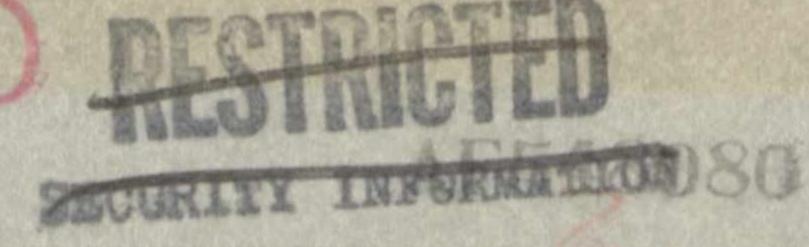
AF FORM 112-PART I

(CLASSIFICATION)



APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948 (LEAVE BLANK) COUNTRY REPORT NO. IR-1-53 U.S.A. AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Unidentified Celestial Phenomenon AREA REPORTED ON

Ellington Air Force Base, Texas DATE OF REPORT DATE OF INFORMATION

23 May 1953

SUBJECT

19 May 1953 PREPARED BY (Officer) S/Sgt Gerald D. Gravitt

SOURCE

A/3C Wendell C. Smith and five witnesses

FROM (Agency) Intelligence, 3605th Observer

Training Wing, Ellington AFB, Texas

EVALUATION

C-3

Intelligence Operations Technician REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

Air Force Letter 200-5, 29 April 1952 (uncl) Unidentified Flying Object Report

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.)

Report of unidentified light, thought to be a celestial phenomenon or strange flying object, as seen by the following personnel: A/3C Wendell C. Smith and Kenneth W. Maddry, both of whom work at Base Operations; A/1C Thomas R. Moore, A/3C Wanda W. Lyday, A/3C Joan L. Stevenson, and A/3C Marlene R. Jones, all of whom work in Base Weather. The report was received from A/3C Smith and was corroborated by the other five persons.

COMMENTS OF S/SGT GRAVITT:

- 1. A/3C W. C. Smith has 19 months service, is a high school graduate, and completed 21 weeks electronic fundamentals, and has had 10 weeks pilot training. Reason for failure to complete pilot training was poor depth perception. Airman was given on-the-job training for aircraft dispatcher. During interview airman was calm and his answers were straight forward with no hesitation.
- 2. This written report is made out in the form of a statement due to there being no USAF Technical Information Sheet available on this base at this time. A requisition for these forms has been sent to Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.
- 3. The metrological department at the University of Houston was contacted as to the possibility of planets and meteors. It was their opinion that the object was not a planet as the planets could not be seen with the naked eye at this time of year, and the description of the object did not appear to be that of a meteor.
- 4. In summary, it is this airman's opinion that the airmen did observe some unidentified object. What it was would be a matter of conjecture.

APPROVED:

200 12065, Sec. 3-402 By WB. LEWIS 10 7/31/7. 45AF MENO 7/31/78

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Statement, A/3C W. C. Smith

Major USAF Wg T&O Officer

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Diet P. P.

Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force, Wash 25, D. C. (orig) Air Tech Intel Center, ATIAA-2c, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio (1st copy) Commanding General, Air Training Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois (2d copy) Commanding General, Flying Training Air Force, Waco, Texas (3rd copy)

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Intelligence, 3605th Obsr II Tng Wg, Ellington AFB, Texas

IR-1-53

Statement of facts received from A/3C Wendell C. Smith, AF 51464063. This airman is assigned to Hq Sq Sec Air Base Group, Ellington AFB, Houston, Texas where he is employed as an aircraft dispatcher.

On the evening of the 19th of May 1953, the airmen were at their respective duties at Base Operations when a telephone call was received from an unidentified person off base asking what type aircraft was in the vicinity of Houston and Ellington AFB. The airmen went out to observe the object which was a bright yellowish orange although not as bright as the stars. When first sighted, between 2230 and 2245, the object was directly overhead. The object remained visible from one to two minutes. During this time, it followed a straight course from 900 to 270°. The shape appeared to be round. No exhaust trail was seen. There was no sound heard. Maneuvers were in a straight line. Sighting continued above the horizon until it was no longer visible, due to distance. The observation was from the surface and was visual although an attempt was made to obtain a fix with theodolite which was unsuccessful. Speed was very fast but unable to be estimated accurately as size of object and altitude were unknown. The skies were clear with wind at the surface light. The surface air was warm. There was no known meteorological activity to account for the sighting. There is no physical evidence such as photographs to work up sighting. There was no interception taken. 149th AC&W Sq this base was contacted but did not receive a radar return.

Wendell C. Smith

A/3C Wendell C. Smith
Hq Sq Sec 3605th Air Bse Gp.

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HEADQUARTERS 3605th OBSERVER TRAINING WING ELLINGTON AIR FORCE BASE HOUSTON, TEXAS

GD

25 May 1953

SUBJECT: FLYOBRPT

TO:

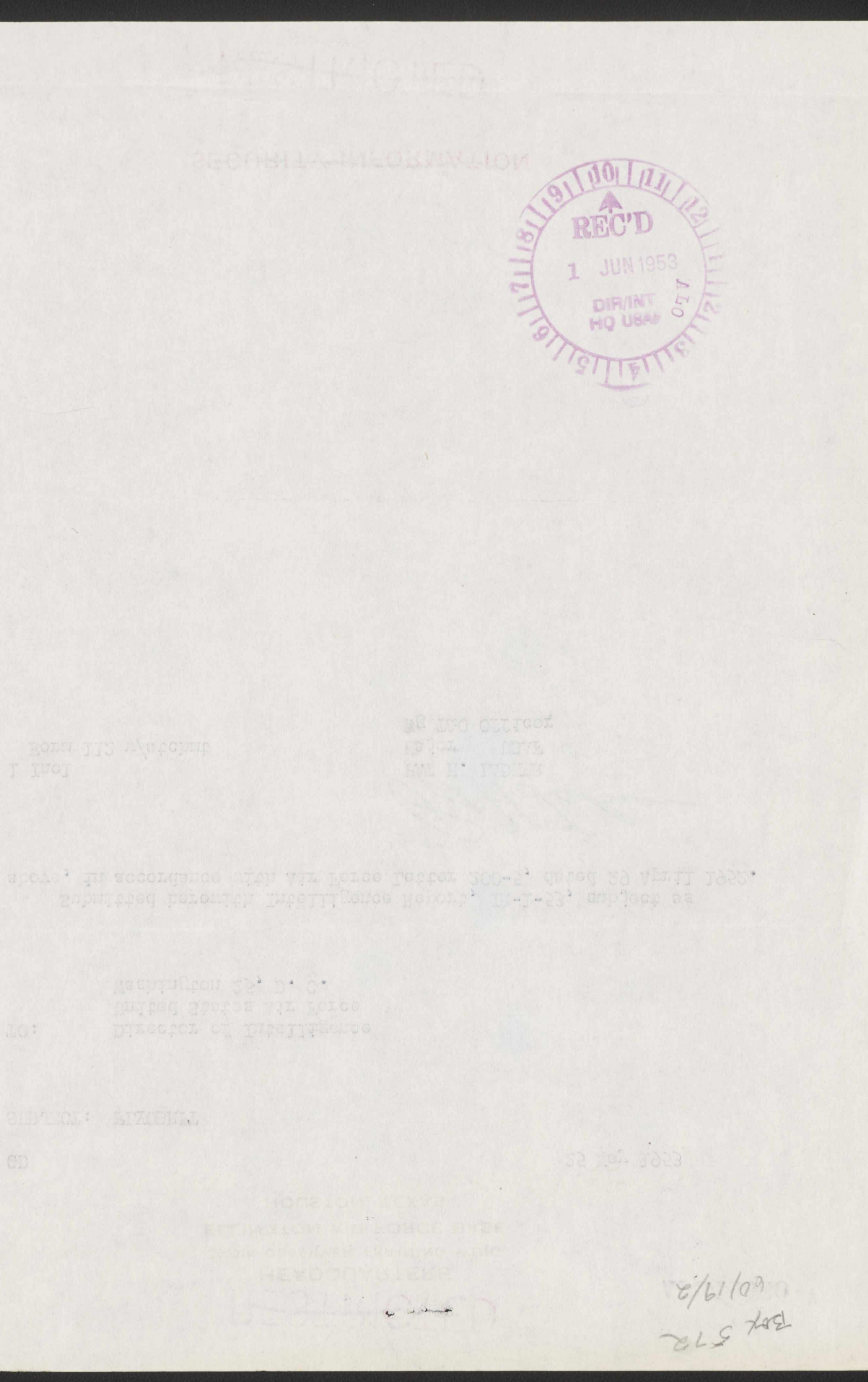
Director of Intelligence United States Air Force Washington 25, D. C.

Submitted herewith Intelligence Report, IR-1-53, subject as above, in accordance with Air Force Letter 200-5, dated 29 April 1952.

1 Incl Form 112 w/atchmt PAT H. LADNER Major USAF Wg T&O Officer

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