill. No flying is conducted at night from this air field. Mrs. MARSHALL added that possibly information could be obtained from the local newspaper office and added that she had heard no reports on flares in the Las Vegas area.

NOTE: Contact was not made with the local newspaper due to the desire of keeping publicity about this investigation to a minimum.

4. On 8 December 1948, Mr. J. D. MILLER, Chief Aircraft Communicator, Department of Commerce, Civil Aeronautics Administration (hereinafter referred to as C.A.A.), Box 1029, Municipal Airport, Las Vegas, New Mexico, was interviewed reference possible previous reports of unusual aerial phenomenon. Mr. MILLER stated he had heard of no incident prior to this interview and added that he was very much interested in events of this nature. Mr. MILLER stated he had received no information from any aircraft on 5 December 1948. A check of the C.A.A. records for this date verified this statement. Mr. MILLER stated that beginning immediately he would alert his Aircraft Communicators to report promptly incidents of this nature to him. These reports would in turn be reported to the Office of Special Investigations, Kirtland AFB, Kirtland Field, New Mexico. If the reports appear to necessitate immediate investigative action, a report will be made to a Federal agent residing in Las Vegas. Mr. MILLER requested that four of

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his six Aircraft Communicators, on duty at time of interview, be interviewed collectively and informed briefly of the type of reports desired and the necessity for reporting such incidents immediately to Mr. MILLER.

5. On 8 December 1948, Mr. JOHN J. NEWMAN, Mr. K. C. FRANCIS, Mr. C. T. RICH, and Mr. ROY W. TOLLIVER, Aircraft Communicators, C.A.A. Municipal Airport, Las Vegas, New Mexico, were interviewed collectively and informed of the investigation being conducted relative to unusual aerial phenomena. None of these men had received previous reports of this nature. All of these men agreed to maintain this information on a discreet basis and to handle the information as being highly classified. Permission was granted to these four communicators to brief the two communicators absent at this time reference the information desired. The two men absent were listed as Mr. IRWIN L. MERICLE and Mr. ROBERT L. BISH. The four communicators interviewed stated that the only night flying at Municiapl Airport, Las Vegas, was by the two commercial airlines located there: Pioneer Airlines and Continental Airlines. It was pointed out that a Mr. LLOYD BIBLE, Owner-Manager of a flying school located on Municipal Airport was not licensed to make night flights and was not authorized to permit his students to fly at night. It was further noted that Mr. WOODROW HOUSE, owner of a Piper Super Cruiser used for advertising purposes in the vicinity of Las Vegas, was not licensed to fly at night.

6. On 8 December 1948, Mr BILLY R. WATSON, Manager, Pioneer Airlines, Municipal Airport, Las Vegas, New Mexico, was interviewed reference reports on unusual aerial phenomenon. Mr. WATSON was interviewed in his home, 816 Fourth Street, Las Vegas, New Mexico, and stated that with the exception of a rumor from one of his Pioneer pilots (Mr. VAN LLOYD) he had heard of no unusual incidents regarding flares or lights in the sky in and around the Las Vegas area. Mr. WATSON stated that he would stay on the alert in an attempt to gather any future information from pilots or crew members of Pioneer Airlines, but added that he did not feel like confiding in his two assistants, since they were very youthful and would undoubtedly disclose information, regarding this investigation. Mr. WATSON stated that a Mr. W. R. McGOVERN, home address, 1001 Sixth Street, Las Vegas, Manager of Continental Airlines was presently out of town but was due to return on Friday, 10 December 1948. Mr WATSON, upon being requested to do so, stated he would discreetly brief Mr. McGOVERN as to the nature of reports desired, and would impress Mr. McGOVERN as to the confidential classification of this investigation. Mr. WATSON concluded by stating that any information he obtained, and information obtained by Mr. McGOVERN, would be reported to Mr. MILLER of C.A.A. for subsequent transmittal to the proper investigative agency.

7. On 8 December 1948, Mr. WILLIAM BRAINARD, Ranger, Santa Fe National Forest Service, Federal Post Office Building, Las Vegas, New Mexico, was interviewed reference possible previous reports of unusual aerial phenomenon. Mr. BRAINARD stated that at no time in the past since his assignment to Las Vegas in February 1948 had he received any report or observed any incident regarding occurrences of this nature. Mr. BRAINARD said he would report any future incidents of this type to Mr. FLOCK in Santa Fe, for subsequent transmittal to the investigative agency concerned.

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AT LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO

This is a joint investigation conducted by Special Agents JOHN J. STAHL, Jr. and MELVIN E. NEEF.

At 1745 on 8 December 1948, Special Agents STAHL AND NEEF, both rated pilots, took off from Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, in a T-7 type aircraft. At 1833 while flying at an indicated altitude of 11,500 feet, mean sea level, approximately 5,000 feet above terrain, a strange phenomenon was observed. The exact position of the aircraft at the time of the observation was 35° 31' North - 104° 51' West, approximately twenty (20) miles east of the Las Vegas, New Mexico, radio range station. At the time of the observation the aircraft was flying on a compass course of 90°, the indicated air-speed was one hundred sixty (160) miles per hour and the gound speed was approximately one hundred ninety miles per hour. Special Agent STAHL was flying as pilot and seated on the left side of the cockpit. Special Agent NEEF was flying as co-pilot and was seated on the right side of the cockpit. Special Agent NEEF first observed the phenomenon and a split second later Special Agent STAHL saw it. At an estimated altitude of 2,000 feet higher than the airplane or 13,500 feet above mean sealevel a brilliant green light was observed coming toward the airplane at a rapid rate of speed from approximately 30° to the left of course, from 60° ENE, to 240° WSW. The object was similar in appearance to a burning green flare of common use in the Air Forces. However, the light was much more intense and the object appeared to be considerably larger than a normal flare. No estimate can be made of the distance or the size of the object since no other object was visible upon which to base a comparison. The object was definitely larger and more brilliant than a shooting star, meteror flare. The trajectory of the object when first sighted was almost flat and parallel to the earth. The phenomenon lastedapproximately two (2) seconds at the end of which the object seemed to burn out. The trajectory then dropped off rapidly and a trail of glowing fragments reddish orange in color was observed falling toward the ground. The fragments were visible for less than a second before disappearing. The phenomenon was of such intensity as to be visible from the very moment it ignited and was observed a split second later. It was not possible for the phenomenon to have been visible for longer than a split second before observation.

Weather at flight altitude was as follows: Ceiling unlimited, visibility, a minimum of seventy-five (75) miles, the wind, 30 miles per hour from 310°. The moon, in the first half, was approximately half way to its zenith and south, or to the right of course. The 1815 weather observation at Las Vegas, New Mexico, was clear, 30 miles visibility, temperature 30°, due point 17°, the wind from the NE at 6 Miles per hour, the altimeter setting 30.06 inches of mercury. After the occurrence the aircraft remained in the same vicinity for approximately one and one-half hours but no further phenomena were observed.

On 9 December 1948, Special Agent STAHL accompanied by a crew chief took off from Kirtland Air Force Base at 1635 and flew to the area where the phenomenon had been observed the previous evening. A careful search of the termin, both where the phenomenon was observed and in the direction from

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which it had appeared, was made. The terrain is barren and rough, and scarred by numerous dry washes and shallow canyons. Two or three widely separated buildings, apparently small ranch houses were noticed in the area. It appears that the land may be used for limited cattle raising. There are no indications of cultivation. The aircraft remained in the vicinity for several hours after sunset but no further phenomenon was observed. The weather conditions at flight altitude were high scattered cirrus clouds above 25,000 feet and visibility in excess of 40 miles.

On 11 December 1948, Mr. JOSEPH H. TOULOUSE, A.E.C. Security Representative, Sandia Base, gave Special Agent MEEF the following statement:

Statement

At approximately 2255 the evening of 6 December 1948, I observed a definity greenish flare in the sky almost directly overhead at Sandia Base. At the time of the flare I was driving west on D Street and had made the Stop sign at the Main Street. The flare appeared in the upper right hand corner of the windshield of the car slightly to the northwest.

The flare was approximately one-third the diameter of the moon and a slight arch ensued falling from east to west. The flaming tail appeared during this arch. The entire phenomenon lasted possibly two to three seconds after which it vanished.

Joseph H. Toulouse
A.E.C. Security
Sandia Base

INCLOSURES

FOR CO, KIRTLAND AFB:
Signed Statemtnt of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ dated at Albuquerque, New Mexico, 13 December 1948.

FOR OSI, HQ, WASHINGTON, D. C.:
Signed Statement of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, dated at Albuquerque, New Mexico, 13 December 1948.

FOR DO #10, KELLY AFB:
Signed statement of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, dated at Albuquerque, New Mexico, 13 December 1948.

FOR HOLLOMAN AFB DET:
Signed Statement of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, dated at Albuquerque, New Mexico, 13 December 1948.

FOR WALKER AFB DET:
Signed statement of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, dated at Albuquerque, New Mexico, 13 December 1948.

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CONFIDENTIAL

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE #17, KIRTLAND AFB

AT SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Will interview Mrs. MADELINE G. MERCHANT, Box 263, reference reports made by her to Mr. FLOCK, Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest, during the summer of 1947. Any recent activities concerning aerial phenomenon observed by Mrs. MERCHANT will be obtained.

AT LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

Will interview the Chief of the Security Section, Los Alamos Atomic Energy Commission installation reference reports made to that organization by Mrs. MADELINE MERCHANT in 1947 and possibly in 1948. Will further ascertain from the Chief of Security if any other reports of unusual aerial phenomenon have been reported to the Los Alamos Atomic Energy Commission installation.

AT WALKER AIR FORCE BASE

Will determine if that base has been engaged in any maneuvers involving the use of any aerial flares or similar devices.

AT HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE

Will determine if that base has been engaged in any maneuvers involving the use of any aerial flares or similar devices.

DISTRICT OFFICE #10, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Will interview Captain Coade, Major Carter and M/Sgt Walton concerning the flares, meteors or phenomenon observed by them at Las Vegas and on the eastern slope of the Sandia Mountains, New Mexico, on 5 December 1948, while enroute from Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado, to Williams AFB, Chandler, Arizona.

AT EL PASO, TEXAS

Will determine whether or not Biggs AFB has been engaged in aerial maneuvers involving the use of aerial flares or similar devices.

- PENDING -

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INCLOSURE NO. 1 TO INVESTIGATIVE REPORT #24-8, 17th DISTRICT OSI.

Report on incident of 1948, December 12, 9h. 2m. ± 30s., seen from Starvation Peak (Bernal), New Mexico. (Approximately 15 miles south and 4 miles west of Las Vegas, New Mexico.

The report of this incident should be prefaced with a statement of the fact that beginning on evening of December 9th, and as a direct result of the conference held on afternoon of December 9th with S/A Melvin M. Neef, the writer began systematic observations of the Geminid meteor shower, the only one of the recognized annual meteor showers active at this time. In spite of the quite unusual nature of the observation reported to me by S/A Neef (and of similar observations made known to me at the conference called by Col. Doyle Rees on December 11th), I felt certain that the observed phenomena somehow must be connected with the Geminid meteors which reach their maximum activity between December 10th and 12th, but are frequently seen in considerable numbers as early as December 3 - 4. However, visual observations made between the evening of December 9th and the morning of December 12th only served to confirm a statement made on December 9th to S/A Neef, viz., that the Geminids are not one of the showers producing numbers of extremely bright fireballs (cf also Fletcher Watson, Between the Planets, Harvard Books on Action Series, p. 136 (1941)), and that I did not recall ever having seen a green Geminid fireball although bluish and bluish white Geminid had occasionally been noted. This latter impression was checked after my observations of December 9 - 12 were completed by an analysis of the colors assigned to all meteors both Geminid and non-Geminid that I have observed during periods of Geminid activity since December 1, 1945. A total of 414 such meteors had color reported and none of these were tabulated as either green or greenish.

With the above preface, I proceed to an account of the incident of December 12. Shortly before 9 on the evening of this date a staff car driven by Lt. Allan Clark of Sandia Base left Las Vegas headed for Santa Fe. Clark had as passengers Major C. L. Phillips and the undersigned. Phillips was in the back seat and I was in the right front seat. Just before reaching Bernal, New Mexico, the car passed through a cut and came out on a down slope facing approximately westward. On emerging from this cut a clear view to the right toward the north and northwest was afforded. I was watching the sky as I had been since darkness fell and my attention was directed to an area about 15° west of γ-Cygni when, by indirect vision I became aware of a very bright green ball (apparent angular diameter 5') to the right of the area in the center of my field of view, moving from east to west very low on the horizon. Jerking my eyes to the right and pointing with my right hand I shouted, "Look", four times. (The fact that I pointed and repeated the word 4 times has been checked by both of my companions and reenactment of my motions and speech, timed by an Elgin AF stopwatch within 5s after the moment of appearance of the green ball, furnished measures of the duration of this fireball, ranging from 2.1 second to 2.3 seconds.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Incl. No. 1 to Investigative Report #24-S (Cont)

The path of the green ball was almost exactly horizontal (Altitude estimated as only 3 or 4 degrees) until just a tenth of a second or so before it disappeared. During the last one or two tenths of a second of its visibility a slight but definite curvature downward developed in its path. From the very beginning the ball was very bright. Immediate comparison with Sirius (at a much greater altitude than the green fireball) indicates that during all but the last one or two tenths of a second of the fireball's visibility it was at least of apparent magnitude -4 (minus four). Just as curvature in its path developed the magnitude of the fireball rose slightly and it broke up into three or four smaller, but still bright green fragments which disappeared almost instantly.

Lt. Clark stopped the car the moment the fireball disappeared, spun it around and drove back into the cut; then turned and parked at the exact point where I first yelled "Look". Here the time as read immediately from a watch I had set at noon on December 12 with the master clock in the Santa Fe RR Station at Las Vegas, New Mexico, was 9h. 3m. as nearly as could be determined. Assuming that Clark's manuvers with the car took between half a minute and a minute and a half the actual time of appearance was between 9h. 1m. 30s. and 9h. 2m. 30s. I believe the earlier of these times is the more probable.

At the point where Lt. Clark stopped, an arrow was scratched in the shoulder of the roadway directed toward the point where the green fireball disappeared and white rocks were used to border this arrow. While performing this operation and for many minutes thereafter we stood outside the car and listened for meteoritic detonations or rumblings, but absolutely nothing was heard. (There was no appreciable interference from traffic noise.)

At approximately 9:50 p.m., we reentered the staff car and drove first to Santa Fe (where we futily attempted to get in touch with night guards on duty at New Mexico State Prison in the hope of obtaining an additional line of sight to the point where the green ball had disappeared); and then to Los Alamos where I reported to Col. Carroll and other security officials what we had observed. Through their aid it was determined that what was unquestionably the same green ball seen by us had also been observed by at least two of the night guards at Los Alamos.

During the entire night of the 12th, Meteors of all magnitudes from the first to the fifth and of various colors (with white and yellow predominating and with no evidence of green) were occasionally seen emanating from the Geminid radiant. This radiant was well above the horizon even at the time of the Starvation Peak incident. Consequently, the apparent paths of the meteors from the radiant appeared as luminous arcs of great circles diverging from the radiant point and passing downward to intersect the horizon under angles always large and for the most part approaching 90°, in value. In the sharpest contrast, the path of the bright green fireball seen from near Starvation Peak was very nearly, if

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CONFIDENTIAL

not exactly, parallel to the horizon. This green fireball certainly did not emanate from the Geminid radiant.

Subject to discovery that a new (non-Geminid) meteoric radiant emitting numerous very bright fireballs of a vivid green color (deeper and richer than the green of the beacon at the New Municipal Airport south of Santa Fe, New Mexico) has suddenly become active during the first half of December, I am now convinced the various "green flare" incidents reported to the O.S.I. are not meteoric in nature.

This is a written statement given by Dr. La Paz in his own words.

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AFISIIC/Maj Campany/av/68060/17 Jun 65

18 JUN 1965

AFISIIC 24-185-10

Mrs. Trudy Rogers, 205 C Street, Kerrville, Texas

OSI Dist 66

1. In February 1965, Mrs. Trudy Rogers, Kerrville, Texas informed the FBI that she had read a book about flying saucers which she had obtained from the local library. The book contained scribbling which Mrs. Rogers claimed she "deciphered" and subsequently furnished to the FBI. A copy of Mrs. Rogers' deciphered manuscript is included as an attachment to this letter.

2. In June 1965, Mrs. Rogers furnished a 50 foot reel of 8mm film to the FBI which allegedly contained a picture of an unidentified flying object taken by her husband in Libya. Included with the film was a letter from her husband explaining how and where he observed the object. From statements made in the letter, her husband is possibly a civilian or military aircraft tower operator in Libya.

3. An examination of the film by Directorate photographic personnel failed to disclose the exact identification of the object. It is possible, however, that the object is a weather balloon or other similar object.

4. In her letter, Mrs. Rogers indicated that she was due to return to Libya on 11 June 1965 and requested that the film of Tripoli, which was also on the reel, be returned to her.

5. It is requested that Mrs. Rogers' husband be identified and interviewed concerning the alleged flying object which is contained on the film. If it is determined that Mr. Rogers believes that the object is a UFO, this information along with that portion of the film, should be furnished to the local intelligence officer for appropriate action. In any event, the remainder of the film should be returned to Mr. Rogers.

FOR THE DIRECTOR

18 JUN 1965

UNCLASSIFIED

10

24-185-10-[21] X2

OR 17 Jun

JOHN J. STAHL, JR.,
Directorate of Special Investigations (IG)

4 Atchs
1. Ltr fm Mrs. Rogers dtd 1 Jun 65 w/1 Atch, Roll of 8mm film.
2. Ltr fm Mrs. Rogers to Mrs. Rogers dtd 12 Apr 65.
3. Ltr fm Mrs. Rogers to FBI dtd 1 Jun 65.
4. Deciphered Manuscript prepared by Mrs. Rogers.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

AFISIIC
Maj Campany

Read Cy - Maj Campany w/o Atch
Coord Cy - INV 24-185-10 w/o Atch

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

8-5 (Rev. 9-10-63)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

Date June 3, 1965

The enclosed is referred to your office for such action as may be necessary.

The writer has been notified of this reference.

Director of Special Investigations
The Inspector General
Department of the Air Force

Remarks: Please note Mrs. Rogers plans to travel to Libya on June 11, 1965, in case your agency wishes to contact her before that time.

Film to DOGG to be returned to Mrs. Rogers 15 June 65

Enc. (3)

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

205 C Street
Kerrville, Texas
June 1, 1965

Dept. of Justice
J. Edgar Hoover
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Would you see to it that this roll of film reaches U.S. Army Air Force Intelligence as soon as possible? It could be very important.

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

Mrs Trudy Rogers

24-185-10-21?



Declassification Authority: NND 923007

59A

4-12-65
PM

My Dearest Wife Dont Hound

Hope that I get a letter from you tomorrow. This is my last morning tower to make this week. I go on evening tower to morrow.

Yesterday afternoon about 6 30 PM. I seen a triangler shaped object in the skie. It looked like it might be over the Sudan. I took some pictures of it. The object didnt seem to be moving. It stayed there for a few hours. It wasnt around this afternoon.

I guess I have seen one of your U.F.O. It probly had the hammer & ~~sickle~~ circle on it.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

June 1st

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is a roll of film on which is a triangler object, in a stationary position, which hovered over the Sudan in the Libian desert for several hours. My husband took the film, and to his knowledge, he is the only one who did. I am enclosing a portion of his letter giving a description of it.

The idea of it being from 'outer space' is not in the least alarming, but the thought of it possibly being Russian is very alarming. We know that 'space beings' are not as yet a threat to our planet, but the Russians and Communism are a threat to the entire universe. It would be disastrras for a vehicle of this type to be in their possession. And, it is much too near the underground installations to be ignored, should it be Russian. (I hope it's American)

I hesitated to cut the film because I dont know much about that sort of thing, so would you please return the other portion to me? Thank you. It's of downtown Tripoli.

Those Libian Arabs are illerate, but they are not stupid, and the Communist infiltraters are educating them at an alarming rate.

My son and I are returning to Libya the 11th of June. I hope to take quite a lot of pictures while there.

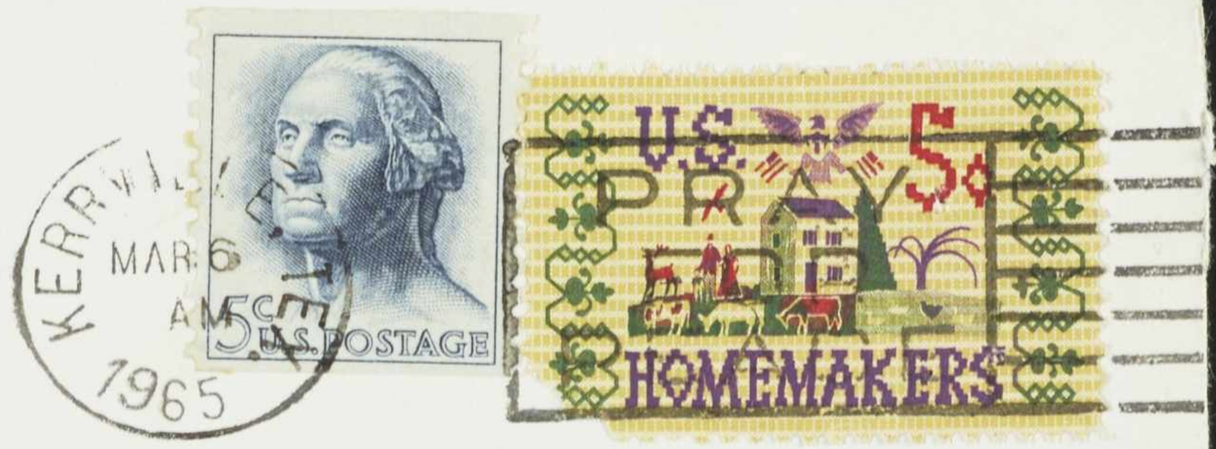
Yours sincerely,
Mrs. Trudy Rogers

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ATT: J. EDGAR HOOVER
Washington, D. C.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Mrs Trudy Rogers
205 C St.
Kerrville, Texas.



Director of Special Investigations
The Inspector General
Dept. of the Air Force
Washington, D. C.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

2 understand the reason. . 3/5/65 Thank you.

Flying Saucers Just Myth, AF Probe Say

Martians Haven't Made It Here Yet

WASHINGTON (AP) — After 18 years of investigating flying objects reports, the Air Force lists 663 sightings as unidentified.

The latest Air Force report, made available to The Associated Press today, showed that 8,908 reported sightings were investigated from 1947 through 1964.

The Air Force evaluated the reports either as identifiable, lacking in data to permit an evaluation or unidentified.

The Air Force report said a sighting is considered unidentified when: "A report apparently contains all pertinent data necessary to suggest a valid hypothesis concerning the cause or explanation of the report but the description of the object or its motion cannot be correlated with any known object or phenomena."

So far, the report said, these firm conclusions had been reached in 18 years of chasing down reports of unidentified flying objects:

1. No such object reported, investigated and evaluated by the Air Force "has ever given any indication of threat to our national security."

2. No evidence has been submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that sightings classed as unidentified "represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present day scientific knowledge."

3. There has been no evidence indicating that any of the unidentified sightings are vehicles from beyond earth.

The Air Force said that it "does not deny the possibility that some form of life may exist on other planets in the universe." However, it said, it has neither received nor discovered "any evidence which proves the existence and intraspace mobili- of intraterrestrial life."

Most of the sightings over the past 18 years have been checked out to be such things as balloons, birds, kites, searchlights, missiles, aircraft navigation and anticollision beacons, jet engine exhausts, astronomical bodies and meteors.

"There are no films, photographs, maps, charts or graphs of unidentified flying objects," the report said.

"The only photographs that have been submitted have been determined to be a misrepresentation of natural or conventional objects or hoaxes," it said.

There was a total of 532 sightings in 1964 — the largest number since 1961 when there were 585 sightings. Only 16 of those reported to the Air Force last year are still classed as unidentified.

Most proved to be satellites.

The investigation of unidentified flying objects is the responsibility of a special "Project Blue Book Office" at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007



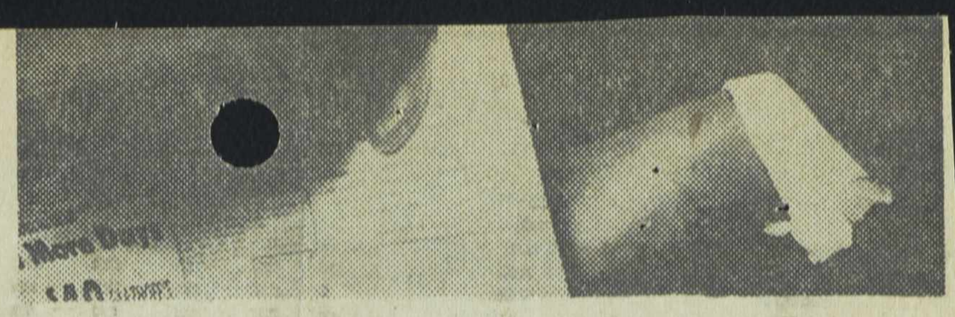
poverty get down to the people who need it," Farmer said.

He said he thought one way of accomplishing this would be to include civil rights leaders and representatives of poverty-stricken ranks among the poverty war's policymakers.

"Federal funds that are expended must help these people," Farmer added, referring to America's poverty - stricken.

Farmer welcomed a Wednesday morning call by NAACP officials in New York to demonstrate against discriminatory practices" in Cleveland, Ohio, March 22 at the site of the $32 million federal office building now under construction there.

"Both the poll tax and the right - to - work laws in Texas should be eliminated," the lead-



BLASTS POVERTY WAR

CORE leader Farmer calls local situation critical

STAFF PHOTO

Two Medicare Foes Concede Fight Lost

By PHILIP MEYER
CHICAGO DAILY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Two important foes of the administration's health care program concede that they expect it to pass in this session of Congress.

Rep. Sidney Herlong (D-Fla.) and Harold Collier (R-Ill.) confided their pessimism to a Junior Chamber of Commerce meeting here.

"The facts of life are that this bill is going to be passed," Herlong said.

A sponsor of the American Medical Assn.'s alternate Eldercare proposal, Herlong said foes of the administration bill should now devote their efforts to trying to perfect the administration plan.

Collier, sponsor of a Republican alternative to finance health care out of general revenues instead of through a payroll tax, said he felt like the dying Irishman who was advised to renounce the devil.

In my condition, "He said," I can't afford to aleniate anybody."

"This bill is going to be passed, not because they're right, but because they've got the votes," Herlong said.

Herlong attributed the strength of Medicare support to a feeling in Congress that the Johnson landslide in last November's election was "a mandate."

"But I'm living proof that not everybody who voted for Johnson is for this program, he said, "Because I voted for him myself."

Herlong and Collier appeared on a panel with Ivan Nestingen, undersecretary of health, education, and welfare, before a gathering of local Jacee Government Affairs Committee chairmen from each of the states.

Later, Herlong said a new opposition strategy is being formed to try to settle for a watered-down version of the administration bill.

It may result in an effort "to cut everything out except a bare hospitalization program and put everything else under Kerr-Mills, he said.

The Kerr-Mills bill provides federal aid to states to provide medical care for people whose incomes are small but still not low enough to qualify for welfare assistance.

Besides hospitalization, the administration bill provides post-hospital care in special nursing homes, home health services, and outpatient diagnostic service. All would be financed through a payroll tax like Social Security.

The AMA's Eldercare plan follows the outline of the existing Kerr-Mills law by operat-

of the premium with the federa government paying the balance

Relative costs, based on es timates by supporters of th three programs are: $2 billio a year for the administratio plan, $3.4 billion for thr Repub lican proposal, and $2.1 billion for the AMA's Eldercare plan.

At the Jaycee meeting, much of the discussion dealt with what Collier called "the camel's nose under the tent" and lead to deeper government involvement in medicine.

"The federal government is moving too far in looking after every single individual," said Herlong. "Unless we get away from that, we're going to have a complete welfare state in this country."

Nestingen said public opinion would not be likely to permit such a development. "The best check on that," he said, "is the people themselves."

Phone Co. To Honor

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Feb 18, 1965

Dear Friend;

Received your letter of the 10th.

I am sorry that this will have to be short, as I am preparing to leave for Washington D.C. for a series of lectures.

The message which was left with me has been deciphered in Africa two years ago. As a result-the man there then constructed a free power engine. But none of the findings have been published. So I haven't any information of what they were. Of course, there could be other meanings to it as well, but I have none of these either. I will take your findings and reconsider them as soon as I have the time.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely Yours;

G Adamski

GA/ceb

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This is all I have. I returned the book to the library, and it is doubtful I could re-do what I have done. I have forgotten.

IR

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8-6 (Rev. 1-14-64)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

February 16, 1965

Mrs. Trudy Rogers
205 C Street
Kerrville, Texas

Dear Mrs. Rogers:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication dated February 10, 1965. I wish to advise that the facts contained in your communication do not pertain to any matter within the investigative jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I am, therefore, referring your communication to the Director of Special Investigations, The Inspector General, Department of the Air Force, Washington, D. C.,

for any attention deemed appropriate.

Very truly yours,

12 MAR 1965

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNCLASSIFIED

USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

24-185-10-21

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

8-5 (Rev. 9-10-63)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

Date February 16, 1965

The enclosed is referred to your office for such action as may be necessary.

The writer has been notified of this reference.

24-185-10-20
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Director of Special Investigations
The Inspector General
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D. C. 20333

Remarks:
10 FEB 65 12 39
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
2 MAR 1965

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MRS. TRUDY Rogers (UFO)

Enc. (1)

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Mrs Trudy Rogers
205 C St
Kerrville, Texas



Via Air mail

United States Dept. of Justice
F.B.I.
Washington D.C. 20535

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

205 C St
Kerrville, Texas
Feb. 10, 1965

Dear Sirs:

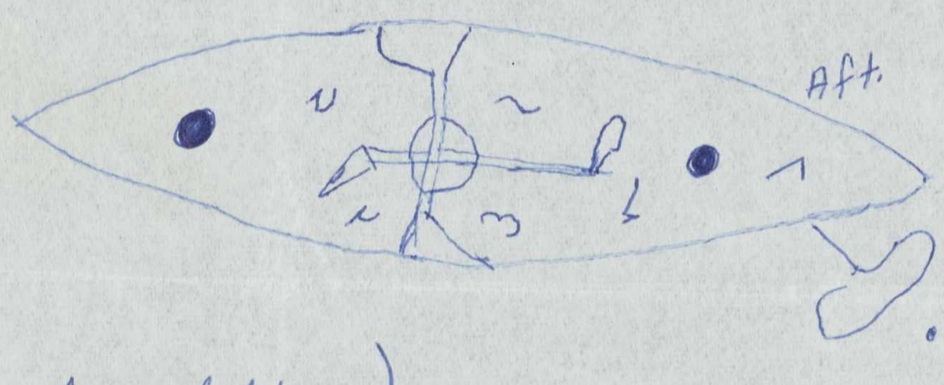
I checked a book from the local library entitled "Flying Saucers Have Landed" By Leslie, 1953, The British Book Centre, 420 W. 45th St. New York 36, N.Y. (Desmond Leslie and George Adamski.) on page 112, there is a reproduction of a photographic plate that was taken on Nov. 20, and Returned Dec. 13. It is a formula for the Solar energy controled 'flying saucer'.

The writing is familiar to me, and I am enclosing my interpretation of it, which may or may not be correct or useful. I have no idea of what all this means.

I hope you wont think me a crack pot, because this is submitted in all honesty and good faith. Would you see that it gets to Army Intilligence. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Mrs Trudy Rogers

Declassification Authority: NND 923007



(2nterpretation:)

Before such an ENGINE is introduced All is
intrusted. There is Much work here Is our purPose Justified
(electrons)
Extrodes SePerate which is mainsPring Just in fussion
for you are Not extended you Put these also in order at the end
H.P. F.H. It is Possible.
(V)
PS H FS5 " in PerfectUNION in PurPose charging seperate
SO A RPR change cause and effect
H TS NSXR (of) 25F into half Tied into each forem
(SF?)
dividing is PuT by Purchasing risk PP / square 2 PQI
double squared
IN each
FINding desicrator which should mean one
(1)
Put CHuses all IN PeNTiTRatable size to oPeN.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Before such an engine is introduced - All is intrusted.

There is much work here.

(Electros)

Extrode seperate which is mainspring Just in Fusion

For you are not Extended you Put these also in Charge

At the End H.P.F.H. It is Possible

HFS A II A in perfect union
PSX OS charging seperate
H TS Cause and effect which is dead center

NS+R SF+2SF into half Tied into each Forem
To These findings dividing, double squared is Put by Purchasing

Finding desicrator which should mean I in each risk PP/square ± 2 PSI

Put causes all in Pentratible size to open spent on

Stachso
(signed)

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

From photo on 1/2: Interpretation

R.P.R.

Before such an engine is introduced. All is intrusted
There is much work here. Is our purpose justified
(electrons)
Extrodes seperate which is mainspring just in fussion
For you are not extended you put these also in order
At the end H.P.F.H. (V) It is possible
H FSS SO II A IN perfect union - in purpose charging seperat
PS TS NSXR S+25F into half Tied into each forem
H OF
dividing is put by
double squared Purchasing risk PP / 2 PGI
in each square spent on
finding desicrator which should meon I
Put ~~all~~ causes all in Pentitra Table Size
stachso
To open

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
SAN ANTONIO AIR FORCE STATION
(KANNEX)
2100 NORTH NEW BRAUNFELS AVENUE
SAN ANTONIO 8, TEXAS

Reply to
Attn of: 10D INV 24-0

26 September 1960

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

TO: Director, Special Investigations

1. The following information was reported to the OSI Detachment Office at Laughlin AFB, Texas by Special Agent WILLIAM E. OGLESBY, resident agent of the FBI at Del Rio, Texas on 19 September 1960:

OGLESBY advised that he, on this date, had learned from a reliable Mexican informant in Cuidad Acuna, Coahuilla, Mexico, that an unidentified object had been observed to land in a remote area of a ranch owned by B. WHITEHEAD between Rosita and Cuidad Acuna, Coahuilla, Mexico at 1945 on the night of 18 September 1960. The object, slightly larger than a basketball, first appeared in the heavens traveling in a southeasterly direction from the northwest. It first appeared to be a star, however as it neared the ground, it dimmed to an orange color, appeared to oscillate, then drop to the ground as its light diminished. The object was believed to have dropped in an inaccessible area of the Piedra Blanco Ranch on the adjacent ranch, both owned by former U.S. citizen WHITEHEAD. The informant made no attempt to recover the object, however, on returning to the ranch where he worked, he ascertained that two other ranch hands had observed the phenomenon.

OCT 5 1960

2. FBI Special Agent OGLESBY requested the OSI Detachment at Laughlin AFB, Texas to determine if any alert had been received at Laughlin AFB relative to a lost space vehicle. It was determined that no such alert had been received. Special Agent OGLESBY stated that he would report the information to his office in San Antonio and would take no further action unless otherwise instructed. He stated that the object fell into an area in which extensive search-ing on horseback would be required to locate it.

OUT
F5 OCT 1960
CI DIV
OSI

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
24-185-10X
24-185-10-18
30 SEP 60 09 12Z
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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(6)

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3. The Commander, Laughlin AFB, Texas was advised of the information received from Special Agent OGLESBY. A check by this office of the 733 ACW Squadron, Eagle Pass AF Station, Eagle Pass, Texas, disclosed that no unidentified flying object had been noted by that installation on the night of 18 September 1960.

4. The following information was extracted from the 19 September 1960 issue of the San Antonio Express, a daily newspaper published in San Antonio, Texas:

"New Soviet
Satellite?

"Trinity University's moonwatch team reported Sunday sighting what may be a new Russian satellite.

"A university spokesman said it was sighted at 7:10 p.m. in the North sky, moving in a general pattern south-southwest to north-northeast - much the same as other Soviet satellites.

"The Trinity team radioed the Walnut Creek, Calif., Moonwatch team to be on the outlook for the unidentified object if it passed over West Coast skies.

"Tteam members speculated that the Russians may have sent up another space vehicle to coincide with Khrushchev visit to the United Nations headquarters."

5. The above is forwarded as a matter of information and possible interest to your Directorate.

Frank F. Woolley Jr.

FRANK F. WOOLLEY, Jr.
Lt. Colonel, USAF
For: CHARLES P. MARTIN
Colonel, USAF
Commander

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-39/6

DATE 12 June 1952

REPORT MADE BY REUBEN STRICKLAND, S/A TO

REPORT MADE AT DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

PERIOD 20-21 May 1952

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

Unusual Aerial Phenomena Sighted from Gonzales, Texas, and Vicinity

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE None, this is an initial report.

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SYNOPSIS

Investigation initiated by District Commander, based on information from FBI Field Office, San Antonio, Texas, that KENNETH D. SHULER, Gonzales, Texas, and two other persons had observed an unusual aerial phenomena. Investigation revealed that KENNETH D. SHULER, ARDEN L. NORRIS, and CLEMENTE RAMOS, all of Gonzales, Texas, had observed an aerial phenomena east south east of center of Gonzales, summer of 1951. KENNETH D. SHULER and RONALD L. SHULER, Gonzales, Texas, had seen two (2) unusual aerial objects, one while driving through Shiner, Texas, and one while driving on Highway #3 at Oak Forest, Texas. One was unusual because it appeared to vanish into a ball of fire, and the other because it had no markings or insignia. Mrs. RUBY WILLIAMS and husband saw an unusual circular aerial object while driving south on Highway #3, approximately one (1) mile north of Gonzales. Acquaintances stated reliability of K. D. SHULER and A. L. NORRIS might be questionable. All other interviewees were considered reliable.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1973
DATE

ATTENTION: Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority, unauthorized disclosure of such information will be considered to be a violation of AFR 205-1.

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APPROVED
JOHN G. SWOPE
Colonel, USAF
District Commander.

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AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 O-208 Replaces AFCSI Form 4, 23 Jul 48, which may be used.

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DETAILS:

1. This investigation was initiated by the District Commander based on information received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation Field Office, San Antonio, Texas, that KENNETH D. SHULER, Gonzales, Texas, and two (2) other persons had observed an unusual aerial phenomena on an unspecified date in the summer of 1951.

AT GONZALES, TEXAS

2. On 20 May 1952, Mr. KENNETH DUNN SHULER, 720 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, was interviewed and related that he had witnessed unusual aerial phenomena on three (3) different occasions. He stated that the first pehnomena that he had seen was approximately one (1) year ago in either June or July 1951. He had observed the object around noon one day while standing in front of his radio and television shop at 730 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas. He gave the following information concerning the sighting of this object:

Q. Date of Observation?
A. Summer of 1951 (June - July).

Q. Exact time of observation (local)?
A. Noon, approximately.

Q. Place of Observation?
A. In front of Radio and Television Shop at 720 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas.

Q. Position of observer (air, car, building, location of - give details)?
A. Standing on sidewalk.

Q. What attracted attention to object?
A. Looking up to check TV antenna on top of his shop.

Q. Number of objects?
A. One.

Q. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length)?
A. Size of fighter plane at 3/4 mile distance.

Q. Color of object?
A. Aluminum - shiny.

Q. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object)?
A. Egg shaped - slightly longer than around.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Altitude (angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead)?
A. 45° angle up from horizon.

Q. Direction from observer (angle clockwise from north)?
A. 60 degrees.

Q. Direction of flight of object?
A. North of east to east.

Q. Time in sight?
A. Two (2) or three (3) minutes.

Q. Speed (time to cover given angular distance)?
A. Traveling slow in forward direction - 5° - 10° while in sight.

Q. Sound and odor?
A. No sound. No odor.

Q. Distance from observer (distance to town, building, etc., over which object appeared to be)?
A. Two (2) miles through air, one and one-half (1½) miles ground distance, about edge of town.

Q. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)?
A. No trail.

Q. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandesence, other - degree of brilliance)?
A. No lights - shiny.

Q. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.)?
A. Had four projections - similar to four leaf clover with rounding ends. Had circle band around center that was rotating in clockwise direction. Circle had fins similar to water wheel. Circle appeared to turn slowly - able to see it turn. No other projections.

Q. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc.)?
A. Appeared to make bank. Band may have been part of clover leaf shapes.

Q. Manner of disappearance?
A. Disappeared behind a cloud. Another airplane approached to within 1/4 mile of object.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Effect on clouds?
A. Clouds did not effect vision while in sight. No effect on clouds.

Q. Additional information concerning object?
A. None.

Q. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting?
A. Clear day, visibility unlimited. Sun shining. No haze.

Q. Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?
A. Open vision.

Q. Name and address of observer?
A. KENNETH DUNN SHULER.

Q. Occupation and hobbies?
A. Radio and TV technician. Hobbies - making of model airplanes, all types. Attended B-29 Air Mechanic School at Amarillo, Texas, 1945 in service. Had course in Aircraft Identification.

The second phenomena he saw was on a Monday shortly after Valentine's Day 1952. The object had been observed while he and his brother, RONALD LAMAR SHULER, 720 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, were driving on Main Street in Shiner, Texas, going north. The object was seen first while going north on Main Street and then again after the turn on Main Street was made which caused them to then be traveling in a west north west direction. It was considered unusual because it disappeared into what appeared to be a ball of fire. The SHULERS gave the following information concerning the sighting of the object:

Q. Date of observation?
A. On Monday sometime after Valentine's Day in February 1952.

Q. Exact time of observation (local)?
A. 5:30 to 6:00 PM.

Q. Place of observation?
A. Saw object while on Main Street in Shiner. Object again observed at city limits of Shiner on Hallettsville and Gonzales Highway.

Q. Position of observer (air, car, building, location of - give details)?
A. Riding in car. 40 MPH.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. What attracted attention to object?
A. Just happened to see object while on Main Street. Disappeared from view and reappeared as above.

Q. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping?
A. One.

Q. Apparent size (compare to known object.,ie., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length)?
A. Size of single engine plane at 3/4 mile distance.

Q. Color of object?
A. Alluminum in color.

Q. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object)?
A. Unable to make out any features - maybe oval.

Q. Altitude (angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead)?
A. 22½ degree angle from horizon.

Q. Direction from observer (angle clockwise from North)?
A. About 300° from north.

Q. Direction of flight of object?
A. Traveling from east to west.

Q. Time in sight?
A. Fifteen (15) minutes.

Q. Speed (time to cover given angular distance)?
A. Traveling normal speed of fighter plane at first sighting - from second sighting until disappeared (size of fighter plane) it disappeared in matter of 2 - 3 minutes.

Q. Sound and odor?
A. No sound or odor.

Q. Distance from observer (distance to town, building, etc., over which object appeared to be)?
A. First sighting 3/4 mile - second sighting 1 mile.

Q. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)?
A. None.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandesence, other - degree of brilliance)?
A. One-half (1/2) minute after sighting second time a bright light (as bright as sun) appeared. Sun and object were together for comparison. Not a reflection of sun off object. Light lasted about fifteen (15) seconds.

Q. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.)?
A. Unable to distinguish if had any projections.

Q. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path)?
A. Straight line of flight.

Q. Manner of disappearance?
A. Distance became so great object disappeared.

Q. Effect on clouds?
A. Clouds had no effect on visibility. No effect on clouds.

Q. Additional information concerning object?
A. None.

Q. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting?
A. Sun was setting, visibility unlimited, good light.

Q. Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?
A. Viewed through windshield of car. View clear.

Q. Name and address of observer?
A. RONALD IAMAR SHULER.

Q. Occupation and hobbies?
A. Attending High School. Airplane and Hot Rod enthusiast. Builds model aircraft.

The third aerial object seen and described by KENNETH SHULER and RONALD SHULER was seen on 24 April 1952 while they were driving toward Seguin, Texas, on Highway # 3. The first sighting was made at Oak Forest, a small community on Highway # 3. It was observed while they drove approximately twelve (12) miles along Highway # 3 toward Seguin from Gonzales. They stated that it was an unusual aerial object because they could not see any propellers, markings, or insignia on the tail section of the craft.

Q. Date of observation?
A. 24 April 1952.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Exact time of observation (local)?
A. 1330 hours.

Q. Place of observation?
A. At Oak Forest, north of road, Highway # 3.

Q. Position of observer (air, car, building, location of - give details)?
A. Passenger in car on way to Seguin, travel at 55 MPH.

Q. What attracted attention to object?
A. Looking at sight were TV antenna had been installed by SHULER. Just checking to see if antenna was errected properly.

Q. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping?
A. One object.

Q. Apparent size (compare to known object., i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist ar arms length)?
A. About the size of two (2) engine Transport Airplane.

Q. Color of object?
A. Alumimum but not bright and shiny. About the same color as B-29 Aircraft unpainted.

Q. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object)?
A. Shape of an airplane - rudder - wings - necelle, belived to have an elevator. Trailing edge of tail seemed to coincide with rudder.

Q. Altitude (angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead)?
A. 45° from horizon.

Q. Direction from observer (angle clockwise from north)?
A. Object was north of observer traveling in a westerly direction - saw it over about a 45° angle from north toward west.

Q. Direction of flight of object?
A. East to west.

Q. Time in sight?
A. Fourteen (14) - fifteen (15) minutes.

Q. Speed (time to cover given angular distance)?
A. Estimated speed - 120 MPH.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Sound and odor?
A. Heard no sound over car noise. No odor.

Q. Distance from observer (distance to town, building, etc., over which object appeared to be)?
A. One-half (1/2) mile from observer.

Q. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)?
A. No trail.

Q. Luminosity (visible by reflection incandesence, other - degree of brilliance)?
A. Dull finish - no brilliance.

Q. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.)?
A. Wings, rudder - necelles (one on each side of fusilage).

Q. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path)?
A. Straight path of flight.

Q. Manner of disappearance?
A. Went out of sight by distance.

Q. Effect on clouds?
A. No clouds.

Q. Additional information concerning object?
A. No windows, no propellers, no identification marks, no circles, no numbers.

Q. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting?
A. Clear, visibility unlimited, sunshine.

Q. Name and address of observer?
A. KENNETH DUNN SHULER.

Q. Occupation and hobbies?
A. Radio and TV technician. Hobbies - making of model airplanes, all types. Attended B-29 Air Mechanic School at Amarillo, Texas, 1945 in service. Had course in Aircraft Identification.

Q. Name and address of observer?
A. RONALD LAMAR SHULER.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Occupation and hobbies?
A. Attending High School. Airplane and Hot Rod enthusiast. Builds model aircraft.

Q. Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?
A. Wore no glasses - clear view.

3. On 20 May 1952, Mr. ARDEN LESTER NORRIS, Norris Cafe, Highway # 183 South, Gonzales, Texas, was interviewed and stated that sometime in May or June 1951 while standing on the sidewalk with KENNETH SHULER at 720 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, he had observed an unusual aerial phenomena. NORRIS gave the following information concerning the sighting:

Q. Date of observation?
A. May - June 1951.

Q. Exact time of observation (local)?
A. 1400 hours.

Q. Place of observation?
A. Standing in front of 720 St. Paul Street, Gonzales. Only two (2) who saw object.

Q. Position of observer (air, car, building, location of - give details)?
A. Standing on street.

Q. What attracted attention to object?
A. SHULER pointed it out to NORRIS.

Q. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping?
A. One.

Q. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist ar arms length)?
A. Big as moon. Silver color.

Q. Color of object?
A. Silver.

Q. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object)?
A. Cylindrical - about round.

Q. Altitude (angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead)?
A. 75° angle from horizon.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Direction from observer (angle clockwise from north)?
A. 90° from north, clockwise.

Q. Direction of flight of object?
A. South from east.

Q. Time in sight?
A. Ten (10) - twelve (12) seconds.

Q. Speed (time to cover given angular distance)?
A. Ten (10) to twelve (12) degrees, or traveling approximately one (1) degree per second.

Q. Sound and odor?
A. No sound or odor.

Q. Distance from observer (distance to town, building, etc., over which object appeared to be)?
A. 8000 - 10000 feet high, 3/4 mile land distance, over about city limits.

Q. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)?
A. Appeared to have had a light trail, black smoke.

Q. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandesence, other - degree of brilliance)?
A. Nothing luminous.

Q. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.)?
A. No projections.

Q. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path)?
A. Straight flight - maybe slightly climbing.

Q. Manner of disappearance?
A. Disappeared behind a cloud.

Q. Effect on clouds?
A. Medium high scattered clouds. Object out in open while visible. Believes object came out of one cloud and into another. Object had no effect on cloud it entered.

Q. Additional information concerning object?
A. Object appeared flat and had a sliding motion forward.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting?
A. Weather - medium high clouds, sun shining. Visibility unlimited.

Q. Name and address of observer?
A. Mr. ARDEN LESTER NORRIS.

Q. Occupation and hobbies?
A. Resturant owner and operator, Gonzales, Texas. Reads books and many articles concerning "flying saucers", all the articles he can find. Not able to identify conventional aircraft.

Q. Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?
A. Usually wears glasses - can see further without glasses - was not wearing glasses at the time.

Mr. NORRIS further stated that he was very interested in "flying saucers" and read all the books and articles he could find on them. He stated that he believed there were such things and explained that they generated their power through magnetic force and also through obsorbing energy from the sun during the day which made them glow at night. Mr. NORRIS further advised that it was his opinion that these objects were from other planets, Mars or Venus, because he did not think scientists on earth had knowledge enough to develop such objects. Mr. NORRIS also stated that it was his opinion that these objects from another planet had to have canals to land in or on, therefore, it was his opinion that it is quite likely one (1) or more of these objects have landed in the inlets along lower California and that the occupants are probably presently living with Indians in that region.

Mr. NORRIS was seriously injured in a fire approximately two (2) years ago, losing a leg, parts of fingers, and seriously injuring his hands.

While interviewing Mr. NORRIS, Mrs. NORRIS was introduced to the writer and when she learned what Mr. NORRIS was being questioned about she made the remark: "I bet I could see a "flying saucer" if I went out and looked for one long enough and used my imagination".

4. On 21 May 1952, CLEMENTE RAMOS, 930 Water Street, Gonzales, Texas, PFC, U. S. Army, was interviewed and stated that in approximately April 1951, while he was standing in front of Shuler's Radio and Television Shop, 720 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, talking to KENNETH D. SHULER, he had sighted something unusual flying through the air. RAMOS deemed it unusual because it appeared round in shape, was of very shiny material and no sound or means of power could be noted. RAMOS gave the following information concerning the sighting of the aerial object:

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Date of observation?
A. April of 1951.

Q. Exact time of observation (local)?
A. Three (3)-four (4) PM.

Q. Place of observation?
A. Standing in front of SHULER'S Shop, 730 St. Paul, Gonzales, Texas.

Q. Position of observer (air, car, building, location of - give details)?
A. Standing on sidewalk.

Q. What attracted attention to object?
A. Probably shining reflection attracted attention.

Q. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping?
A. One.

Q. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun moon, thumb or fist at arms length)?
A. About the size of a full moon.

Q. Color of object?
A. Silver (shiny).

Q. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object)?
A. Looked round - but glare was too great to note shape - unknown whether flat or long.

Q. Altitude (angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead)?
A. Approximately 60° from horizon.

Q. Direction from observer (angle clockwise from north)?
A. Approximately 135° from north.

Q. Direction of flight of object?
A. Going up at 60° angle and straight away from observer.

Q. Time in sight?
A. Three (3) minutes.

Q. Speed (time to cover given angular distance)?
A. Moving up and away - unable to estimate speed and no change in angle of sight.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Sound and odor?
A. No sound. No odors.

Q. Distance from observer (distance to town, building, etc., over which object appeared to be?
A. Estimate one (1) mile from observer to object. Was approximatedy over fair grounds or cotton mills in edge of Gonzales, approximately 1/2 mile away.

Q. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)?
A. No trail.

Q. Luminosity (visible by reflection,incandesence, other - degree of brilliance)?
A. Reflection of about brightness of sun reflecting off chrome on real bright day.

Q. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.)?
A. Unknown.

Q. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path)?
A. Was climbing straight ahead to south south east.

Q. Manner of disappearance?
A. Just went away into the distance.

Q. Effect on clouds?
A. No clouds remembered. Real bright clear day, visibility unlimited.

Q. Additional information concerning object?
A. Never say anything like it before or since. Doesn't believe it was a conventional plane.

Q. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting?
A. Weather clear, visibility unlimited, nothing to obstruct vision.

Q. Name and address of observer?
A. CLEMENTE RAMOS, 930 Water Street, Gonzales, Texas.

Q. Occupation and hobbies?
A. U. S. Army, light anti-aircraft gun crew. 9th Grade High School. Since he has been in the Army, May 1951, he has studied aircraft recognition and still thinks it was other than known type aircraft.

Q. Did observer wear glasses,especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?
A. Does not wear glasses, 20/20 vision. Used no seeing devices.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

5. On 21 May 1952, Mrs. RUBY WILLIAMS, Plaza Hotel, 415 St. James Street, Gonzales, Texas, was interviewed in reference to an unusual aerial phenomena she had seen near Gonzales, Texas, approximately in October 1951. The object had been sighted while she and her husband were driving toward Gonzales on Highway # 3 approximately one (1) mile north of Gonzales. As they reached the summit of a small hill the object appeared straight ahead and at first it was believed to be a grayish cloud with a white circle around it. Upon closer observation, by both she and her husband, it seemed to be something other than a cloud and it was moving as if there was some means of power propelling it. Mrs. WILLIAMS stated she did not know if the object was of a solid material or not. She further stated that if she had been alone and the only person to have seen it she would have considered it a figment of her imagination, but since her husband also saw it and after they had discussed what they saw, they decided it could have been a "flying saucer". Mrs. WILLIAMS gave the following information concerning the aerial phenomena:

Q. Date of observation?
A. Approximately eight (8) months ago.

Q. Exact time of observation (local)?
A. Four (4) - five (5) PM.

Q. Place of observation?
A. Approximately one (1) mile north of Gonzales on Highway # 3.

Q. Position of observer (air, car, building, location of - give details)?
A. Driving automobile south on highway.

Q. What attracted attention to object?
A. Looked up when came over hill and it was right in front.

Q. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping?
A. One.

Q. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length)?
A. Round, about two (2) yards in diameter.

Q. Color of object?
A. Center looked white, creamy - was about two (2) feet in diameter. Outer ring was a darker grayish white.

Q. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object)?
A. Outer ring was round, unable to determine depth, inner ring looked circular but more than on one circle. Looked like smoke.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Altitude (angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead)?
A. Approximately 30°.

Q. Direction from observer (angle clockwise from north)?
A. Directly south.

Q. Direction of flight of object?
A. Flight was from east to west.

Q. Time in sight?
A. Probably one-half (1/2) minute.

Q. Speed (time to cover given angular distance)?
A. One-half (1/2) minute to cover 15°.

Q. Sound and odor?
A. No sound. No odor.

Q. Distance from observer (distance to town, building, etc., over which object appeared to be)?
A. One-half (1/2) mile from observer. Was between observer and Gonzales, Texas.

Q. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)?
A. No trail.

Q. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandesence, other - degree of brilliance)?
A. Outer edge of outer ring seemed to have light reflecting from it as sun shining on aluminum.

Q. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.)?
A. None.

Q. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path)?
A. Straight course of flight, seemed to float.

Q. Manner of disappearance?
A. Observer moved down hill then the object was beyond the hill out of sight.

Q. Effect on clouds?
A. Sun was shining - some clouds in the background. Object stood out prominent from clouds. No effect on clouds.

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Q. Additional information concerning object?
A. Thought it could have been a cloud at first then decided it wasn't. Finally thought it could have been a "flying saucer" since they had heard and read about them.

Q. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting?
A. Weather clear - sun shining, visibility unlimited.

Q. Name and address of observer?
A. Mrs. RUBY WILLIAMS, Plaza Hotel, owner, 215 St. James Street, Gonzales, Texas.

Q. Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?
A. Wears glasses all time - had them on at time. Saw through windshield - was clean. Able to recognize aircraft.

Mr. WILLIAMS was not available for interview, however, Mrs. WILLIAMS stated they had recently discussed the object and what she had stated was also the views of Mr. WILLIAMS.

6. On 21 May 1952, Sheriff L. O. McGINTY, Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, advised that he has known the following persons ten (10), fifteen (15) and thirty (30) years respectively and considered them to be completely reliable and truthful. None had ever been in any trouble and were respected citizens of Gonzales, Texas:

Mr. ARDEN LESTER NORRIS
Mr. KENNETH D. SHULER
Mrs. RUBY WILLIAMS

Sheriff McGINTY further advised that he did not know CLEMENTE RAMOS, but knew his father very well and that he worked for the City of Gonzales. He advised that he considered RAMOS' father reliable and trustworthy, and that he had no reason to doubt RAMOS' son (CLEMENTE) being of the same caliber person.

7. On 21 May 1952, Mr. HORACE WOOD, Vice President, Gonzales State Bank, Gonzales, Texas, was interviewed concerning the reliability, honesty, and character of the following persons:

Mr. A. L. NORRIS
Mr. K. D. SHULER
Mrs. RUBY WILLIAMS

Mr. WOOD advised that he only knew Mr. NORRIS through banking business and, therefore, he was unable to attest to the credibility of any information

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DETAILS (Cont'd)

Mr. NORRIS might relate. Mr. WOOD advised that he had known Mr. SHULER all his life and that he believed SHULER was of good character and trustworthy, however, he had some doubt about the credibility of information received from SHULER. Mr. WOOD stated that SHULER might be inclined to seek publicity. He based this on the way SHULER would greet him whenever they met, which was quite frequently. SHULER would greet him (WOOD) as if they had not seen each other in months when in fact it may have not been over a day or two since they had spoken to each other. Mr. WOOD further advised that he did not know just how to express what he meant, but that SHULER was peculiar in a way and might exaggerate the truth or supplement it through his imagination.

Mr. WOOD advised that he had known Mrs. WILLIAMS for many years and believed her to be completely reliable, honest, trustworthy, and that any information she related would be credible.

8. On 21 May 1952, Mrs. DELBERT DUNN, Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Gonzales, Texas, was interviewed and stated substantially the same as Mr. WOOD concerning the honesty, character, and credibility of Mr. SHULER and Mrs. WILLIAMS. Mrs. DUNN further advised that Mr. A. L. NORRIS was honest, trustworthy, and reliable, but that he had changed considerably since he had been injured in a fire and that at present, she was somewhat doubtful about the credibility of information he might relate because he seemed to read and think a great deal and then use his imagination to supplement the facts. Mrs. DUNN further stated that she did not wish to imply that anyone of the three (3) persons would make up a complete falsehood or that they were not basically honest, truthful, dependable, and reliable.

CLOSED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

24-39

JGS/HJR/yr

AIR MAIL

8 November 1951

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomenon

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: Strange object was sighted by JACK LARNED, Detective, San Antonio, Texas Police Department at 0715 hours on 7 November 1951. This object reflected a light as if it might have been the sun's rays reflected from an airplane. It was travelling at a tremendous rate of speed across the horizon from west to east.

2. DETAILS: On 7 November 1951 Mr. JACK LARNED, Detective, San Antonio Police Department, was interviewed concerning his observance of a strange object reflecting a light as if it might be an airplane reflecting the sun's rays. This alleged object was travelling at a tremendous speed and was sighted at 0715 hours across the horizon from west to east. LARNED's description is as follows: LARNED stated that while driving to work on 7 November 1951, he turned north on Cato Blvd., located in the north section of San Antonio, Texas. Looking straight ahead, he saw an unknown object crossing the horizon from west to east with a speed of a shooting star. The object remained within his vision for two (2) seconds, going out of sight over the horizon. Further, this object showed no signs of being a meteor as there was no trail of fire observed. LARNED could not estimate the height at which the object was travelling except to state that it appeared to travel with the contour of the earth and was far enough away from the point from which he was viewing it that he need only look straight ahead. LARNED estimated the size of this object as that of an airplane at the furtherest visual range and travelling at such high speed that he expected it to disintegrate any moment. Further, this object appeared to be in controlled flight as it seemed to stay on a parallel with the earth.

The following weather report was given by the Kelly AFB Weather Office:

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

24-39, Subject: Aerial Phenomenon

On 7 November 1951 at 0630 hours the weather was clear with fifteen (15) miles visibility; pressure 291; temperature 36 degrees; dew point 33; wind calm; altimeter30.37.

The weather reads as follows at 0730 hours on 7 November 1951: weather, clear,fifteen (15) mile visibility; pressure 295; temperature 44 degrees; dew point 35; wind, calm; altimeter 30.38.

The following radio transcriptions used in news broadcast from Station KABC, San Antonio, Texas on 7 November 1951:

The following news item was broadcast over radio station KABC on the 12:00 PM news, Wednesday, 7 November 1951:

"A lot of conflicting reports are being received about the meteor that flashed across the Texas skies around 7:15 this morning. For instance, Waco residents say it appeared to be only five-hundred to seven-hundred feet overhead, and appeared to fall in the nearby Brazos River. At Wichita Falls, the 'Ball of Fire' appeared to flash across the sky to the north, moving west to east. At Amarillo, the meteor seemed to be moving from north to southeast, in the eastern part of the Texas Panhandle. Some say it disintegrated over the south plains; others say it disappeared just north of Gainesville in the Red River Valley area.

"A few things are certain: It was an extremely bright meteor, resembling a miniature sun during its brief trip through the atmosphere. It lasted only about ten seconds. Residents in four states saw the phenomenon -- from Central Texas to Western Arkansas, to Central Oklahoma, and westward to Tucumcari, New Mexico."

The following news items was broadcast over radio station KABC on the 6:00 PM news, Wednesday, 7 November 1951:

"That meteor which caused such a sensation yesterday morning probably fell to earth in fragments in the neighborhood of Hinton, Oklahoma-just west of Oklahoma City. At least, that's the guess of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, an authority on meteors at New Mexico University. He says that a Fort Worth astronomer, OSCAR E. MONNIG, expects to search for fragments in the Oklahoma area."

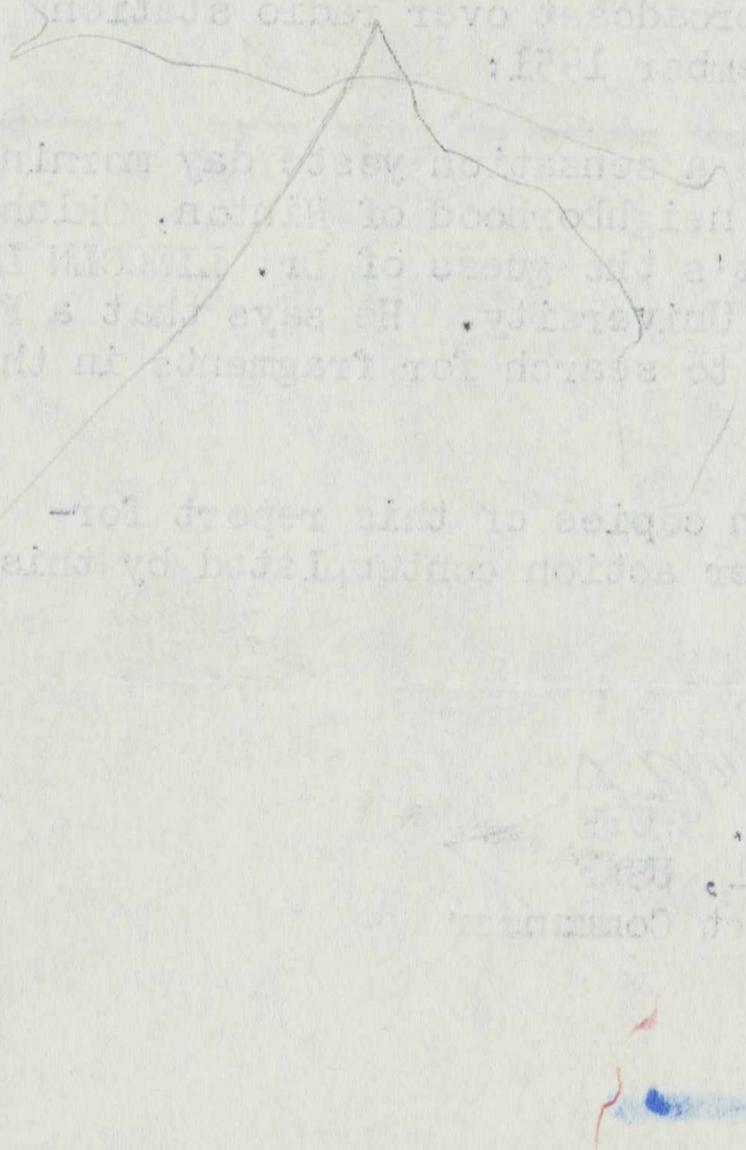
3. ACTION TAKEN: Two (2) information copies of this report forwarded to Commanding General, AMC. No other action contemplated by this office.

cc: CG, AMC

JOHN G. SWOPE
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Nov 14 09 32 '51

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

~~SECRET~~
(CLASSIFICATION)

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
United States	GA-1-51	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: Unidentified Aerial Objects

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)
Lubbock, Texas--4th Army Area	Wing Intelligence Office 3500th Pilot Training Wing, Reese AFB, Tex.

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
21 Sept 1951	18 Sept 1951	A-2

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
1/Lt. John A. Farley	Mrs. Tom Tilsom

REFERENCES (*Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable*)
OSI-23-9-103, ATIAA-2A

SUMMARY: (*Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.*)

The sighting of an unknown aerial object over US highway 70, 2½ miles north of Matador, Texas was reported to the local Matador newspaper on 31 August 1951 by Mrs. Tom Tilsom who lives about 5 miles north of Matador, Texas on the same highway. Mrs. Tilsom was interviewed by the reporting officer on 18 September 1951.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

UNCLASSIFIED

APPROVED:

JOHN A. FARLEY
1/Lt. USAF
Assistant Wing Intelligence Officer

0 INCLS.

24-185-10-14

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24-185
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16—55369-1

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 19[illegible]

[redacted]
(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	
Wing Intelligence Officer 3500th PTW, Reese AFB, Texas	GA-1-51	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

Mrs. Tom Tilsom stated that at approximately 1245 hours CST 31 August 1951, as she and her daughter, Mrs. M. G. Bethard, Lawton, Oklahoma, who was visiting her, were driving to her home approximately five (5) miles north of Matador, Texas, their attention was drawn to a strange aerial object drifting across US highway 70. Mrs. Bethard first noticed the object and it was a few seconds before she drew Mrs. Tilsom's attention to it. When Mrs. Tilsom saw the object it was drifting slowly in an easterly direction about 150 feet above the terrain and approximately 200 feet in front of the car. About the time she saw it, it began a rapid ascent and moved away to the east in a circular direction in a matter of a few seconds.

The location of the sighting was about 2¼ miles north of Matador, Texas on US highway 70. The terrain to the west of the road is rolling for about 10 miles to a line of foothills. The land is sparsely to heavily wooded by mesquite thickets with the first 300 yards open flat terrain. To the east the land is flat for approximately 30 miles, sparsely wooded, and the first 1000 yards is open. At the time of the sighting, Mrs. Tilsom estimated the automobile was traveling between 40 and 50 MPH.

The object sighted was described as looking like a yellow pear-shaped tomato, aluminum or silver in color that reflected the sunlight readily. It had a door, window, or something similar located at a point where the object began to taper toward the smaller end. Only one object was sighted and it moved through the air with the small end forward. No noise, exhaust, wings, or visible means of propulsion were observed. Mrs. Tilsom could not estimate the speed but did say she thought the object was about 40 feet long and 16 feet in diameter.

She stated the sun was shining brightly with very little wind. The 1230 hours Reese Air Force Base observation was as follows: Estimated ceiling 6000 feet, Broken clouds, Thin broken clouds at 25,000 feet, visibility 15 miles, temperature 87°, dew point 60°, wind from the east northeast at 3 knots per hour. The 1230 hours Childress, Texas observation was as follows: Estimated ceiling 25,000 feet overcast, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 90°, dew point 66°, wind from the north northeast at 7 knots per hour, towering cumulus in the southeast quadrant.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

Mrs. Tilsom is a housewife residing with her husband some five (5) miles north of Matador, Texas on US highway 70. She seemed to be a very mature woman, in her middle fifties, above average mentally, and in complete use of her faculties. Her report, in the estimation of the reporting officer, would be classified as reliable.

It is the recommendation of this officer that Mrs. M. G. Bethard, Lawton, Oklahoma, be interviewed to get her version of the sighting as she was the first to notice the object and observed it for a greater length of time.

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[redacted]
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16—55570-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

~~SECRET~~
(CLASSIFICATION)

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
U.S.A.	RIUA-2-51 30AD	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: Information on Unconventional Aircraft

AF-3685959

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)	
Cincinnatti, Ohio	30th Air Division (Defense) Selfridge AFB, Michigan	

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
19 September 1951	12 September 1951	F-6

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
Capt. David H. Weisberg, Asst Dir of Intell	Mr. Stanley A. Schott (Cincinnatti, Ohio)

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
ADC Letter 200-1

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

1. The unconventional, unknown object sighted by Mr. Stanley A. Schott was dark in color, shaped like a bullet, travelling at a high rate of speed on a heading of approximately 315 degrees; at approximate altitude of 20,000 feet.

2. All available supplementary sources of information checked, reveal no facts that appear to be of any assistance in determining the objects identity.

David H. Weisberg
DAVID H. WEISBERG
Captain, USAF
Asst. Director of Intelligence

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

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1 cy- CG,ADC, Ent AFB, Attn: Director of Intelligence
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515-136812

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES
30th Air Division (Defense) Selfridge AFB, Michigan	RIUA-2-51 30AD	

1. An unconventional unidentified "object" was observed visually by Mr. Stanley A. Schott, 2226 Langdon Farm Road, Cincinnatti 13, Ohio sometime between 0615Z and 0630Z, 12 September 1951.

2. The following remarks are the result of an interview between Mr. Schott and the investigating officer: (Statements contained in this paragraph are not confirmed and reflect only the opinions of Mr. Schott.) The object sighted by Mr. Schott was the shape of a bullet, and about as large as a B-29. Dark in color, and apparently made no sound as it travelled through the air. There was a red glow at the front and a white vapor at the tail. Mr. Schott said that the object travelled at a great rate of speed, and flew in a path parallel to the curvature of the earth. Object was at an approximate altitude of 20,000 feet, travelling on an approximate heading of 315 degrees. Mr. Schott sighted the object while standing in the Pennsylvania Railroad Yards, immediately to the north-west of Lunken Airport, four miles east of Cincinnatti. The object was in sight for approximately ten (10) seconds, then disappeared behind Mt. Lookout, approximately one and a half miles to the north-west. Reliability of the observer cannot be judged. No contact with his employer was possible at the time of interview, however the investigating officer felt the observer to be a rational, sincere person.

3. Weather teletype sequences at the Greater Cincinnatti Airport between 12 September 0628Z and 12 September 0828Z were as follows: 12 September 0628Z 015+ 67/57 ↑ 7/005; 12 September 0728Z 015+ 67/56 ↑ 8/005; 12 September 0828Z 015+66/56 ↑ 10/004.

4. Conversation with Dr. Herget of the University of Cincinnatti Observatory indicated no unusual meteoric activity during the period.

5. Conversation with Marjorie Phillips, Control Tower Operator, Greater Cincinnatti Airport indicated no local aircraft in flight at that time.

6. In a teleconference between the Department of Commerce Weather Bureau and the Greater Cincinnatti Airport Weather Observer, it was brought out that a winds aloft balloon, was released at Greater Cincinnatti Airport the night of 11 September 1951 at 0300Z. It carried an electric lighting unit and moved north north-east from the station and was lost at 0312Z at a distance of 9.5 miles.

7. In a telephone conversation with the Louisville, Kentucky weather observer, it was indicated that a winds aloft balloon was released at 0200Z 11 September 1951 at Louisville (Standiford) Airport, and travelled in a north easterly direction. It also carried a lighting unit.

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16—55570-1 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950—O-918332

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

SECRET
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3

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
30th Air Division (Defense) Selfridge AFB, Michigan	RIUA-2-51 30AD	

8. In a discussion with the weather forecaster at Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau, Cincinnatti, it was determined that a balloon released at Louisville, Kentucky could be seen at Cincinnatti if the winds aloft were turbulent enough to restrict the balloon's travel. On the morning the object was sighted, the weather was clear, making turbulence improbable; therefore making improbable the possibility of the balloon being seen four and one half hours after release at Louisville.

9. An analysis of the foregoing information can arrive at no definite conclusion as to the identity of the object in question. One observation, with no other confirmatory information compels an F-6 evaluation.

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515-136812

16—55570-1 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950—

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR MAIL

JGS/LVW/ms

10D 24-39

1 August 1951

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Sighting of Unconventional Aircraft

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: Strange light, which might possibly have been reflected by unconventional aircraft, sighted by three persons in the vicinity of San Antonio, Texas, on the evening of 24 July 1951.

2. DETAILS: On 31 July 1951, Sgt REGINALD D. STACY, AF 11 187 423, and Cpl JOSEPH E. HEWITT, AF 17 266 094, both of the 1923d AACS Squadron, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, were interviewed concerning their sighting of a strange light on the evening of 24 July 1951, which light they thought might possibly be that reflected by an unconventional aircraft. Sgt STACY and Cpl HEWITT, both of whom are Control Tower Operators at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, related in substance the following information: On the evening of 24 July 1951 Cpl HEWITT was on duty as a Control Tower Operator at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas. At approximately 2100 hours he received a query from Sgt LEON MINOR, Control Tower Operator at Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, concerning a strange light northeast of Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, which appeared to be passing from west to east and which had been sighted by a civilian policeman of San Antonio, Texas. Cpl HEWITT advised Sgt MINOR that no such light had been observed, but that a lookout would be maintained for the presence of any such light. Cpl HEWITT unsuccessfully attempted to determine if the light as reported by Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, might be the passing light of some aircraft or weather balloon. Between 2100 and 2130 hours, Sgt STACY and Cpl HEWITT observed a yellow light due west of Kelly Air Force Base, Texas. Both HEWITT and STACY described the light as follows:

a. The yellow light appeared to have no definite shape but was just "a blob of light" which appeared to be slightly larger than a red

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

obstruction light. STACY described the color as being somewhere between lemon-yellow and orange-yellow. HEWITT described the color as amber. The object appeared to be by itself, that is one light, and because of the distance, which neither airman could estimate, no aerodynamic features, trail or exhaust, propulsion system, speed or sound could be observed. The light appeared to make a slow gradual descent toward the horizon until it disappeared from view.

b. The light was sighted between 2100 and 2130 hours CST and was seen for approximately five (5) minutes.

c. The sighting of the light was made visually with the aid of binoculars.

d. Both airmen sighted the light from the Control Tower at Kelly Air Force Base. It was located in a westerly direction, approximately in the vicinity of Hondo, Texas.

On 31 July 1951, Sgt LEON V. MINOR, AF 16 284 403, 1923-2 AACS Detachment, Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, was interviewed concerning the sighting of the strange light seen by him in the evening of 24 July 1951. Sgt MINOR, who is a Control Tower Operator, related in substance the following: At approximately 2045 hours on 24 July 1951, MINOR was telephonically advised by a civilian policeman, that he had just observed an unusually bright light in the sky which appeared to be traveling at a great rate of speed from west to east. MINOR immediately searched the sky in the direction from which the civilian policeman had made his telephone call, and at a distance of 20 - 30 miles directly east of Brooks Air Force Base and directly south of Randolph Air Force Base, MINOR detected an unusually bright light which appeared to be traveling at a speed of between 600 - 700 miles per hour, at an altitude of 5000 - 7000 feet. MINOR queried Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, for information concerning aircraft which might reflect such a light, but the query met with negative results. Personnel in the Randolph Air Force Base Control Tower advised that they could not see the object; however, their failure to see the object could possibly be attributed to the fact that MINOR momentarily lost the light when it passed into a cloud. MINOR at a later time resighted the light traveling from an east to west direction toward Hondo, Texas. MINOR described the light as follows:

a. The light appeared to be a round object two - three inches in diameter, orange-white in color. MINOR estimated the speed from 600 - 700 miles per hour, at an altitude of 5000 - 7000 feet. The object continued in a straight and level flight.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Ltr 10D 24-39, 10th OSI District (IG), Kelly AFB, Texas, 1 August 1951
Subject: Sighting of Unconventional Aircraft

b. MINOR first sighted the object at 2047 hours CST and observed it for approximately 40 seconds; he resighted the object, after losing it, at 2126 hours and observed it for approximately one minute.

c. Observation was made visually with and without the aid of binoculars.

d. MINOR observed the object from the Control Tower at Brooks Air Force Base, Texas. Weather and wind conditions, obtained from teletype sequence of Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, are as follows: 2030 hours, 24 July 1951: Broken clouds at an estimated 18,000 feet, 15 miles visibility, wind east-southeast at nine (9) miles an hour. 2130 hours, 24 July 1951: Clear, visibility 15 miles, southeast wind at 22 miles an hour.

3. ACTION TAKEN: Two (2) copies of this report directed to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attention: MCIS.

JOHN G. SWOPE
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

AUG 6 10 3 24 '51

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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AFCSI-6
Maj. Detwiler/amb/71776
2 Feb 51

24-185-10/12

(Unclassified) Unconventional Aircraft
SPECIAL INQUIRY

6 FEB 1951

Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O
ATTN: Lt Col M. D. Willis

1
Maj. Detwiler/amb/71776
AFCSI-6

Counter Intelligence Division, Directorate of Special Investigations, The Inspector General

Herewith for your information is Spot Intelligence Report, dated 19 January 1951, regarding subject. Distribution of the inclosure has been made to AMC.

1 Incl:
Cy of Spot Intel Rpt
dtd 19 Jan 51

GILBERT R. LEVY
Actg Chief, Counter Intel Div
Dir. of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

When Incl No. 1 is (~~are~~) withdrawn or not attached, the classification of CONFIDENTIAL on this correspondence will be cancelled in accordance with par 25 e, AFR 205-1.

Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
14 DEC 1975
DATE

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6 FEB 1951
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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

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RHS/DGG/lcr

10D 24-0

19 January 1951

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Synopsis: At 2245 hours on 8 January 1951, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. BOGGUS of Waco, Texas, while driving from Fort Worth, Texas to Waco, Texas, observed several groups of strange lights in the sky at an altitude of 1000 feet. (OSI-F-O)

2. Details: On 12 January 1951, Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM J. BOGGUS were interviewed at their residence at 103 Victory Drive, Waco, Texas and stated as follows:

"We were returning from Fort Worth, Texas, at approximately 10:45 p.m., 8 January 1951. After leaving the super highway coming out of Fort Worth and entering U. S. Highway 81, we drove over a slight hill approximately five to eight miles south of the intersection of the super highway and U. S. Highway 81. As we crossed the top of the hill, we saw a series of lights in the sky and at first it appeared to be a water tower or a radio tower. We then looked to the right and to the left and saw other bunches of lights identical to the ones over the highway. We pulled over to the side of the road and stopped. We noticed approximately 200 yards ahead of us two other automobiles which had pulled off to the side of the road, apparently to watch the same lights we were observing. We pulled our car up behind these other two cars, at which time one car drove off.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

The driver of the second car came back to our car and stated that he had been watching these lights and had never seen anything like it before. These lights over the highway appeared to be 1000 feet and on a vertical plane. Two of the lights were green and the third light was red, forming a triangle. There were three of these triangles in the group over the highway, making one large triangle. We looked to the east of Highway 81 and could see another triangle. We saw three lights approximately three to five hundred yards to the east, and to the west we noticed three to four groups of lights arranged in the same manner. Tjese lights appeared to be five to seven hundred yards to the west of the main group over the highway. We stood outside the car and observed these lights, which were stationary at first. After a short while we noticed that the group of lights over the highway began moving north in the direction of Fort Worth, Texas and we estimated the speed of these lights to be 100 miles per hour or less. The two green lights appeared to be moving to the north followed by the red light. We looked at the group of lights in the east. They had also started to move north toward Fort Worth. The group of lights on the west appeared to be moving toward Fort Worth, but traveling at a speed of approximately twice that of the group over the highway. We noticed that the group of lights to the east of the highway and to the west of the highway appeared to be on a horizontal plane. These lights did not blink and resembled the lights on a water tower or radio antenna. As these lights moved away a sound resembling an outboard motor trolling in the distance could be heard. We observed these lights for approximately five minutes and from our observation, agreed that the distance between the lights in each of the smaller triangles was ten to fifteen feet. Knowing that several air fields were in the vicinity of our location, we did not introduce ourselves to the man in the other car but drove on toward Waco. The other automobile was a 1946 or 1948 Plymouth coupe with a National Guard tag on the rear license plate. This person stated to us that he was just coming from a National Guard meeting. We noticed that shortly after driving off, the National Guardsman turned to the left off the main highway and therefore, we assumed that he lived in that immediate vicinity. We had been in Fort Worth on business and had not touched as much as one bottle of beer."

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: "Aerial Phenomena", Dated 19 Jan 51, File 1OD 24-0

3. No further action is contemplated by this Headquarters.

Don G. Gaylor
for RALPH H. SCHALLER
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

cc: Hq. AMC, w/1 Incl
Rough Diagram.

24-1851D 72
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JAN 25 1 5 56 '51
FEB 12 1951
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CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

Wrtn 7 Nov

24-185/10

(Confidential) FRED S. SUTTON, Lt. Colonel, USAFR (Inactive), AO-267922
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Documents & Dissemination Br, Directorate of
Intelligence, DCS/O

9 NOV 1950 1
Maj Detwiler/bjm/71776
AFCSI

Counter Intelligence Div, Office of Special
Investigations, The Inspector General

Attached for your information is a report of investigation from District #10 concerning above captioned subject, dated 16 October 1950. No further action is contemplated unless so requested by your Directorate.

1 Incl
R/I fr DO 10 dtd 16 Oct
50 re abv subj , w/ incls

Copy
Not attached
for FILE

GILBERT R. LEVY
Actg Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

OUT 9 NOV 1950 MANAGEMENT DIV. OSI

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24-185-10-11

USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
DEC 5 1950

AFCSI Detwiler Arnold for G.R. Levy

1

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Wrtn 10 Nov 50

24-185/10

(Unclassified) Unidentified Aerial Phenomena
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Documents & Dissemination Br, Directorate of
Intelligence, DCS/O

13 NOV 1950

1

Maj Detwiler/bjm/71776
AFCSI

Counter Intelligence Div, Office of Special
Investigations, The Inspector General

Attached for your information is a Spot Intelligence Report concerning subject above, dated 31 October 1950. No further action is contemplated unless so requested by your Directorate.

1 Incl
SIR re abv subj fr DO
10 dtd 31 Oct 50

GILBERT R. LEVY
Actg Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority.

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Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

OUT 13 NOV 1950 MANAGEMENT DIV 091

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

RHS/LVW/jlo

10D 24-0-115

31 October 1950

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY _____
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Unidentified ~~Aerial~~ Phenomena

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

The following information was received from Headquarters, 4th Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

1. Synopsis: On 29 September 1950, Sgt. MARION ORLOVICH, 8457 MP Company, Sandia AFB, observed an unidentified aerial object. Observation was made at 0445 hours, at which time Sgt. ORLOVICH was driving a jeep in the Igloo area of Sandia AFB.

2. Details:
a. Date of observation - 29 September 1950.
b. Exact time of observation - 0445 hours (local).
c. Place of observation - Igloo Area, Sandia AFB.
d. Position of observer - Igloo Area in jeep -- south road along the fence going East.
e. What attracted attention to object - Movement of light.
f. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping - one.
g. Apparent size - larger than jet, smaller than bomber.
h. Color of object - Bluish-yellow flame, such as exhaust.
i. Shape - appeared slightly oblong with a cut-off rear from which flame and sparks were coming.
j. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead) - approximately 50 degrees from zero.
k. Direction from observer - (Angle clockwise from north) - 50 degrees directly over Site A.
l. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be) - Over A -- approximately 6 miles.
m. Direction of flight of object - Northwest to Southeast.
n. Time in sight - 3-4 seconds.
o. Speed - Approximately 350 to 400 MPH.
p. Sound and odor - None.
q. Trail - Bluish with yellow fringes. Length: 4-5 feet. Flames: Approximately 8 feet wide.

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r. Luminosity - Brighter than exhaust observed on B-36 or B-29 and similar to jet.

s. Projections - None other than flame.

t. Maneuvers - Straight course.

u. Manner of disappearance - Over mountains.

v. Effect on clouds - None.

w. Additional information concerning object - None.

x. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting - Clear, moon, light and warm.

y. Name and address of observer - Sgt. MARION ORLOVICH, 8457 MP Company, Sandia AFB.

Occupation and hobbies - Previous Navy service, routine aircraft spotting instruction.

3. Action: No investigation conducted in accordance with instructions of AFCSI letter No. 85.

For James R. Smith
RALPH H. SCHALLER
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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Wrtn 3 Aug 50

24-185/10

(Unclassified) UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT, Sighted over San Antonio, Texas on 23 July 1950 - SPECIAL INQUIRY

Documents & Dissemination Br, Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O

4 AUG 1950

1

Counter Intelligence Div, Office of Special Investigations, The Inspector General

Lt Col Nold/bjm/53623
AFCSI

Attached for your information is a Spot Intelligence Report concerning captioned subject, dated 27 July 1950.

1 Incl
SIR re abv subj fr 10th
DO, dtd 27 Jul 50

GILBERT R. LEVY
Actg Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

OUT 4 AUG 1950 MANAGEMENT DIV. O S I

AFCSI Arnold
D B Borden for
G R Levy

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OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

10D-24-0-1-9

UNCLASSIFIED

LVW/epe

27 July 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT
Sighted over San Antonio, Texas
on 23 July 1950
SPECIAL INQUIRY

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
BY Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: On 23 July 1950, at 1800 hours, M/Sgt VAN WINKEL, AF 6208671, Motor Pool supervisor, Lackland AFB, and family, while at their home, 716 Shadwell Drive, San Antonio, Texas, observed an unidentified flying object pass over San Antonio in a north-easterly direction.

2. DETAILS: At 1800 hours on 23 July 1950, M/Sgt WINKEL, while standing in backyard of his home, noticed a strange object flying at a very high altitude south-west of San Antonio. INFORMANT immediately called to his wife and daughter to come and see a flying saucer. INFORMANT stated that at the time, he was only "fooling" his family, however, after looking at object for a few seconds he realized that the object was not an aircraft. According to INFORMANT, object was egg-shaped (length of object parallel to line of flight); appeared to be approximately 10" in diameter, a silver color, traveling in a north-easterly direction at 500 to 700 miles per hour at a very high altitude. (Sky at time of INFORMANT'S observation had a few scattered clouds, otherwise visibility was unrestricted.) INFORMANT estimated that object was in sight for approximately twenty seconds. INFORMANT noticed no smoke emanating from object, however, at one time he did notice a bright flash

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

Spot Intelligence Report, from Hq, 10th District OSI, Subject:
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT, 27 July 1950

from object similar to the light of a photo flash bulb. INFORMANT stated that this flash could have been a reflection from the sun.

AGENT'S NOTE: INFORMANT has been in the Air Force for several years and appears to be very familiar with various aircraft and weather balloons of the Air Force. INFORMANT was very sincere concerning his and his family's observation and was thoroughly convinced that the object which they observed was not an aircraft.

3. ACTION: No further action taken by this office.

James R. Smith, Deputy
for RALPH H. SCHALLER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

DIA MANAGEMENT OFFICE
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DATE
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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1 AUG 1950

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

CSI

Hq USAF
AFCSI

5 July 1950

Confidential

PRIORITY

DISTRICT COMMANDER, 10th OSI DISTRICT(IG)
Kelly AFB, San Antonio, Texas

CAF IN 4646 (5 Jul 50) Confidential

58360

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

From AFCSI reur flying saucer message 4 Jul 50.

Request object be further identified through contact with competent technicians that have been to the scene of the landing. Investigation authorized if necessary to secure such evaluation. Reply soonest.

AFCSI FILE COPY

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BY AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INV
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
BY _____ 4 DEC 1975
_____ DATE

UNCLASSIFIED

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USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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PAUL M. BOLD, Major, USAF
AFCSI

53623

WILLIAM M. TURNER, Lt. Colonel, USAF
Executive, Special Investigations

JUL 11 1950

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

C. F

CONFIDENTIAL

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

PRIORITY

FROM: OSI, Kelly AFB, San Antonio, Texas

TO : CS USAF, Washington D.C., attn: OSI

NR : OSI-7-8

6 July 1950

Ref ur msg AFCSI [redacted] and 10 Dist OSI 7-4 and [redacted] regarding flying saucer.

Major Joseph F Wadsworth, 5044A, of the Maint Div, Kelly AFB, visited scene of object at Alice, Texas, at approx 1430, 4 July 1950 and was advised by Mr Lynne, Airport Manager, that the object was turned over to Marines from Corpus Christi, Texas at approximately 1330, 4 July 1950. Lynne stated that the object was constructed of 2 BT-13 type aircraft wing tips.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 16 DEC 1975

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

ACTION: CSI

INFO : CIG

CAF IN: 5 1 2 6 (7 Jul 50)

JUL [redacted]

RECD SUD: 070503Z

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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

(HOLD)

ACTION COPY

JUL 18 1950

COPY No.

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AFHQ FORM 15 APR 49 0-309 B

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—56692-2

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

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PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

FROM: OSI Kelly AFB Texas

TO : OSI CS USAF Washington DC

NR : OSI 7-4

5 July 1950

Ref is made to TWX this office [redacted]

The fol as appeared in the San Antonio Express 5 July 1950 explains rpted flying saucer Alice Texas:

"Clever prankster caused uproar Alice Texas with homemade flying saucer. Police Chief Micenheimer and managing editor Curtis Vinson of the Alice Daily echo made inquiries which revealed that the homemade object had been made at the local airport. The principal part of the object was the rounded tip of an airplane wing. Micenheimer brought the object to the Police Sta".

No action being taken by this office.

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Note: [redacted] CAF IN 4646 (July 50).

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
14 DEC 1950
DATE

24-185/10-6

24-185-10-6

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

ACTION : CSI

INFO : OIN, OPO, CIG, O/S LOG

CAF IN: 4 8 6 4 (6 July 50) DTG: [redacted] JUL 6 8 56 AM '50 RCW/rcf

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Rec'd SMD 0607052Z

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION COPY

JUL 24 1950

(NOLD)

COPY No.

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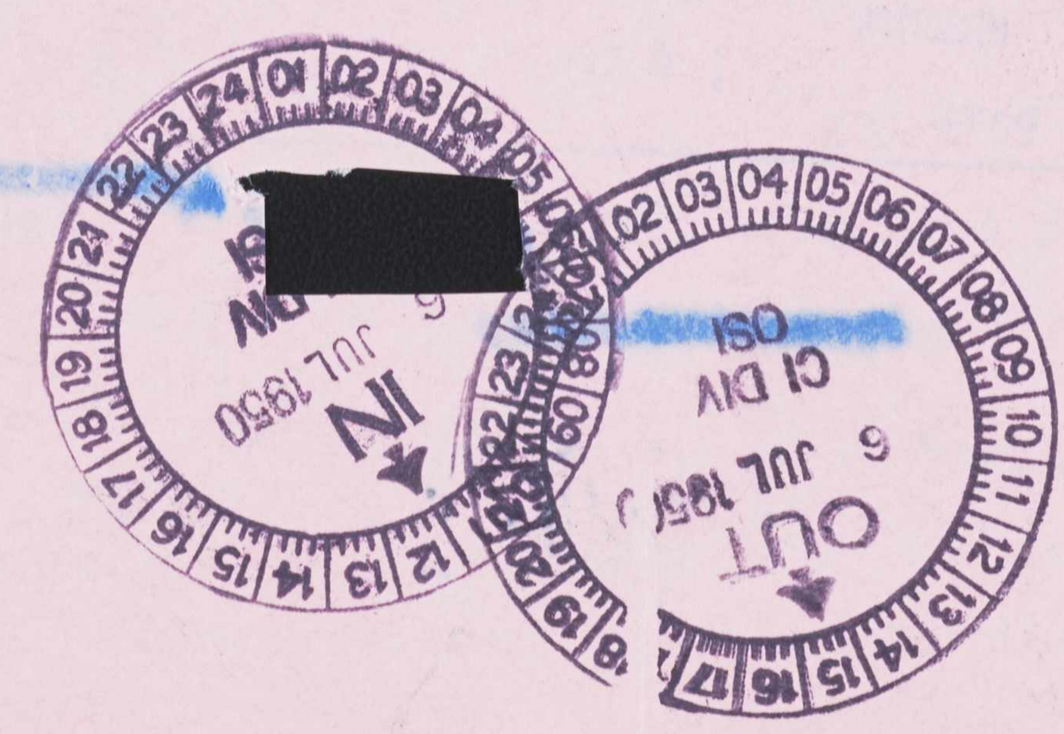
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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL
PRIORITY

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

FROM: OSI KELLY AFB SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

TO : CSAF WASH D.C. OSI

INR : NONE

4 Jul 50

Report recd fr FBI, SAA Antonio office, that FCYAS Reports flying saucer landed between Alice Texas Airport and Alice Texas at approx 1130 AM this date. Object is approx 4 to 5 feet in dameter. Object bears NBR xray 147A with additional words in English "Do not touch". Object appears to have two radio aerials and has slots or holes which appear to be rocket or jet devices. Alice, Texas Police have placed guard around object to keep large crowds of people away from it. Initally reported by W.C. Bond CAA representative at Alice Texas to W. F. Con, Air Route Traffic Control Center San Antonia. Info has been given to CG SAAMA. No action being taken this office pending instructions your Headquarters.

X Alice Texas Airport, 4 Jul 50
Flying Saucer

Am. C. & S.
Sec'd A.A.F.

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

ACTION: CSI

INFO : OIN OPO CIG

24-185-10-6
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

CAF IN: 4646 (5 Jul 50) RC 137/04 DTG [redacted]

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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REC'D SMD 050052Z

Confirmed to be an old aircraft wing. (NOLD)

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JUL 11 1950

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6 JUL 1950
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6 JUL 1950
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

SECRET
AUTH CS USAF
DHR
12 apr 50
(DATE)

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

RHS/JRS/gjw

12 April 1950

SUBJECT: Study of "Aerial Phenomena"

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, USAF
Washington, 25, D. C.

Forwarded herewith is a summary of the "Aerial Phenomena" incidents which have been reported and investigated within the 10th District OSI, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas. This report is submitted in accordance with verbal instructions of General Carroll while at the 17th District OSI on or about 30 March 1950.

Ralph H. Schaller

RALPH H. SCHALLER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl
Memo, 12 Apr 50
"Aerial Phenomena"
w/1 Incl.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian 4 DEC 1975
DATE

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GEN
APR 18 11 25 AM '50
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

SECURITY

(GOLD)

JUL 3 1954

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OUT
20 APR 1950
MANAGEMENT DIV. OSI

IN
20 APR 1950
OSI DIV OF MGT

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

AUTH CS USAF
HQ
12 apr 50
(DATE)

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

RHS/JRS/gjw

12 April 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR BRIGADIER GENERAL CARROLL:

SUBJECT: Study of "Aerial Phenomena"

1. A review of the files on "Aerial Phenomena" contained in the 10th District OSI files #24-0 and #24-39, of which there are approximately forty cases, indicates that the following generilizations are pertinent to the investigation:

a. The observations of the individuals who have reported sighting the so-called "flying discs" have been at all times during day and night; however, about 70% of those on file have been after the hours of darkness, ranging from 1800 hours to 0200 hours.

b. Most of the observations have been sightings of single objects; however, about 10% of the sightings have indicated there were two or more, with the maximum being four.

c. The observations have been made by both military and civilian personnel. The predominance of the military sightings have been in the vicinity of Camp Hood. The military sightings comprise 75% of the sightings on record in this office. No particular observation can be made regarding the sightings of the civilian personnel; they have been in metropolitan or interurban areas.

d. In practically all cases, with one or two minor exceptions, the estimate of speed of the "aerial phenomena" have been in supersonic speeds, ranging from 800 to 2,000 miles per hour. This conclusion is arrived at in that the individual method of expressing speeds, ranging from azimuth readings converted into linear miles per hour, through military persons, by artillery observer giving feet per second, to pilot estimates of speed given in miles per hour; i.e.,

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KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
BY Historian
4 DEC 1975
DATE

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Memo, fr Dist Comdr., 10th Dist OSI, to Dir. of Special Investigations,
Subj: "Study of 'Aerial Phenomena'", 12 Apr 50

(1) One civilian giving an estimate range of one-quarter mile with an azimuth movement of 170 degrees in three minutes, which converts to approximately 335 miles per hour.

(2) A military observer's estimate of 3,000 feet per second, which converts into approximately 2,000 miles per hour.

(3) A military pilot's estimate of 2,000 miles per hour.

e. Weather, as a factor in these cases, does not seem to be of major importance; there are four sightings in which the alleged disc or "fire ball" was sighted near or in the vicinity of thunder storms that were active at that time; however, most of the cases on hand have clear weather or with a small amount of clouds as climatic conditions prevailing at the time of the sightings.

f. The estimated altitude of the "aerial phenomena" at the time of the observations seem to be predominantly in the lower altitudes, ranging from two to eight thousand feet; however, there are several incidents in which the estimated altitude of the object was 20,000 feet or above.

g. Visual phenomena associated with the passage of the "flying discs" are approximately equally split; as having a long tail; and as to those which have no such visual evidence of an appendage during its passage through the air at high speed.

h. Most cases of these observations have reported an absence of all sound with the passage of the phenomena; however, there are a few which have reported a hissing sound, which cannot be described in any other manner.

i. It is the universal opinion of all persons interrogated in the reports reviewed that the objects were of a smooth contour, with no proturberances for control or method of propulsion.

j. The described sizes of these "aerial phenomena" in most cases, conform to that expressed in the following illustrations: a civilian service station attendant described the object as being approximately the size of the disk in a passenger type motor vehicle; another

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Memo, fr Dist Comdr., 10th District OSI, to Dir. of Special Investigations,
Subj: "Study of 'Aerial Phenomena'", 12 Apr 50

civilian described it as being the size of a full moon; still a third described it as being the size of a volley ball. As illustrated, each of these conforms to general shape and size in a uniform manner. It should be pointed out, however, that in none of the investigations on file in the 10th District Office, is there any further description of saying at what distance the comparative object is to be held from the eye; this leaves some doubt as to this comparative size.

k. In all cases, the object and the vapor trail or tail attendant thereto was of a uniform color; however, the color used in describing the object in each case varies from a blue-white through bright red to orange.

l. A tabulation of the sightings indicates that they fall in a line from northwest to southeast, originating in the vicinity of Camp Hood, and terminating in the vicinity of New Orleans, with a few individual sightings to the east and west of this general line.

2. In most of the cases on file in the 10th District, distribution has been through OSI channels only, primarily between the 17th District and the 10th District Offices, however, in accordance with a letter from Headquarters, OSI dated 2 June 1949, this subject, and letter, Headquarters, OSI, 20 May 1949, copies of reports were sent to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and to the Director of Intelligence, USAF.

3. Attached to this report as Inclosure No. 1, you will find a copy of the minutes of the meeting of a conference on "aerial phenomena" held in the conference room, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico, at 1300 hours, 16 February 1949. Herein are expressed the views of several scientific people which might be an aid in the digesting of these phenomena.

4. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: It should be pointed out that each one of the approximately forty observations contained in the investigative files of the 10th District is diverse, in that the intelligence of the individual, the scope and range of experience, and the ability to express oneself is widely diversified in each case. The homely expressions, the excitability of the individual under stress, the acuity of the memory in each case is a questionable factor. The investigative technique in the form of the report is not uniform throughout. All these factors tend to downgrade the authenticity of the overall report. The above comments are the opinion of the undersigned as to the factors which are common to all or most of the reports reviewed.

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Memo, fr Dist. Comdr., 10th Dist OSI, to Dir. of Special Investigations,
Subj: "Study of 'Aerial Phenomena'", 12 April 1950

5. It is the opinion of the undersigned that the "phenomena" do exist, but that the haphazard pursuit of information and the lack of coordination of investigative effort including scientific research into this matter makes it a problem that cannot be resolved at the present time.

6. It is recommended that the matter be brought before a proper command at the headquarters level, with a recommendation to that command that a coordinated scientific effort be made to establish an explanation of this phenomena.

RALPH H. SCHALLER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl
Minutes of meeting,
Los Alamos Scient. Lab.,
16 Feb 50

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

10D-24-0-74

29 March 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT
Sighted 35 miles southeast of
Clovis, New Mexico, on 20 March 1950
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters USAF
Washington 25, D.C.

1. SYNOPSIS: CHARLES O. WIEDMAN, 1st Lieut., USAF, 17474A, appeared at the Connally AFB Detachment, 10th District OSI, on 24 March 1950, to report the sighting of unconventional aircraft. WIEDMAN reported that he observed a white object travelling at an estimated speed of 2,000 miles an hour at 0115 hours on 20 March 1950. He reported that the object appeared to be spherical and luminous when first sighted; that because of its velocity, distance, altitude and size were difficult to estimate.

2. DETAILS: 1st Lieut. CHARLES O. WIEDMAN, USAF, 17474A, appeared at the Connally AFB Detachment, 10th District OSI, Waco, Texas, on 24 March 1950, to report the following: That on the morning of 20 March 1950, he was flying from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to Lubbock, Texas; that he had just finished taking a "fix" on radio compass at 0115 hours Mountain Time, and had established his position as 35 miles southeast of Clovis, New Mexico, when he noticed a white object approaching from about eleven o'clock; that the object was travelling at a speed which he estimated to be 2,000 miles per hour; that the object passed his T-6 aircraft and disappeared behind the ship in a matter of seconds. WIEDMAN further stated that when first sighted, the object appeared to be spherical, white and luminous,

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
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Spot Intelligence Report, from Hq. 10th District OSI, Subj:
UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT, 29 March 1950.

but as it passed on his left he noticed that it appeared to become elongated in shape and that the rear sections appeared to be a light bluish lavender; that a very definite and easily visible stream of matter, resembling a vapor trail, was left behind. WIEDMAN also stated that he was flying a magnetic heading of 97°, and estimated course of the object to be about 260°; that he was flying 9,500 feet and that the object was several thousand feet above him, and that the extreme velocity made distance and altitude and size difficult to estimate.

3. ACTION: No further action taken by this office.

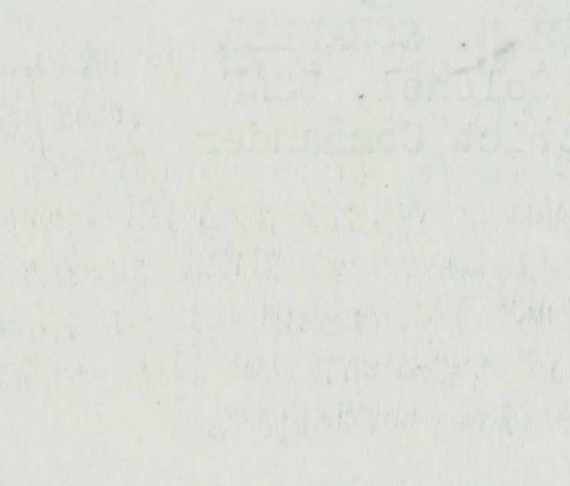
RALPH H. SCHALLER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

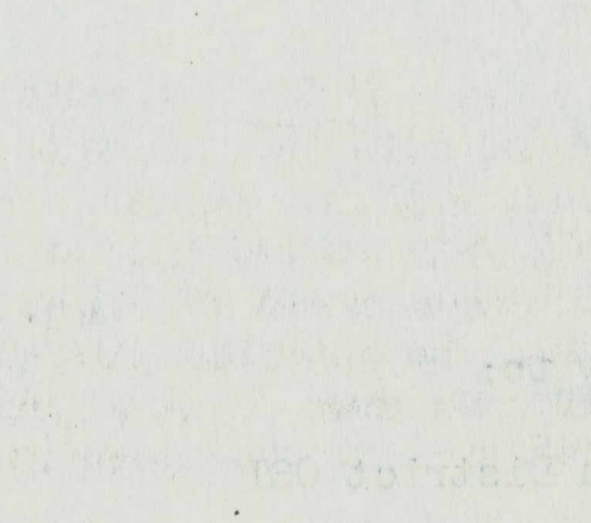
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VIA AIR MAIL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

RHR/rgg

IOD-24-0-52

15 February 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT SIGHTED BETWEEN ROCK SPRINGS AND MOUNTAIN HOME, TEXAS ON ROUTE 41, 2 FEBRUARY 1950 SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: JACK AARON, civilian, of Fort Worth, Texas reported to the Corporation Judge of the City of Del Rio that he had observed a disc-shaped plane flying between Rock Springs and Mountain Home, Texas on 2 February 1950. AARON allegedly stated that he heard a loud hissing sound and observed an odd looking plane about 700 feet away coming from an easterly direction and flying low; that the weather was misty with scattered clear spots; that the object was traveling at a high rate of speed; that steam or vapor was streaming from the rear to a distance of about 10 feet; that the craft appeared to be about 35 - 40 feet in diameter and 15 - 18 feet thick in the center; that all surfaces appeared to be smooth and no fins observed; that no part of the plane appeared to revolve or have a spinning motion. (Evaluation: F-6)

2. DETAILS: In a letter of 6 February 1950, addressed to the Commanding General, Brooks Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, ARTHUR C. KENNEDY, Corporation Judge, City of Del Rio, Texas related that on the morning of 3 February 1950, one JACK AARON, a salesman of 4812 Burchman Street, Fort Worth, Texas appeared at the Del Rio Police station and inquired as to whether an FBI Agent were located there; upon being advised that the FBI Agent was out of town, by Mr. KENNEDY, he indicated that he had some information concerning a flying disc.

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3. According to Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. AARON then disclosed that while traveling from Kerrville to Del Rio on 2 February 1950, he stopped his car on Route 41, about 20 miles east of Rock Springs, at about 1630 hours; that while standing next to his car, he heard a loud hissing sound and upon looking in the direction of the sound he observed an odd looking plane, about 700 feet away, coming from the east and flying low. He further related that the weather was misty with scattered clear spots; that the plane crossed the highway between 150 - 200 feet from the car and at a height he estimated to be about 600 feet; that the plane then turned and made a complete circle in a small valley to the northwest of the highway, completing the circle near where he was standing, and then moved at a high rate of speed in a westerly direction. According to Judge KENNEDY, AARON described the plane as follows:

a. Disc-shaped with a contour of a three-quarter moon;

b. Color: Grayish white;

c. No markings;

d. Slight hump on upper surface near center, resembling a somewhat flattened canopy;

e. Steam or vapor was observed streaming from the rear for a distance of about 10 feet;

f. Appeared to be 35 - 40 feet in diameter and about 15 - 18 feet thick in the center;

g. The bottom section had two slight recesses estimated to be between 2 - 3 feet in diameter, located diagonally from each other and near the outer edges;

h. When approaching, the front edge of the plane appeared to oscillate or vibrate in a vertical motion;

i. All surfaces appeared to be smooth and no fins observed except for what appeared to be rivets of about 3/4" - 1" in diameter and spaced in rows running from front to the rear, between 18 - 20 inches apart;

j. The plane traveled very fast, the speed being difficult to estimate, but he guessed it to be about the speed of our fast planes;

k. No part of the plane appeared to revolve or have a spinning motion.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

4. Judge KENNEDY concluded his letter by stating that AARON appeared to be a man in his late twenties and above average intelligence; that he stated that he had served in the Air Force; that he appeared to be earnest and sincere in the statements that he made.

5. ACTION: No action taken by this office pursuant to instructions contained in AFCSI Letter No. 85, 8 February 1950.

R. R. LUMSDEN
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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BY ROBERT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 4 DEC 1975

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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10D-24-0-53

16 February 1950

SUBJECT: UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT SIGHTED ON 11 FEBRUARY 1950 AT WACO, TEXAS BY MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL LEON SMITH SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: Two accounts appearing in the WACO NEWS-TRIBUNE on 13 February and 14 February 1950 report that Mr. and Mrs. SAMUEL L. SMITH of Waco, Texas observed two "flying saucers" in the sky over Waco at 2230 hours, 11 February 1950. According to the newspaper, the observers reported that the objects looked like "two little moons" traveling at a high rate of speed in a northerly direction; that the vehicles left no afterglow or trail; the leading edges were not as bright as the trailing edges; that the circumference lines were not quite straight, "as if they might have been spinning." (Evaluation: F-6)

2. DETAILS: The following item appeared on page 1 of the WACO NEWS-TRIBUNE Monday, 13 February 1950:

"FLYING SAUCERS" BELIEVED SIGHTED IN WACO

S. L. SMITH of Waco reported seeing two flying saucers late Saturday night.

When he spotted the glowing disks in the sky, he called to his wife, who also saw them. Mr. SMITH says he then called another couple who were in the house with them, but by the time the other people reached the door the saucers were gone.

The objects looked like two little moons traveling at terrific speed, Smith stated.

3. The following item appeared on page 7 in the WACO NEWS-TRIBUNE on Tuesday, 14 February 1950:

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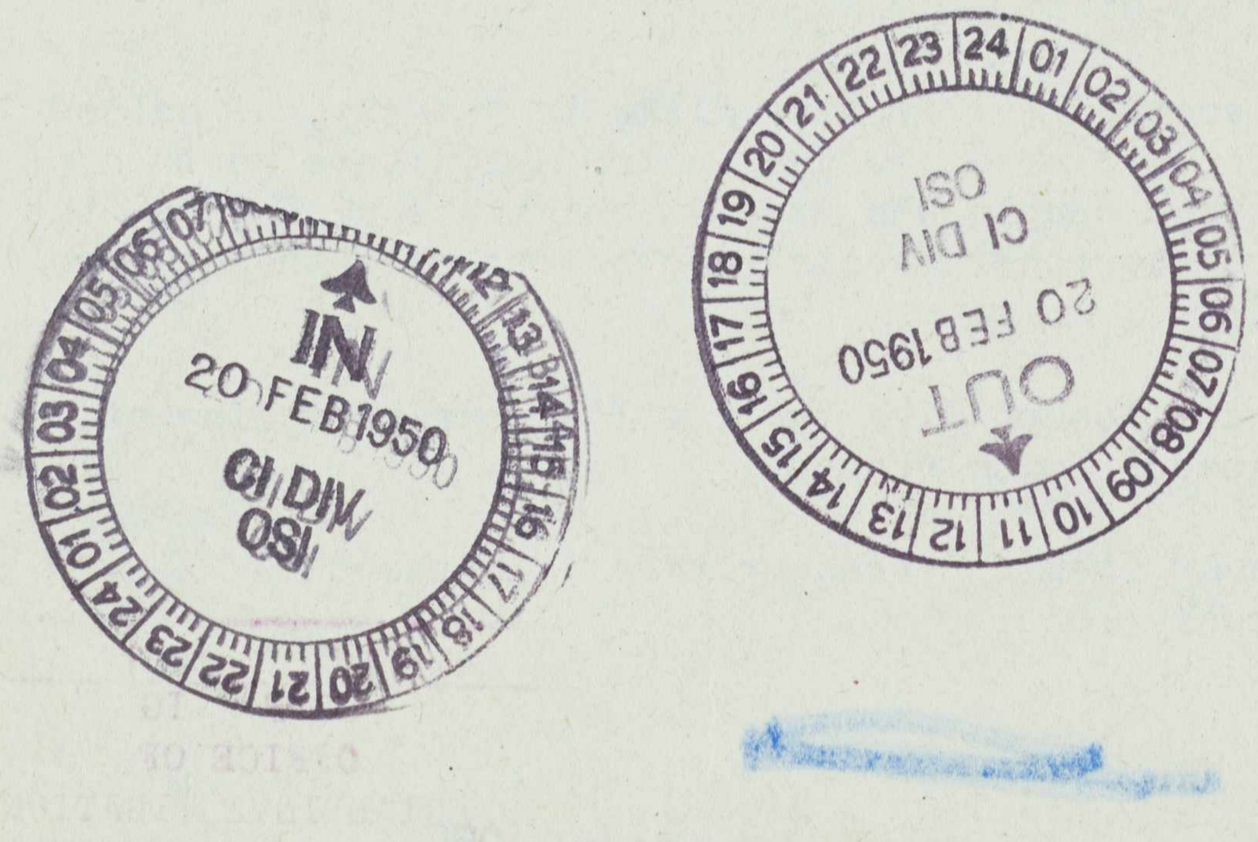
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TWO "FLYING SAUCERS" SEEN BY WACO COUPLE

Two "flying saucers" were reported whisking through the night sky over Waco late Saturday by Mr. and Mrs. S. L. SMITH of 908 South Seventeenth.

"The objects looked like two little moons traveling at terrific speed coming from the direction of Temple and heading north about where Elm Street leaves Waco," Smith stated.

He and his wife came outside about 10:30 p. m. Saturday just after the clouds had broken up over Waco. They were looking at the stars which had been visible only rarely during the past week, SMITH related.

Suddenly they both saw the greenish objects, about half the size of a full moon, pass overhead. Mrs. SMITH called to another couple indoors to come out, but by the time they arrived at the door, the dimly "glowing missiles" had disappeared in the north. SMITH estimated it took the "discs" which remained about the same distance apart from each other, about 2 or 3 seconds to pass overhead.

Asked if he thought the objects could have been meteors, SMITH said they left no afterglow or trail of fire, and were not glowing brightly, just a greenish tint. He said the front ends were not as bright as the rear parts of the discs, and the circumference lines were not quite straight, as if they might have been spinning.

Meanwhile, the SMITHS spent Saturday and Sunday night watching for a re-appearance of the objects, but so far have seen them no more.

4. ACTION: No action taken by this office pursuant to instructions contained in AFCSI Letter No. 85, 8 February 1950.

R. R. LUMSDEN
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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