

(CLASSIFICATION)

~~RESTRICTED~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY U. S. A.	REPORT NO. ATRC IR-1-53	(LEAVE BLANK) 492903
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT FLYOB RPT		
AREA REPORTED ON Cottonwood, Arizona	FROM (Agency) Wing Training & Operations Williams Air Force Base, Arizona	
DATE OF REPORT 30 January 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 27 January 1953	EVALUATION F-6
PREPARED BY (Officer) Harold W. Lehman, Capt USAF	SOURCE [REDACTED]	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952		

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.)

On 27 January 1953 at approximately 1915 hours MST, an unidentifiable object was sighted by [REDACTED] while standing in the yard at his home in Cottonwood, Arizona. The approximate position of Cottonwood, Arizona is 112° 2 minutes west longitude and 34° 44 minutes north latitude. [REDACTED] sighted this object in an easterly direction from Cottonwood. He estimated the altitude of the object to be from 8,000 to 10,000 feet and at an estimated distance of 7 to 10 miles. Traveling at approximately 350 to 400 MPH, the object was moving in a parallel direction to Cottonwood on a heading of south. This strange object as viewed from a set of 8x30 binoculars was described as being a large spot of light with a smaller light trailing it as a tail. By judging the distance from the larger mass of light to the smaller mass, it was determined that the object was of considerable length. It appeared somewhat brighter and larger than any of the stars in the area and was of a yellow orange color. There was no blinking of any lights and there was no sound heard. From the time of first sighting until the object disappeared approximately 5 minutes elapsed. Immediately prior to [REDACTED] observing this object, he noticed a conventional aircraft in the immediate vicinity of where the object was sighted.

[REDACTED] is unknown to this writer. Therefore, the reliability of this report cannot be determined. It is believed that the estimated altitudes, distances and speeds are unreliable and that the object was much farther and higher than estimated by [REDACTED].

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) of (E)

USAF memo 2/3/53
[REDACTED] NARS, Date 11/28/78

Harold W. Lehman
HAROLD W. LEHMAN
Captain, USAF
Wg Tng & Opr Officer

2 446

2 INCL.

1. Statement of [REDACTED] (quad)
2. Map diagram (quad)

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By

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AF Form 112 (4 cys) CG FTAF, Waco, Texas
44 ATIC - Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

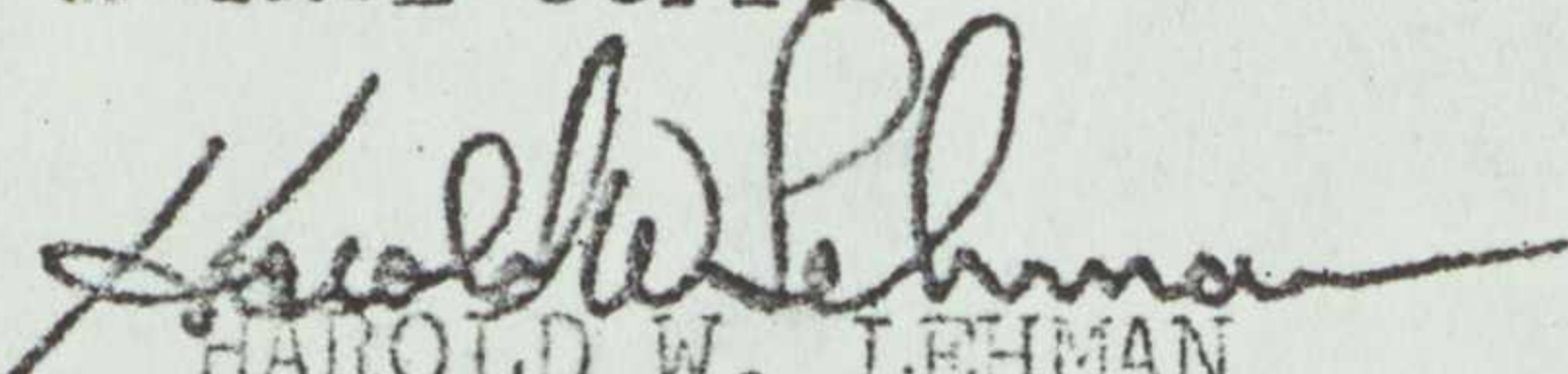
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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1950-O-91837

A TRUE COPY.


HAROLD W. LEHMAN
Captain, USAF

~~RECEIVED~~
ATRC IR-1-53

Cottonwood, Arizona
28 January 1953

Commanding Officer
Williams Air Force Base
Chandler, Arizona

4492903

Dear Sir:

Last night, 27 Jan 53, at 1915 hrs, I sighted in the eastern sky an illuminated object moving in a horizontal direction proceeding south at an estimated altitude of 8,000 to 10,000 feet; at an estimated distance of not less than seven nor more than ten miles and traveling at 350 to 400 miles per hour.

At the above mentioned time, I happened to be outside the house when an airplane overhead proceeding eastward caught my attention. I followed its blinking lights until it disappeared in the east at which time I noticed the illuminated object. It appeared somewhat brighter and larger than any of the stars in the area and was of a yellow-orange color. At first I thought it to be a conventional type aircraft headed towards me with its landing lights on. But I soon realized it was moving broadside to me going south. My curiosity prompted me to hurry into the house for binoculars (8x30), and after securing them, I was able to pick up the object again and get a better view of it.

Thru the binoculars I could see that the object consisted of a large spot of light with a smaller light by comparison trailing it which I took to be the tail of the object. Judging from the position of the smaller light to the larger one, the object would be of considerable length. It moved too fast for a blimp and emitted too much light for a jet. Moreover, a full moon was out which at that distance would have made a jet or conventional motor type plan all but invisible. Neither the large nor small light blinked and no sound was heard.

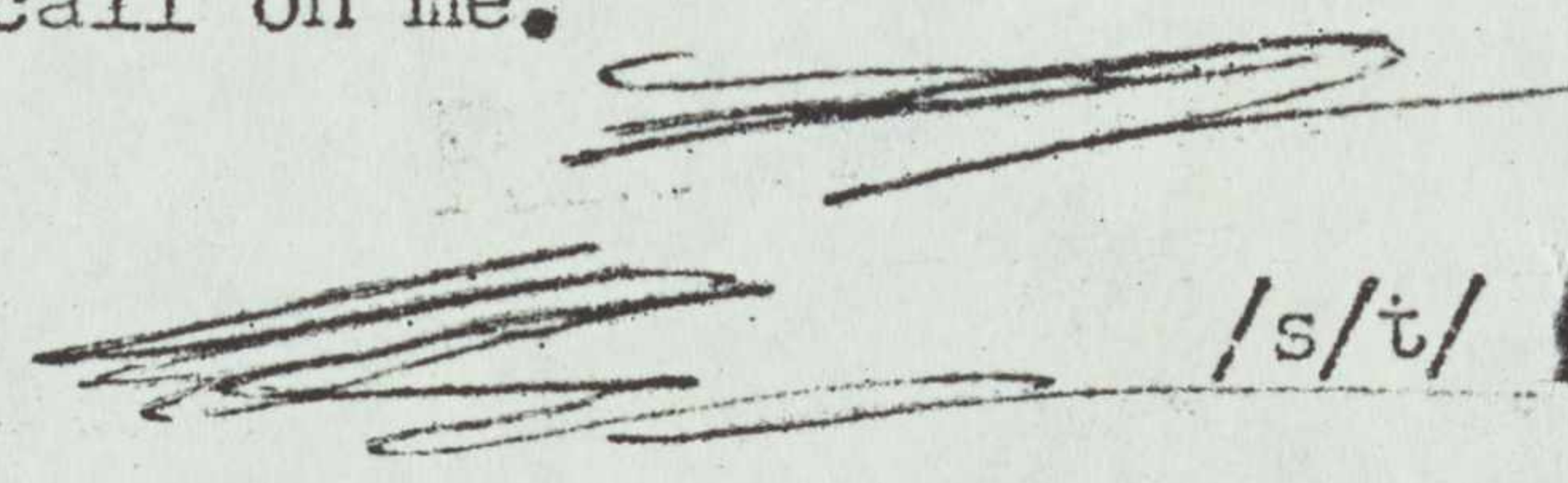
I was able to follow it thru the glasses approximately five minutes before it became faded and disappeared.

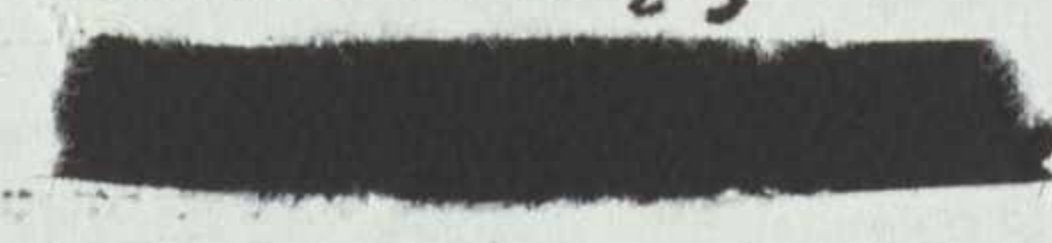
Perhaps the pilot or copilot or both of the plane that first caught my attention spotted the object. I believe the plane was a regularly scheduled airliner. It is a possibility the object moved the way it did to avoid contact with the plane.

There is a section of the Air Force that was set up expressly to study and evaluate such phenomena, but I do not recall its location or name. I am sending this to you for forwarding to the proper authorities.

I am not seeking notoriety or publicity; I hope perhaps someone else saw and reported it. Last night after finally losing the object I took down some notes from which I have written this.

Should the Air Force have further questions regarding this matter, do not hesitate to call on me.


Sincerely,

/s/t/ 

FOIA

78-212

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(CLASSIFICATION)

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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6

COUNTRY U. S. A.		REPORT NO. ATRC IR-1-53	(LEAVE BLANK) 492903
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT FLYOB RPT			
AREA REPORTED ON Cottonwood, Arizona		FROM (Agency) Wing Training & Operations Williams Air Force Base, Arizona	
DATE OF REPORT 30 January 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 27 January 1953	EVALUATION F-6	
PREPARED BY (Officer) Harold W. Lehman, Capt USAF		SOURCE Mr. John L. Stotts	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952			

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.)

On 27 January 1953 at approximately 1915 hours MST, an unidentifiable object was sighted by Mr. John L. Stotts, while standing in the yard at his home in Cottonwood, Arizona. The approximate position of Cottonwood, Arizona is 112° 2 minutes west longitude and 34° 44 minutes north latitude. Mr. Stotts sighted this object in an easterly direction from Cottonwood. He estimated the altitude of the object to be from 8,000 to 10,000 feet and at an estimated distance of 7 to 10 miles. Traveling at approximately 350 to 400 MPH, the object was moving in a parallel direction to Cottonwood on a heading of south. This strange object as viewed from a set of 8x30 binoculars was described as being a large spot of light with a smaller light trailing it as a tail. By judging the distance from the larger mass of light to the smaller mass, it was determined that the object was of considerable length. It appeared somewhat brighter and larger than any of the stars in the area and was of a yellow orange color. There was no blinking of any lights and there was no sound heard. From the time of first sighting until the object disappeared approximately 5 minutes elapsed. Immediately prior to Mr. Stott's observing this object, he noticed a conventional aircraft in the immediate vicinity of where the object was sighted.

Mr. Stotts is unknown to this writer. Therefore, the reliability of this report cannot be determined. It is believed that the estimated altitudes, distances and speeds are unreliable and that the object was much farther and higher than estimated by Mr. Stotts.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) of (E)

USAF memo 2/31/58
W. Stotts NARS, Date 11/28/78
12 (2 Incl)

Harold W. Lehman
HAROLD W. LEHMAN
Captain, USAF
Wg Tng & Opr Officer

2

446

2

INCL.

1. Statement of Mr. Stotts (quad)
2. Map diagram (quad)

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E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E)

By NARS, Date

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AF Form 112 (4 cys) CG FTAf, Waco, Texas
1eq ATIC - Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950—O-91833

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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1954-O-5183

REC'D 13 FEB 1953
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HQ USAF

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

5

A circular clock face with numbers 01 through 24 around the perimeter. A date stamp 'FEB 1951' is visible in the lower right quadrant. A small black dot is located near the 06 position. Below the clock face, the text '8801 OFFICE' is printed.

MR LUG & OBL OFFICER
CASHIER, NAVE
HAYBOLD M. FERNAN

Mr. Stoffa is unknown to this writer. Therefore, the legitimacy of this

before to Mr. Stoffs, a photograph of this object. He noticed a conventional aircraft appearing north the object disappeared approximately 2 minutes elapsed. Immediately no thinking of any things and there was no sound heard. How the time of that from any of the areas in the area and was of a light orange color. There was object was of considerable length. It appeared somewhat rectangular and larger than the larger mass of that to the smaller mass. It was determined that the of that with a smaller that following it as a tail. By judging the distance as it moved from a set of 8x30 binoculars was described as being a large ship in a battle direction to Cottonwood on a heading of south. This strange object to 10 miles. Traveling at approximately 320 to 400 MPH, the object was moving of the object to be from 8,000 to 10,000 feet and at an estimated distance of this object in an easterly direction from Cottonwood. He estimated the altitude 5 minutes was longitudes and 30° N. minutes north latitudes. Mr. Stoffs attributed Cottonwood, Arizona. The approximate position of Cottonwood, Arizona is 115° was attributed by Mr. John R. Stoffs, while standing in the yard at his home in

On 51 January 1923 at approximately 10:15 AM, the subject was observed at the following location:

MR. JOHN F. ZOFFER

2-2

WILLIAMS AIR FORCE BASE, ARIZONA
FROM (ORIGIN) MING DISTRICT & OPERATIONS

THEY STUMBLED ON

НЕГЛОВЫ

2032154

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

U. S. V.

(TENNESSEE)

УБЫТОК 1 ЮН 1918

REF ID: A61113-64611

RESTRICTED INFORMATION
RESTRICTED

Declassification Authority: NND 57565

A TRUE COPY.

Harold W. Lehman
HAROLD W. LEHMAN
Captain, USAF

~~RESTRICTED~~

ATRC IR-1-53

Cottonwood, Arizona
28 January 1953

Commanding Officer
Williams Air Force Base
Chandler, Arizona

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Sincerely,

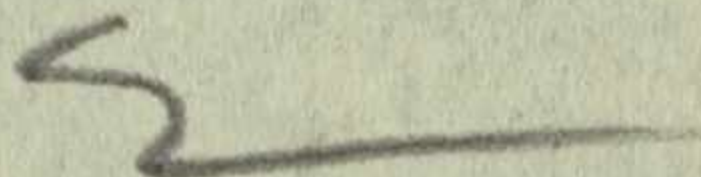
/s/t/ John L. Stotts

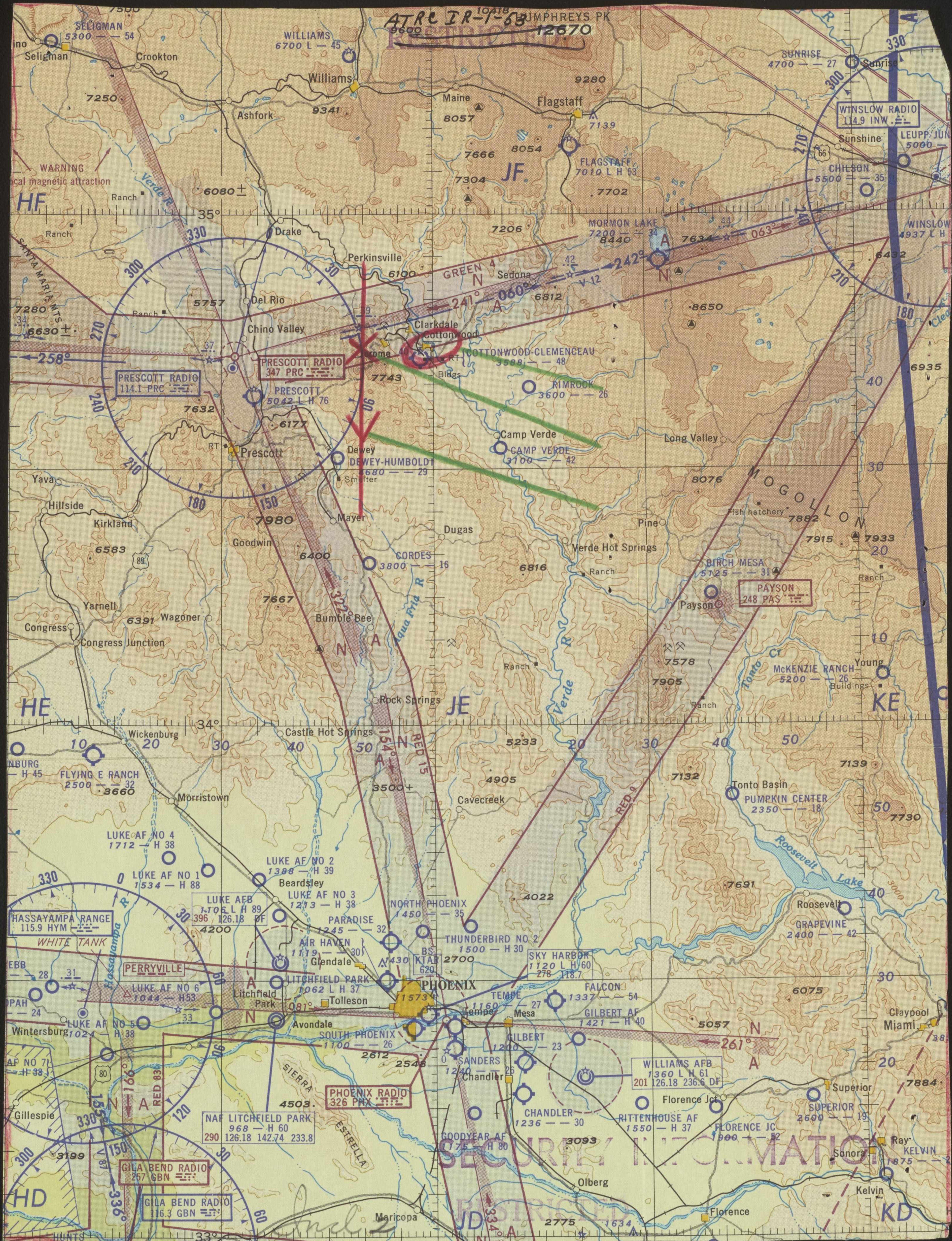
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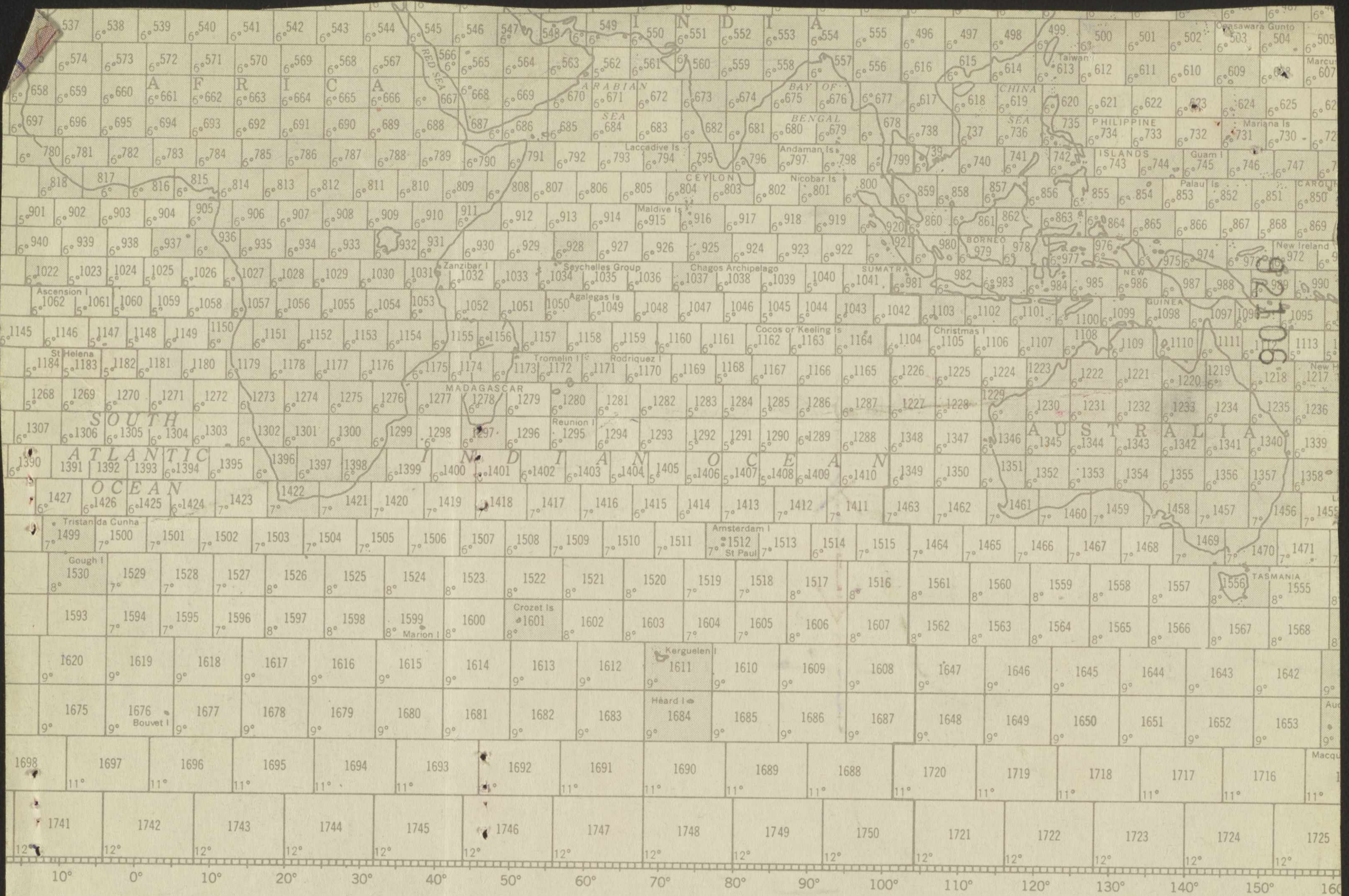
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

Incl 1

1. Position from which object was sighted.
2. Estimated position of object at first sighting.
3. Estimated course of object.

See 





WORLD AERONAUTICAL CHART

Scale of Series 1:1,000,000

LS

with emergency or no facilities

- WATER
- Landing Area
- Sheltered Anchorage

TION

- WATER
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AERONAUTICAL SYMBOLS

RADIO FACILITIES

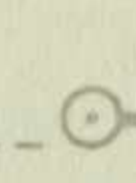
All radio facility data are printed in blue with the exception of certain LF/MF facilities as tower frequencies, radio ranges and associated airways, which are printed in magenta

Methods of indicating specific voice and CW calls are shown below

Use of the word "Radio" within

Radio Range (With voice) ————  **BALTIMORE RADIO**
257 BAL

Radio Communication Station (With voice)

Radio Range (Without voice) ————  **EGLIN RANGE**
209 VPS

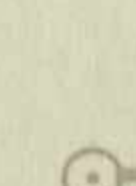
Radio Communication Station (Without voice)

Nondirectional Radiobeacon (With voice) ————  **DOUGLAS RADIO**
251 DGW

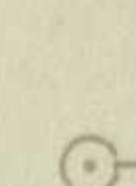
Radio Broadcasting Station

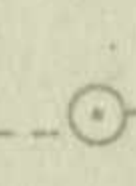
Nondirectional Radiobeacon (Without voice) ————  **DIXIE**
388 DXE

Radar Beacon (Racon)

Marine Radiobeacon ————  **ASHTABULA**
314
0m-10m & 30m-40m

Radio Fan Marker Beacons

Radio Direction Finder (Without voice) ————  **McGRATH**
2912 4220

Radio Direction Finder (With voice) ————  **KODIAK DF HOMER**
121.5